

# The Gospel News

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

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## Dedication Service

By Diane Everett, Branch Editor

On September 27, 1981 we had the privilege to have many of the saints from various branches and districts attend the dedication of the new Branch No. 1 building.

The children opened the service by singing the following selections: *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*, and *Jesus Built His House Upon a Rock*.

The choir then followed with the following selections: *God's House* and *Let Us Sing*. Brother Paul Vitto offered prayer, and the choir continued with *To God Be the Glory*. Rebecca Ann Straccia was blessed by Brother Peter Scolaro.

We had the privilege to hear the former Branch 1 Trio which consisted of Sister Kathy Perkins, Sister Marilyn Scolaro, and Sister Carolyn Griffith. They sang, *There's A Sweet Sweet Spirit*.

Brother Jerry Benyola gave a brief history of Branch 1. He stated how Brother Ishmael D'Amico and Brother Joseph Dulisse came to Detroit from Glassport, Pennsylvania, and on April 24 baptized and confirmed five members: Brother Ralph and Sister Anna Frammolino, Sister Louise Frammolino, and Brother Joseph and Sister Mary Johnson. The building on Hall and Devine was erected in 1924; the first meeting was held there on December 28, 1924. The Detroit Mission was organized as a Branch on July 16, 1927 with Brother Ishmael

D'Amico as Presiding Elder. On January 13, 1934, Detroit's Westside Mission (Branch No. 2) became a 44 member branch with its membership coming from the original branch on Devine. There also were members of Rochester, New York, and a Colorado Mission under Branch 1. The Eastside Mission on Gratiot and McDougal became Branch 3 on July 13, 1935 and received 97 of its charter members from Branch 1. On July 19, 1938, 38 members transferred to Detroit, Branch 4, formerly the Northside Mission. In March of 1956 we sold Devine. We met in a hall while we worked on the building on Harper and 3 Mile Drive, which was dedicated on December 23, 1956. In June of 1972, 24 members transferred to the Warren Mission, which eventually became the Sterling Heights Branch. On July 16, 1981 we sold the old building and started meeting in our new building. The first meeting held in the new building was on July 19, 1981.

After much searching and many prayers, we thank God He provided this building for us. That gives you a little run down of the Mother Branch of Detroit.

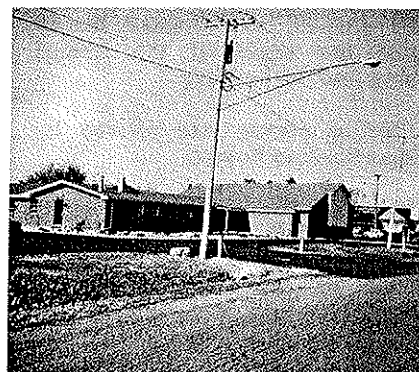
Brother Alex Gentile represented the General Church Trustees and was the next speaker. Speaking on behalf of the Trustees he stated he was glad to be present at the dedication, and as he looked back, he recalled how the Church had a net worth of about \$50,000 in 1921 and today is worth about \$7,000,000. God has prospered and blessed us naturally over the past 60 years. He admonished those in attendance to consecrate their lives more fully to Christ just as we

dedicate this building today.

Brother Paul Palmieri offered the dedicatory prayer.

Brother Dominic Thomas, the General Church President, followed Brother Paul and spoke on the very outstanding dedication of Solomon's Temple (II Chron. 5:1-11). He reminded us of meetings we have all been in where the presence of the Spirit and the power of God were manifested upon the Priesthood and the congregation where the overwhelming power of God was present making speech almost impossible. He referred to some of the 6th chapter and three verses of the 7th chapter. He admonished us that we need to break our format of praising God and relax more and let the Spirit of God take hold of us so we are not ashamed or reluctant to bow down and reflect upon the mercy of God.

He spoke of Jesus building His Church and the day of Pentecost when Peter spoke to a multitude. Brother Thomas stated that the present day Church should have that kind of



courage and hope for the ingathering of the House of Israel and for the outpouring of God's Spirit upon all the nations of the earth, and that there will be a flood of souls coming into the Kingdom of God. We should not rest until Joseph has been brought in and the New Jerusalem is built and from all nations they shall come to the great dedication service that you and I can hardly imagine. It is written that Jesus Himself will be in their midst. We should pray for the outpouring of God's Spirit. His closing statement was a question, "Are our hearts committed to this end?"

Our sisters Rosanne Scolaro, Laura Mangipane and Denise Campitelle sang *Jesus Will be what Makes It Heaven to Me*.

Brother Nick Pietrangelo followed; he reminisced about being present when the first five converts were baptized from the little store on Cadillac and Forest. He stated the Lord is the Master Builder and knows how to build. He related an experience of Sister Ruzzi relating to the dedication of the building on Harper Ave. She saw in a vision the whole dedication service a month before she passed away prior to the actual dedication service. He also admonished those present to consecrate their lives more fully to serving God and to work together in unity and in love that we may grow spiritually and move the Church forward. He warned us not to get wrapped up in things that will detour us from receiving God's blessings.

Brother Jerry Benyola, the Presiding Elder, invited everyone to the evening service. The meeting was closed with singing *How Great Thou Art*, and Brother Bob Stanek related the following experience: "When the prayer of dedication was being offered with my eyes closed I saw all the windows opened the same as the door is opened. I saw flames of fire all around the edges of the frames rushing into the building."

Closing prayer was offered by Brother Spencer Everett.

The evening service was opened in prayer by Brother Leonard Lovalvo.

The Presiding Elder, Brother Jerry Benyola, asked the Ministry the following question: "What does this day mean to you?"

Brother John Griffith expressed how grateful he was to be present at the dedication of our building. He also was a member of Branch 1 for two years. He spoke of the financial obligation we all must have had and how we were all united. He spoke of God establishing His Church and He would be in their midst. We should not be ashamed to say we are the saints of latter days.

Brian Griffith presented us with a solo. He sang the following: *Faith, Hope and Charity and Blessed Assurance*. While Brian was singing, Sister Rose Impastato saw a light around the Ministry.

Brother Louis Vitto spoke of the precious memories of when he belonged to Branch 1. He dedicated his life at the waters edge which would strive with him the rest of his days. He said, "This is still the Church and we are His people. The Church will not fail, but we as a people may fail. We are the temples of God; let us keep our temples pure." His new life began at Branch 1, and he was ordained an elder in this branch. He said he would continue to do his part with the love of God. Let us continue to praise God; all that we have and own belong to Him.

Brother Sam DiFalco spoke of re-dedicating our lives also. We have to do our part so that the Church can go to the four corners of the earth. He spoke of the many blessings he had received and of the many prayers that were answered in his behalf and of the many times he felt God's presence. The trio, consisting of Sister Kathy, Sister Marilyn and Sister Carolyn, sang *O God Our Church*.

Brother Jack Pontillo spoke of the wonderful brothers and sisters. We have something the world doesn't have. He spoke of his childhood and how he used to tell his mother let's go home. Today he thanks God he had the privilege to see his mother reach 50 years in the Gospel.

Brother Dominic Moraca followed with some remarks of how he was also blessed to be a member of Branch 1. He left Branch 1 forty years ago, but he said it will always have a place in his heart. He prays we will see many blessings and continue to spread the Gospel.

The quartet, consisting of Brothers Bart DiPronio, Dave DiBattista,

Louis Vitto and Spencer Everett, sang *What A Day That Will Be*. Brother Bart DiPronio then sang *Blessed Assurance*.

Brother Anthony Lovalvo then spoke of how when there were no baptisms they would all go home feeling sad. They heard the sound doctrine. Pray to God and He will direct you to which is His Church. We are not a branch; we are a whole Church. He spoke of all the strong saints who labored for the Church and have now gone on to their reward.

The branch choir sang *Let Us Sing* and *The Church Triumphant*.

Brother Bob Stanek closed the meeting in prayer. The saints stayed and fellowshiped over refreshments.

Brother Jerry Benyola, the Presiding Elder of Branch 1, would like to acknowledge all of the Branches, Missions, the General Church Officers and the members and friends for all their efforts and support. May God bless you all.

## Arizona District Campout

By Dick Ackman, District Editor

The first annual Arizona District Campout was held August 6-9 at Camp Wamatochick, A Camp Fire Girls' site located in the Prescott National Forest some thirteen miles from the city of Prescott, Arizona.

Wamatochick means "place of friends"; and it was truly a site that lived up to its motto.

Approximately 6,000 feet above sea level, Camp Wamatochick provided the Soldiers of the Cross an isolated but beautiful retreat to get closer to God and recuperate somewhat from the sweltering heat that has set all-time temperature records over the desert plains and valleys this summer.

But truly, as the motto inscribed on the official seal of this great nation's 48th state "Ditat Deus", which means "God enriches", the spectacular setting enriched the spiritual gathering to a point where few, if any, departed that place not having received an uplifting and renewed

faith and a hunger to return to the front lines of battle as called for in Sister Arlene Buffington's hymn, *The Standard of Liberty*.

The camp theme was "Zion". From the handicraft work through the various seminars held throughout the grounds, the hymns and the preaching, "Zion" became the ultimate goal.

Camp Director, Stephen Saffron, a Phoenix Branch Elder, was very pleased with the final results despite some housing problems for the approximate 125 in attendance including family members and friends.

Brother Steve searched long and hard, along with Brother Richard Christman, Arizona District President and assistant Camp Chairman, before finalizing an agreement with campground officials. Campsites in this area are reserved, in some cases, years in advance. The Camp Fire Girls' camp was held open an extra week to accommodate the District's initial summer retreat. Other area campgrounds were available for those persons with campers, mobile homes and other RV's. Late arrivals found motel accommodations in Prescott, although rooms were at a premium that weekend due to a week-long rodeo celebration in Prescott which draws people from all the nearby states, many of whom reserve their rooms a year in advance.

One item discussed in the open meeting held Saturday afternoon was that of future campouts. It was agreed that an appointed committee search out various sites that could be purchased or leased by the District. The survey group is especially interested in low-lease federal lands that could be developed by the Church or individual families who could use their homes for vacations or other outings.

Even in the high mountains the days were warm. But shade provided by the towering pine trees enabled seminars and other activities to be conducted both day and evenings in great comfort. However, during that Saturday afternoon session held under roof in the open-sided dining area, a heavy monsoon rainstorm struck the camp knocking out electricity for several hours, driving down temperatures at a rapid rate. Two large open fireplaces were immediately lit, and despite the tremendous

weather change, things progressed in fine fashion as the fellowship warmed to a degree that matched the hot coals crackling away in the fireplaces. Children, seen dragging logs larger than themselves to the fires, were drenched to the skin.

The loss of electrical power forced a change in supper meal plans, but cook, Betty Burke, and her teenage associates did a remarkable job and on Sunday morning prior to the final worship service, received the accolades of all those present for a job well done. Brother Steve asked her if she would consider returning as cook at future District Campouts.

Using flashlight beams for light, the Saturday night program went on. Partial lighting was restored about midway through the program as the coat and sweater throng gathered closer together for warmth to hear the many voices of the Phoenix Branch sing the "Songs of Zion" written by Sister Buffington of Imperial, PA. Brother Eugene Amormino of Branch 1, Detroit, MI, who was called by the Lord to place Sister Buffington's hymns to music, played the piano and directed the singing. Following were the brothers and sisters from the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation whose native songs closed out the spiritual portion of the program.

Brother Dick Christman added some hilarity as he became an auctioneer as camp officials sold off the remaining food items to help defray camp expenses.

Sunday morning was beautiful. As the sun came out of the east over the mountain tops, the dual fireplaces burned themselves out setting the stage for all of God's word that was to follow.

The gifted voices of the Red Lake choir lifted the spirits to an ultimate high after the congregation in unison sang, *O Beulah Land*, *Since Jesus Came into My Heart*, and *O Zion, When I Think On Thee*. In contrast, as the fourteen-member Red Lake choir commenced singing, rifle shots sent crackling sounds through the mountains. It was probably a hunter out there in the vastness. Here were ringing sounds of deadly bullets of destruction competing simultaneously with God's words filling the air. As the beautiful Red Lake voices echoed through the large pines, off the hills and into the valleys below, the gun

shots ceased and God's praises continued in triumph.

Included in the Red Lake program were the following songs, the soloist or lead voices in parenthesis: *Then You Can Enter In* (Sylvia Curry and Dennis Calabrese), *More Than You'll Ever Know* (Larry and Vanessa Watson), *Joy Comes In the Morning* (Elaine Jordan), *It Is Finished* (Donna Cicatti and Judy Calabrese), and *The Valleys Are Green, Sir*.

The elders retired from the dining hall for special meditation under a large group of trees nearby as the congregation under the direction of Brother Tim Scolaro of Branch 1, Detroit, MI, with Brother Amormino at the piano, sang *Longing for the Gathering* and *We're Marching to Zion*.

Brother George Johnson, the newest arrival in the southwest from back east, opened the preaching service. He said that Isaiah prophesied throughout his book about Zion, the City of God, a place we all strive to reach as our ultimate goal. He outlined in his talk how we are to reach this goal through the blueprint set before us in the scriptures—Isaiah and IV Nephi. He concluded saying, "Thanks be to God that in the end time—the time of Zion—Satan will have no power because of the righteousness of God's people."

Brother Steve Saffron followed, "It's time to move, to be like Nephi...God is working within us so that we can reach Zion."

Brother Christman recalled the Red Lake choir to sing, *It Is Finished*. "It is finished", he said. "Christ has won the victory but yet there are those who cannot claim that victory. You and I must decide in our own hearts to serve and stand up for Jesus. The individual battle must first be won."

Brother Paul Francione added that our desires are that the whole world will come and join in accepting Jesus.

Brother Ike Smith exhorted, "It is our duty to impress others so they can learn of The Church of Jesus Christ. We have hardly gotten into the restoration, but the time is ripe to take forward steps, one at a time."

Brother Larry Watson also encouraged us to take forward steps which will eventually lead to Zion as we

become more like Christ.

Brother Herbert Hemmings stressed the importance of meekness, a broken heart, and a contrite spirit.

The spiritual meeting came to a close with the singing of *The Standard of Liberty*. Apostle Robert Watson offered the benediction.

Special thanks were given to Brother William Raach for transporting the Phoenix Branch piano to the campsite, also to visiting Brothers Eugene Amormino and Tim Scolaro of Detroit, MI and Brother Sam Randy of Modesto, CA. Also a special thanks to those in Phoenix who sponsored Brother Robert Kaye, a young Hopi Indian, his wife, Dolores, a Pima Indian, and their three children for the entire four-day retreat.

#### *Special Lasting Memories*

Restoration flags were made and displayed by various members. The project was spearheaded by June Tenjieth and Bonnie Smith.

Sister Birdie Furnier, a member of the Church for 67 years, gave her testimony which inspired all, and especially the newest member of the Phoenix Branch, Bill Raach, who gave thanks to God for saving his soul.

Brother George Neill was a voice of inspiration, informing all of his early childhood during the early part of the century when the saints gathered in the Church colony in Kansas.

Brent Smith and Faith Hemmings provided a special blessing by highlighting contributions found in the scriptures. Brother Steve said it was rewarding to see these young people serving the Lord.

And, finally, the seminar topics. Brother Steve said the participation of all was heartwarming and beneficial to the soul. The topics included: Spiritual Solutions to Today's Young People's Problems, Working Successfully with the Seed of Joseph, Bringing the Church to Others, Following the Spirit, Creating and Keeping Friendship Both In and Out of the Church, and Women in the Church—The Role of the Latter-Day Female.

## "It Is Written"

By V. J. Lovalvo, Apostle



I am going to depart a little from my regular column, "It Is Written", and take this opportunity to write a note of thanks to all the wonderful saints who prayed for me during my surgery and afterwards, also.

It is absolutely true that "prayer changes things" as it is written in the Holy Writ. I am more than certain that only through the prayers of the saints I am still among the living. I cannot thank God enough for my beloved and wonderful wife who was with me in the hospital night and day watching and caring for me, as well as taking care of our business office. I thank the Lord for my children also who were constantly near me to encourage and comfort me. I thank the Almighty for my son who assisted in the surgery and watched over me so patiently and so kindly.

This is the second time that God has delivered me from the clutches of Satan who is my sworn enemy, and who has tried to destroy me before God is ready to take me home to that celestial residence where there will be no more pain or sorrow. However, until the day that He decides to deliver me from this tabernacle of clay, I will serve Him with all the strength of my mind, heart and soul. Though I could live to be as old as Methuselah, I could never repay the Lord for the things He has done for me and to me.

I cannot repay the saints for their tender and caring prayers, only that I wish them all Godspeed and the best of all blessings. May the good Lord bless you and your families with the richest bounties of heaven. Amen.

I shall continue my articles on Family Life as soon as possible.

## Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Words are very insufficient today to say thank you for your prayers and wonderful support in our time of need. We belong to the most wonderful family on the face of the earth—the family of God! Thank you, brothers and sisters, for the spirit we have felt and the comfort that we feel day by day.

One of our sisters had a dream in which our son, Richard, appeared to her. He asked her to do him a favor saying, "Tell my Mom and Dad that I love them and not to worry because I am all right."

God bless all of you brothers and sisters. Thank you once again.

Don and Adrienne Collison  
and Family

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I want to thank all my brothers and sisters for the many lovely birthday cards recently sent to me on my 75th birthday. I was honored with a birthday dinner party at Smaldino's given by my daughter, Ruth Waterbeck.

Again, thank you for remembering me. May God bless you all is my prayer.

Sister Minnie DePiero

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I lived alone for ten years, and a week before I became seriously ill, I had a vision in which the Lord and two other personages appeared to me.

I did not know what it meant then, but now I feel it was the plan of God to care for me the rest of my life upon the earth.

I want to thank all the brothers, sisters and friends for their thoughtful prayers, phone calls, beautiful flowers and cards.

I am now living with Brother and Sister Bittinger at 2119 Sunrise Drive S.W. in Vero Beach, Florida 32960.

Sister Dorothy F. Knipple

*Editorial Viewpoint . . .***Some Highlights of 1981**

In recounting some of the highlights of the past year, we are awed by eventful reports, from near and far.

The Church continued to pursue and expand its missionary efforts, both at home and abroad.

As the year rolled on, the Red Lake, Arizona Branch broke ground for the erection of their first church building in their mission with the Navajo nation at Tse Bonito, New Mexico.

Brother Stewart Shipman, the first North American Indian convert at the Detroit, Michigan Inner-City Branch was baptized by Brother Anthony Gerace on March 8.

Brother Devanandam, our first convert from India, was baptized by Brother Sam Dell at the Levittown, PA Branch on April 5. This was his first opportunity to visit America since being introduced to The Church of Jesus Christ by Sister Darlene Large during her visit to India in 1975.

Brother Eugene Lassen, the first convert in the great state of Oregon, was baptized by Brother Mark Randy on May 18.

The first Carolina (North and South) Mission was established in July with 10 members and is under the jurisdiction of the Ohio District.

Brother John and Sister Mary Ross, and Brother Dan and Sister Fannie Casasanta completed a one-month tour of missionary activity in Ghana and Nigeria, July 15 through August 18. Their visits to the various missions brought cheer and revival to our people who warmly welcomed them.

On leaving Nigeria they journeyed to Italy where they were joined by Brother Michael and Sister Marietta LaSala for a 10-day tour of a number of missions. Brother Giuseppe LoRicco was in charge of the first conference ever held in Italy. He was assisted by Brothers Ross, Casasanta, and LaSala. Thank God, all of them returned to America safely.

Brother Nephi and Sister Lorraine DeMercurio and sons returned home safely in June after completing an 18-month tour of missionary activity in Nigeria and Ghana.

The GMBA Campout at Massanetta Springs, Harrisonburg, VA in July was blessed with the largest turnout ever at this annual event. It was another opportunity to share a week-long round of fellowship, prayer meetings, chapel services, seminars, choral and community singing, arts and crafts and recreation. It was another time to experience extra blessings in witnessing the baptisms of eight new converts in the beautiful camp lake waters.

Brother Nephi and Sister Lorraine DeMercurio, and sons, Jared and Nephi, departed for Nigeria on September 9 for another extended tour of missionary activity continuing to June, 1983. God be with them.

Brother Joseph Calabrese and Alvin Swanson departed for India on November 17. This missionary visit fulfills the long-awaited wishes of several interested natives as well as Brother Dev who was baptized during his visit to America last spring.

God be with our brothers and direct them in all their missionary activities.

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Kenneth L. Staley  
301 Pine Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**ASSISTANT  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Thomas Ross  
260 Division St. Ext.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
Joseph Ross

**ASSISTANT  
MANAGING EDITOR**  
Richard Scaglione

**EDITORIALISTS AND  
CONSULTANTS**  
Paul Palmieri  
John Ross  
John Manes

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Cathy Gentile

**TYPISTS**  
Janet Gibson  
Sharon Staley

**CIRCULATION MANAGER**  
Janet Buffa

**GMBA EDITOR**  
Ryan G. Ross  
305 Pine Dr.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**GENERAL CIRCLE  
EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15005

**DISTRICT EDITORS**

**ARIZONA**  
Ken Surdock  
P. O. Box 1359  
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Joseph Perri  
3 Elizabeth Ct.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

**CALIFORNIA**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
4682 El Rancho Verde Dr.  
LaPalma, Calif. 90620

**FLORIDA**  
Elsie M. Ensana  
1921 S. E. Erwin Road  
Port St. Lucie, Fl. 33452

**OHIO**  
James Alessio  
1413 W. 37th St.  
Lorain, Ohio 44053

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Louis Pietrangelo  
5522 Bluehill  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Malcolm Paxon  
5304 Adobe Drive  
Baldwin, PA 15236

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**BUSINESS OFFICE**  
8423 Boettner Rd.  
Bridgewater, MI 48115  
313 429-5080

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock



## Servants of the Most High God

Dear Girls and Boys,

Shadrach, Meschach and Abednego were best friends of Daniel. When they were boys, they were captured and brought to the country of Babylon. The king there, Nebuchadnezzar, liked Daniel the best of everyone because Daniel helped him understand the strange dreams he had. King Nebuchadnezzar wanted Daniel to help run the country. Daniel picked his three friends to help him. He made them rulers over the business of the whole country.

Many people were angry and jealous of Shadrach, Meschach, and Abednego. They wanted to hurt them.

Nebuchadnezzar made a huge statue of gold. He called a special celebration for everyone to see it and invited all the important people of the kingdom to come.

As Shadrach, Meschach and Abednego stood there, they heard a messenger shouting in a loud voice, "To everyone, it is commanded! When you hear the music begin, you must fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up. Anyone who does not will be thrown into the fiery furnace that hour and be burned alive."

But these three men had been raised to worship the one, true God, not a statue. Alone they stood while everyone around them fell down and worshipped.

Immediately their enemies ran to King Nebuchadnezzar and told him that these men had not worshipped his statue. Nebuchadnezzar was furious. He called for Shadrach, Meschach and Abednego, and warned them, "If you will not worship the

statue, you will be thrown into the burning furnace, and what God is there that could save you from me?"

Calmly they answered him, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer you about this. If it is meant to be, our God that we serve is able to save us from the fiery furnace. But if it is not meant to be, we will tell you that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden statue you have set up."

Furious, the king ordered the furnace to be heated seven times hotter than it was and commanded the mightiest men of his army to tie up the three servants of God and throw them into the fire. The heat was so intense that the king's men were burned to death as they threw Shadrach, Meschach and Abednego into the furnace.

Then Nebuchadnezzar was astonished, and standing up quickly said, "Didn't we throw three men, tied, into the fire? I see four men, loose and walking in the fire without hurt!"

Going near the mouth of the burning, fiery furnace, Nebuchadnezzar called, "Shadrach, Meschach, and Abednego, servants of the most high God, come here!" And all the rulers and the king saw that not even one strand of hair or any of their clothes were burned, and even the smell of the fire was not on them. The fire had no power on the bodies of these servants of God.

Nebuchadnezzar spoke and said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meschach and Abednego, who has sent an angel and saved his servants that trusted him. Now I make a law that anyone who speaks against this God shall be put to death because there is no other God that can save his

people like this." And the king promoted the three who served God to positions of even greater importance in the kingdom.

Sincerely,  
Sister Jan

### WHO AM I?

1. I held the tablets that contained the Ten Commandments.
2. When the Philistines captured me, God struck them with sores all over their bodies until they turned me loose.
3. I am still lost to mankind.

Answer: (See I Samuel 5 and 6)

## Young People Ask Notice

Just a note to our young people: If you have a question or comment, please write. To add encouragement to others and for the success of this column, we ask that you share your thoughts with each other. We are our brother's keeper. God bless you.

Write: Young People Ask  
The Church of Jesus Christ  
Sixth and Lincoln Streets  
Monongahela, PA 15063

## Address Change

To our readers who may have occasion to communicate with Brother Joseph Calabrese, please be advised to use his current address:

Mr. Joseph Calabrese  
115 Hickory Circle  
Elyria, Ohio 44035  
Tel. 1-216-323-4264

*God, what a world if man in street and  
mart,  
Felt that same kinship of the human  
heart  
Which makes them, in the face of fire  
and flood, Rise to the true meaning  
of Brotherhood.*

*Ella Wheller Wilcox*

## OUR WOMEN TODAY

### Conference at Sterling Heights

*By Mary Tamburrino, Editor*

The General Ladies Uplift Circle Conference was held at Sterling Heights, Michigan on October 3, 1980. Those in attendance were from Canada, California, Florida, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Michigan.

The Michigan-Ontario Area Circle read the Scripture and sang songs on the theme of "Love". Sister Mabel Bickerton introduced the conference by giving a brief summary on the organization of the Circle and the projects that were accomplished.

The business of the conference began with the roll call of officers. The minutes of the last Circle held at Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania were read and accepted. The delegates then gave their reports. Layettes were sent to the reservations and money was sent for the freezer that is needed in the mission house in Africa. The question, "Who was a strong, mighty man and of perfect understanding?" was found in the *Book of Mormon*, Alma 48:11; "What will he that will love life and see good days do?" was found in the *Bible*, 1 Peter 3:10.

The District reports from Michigan-Ontario and California were read. Sister Mary Criscuola reported she sent seventy-five appropriate cards. The treasurers' reports were given, and the money was distributed to *The Gospel News*, Evangelists, Memorial, African, General Church Budget and Indian Missionary Funds. All officers were re-elected with the exception of the Memorial Fund Treasurer. Dora Rossi was elected for this office.

Contributions were made to the Memorial Fund in memory of the following individuals: Brother Frank Sirangelo, Colecchi Family, Mrs. Clara Grimes, Sister Mary Carrota, Brother and Sister Paul Vancik, Sr., Sister Alma Molinatto, Sister Sara Molleca, Rick Collison.

The next General Conference will be held at Glassport, Pennsylvania on March 27, 1982.

A vote of thanks was given to the sisters of the Michigan-Ontario Area for their hospitality.

Sisters Mary Ross and Fannie Casasanta spoke about their recent trip to Africa and Italy with their husbands. They said our people don't have much in material things, but they do have a lot of love. The brothers that were in attendance encouraged the sisters to continue in this work... "be not weary in well doing."

### Fredonia Circle Organized

The Ladies Uplift Circle was organized on Monday, November 16, 1981. Sisters Mabel Bickerton, Ruth Ackerman, Dorothy Gandley, Ruth Kirschner, Harriet Byers and Brother Tommie Smith drove from Monongahela to organize the circle in Fredonia.

The meeting opened at 1:00 p.m. Brother Russell Cadman spoke of how God made woman to be a helpmate for man, and it parallels the Ladies Circle and the Church.

The following officers were elected:

President, Sister Elsie Gehly; vice President, Sister Ethel Cadman; Teacher, Sister Eleanor Sproul; Treasurer of Indian Mission and General Fund, Sister Darlene Walker; Treasurer of Home Fund, Sister Martha Kelly; Secretary, Sister Hilda Sgatone.

The sisters at Fredonia will meet two Mondays per month during the winter months.

### MBA Highlights

### Pennsylvania Area MBA Campout

*By Karen Progar, Area Editor*

We are always happy to have the

chance to gather together, and we were fortunate to be afforded the opportunity for several days in a truly beautiful setting at Heritage Reservation in Farmington, Pennsylvania for the annual Pennsylvania Area Campout. It was pleasant respite on Labor Day Weekend in a campground which is indescribable in its natural beauty, as well as its facilities. The weather had been miserable all week, and rain was threatening as we approached the camp; however, again the Lord blessed us with lovely weather and poured out his spirit in our meetings.

Our younger brothers were given the liberty to express themselves throughout the weekend. Our first day began with an inspirational message presented by Brother Joel Calabrese, who expressed how wonderful is the religious freedom which we enjoy in this land and indicated how grateful we should be for The Church of Jesus Christ and the Restored Gospel which we have come to know.

We continued our day with seminars dealing with the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Experiences were told by our brothers and sisters as to how the Holy Ghost had influenced their decisions and had been a guide to them during their lives in the Church.

The overriding theme of the weekend seemed to be that the young people of the Church have a work to do and that we must be very careful not to become too comfortable in our pews, but to do whatever work the Lord has for us.

The evening meeting was opened by Brother Frank (Flip) Palacios, who along with Brother Joel was visiting us from Lorain, Ohio. Brother Flip admonished us to come to church prepared to take something home and to be an active participant in the meetings and auxiliaries of the Church. He also shared the experience that his family had while on a train trip from Texas to their new home in Lorain many years ago. As it happened, Brother Flip's father had only \$1.75 left after paying the train fare for his family, and this money would have to provide their meals for the three-day trip to Ohio. Of course this was an impossibility, and Brother Frank was very concerned for his family's welfare. When a porter came to take dinner orders from the

passengers. Brother Frank (whom I might point out was not a member of the Church at this time) asked the porter to give the family whatever he could for his remaining funds. The porter informed the family that they would be taken care of during the trip and that debt could be taken care of later. The family enjoyed a good trip, and at the end of the trip Brother Palacios tried to find the porter in order that he might arrange to repay his debt for the food which his family had received. Upon speaking with the conductor, Brother Frank found that the train did not employ a porter, and therefore whomever had seen to their needs was obviously sent by the Lord. We were impressed by the fact that the Lord had seen the need of the family and taken care of them before they even knew Him.

During this meeting, we also had the privilege of hearing the testimonies of many other brothers and sisters as well as vocal selections from Sisters Barbara Fleming, Carol Jumper and Karen Progar, along with Brother Joel Calabrese. The Spirit of God prevailed in the meeting, and when it was time to close, the congregation felt a great deal of disappointment. The balance of the evening was spent in fellowship. We were fortunate to have visitors with us from many other areas of the Church. Along with the Ohio saints, there were also visitors from Florida and Michigan-Ontario who came to receive the spiritual nourishment.

On Sunday morning, Brother Robert Nicklow, Sr. opened our meeting by advising us to be active and share our testimonies, not only with our brothers and sisters, but also with those people whom we come in contact with in the world. He suggested that we could promote the Church by our actions in the world. He also told us that God is alive and still manifests His Spirit among the people of the world. Brother John Ahlborn followed by telling us that this campout was a good opportunity to strengthen ourselves and gave us fuel to encourage others to take a more active part in the Church. The Lord blessed our brothers with many thoughts during the meeting, and we were permitted to hear from many of the teachers in attendance. Brother Joel continued along the same lines when he instructed us that if we have a desire to do something for God, He will help us to accomplish the task no matter how impossible the odds

seem. He said that if we do our part, the Lord will give the increase. Following Brother Joel was Brother Flip who said that we should try to repay our debt to God by being an example and furthering the Gospel.

Brother Bob Nicklow, Jr. told us that Jesus died to release us from the prison of eternal death, just as his physical death released Barabbas from the bands of prison. Brother Ed Donkin advised us to pray for that which is right and the Lord will not deny our prayers. In our everyday life, Brother Jonathan Olexa stated that we should take what we get from these campouts and draw on our reserve when we have the opportunity to speak about the things of God to the people in the world. He felt that many times we have chances which we let slip by. Brian Smith added that the Lord will strengthen us in spirit no matter what our needs. The preaching service was then recapped by District President, Brother Paul Palmieri, who expressed that if we have faith in God, we have the power to do all things which are expedient to God. He continued by reaffirming that we should give all our efforts to the Church and assured us that the Lord would bless us just as he blessed the faith and conviction of the brother of Jared. Musical selections were provided by the congregation and various individuals.

On Sunday evening, Brother Malcolm Paxon opened the service by advising us always to put God first and to do his will. *For Those Tears I Died* was sung by Tammy Nicklow and Steve Lobzun. Paula McCartney followed them by singing *There Is No Rainbow Can Shine Like Jesus*. Several quartets sang during the meeting, and Sister Mary Ann Donkin honored us with a solo. Brother Rich Scaglione encouraged us to prepare a place for the Lord in our hearts and in our lives, and He will enter and bless us. He suggested that we should not be a person who has no room for the Lord.

We were saddened to see the weekend draw to a conclusion, but we were glad to have had the chance to take part in the campout and trust that God will continue to give us the desire to gather together for the purpose of hearing His words and fellowshiping with His people. We shall continue to pray for this good desire to assemble and hope that in the future many brothers and sisters

will also be afforded this opportunity to strengthen their foundations in the Gospel. We are thankful to the committee who worked so hard to make the weekend enjoyable for us. Brothers Brian Smith, Bob Nicklow, Jonathan Olexa and Richard Scaglione deserve much credit for the success of the weekend. Also, our Sister Denise Fleming proved to be a very competent accommodations chairperson.

#### THOUGHT

"Too often we seem to have a quick tongue, a slow brain and a tender heart. We speak before we think and then regret what we have said immediately afterwards."

## ANNIVERSARIES

SISTER ROSE RISOLA  
SISTER STELLA ARCURI  
SISTER MARGARET BENYOLA



On July 18, 1981, the members of the Metuchen Branch honored Sister Rose Risola and Sister Stella Arcuri by taking them to dinner to commemorate their fifty-plus years in the Gospel.

Sister Rose was baptized on June 29, 1930, by Brother Bill Mazzeo. Sister Stella was baptized on October 23, 1928, by Brother Eugene Perri, Sr. Both sisters have held the office of deaconess for many years.

Also pictured is Sister Margaret Benyola from the Hopelawn Branch, who will be observing her fifty-second year in the Gospel soon.

The evening was enjoyed by all who attended. Our prayer is that the Lord will continue to bless our sisters for many more years to come.

SISTER MARGARET WARD



Since Mother has just celebrated her 75th Spiritual birthday in the Gospel, I thought it would be nice to share her testimony with *The Gospel News* readers.

Brother Charles and Sister Ilene Smith and Brother Ray and Sister Mary Ann Bays and son from Ft. Pierce Branch came to Orlando to fellowship with her at her home. They brought her a large sheet cake to help her celebrate the occasion.

As Mother is almost blind, I have written her testimony down while she told it to me which follows.

I thank God for all His many blessings to us and for keeping us in His care to the present day.

Sister Bertha Sommerville

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This is my testimony of how God brought me into The Church of Jesus Christ. The Lord had been working with me for some time, when my mother, Sister Isabelle Griffith, asked me to go with her to conference on October 6, 1906. There were two women baptized in the creek at Redstone, PA, and this touched me. I cried and cried at the water's shore when Brother Cherry came up to me and said, "Maggie, the Lord won't always strive with man."

That night I had a dream. I was sleeping with my mother in the dream when I heard footsteps coming up the stairs. The form of a man appeared at the door and said, "Repent before that great mist comes", in a commanding voice.

On Monday following conference, Brother Ashton and Brother Helms

came to Pricedale, PA to hold a week of meetings at Brother Jim Griffith's home. On Saturday night, my brother, Jim Griffith called me over to his house. He was going to attend a special meeting at Lucyville (Roscoe), PA, and he asked me if I had anything to tell Brother Cherry. I hesitated for awhile; then I said, "Have Brother Cherry come down tomorrow," as they were holding meetings at Pricedale. I was baptized on this day, October 13, 1906 there in Pricedale by Brother Cherry.

A month or two after I was baptized, I could hear others giving their testimonies, and I asked God to give me an experience to establish me in the Church. When I got up from bed that week on a Saturday morning, my jaws were locked, and they were locked all day on Saturday until Sunday when they anointed me. As I was being anointed, I could feel the virtue pass through my head and into my jaws from the hands of the brethren, and my jaws immediately flew open. This was my first experience.

I attended the January conference at Monongahela in a Lodge Hall, where Brother Charles Ashton introduced me to Brother John Ward. On May 26, 1907, we were married in McKeesport. We moved to Coal Valley where the Ashton family took me under their wing; they were my second family.

A meeting was held at Brother and Sister Gilbert's home. Sister Gilbert spoke in the gift of tongues over my head, and Sister Ashton had the interpretation. It was, "She shall work, she shall work and great will be her reward."

In 1909 we moved from Coal Valley to Belle Vernon, PA where my husband, Brother John Ward, presided over the mission of the Church for several years. I have been in the Church now for 75 years, and I want to hold fast to what the Lord has given me to the day I die. I am so glad that He has opened my eyes to see the great light of salvation. It is worth living and dying for.

I praise Him every day of my life. I spend most of my days and sometimes through the night in prayer to Him for the Church and my brothers and sisters throughout the entire Church. He surely has blessed me and all of my family all the days of our

lives. I have had many experiences, but they are too numerous to mention.

Dear brothers and sisters, there is an album full of leaves of snowy white where no name is ever tarnished but forever pure and bright. In this book of life, God's album, may our names be penned with care, and whosoever has written, write it forever there.

Sister Margaret Ward

P.S. If anyone would care to write to Sister Ward, she is going on 92 years old and is shut in. She would appreciate hearing from the saints. Her address is:

c/o Mrs. Bertha Sommerville  
3515 Ridgemont Rd.  
Orlando, Florida 32808

## The New Year

*Old things are passed away; Behold, all things are become new.*

2 Corinthians 5:17

## Branch and Mission

### —News—

## Detroit, Branch 3

Branch 1 and the Sterling Heights Branch united with Branch 3 on Sunday, September 13. Brother Spencer Everett introduced the meeting, stating that he was awakened at 4:00 a.m. and was directed to read Psalms 22:3 and Psalms 100:4 concerning the need to praise God. He asked Brother Louis Vitto to lead the congregation in singing songs of praise.

After the service, one of the sisters told Brother Spencer that she had a dream in which a man entered the church and proceeded to the rostrum where he was asked what he wanted and he said he wanted to be praised. This was Brother Spencer's confirmation that he had chosen the right scripture and that he had been directed by God.

Brother Paul D'Amico was with us, and he chose Moroni 10:4 as his subject in which the phrase, "I would

exhort you that ye would ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true", appears. He related how his father went to God in prayer asking where the right church was, and he was directed to The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Jerry Benyola followed, stating that one word stood out in Brother Paul's sermon, the word "ask". If we ask God with a sincere heart, He will answer. The letter "s" means for us to seek and we will find, and the letter "k", knock and you will be received. These are the three things we must do before we can be baptized.

Brother Nick Pietrangelo, just back from Greensburg, said he was very tired this morning and did not really feel up to coming to church, but after arriving here, he was strengthened both in body and in spirit. He remarked that something Brother Benyola had said stirred him deeply. Branch 1 had a fast and prayer service on Saturday, and there were only eight there. This seems to happen in most of the fast and prayer services, but those who do attend, come away with a great blessing. It is his desire that more of the saints attend these meetings.

Brother Carl Frammolino, who is under great stress due to the illness of his wife, Sister Joanne, thanked us all for our prayers and cards. Let us all unite in fervent prayer for these wonderful servants of God. Let our love reach out and touch them.

We sang *Blessed Assurance*, which has long been a favorite of Brother Carl's, and Brother Carl dismissed us. After the dismissal, we had two anointings, Sister Pierina DiFalco and Sister Herta Tiedtke. Also, during the service, a baby was blessed by Brother Peter Capone, the infant daughter of Mark and Donna Loffredo, Melissa Nicole.

We should have these mini conferences more often; they are a blessing.

## Meaford, Ontario

By Bob Stanek

The sun blazed down both on

Saturday and Sunday, September 12 and 13. It was clear skies, and the lake was calm and peaceful. Meaford, Ontario, Canada is on Georgian Bay, and the saints there have rented a building for church services only a few blocks from the lake. They have worked much at freshening up the interior, and outside they have a nice sign on the front for all to see the location of church services. They also purchased a piano. Meaford is about 5 hours from Windsor, using I-94 through Michigan to Port Huron to Sarnia, or is about 7 hours using the route through Ontario. Ministry from Windsor Branch hold services a few times a year in Meaford, and Brother Mario Coppa from Branch 3 in Detroit holds services periodically. We hope and pray the work will increase here and more services can be held by the ministry. The saints here hold Sunday School and mid-week services faithfully each week.

Brother Rick Elzby, ordained teacher and resident of Meaford, made some opening announcements in the Sunday service. He thanked everyone for helping with the picnic for the Indian children on Saturday; about 45 people turned out. Brother Rick also thanked each one for their help in preparing the church building for services and for assistance in buying the piano.

The Sunday meeting had a capacity crowd of 43 brothers, sisters, children and visitors coming from Meaford, Alliston, Guelph, Toronto, Muncey, Detroit and Windsor. The meeting was turned over to Brother Don Collison, Presiding Elder of Windsor Branch. After opening remarks and prayer, Brother Rick and Sister Jane Elzby sang a hymn accompanied by Sister Joanne Coppa. Brother Don Collison then preached a wonderful dedication sermon seasoned with the Spirit of God. Brother Bob Stanek was asked to serve sacrament. About 5 people were anointed followed by numerous testimonies, amongst which Brother Larry Henderson, Presiding teacher of Windsor, was inspired to read a verse or two of scripture and expressed himself.

Closing remarks were given, and we joined hands in a circle singing the hymn, *Our Church*. Brother Don Collison closed in prayer ending our dedication service of this beautiful building—another place to worship God, Meaford, Ontario, Canada.

## Detroit, Branch 2

By Leona Buffa, Branch Editor

The brothers, sisters and friends of Branch 2 gathered together at Camp High/Scope on Friday evening, September 4, 1981. We all were looking forward to a weekend of fellowship and relaxation with one another. Some of our sisters brought a few things to snack on, such as homemade strawberry jam and freshly baked zucchini bread.

On Friday evening, it was hard to see the campgrounds as they really were; but upon awaking Saturday morning, the site was truly a beautiful one. There was a clear, free-flowing stream that made you want to stop and watch as you crossed over it on the bridge that was built there. Many took a walk on the swinging bridge which led nearly to the top of several trees where a deck was built suspended by steel cables and seats built in a circle so you could sit and enjoy the view or "rock the boat", so to speak, as the children enjoyed doing.

After breakfast, we met for chapel and sang a few hymns. Afterwards, we broke into seminar groups for the adults, young people and small children. Our topic was "Rewards of Discipleship".

One of our activities for the afternoon recreation was the all-American favorite, baseball. All ages participated, and one team laughed more than they scored. (But there is still hope—we have our eternal reward to look forward to!)

Our evening meeting began with singing and prayer. During the course of the weekend, we were divided into five groups; during this meeting, each group performed a skit. They all centered around the topic of "Rewards of Discipleship". The skits were about Noah, the brother of Jared, Gideon, the laborers (as spoken of in Matthew 20) and the talents (as spoken of in Matthew 25).

Afterwards we met in groups and discussed "What does it profit to serve the Lord?" Brother Reno Bologna led the adult group. He read Psalms 19 and asked us what our profit was. Many have stated that they have gained so much with the Church as far as the brothers and sisters always being there when you need someone to turn to. We have something worth living for each day

when we arise. He then told us, "If there is anything in our life that keeps us from serving God, let us put it aside".

Afterwards we met around the campfire and sang many songs. The small children enjoyed singing a few of their favorites also.

Sunday morning came much sooner for some than for others, depending on how late you were up the night before. To begin our morning service, we had community singing and each of the five groups came up and sang a selection. Brother Alex Gentile opened in prayer, which was followed by commemorating Sister Anna Badalucco for fifty years of service to the Lord in the Church. She was pre-

sented a corsage on behalf of the brothers and sisters. We sang, *The Longer I Serve Him*.

Brother Reno Bologna spoke and read from Romans 2:7-12. He stated that labor does cause us to change. When we work with our hands, naturally, we can see it in our hands. Spiritual labor will show in the way we act, what we do. Others will see this in us.

He also read Psalms 1:1-2. He said that all he has experienced through the years are things which he can now speak to a congregation about and which will lift us up just a little more.

Today we have to think as an individual and how we stack up before

the Lord. Today is the day we need to be concerned about; tomorrow may not be ours. Live each day as we can—to its fullest!

We sang *I've Decided to Make Jesus My Choice*. Brother Alex left the meeting open for testimony. There was a beautiful spirit present, and many were thankful for the opportunity to be there for the weekend. Sacrament was passed, and we had closing hymn and prayer.

After lunch we gathered our belongings together to get ready to leave for home. We seemed to have come just a little closer in knowing one another. It was a very peaceful, relaxing atmosphere led by the sweet, sweet spirit of the Lord.

## Children Blessed

Brook Leigh Hightower, born on July 25, 1981, was blessed by Brother J. Fred Olexa on September 26, 1981 at the Three Rivers Indian Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Leah Janette Steinrock, daughter of David and Janet Steinrock, was blessed by Brother Alex Gentile at Detroit, Branch 2 on October 25, 1981. Leah was born on February 15, 1980 in India and arrived in the United States in October, 1981. She is a beautiful little girl and has won the hearts of everyone. Many prayers were offered in the year's time that it took for Leah to come here, and we thank God that she is finally here with her happy parents.

Celisa Jean to Wayne and Tina Martorana of Niles, Ohio;

Brad Edward to Robert and Vicki Kendall of Roscoe, Pennsylvania;

Janell Lyn to John and Alfreda Abbott of Roscoe, Pennsylvania;

Jeffrey Lee to John and Diane Hawkins of Sterling Heights, Michigan; and

Jennifer Lynn to Joseph and Lynda Conger of Sterling Heights, Michigan.

## New Arrivals

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families:

Jonathan James to James and Alice Suska of Bronx, New York;

Nicole Renee to Michael and Robin Owens of Branch No. 1, Detroit, Michigan;

Rebecca Ann to John and Barbara Straccia of Branch No. 1, Detroit, Michigan;

Michaelangelo Allen to Dennis and Debra Bruno of Branch No. 4, Detroit, Michigan;

Michael Charles to Kevin and Donna Fraschilla of Edison, New Jersey;

Rachel Christine to Harry "Skip" and Cheryl Smith of Lakeside, Arizona;

David E. to David and Connie Connor of Levittown, Pennsylvania;

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### SPEECE—COSTARELLA

Mr. William Marshall Speece, Jr. and Miss Robin Lucy Costarella were united in marriage on Saturday, August 8, 1981, at The Church of Jesus Christ in Youngstown, Ohio.

Brother T. D. Bucci officiated at the wedding ceremony and was assisted by Brother A. A. Corrado. Musical selections were presented by soloists Joseph Costarella, Linda Speece, and Dean Wilson. Sister Betty Gennaro was the organist.

The Speece's are residing in Canfield, Ohio.

### FIDDLER—INTRIERI

Mr. James Fiddler and Miss Nina Intrieri were united in holy wedlock on September 12, 1981 by Brother David Nolfi.

The newlyweds are residing in Pittsburgh, PA.

Mr. Louis Visconti and Miss Beverly Hansen were united in marriage on Saturday, October 10, 1981 at the Sterling Heights Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Louis Vitto performed the ceremony and was assisted by Brother Norman Campitelle. Musical selections were presented by Constance Klein and by Brother Steve Champine. Brother Steve was accompanied by the pianist, Brother Larry Champine. Brother Eugene Amormino was the organist.

#### KUBALA—JARDANHAZY

Mr. Thomas Kubala and Miss Cynthia Jardanhazy were married on October 17, 1981. Brother David Nolfi performed the wedding ceremony.

Musical selections were presented by Mr. Hugh Richardson, pianist, and soloists, Miss Suzy Gademeyer and Mr. Michael Sudie.

The Kubala's are making their home in Glassport, Pennsylvania.

## OBITUARIES

*We wish to express our sympathy to those that mourn over the loss of loved ones. May God bless and comfort you.*

#### EARL THEODORE

Brother Earl Theodore, a charter member of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of the Church, passed away from this life on August 10, 1981. He was baptized on March 29, 1925 and was an ordained teacher. Brother Earl held various offices in the branch which he fulfilled quite faithfully. His presence will be greatly missed.

Brother T. D. Bucci officiated at the funeral services and was assisted by Brothers A. A. Corrado and Ralph Berardino.

Brother Theodore is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, two daughters, three sisters, two brothers and grandchildren.

#### GABRIEL AUGUSTINE

Mr. Gabriel Augustine passed away on August 18, 1981. He was born on September 9, 1911.

Brothers A. A. Corrado and Ralph Berardino officiated at the funeral services in Youngstown, Ohio.

Mr. Augustine leaves to mourn his loss his wife, Rose, three sons, three brothers, three sisters and five

grandchildren.

#### ROCCO J. ENSANA

On October 2, 1981, the Edison Branch lost one of its most dedicated and determined laborers. Brother Rocco J. Ensana finally won the reward he worked for all his life. Born on March 13, 1898 in Italy, he was 83 years of age at his death.

He leaves to mourn his loss his wife, Nancy, one son, two daughters, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Sam Dell, with Brothers Paul D'Amico and Nathan Peterkin assisting.

Brother Rocco became a member of The Church of Jesus Christ in 1926, was ordained to the Priesthood in 1928 and was ordained an Evangelist a few years later. He worked for the Lord at home, in the branch and even from house to house as he helped to build the present Edison Branch.

#### BESSIE BURKE

Sister Bessie Burke, a member of the Freehold Branch of the Church, passed away from this life on October 6, 1981. Brother Cleveland Baldwin conducted the funeral services.

Sister Burke will be greatly missed by her family, her brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus and a host of friends.

God had inspired her to open up her home for the Gospel's sake. She held meetings in her home faithfully until the congregation expanded and moved to a large place of worship.

#### RALPH BUCCI

Mr. Ralph Bucci passed away from this life on October 17, 1981. Born on July 11, 1919, he is survived by his wife, Verla, two sons, two brothers, six sisters and two grandchildren.

The funeral services were officiated by Brothers Ralph Berardino and Joseph Genaro.

#### THOMAS TRAVIS

Mr. Thomas Travis, the brother of Sister Sally Dubreuil of the Sterling Heights, Michigan Branch of the Church, left this life on October 17, 1981. He was born on October 22, 1939.

Mr. Travis is survived by his wife, Jean, one child, one brother, two sisters and his mother.

Brother John Buffa conducted the funeral service.

# The Gospel News

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

(USPS 228-480)

February, 1982

Volume 38, No. 2

## "It Is Written"

By V. J. Lovalvo, Apostle

SUBJECT: Family Life (Continued from December Issue)

In our last meeting with the Presidents of the Districts, along with the President of the Church and his Counsellors and some of the Apostles, there was quite an extensive and comprehensive discussion on the essentials for a happy home life. Among the many good suggestions, which I jotted down on paper, there were the following DO's and DON'Ts:

### DO's

Families should have prayer together often.

Children should be encouraged to be active in Church affairs.

Respect older people.

Keep the Sabbath day holy; not until the services are over, but all day.

Families should socialize with other families of the saints.

Respect others as you would want to be respected.

Set proper priorities and establish good goals.

Read the Word of God daily, not only individually, but together with the family.

Keep an atmosphere of love and communication with the family. Learn to listen.

Counsel together as a family and respect each other's opinion.

Teach your family what their Christian duties are, and seek to fulfill them.

Be very generous to the Church financially.

### DON'Ts

Teach family to behave in church as due respect for the House of God. No talking in church.

Don't neglect to pray daily.

Don't pass responsibility to others that is yours.

Don't gossip in front of your children.

Don't belittle other ministers in front of your children or in front of anyone.

Don't keep bad or unsavory company.

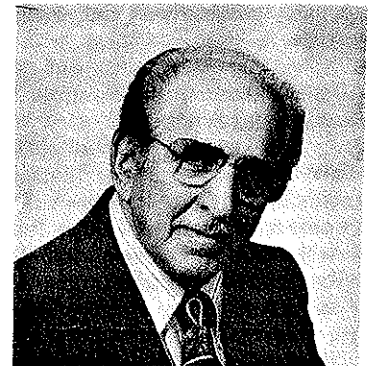
Don't try to be somebody else.

Don't second guess the Lord. (What He should have done, etc.)

Don't discourage people.

Don't discourage communication between young and older people.

Don't argue in front of children.



Don't set your own priorities before your duties to the Church.

Don't be cliquish or clannish.

I believe that the above suggestions are worthy of consideration by all the saints. One may say, "This is not altogether possible, as it sounds too much like an Utopian condition." Well, should we not all reach out for a Zion-like atmosphere in our homes? Should we not strive to create a feeling of living in the "Peaceful Reign" (Zion), beginning in our own homes and among our own families? It is written that "all things are possible to them that believe." Then why not make a wish, a hope, a dream become a reality? The only ones that can prevent us from living in the spirit of the Peaceful Reign is ourselves. If the spirit of Christ is within us, we can do all things. He once said, "Without Me ye can do nothing." Paraphrasing those words, we can understand Him to say, "With Me, you can do all things." With Christ within us, the impossible dreams can become realities; the unreachable goals can be achieved. Every good thing He taught is within the grasp of him who truly

believes in Him with all his mind, heart and soul. With faith, we can stand on the mountain with Him and see the beautiful, vast panorama of prophetic fulfillment stretching before us. Then let the family stand together, in faith, believing that God will make our dreams of a happy, contented existence be ours to enjoy, here on earth, and eventually in heaven above with Him.

A good, happy family life is not the work of only one person, but a concerted effort by every member of the family, beginning with the parents. A pleasant and Christian environment is like good, wholesome food. When one eats of wholesome food, the results are a healthy and strong body. When one partakes of a saintly environment, the results are happiness, tolerance, compassion, faith, love, mercy, kindness without limit. The parents must set this spiritual environmental example for the family to follow, so that the children may say like Nephi of old, "I was born of goodly parents;" that the memories of their stay at home will be the sweetest souvenirs of their lives. They will remember Mom and Dad with the fondest of memories. God bless all of you, my brothers and sisters, with God's richest blessings. And remember, "All things are possible to them that believe." So it is written.

## So Long As There Are Homes

*So long as there are homes where  
fires burn  
And there is bread,  
So long as there are homes where  
lamps are lit  
And prayers are said;  
Although people falter through the  
dark—  
And nations grope—  
With God himself back of these little  
Homes—  
We have sure hope.*

Grace Noll Crowell

## Foreign Missions Committee News



### The Church Established in India

*By Joseph Ross, Secretary-Treasurer,  
Foreign Missions Committee*

#### India Bound

Air India flight 104 gracefully rose as it winged upward in the New York City sky from the John F. Kennedy Airport on Tuesday, November 17 at 3:51 p.m. There were many passengers whose destination was India. Among these passengers were two ministers of The Church of Jesus Christ, on this historical flight, Brothers Joseph Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio, and Alvin Swanson of Miami, Florida. Both are ordained Evangelists in the Church. Their history making mission was to establish The Church of Jesus Christ (Headquarters in Monongahela, Pennsylvania) in India. Another nation on another continent. This action again was the partial fulfillment of Scripture found in Matthew 28:19-20. "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Currently, The Church of Jesus Christ is located in five continents: Asia, Africa, North America, South America and Europe. Eventually, the Church will be established accordingly, "I beheld the church of the Lamb, who were the Saints of God, were also upon all the face of the earth; and their dominions upon the face of the earth were small..." I Nephi 14:12. India—another nation,

another continent included in God's great plan.

Brothers Calabrese and Swanson were authorized by the October, 1981 General Church Conference to establish The Church of Jesus Christ in India. This as a result of seven years of corresponding, instructing and prayers for this work.

Arriving safely, our brothers were met by Brother A. Devenandam, Dr. B. D. Livingston and two others. After making accommodations at a hotel, this group met and expressed their hopes, expectations and spiritual desires to the brothers. After a while, they parted.



Brothers Swanson and Calabrese

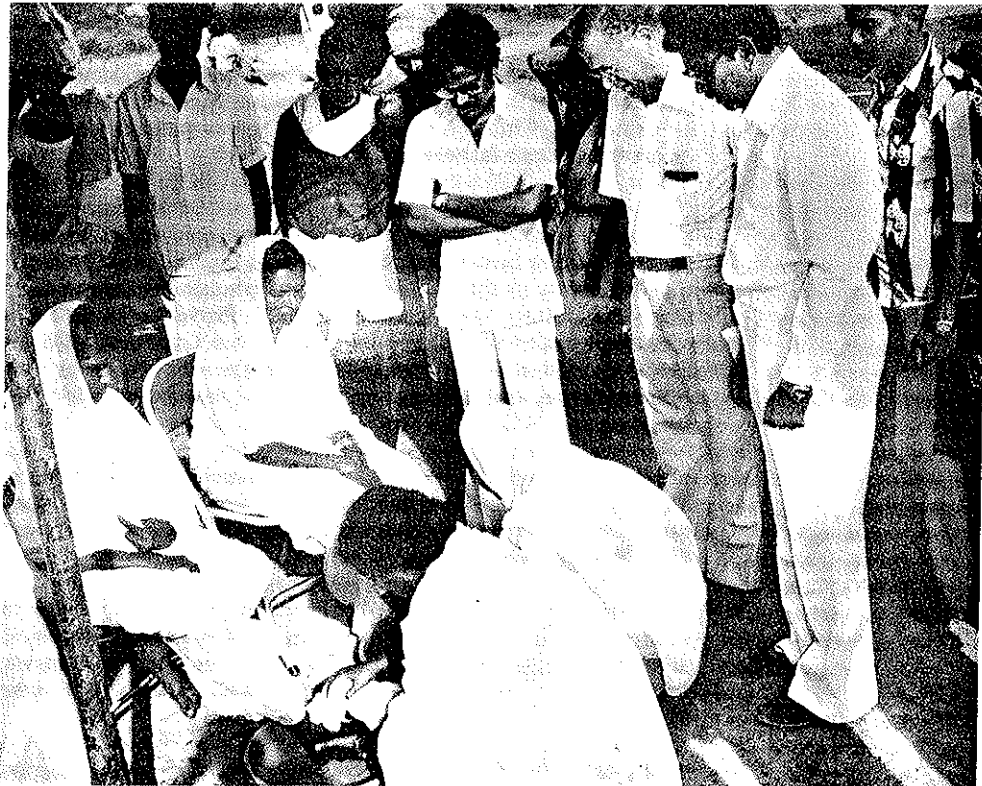
#### Devenandum Ordained an Elder

On Sunday, November 22, Brother A. Devenandam (Brother Dev) was ordained an elder in The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Joseph Calabrese wrote, "What a day! There were over 200 people present for the ceremony. A procession was held, led by Brother Dev, followed by Brother Swanson and me. Two little girls sang for us, then placed flowers around our neck." Once the meeting began, Brother Swanson washed Dev's feet as the ordination started. Later, Brother Dev stated, "I felt such a sharp pain in my heart and a great feeling of humbleness come over me when Brother Swanson bowed down to wash my feet." Then Brother Calabrese ordained him an elder in The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Dev later related, "When Brother Calabrese put the oil on my head and laid hands on me, I felt like



**The people following Brothers Swanson and Calabrese to the baptismal site.**



**The sisters washing feet as Brothers Calabrese and Devanandam instruct.**

lightning went through my entire body." All those present rejoiced as they witnessed the Spirit of God made manifest in their midst.

### Hope in the Gospel

After the meeting, many people approached the brothers to formally greet them and offer prayers for them. Brother Calabrese wrote, "What a feeling! I shall never forget it. They are a poverty stricken and afflicted people, with no hope except for what the Gospel can do for them." The following week, Brother Dev baptized 40 converts, 14 men and 26 women. A short time later, 8 more souls were baptized by him.

### More Travel

Then on Sunday, December 6, after traveling 350 miles north, six more souls were baptized. Later, Brother Livingston was ordained an

elder. During this service, two visions were seen. In one, Jesus Christ came in the room followed by His Disciples. Jesus said, "Let us kneel and pray." In the other vision, an angel entered the room carrying Golden Plates that were so bright they were blinding to look upon.

From there, they traveled to Bethany to visit Sannyasi Paul at the Leper Colony, which is under the HOINA Organization, whose President and founder is Sister Darlene Large of the Levittown, Pennsylvania Branch. Paul visited the U. S. Church a few months back.

### Homeward Bound

Brothers Calabrese and Swanson sadly left India on Sunday, December 13, at 7:50 p.m. on Air India flight 174, returning to J.F.K. Airport, New York City on Monday, December 14 at 3:45 p.m. A short, simple sentence in

a letter from Brother Joe Calabrese while in India summarizes the success of the trip by our brothers; "THE CHURCH IS ESTABLISHED IN INDIA. PRAISE GOD!"

## Missionaries to Italy Needed

The Foreign Missions Committee of The Church of Jesus Christ is interested in obtaining the services of two (2) Priesthood members to volunteer as General Church Missionaries to Italy in the Fall of 1982. Those interested, please contact the Secretary of the Foreign Missions Committee for details:

Joseph Ross  
#2 Ross Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001  
Phone 412-375-1648

## Senior Members Honored

Love and greetings to all. How wonderful it is to be brothers and sisters in The Church of Jesus Christ. We become brothers, sisters, grandparents to each other and we care.



On Sunday, November 1, 1981, we had a happy day together. We surprised three of our senior members for their birthdays with a delicious spaghetti dinner and a huge birthday cake after our service. The honorees, Sister Ida Verducci, 90, Brother Pete Molinatto, 86, and Brother Victor Ciarolla, 76, all have families, but they are scattered about the land and can't share birthdays

[Continued on Page 8]

## Greetings in Christ,

Have you thought your children will be like you as they grow, that they will follow your example and walk in your footsteps? Every boy's dream is to be like his father and every girl as her mother.

"The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him." Proverbs 20:7

Parents have no better joy than to see their children take after them and excel above them. Children will remember their guidance better when followed by examples. Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

Remember, these are times of appalling juvenile delinquency. A great challenge is yours, but also an awesome opportunity. You the parents are the ones who must fortify your child against future tragedy. You must teach them that "the way of the wicked is an abomination unto the Lord; but God loves them that follow after righteousness." Proverbs 15:9. You the parents and entrusted guardians must lead them to the Lord Jesus Christ. Teach them to live as a child of God, in as much as Jesus said: "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of God." Mark 10:14.

Sending your children to Sunday School will help. Taking them is better. They better follow your footsteps. As it is written of Jesus, "and the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him." Luke 2:40.

Jesus also needed parents that cared, loved and instructed Him. You have been given a trust, your children. They are more precious than jewels. They are your real wealth. Give your best to them and they will crown you with honor. They will long speak of you with warmth and dignity, because they are part of you.

To fail your children is a tragedy beyond repairs. To nurture them in the fear of God is to build a sure foundation under them that will endure forever. Your tears will not help, but your sweat and firmness plus lots of love will.



Mark Randy  
Evangelist

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
Kenneth L. Staley  
301 Pine Drive  
Alliquippa, Pa. 15001

ASSISTANT  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
Thomas Ross  
260 Division St. Ext.  
Alliquippa, Pa. 15001

MANAGING EDITOR  
Joseph Ross

ASSISTANT  
MANAGING EDITOR  
Richard Scaglione

EDITORIALISTS AND  
CONSULTANTS  
Paul Palmieri  
John Ross  
John Manes

OFFICE MANAGER  
Cathy Gentile

TYPISTS  
Janet Gibson  
Sharon Staley

CIRCULATION MANAGER  
Janet Buffa

GMBA EDITOR  
Ryan G. Ross  
305 Pine Dr.  
Alliquippa, Pa. 15001

GENERAL CIRCLE  
EDITOR  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Alliquippa, Pa. 15005

DISTRICT EDITORS

ARIZONA  
Ken Surdock  
P. O. Box 1359  
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

ATLANTIC COAST  
Joseph Perri  
3 Elizabeth Ct.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

CALIFORNIA  
Kenneth R. Jones  
4682 El Rancho Verde Dr.  
LaPalma, Calif. 90620

FLORIDA  
Elsie M. Ensana  
1921 S. E. Erwin Road  
Port St. Lucie, Fl. 33452

OHIO  
James Alessio  
1413 W. 37th St.  
Lorain, Ohio 44053

MICHIGAN-ONTARIO  
Louis Pietrangolo  
5522 Bluehill  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

PENNSYLVANIA  
Malcolm Paxson  
5304 Adobe Drive  
Baldwin, PA 15236

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BUSINESS OFFICE  
8423 Boettner Rd.  
Bridgewater, MI 48115  
313 429-5080

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

### The Light of Christ

By George A. Neill  
(Reprint - 1965)

"Ye are the light of the world. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

We have room to believe that most people are afraid in the dark, at least to some degree. This, I believe, is typical of man from the beginning of time. I will not take time nor space to relate two incidents where I was caught in total darkness, but I would like to say that on both occasions I felt a tingle in my spine and my breathing became very heavy. I remember when I was a small boy that if anyone was afraid to venture into the dark others would call him a "fraidycat." I wouldn't let the others call me that, so I would go anywhere any other boy would not venture—bold in appearance, or on the outside, but truly a "fraidycat" on the inside. No doubt most of us have known places where we would never walk at night. I lived in Wichita, Kansas for a short time when a child, and if I went home a certain way I had to pass through a dark spot where there were no street lights. It didn't take long for me to decide on another route.

Many animals, unlike man, prefer darkness. Most wild animals hunt their food at night; they attack their prey in the dark. There are insects that prefer the dark to the light. Have you ever lifted an object from the ground and seen various insects or bugs scurrying to get under cover again? They prefer to hide in darkness.

#### LIGHT IS LIFE

Man was made to walk in the light. His eyes won't focus in the dark for he was made much higher than the animals. Light, to man, is guidance. In the night we grope and stumble; we cannot be sure where we are or which way we should go. There is safety and assurance in light. Light not only fosters the seed but it warms the soil for its sprouting, even when the sun is obscured by clouds. We, as well as plant life, thrive on its influence. Without light man and beast would starve. Therefore, light is life.

Light reveals beauty, but all colors vanish in the dark. Day restores the blue of the sky, the green of the trees and of the grass in the meadows. The flower gardens take on their brilliance of color by day and the painted desert has no color at night. What sunlight is to the earth, the light of Christ is to men and women—life, guidance, assurance, and beauty. Christ is the light and life of the world; His light is endless; it can never be darkened. His life is eternal and there can be no more death.

Christ said on one occasion, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." He also said that John the Baptist was sent to bear witness of that light, and that he (John) was a burning and shining light. As latter day saints should we be any less than burning and shining lights? Just how much light radiates from those of us who would be the "light of the world"? Is it possible that some of us need to increase our candle power?

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock



## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of Madness

Dear Boys and Girls,

Under Nebuchadnezzar, the king, Babylon became a great empire. Daniel's people, the Hebrews, were only one of the nations Nebuchadnezzar conquered and brought back to Babylon.

In Babylon we see many signs of a great culture. Education was valued and both boys and girls went to school. A woman in Babylon was allowed to hold property of her own and when she married, if she had a fortune of her own, was allowed management of it. The Babylonians developed arithmetic, studied the stars, and made a calendar dividing the year into 12 months of 30 days, adding an extra month every six years. Modern astronomy still maps out the sky after the old Babylonian plans. Babylonians also developed the way arches are made in buildings and the idea of a new dial for a clock.

Nebuchadnezzar was proud of the kingdom he ruled. He laid out beautiful palaces and gardens and built many temples for the different gods his superstitious people believed in.

When Nebuchadnezzar had a strange dream, he called in his many magicians, astrologers and wise men to explain it to him. They could not tell him what it meant. Finally, Daniel came to the king and this was the dream Nebuchadnezzar related: "I saw a tall tree in the middle of the earth. It grew and was strong and the height reached into heaven. All the leaves were fine, there was a lot of fruit in it and many living things were underneath its shadow. But then I saw a watcher and holy one came down from heaven saying—'Cut down

the tree, cut off the branches, shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit. Let the beasts get away from under it, and the birds from his branches.

However, leave the stump of his roots in the earth, let it be wet with the dew from heaven. Let his heart be changed from a man's and let a beast's heart be given unto him; and let seven times pass over him. Then he will know that the most High (God) rules the kingdoms of men and (God) giveth it to whoever He will.' "

Now Daniel was astonished. He sat for one hour thinking; he hated to tell Nebuchadnezzar what the dream meant, but the king insisted, so Daniel told the king that the tree stood for the king. His greatness had grown and spilled all over the earth. Many people were protected under his rule. But a watcher was coming to cut down the king. Nebuchadnezzar would live with the beasts of the field and eat grass like an oxen until seven years had passed, and Nebuchadnezzar would believe that the most High God ruled heaven and earth; and giveth great kingdoms to whoever He would choose.

Daniel warned the king to change his ways, but only 12 months later as Nebuchadnezzar walked in the palace of Babylon, he spoke. He bragged, saying, "Isn't this great Babylon that I've built by my mighty power and for majesty?"

That same hour Nebuchadnezzar's dream was fulfilled. Madness came upon him. He was driven from men and did eat grass as oxen. His body was wet with dew, his filthy hair grew looking like feathers and his nails were long like birdclaws. For seven years he lived with the animals.

Finally, Nebuchadnezzar's reason returned to him and he realized that truly God is in control of all. In the dream the tree roots were left and the roots of Nebuchadnezzar's Kingdom also were left. He was restored as king and marvelous ruler. Nebuchadnezzar honored God and praised Him widely before his people from that time on.

Sincerely,  
Sister Jan

### PUZZLE

By taking the first letter of each answer and writing it in the blanks provided, you will spell the name of Lazarus' sister.

1. In the days of Moses the Pharaoh killed all the \_\_\_\_\_ children.
2. Jonathan shot an \_\_\_\_\_ to warn David that Saul wanted to kill him.
3. God put a \_\_\_\_\_ in the sky as a promise there would never again be an earth covering flood.
4. Benjamin was the \_\_\_\_\_ brother of Joseph.

Question: \_\_\_\_\_  
1.      2.      3.      4.

## Young People Ask

By John Griffith

Dear Brother John,

*Does a person gain anything through day to day living in a society such as ours?*

Most definitely. Without that day to day struggle, our spiritual lives would not be as meaningful to us.

Jesus Christ gained by day to day experiences. Voluntarily, He became subject to human limitations and weaknesses. Although without sin, He was made as His brethren. And through this state of being, He grew in wisdom. "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." Luke 2:52

Christ not only took upon Him the human form, but also the conditions of this life. How could Christ truly sympathize with man unless He

became as a man and felt the daily effects of life upon Him?

The experience He gained in the wilderness was that of dealing with human temptations. Through this misery of being tempted, He gained in experience and understanding of our needs spiritually.

Imagine the conflict that was in His body. He was naturally present but spiritually motivated. Isn't this conflict found in the true disciple today?

Life is not easy. But it wasn't designed to be. We are to recognize the need for spiritual existence with Christ.

One of our young sisters writes: "Being young and baptized in the Church is probably one of the hardest things to deal with. I have been baptized for two years. It hasn't been easy, but I never remember anyone saying it would be. It's a challenge, but it's not all struggle either. There are a lot of problems in life that are just simply easier to cope with because God is on your side. A lesson I've learned has to do with telling yourself that 'God will understand' if you do something that is wrong. Just because you're young doesn't make everything you do okay. There is one important rule I've learned from my parents, and it really is a good one. If there is any question in your mind before you do something, then probably it is wrong for you. The young people of our Church are so beautiful, and with the help of God, and the strength we get from one another, the Church of Jesus Christ has a BEAUTIFUL future." Sister Karyn Vitto

The Apostle Paul recognized a conflict in his life between the natural and spiritual existence that was in him. If we are not feeling this same conflict, then we should examine our lives. Our daily experiences should bring alive our spiritual existence with Christ. These experiences put meaning in our spiritual lives.

And what about those day to day trials? "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy." 1 Peter 4:12-13

The true disciple is no longer a part of the natural world inasmuch as the spiritual life is alive and the natural life is dead in you. "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also." John 15:18-20

And what awaits the faithful? "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:10

Agreed, life is not always easy, but it is definite that we learn through our day to day experiences to appreciate this spiritual life even more so.

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; . . . For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." II Corinthians 4:8,9,17

\*\*\*\*\*

If you have a question or comment, please write. Share your thoughts with each other. We are our brother's keeper. God bless you.

Write: Young People Ask  
The Church of Jesus Christ  
Sixth & Lincoln Sts.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

## MBA Highlights

### GMBA November Conference, 1981

*By Ryan Ross, GMBA Editor*

The conference of the GMBA gathered at the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, PA on November 14, 1981. Many areas of the MBA were represented as GMBA

President, Don Ross, opened the meeting. Business proceeded smoothly throughout the day, and some of the highlights include the following:

1. The assembly was presented with four campsites to choose from, including one in Flagstaff, Arizona; campus grounds at Edinboro State College near Erie, Pa.; Massanetta Springs in Harrisonburg, Virginia; and Camp Wonderland in southeastern Wisconsin. By a narrow margin (after Edinboro and Flagstaff were outvoted), Camp Wonderland was finally selected. However, subsequent to the conference, the camp procurement committee was informed that Camp Wonderland had committed the week offered to the GMBA to another organization. As a result, Massanetta Springs was obtained, since it was the second-place vote-getter and is available from July 3 through July 11, 1982.

2. In an afternoon activities committee meeting, Bob Nicklow, Jr. was selected as the 1982 Camp Director.

3. A by-laws proposal resulted in a change in the accounting period from April—September to June—December book-closing months.

4. Book of Mormon Lesson Plans are available for purchase and an estimated date of completion of the Book of Mormon Concordance is May, 1983.

5. Newly-elected officers include:

David DeLuca	Auditor	PA
Jim Dulisse	Organizer	CA
Jim Huttenberger	Organizer	CA
Malcom Paxon	Organizer	PA
Stacey Light	Organizer	OH
Bill Prentice	Organizer	OH

A new MBA local was organized at our mission in Meaford, Ontario.

7. The May GMBA Conference will be hosted by the Atlantic Coast Area.

8. Donations of \$3,000 to the print house Book of Mormon Concordance Fund; \$2,700 to relief for those affected by the hurricane disaster near Sinaloa, Mexico; and \$2,700 to the African Scholarship Fund were accepted by the conference.

9. A fund raising goal of \$200 per local for the next six (6) months was

accepted. Participation by all locals was highly stressed in that each makes an effort to meet the goal to whatever extent they can.

10. Other business included a request by the American Indian Committee for Lay Missionary volunteers to contact their district A.I.C., a salute to Ruth Ackerman for 35 years of service as a GMBA secretary, and the setting of a day, February 27, 1982, for an activities committee meeting in Greensburg, PA.

On Saturday evening, the Ohio Area Choir presented a program entitled, "America, The Promised Land", featuring patriotic hymns and the Songs of Zion. On Sunday morning, the Pennsylvania Area Choir joined them in presenting songs to the congregation. The services were well attended as several speakers, including Brothers Joe Milantoni, T. Domenick Bucci, Dominic Moraca and Dominic Thomas addressed the congregation.

## 55th Anniversary

By Frances J. Capone, Phoenix, AZ

The date of October 17, 1981, marked the 55th year of Sister Nancy Morone's baptism in the Church. She was baptized in the Raritan River in New Brunswick, New Jersey by Brother Eugene Perri, Sr.



Born in Italy on September 25, 1896, Sister Morone came to this country in 1907. She was married February 3, 1915 to Brother Anthony Morone, who was a faithful Church member until the Lord called him home on August 26, 1970. Their union was blessed with six children, four of whom are living. They are Daniel, Sister Loretta Mazzeo, John and Sister Mary Lombardo. She resides with her daughter and son-in-law, Sister Mary and Brother Nunzio and their daughter, Nancy.

Sister Morone has an almost 100 % church attendance record. Though doubly handicapped with visual and hearing impairments, this does not deter her enthusiasm and joy in coming to Church. She is a source of inspiration to the Phoenix Branch. In the snapshot Sister Morone is sitting in the seat that she occupies at every service.

May God continue to bless her with the wonderful, fervent, zeal that she has displayed throughout her many years in the Church.



### Senior Members Honored continued

with them as they had before. They were surprised, happy and thrilled that we remembered them. Sister Ida is still active and lives alone, and the Lord watches over her and keeps her in good health for her age. When she came to church, she told everyone she greeted, "Today I'm 90."

Brother Pete and Brother Victor have children and grandchildren who are baptized and are members of many branches throughout the Church, but they are too far away, so we took their place. The large birthday cake was baked by Sister Rita Koeth and beautifully decorated by Mary Molinatto McCollum. We sang *Happy Birthday* to three very happy people. Cards and gifts were truly appreciated from distant loved ones, but you still get lonely.

Many hearts were touched this day because having a birthday with all the brothers and sisters is likened to one of our Songs of Zion, *There Is No Rainbow that Shines Like Jesus*, and Jesus is love. A little love goes a long way.

## Branch and Mission News

### Lorain, OH

By Renee Alessio

During our Wednesday night meeting on September 16, 1981, we had the privilege of having Brother Joseph Lovalvo speak to us. Visitors from Cleveland were also present to hear him address us.

Brother Joe began by reading Matthew 17:1-5, emphasizing the words of God, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." He related many instances originating from the beginning of time; how beings have tried to exalt themselves above the Lord. The devil, who was the most perfect of angels, was not satisfied with his position and tried to exalt himself above the throne of God. (Ref. Isaiah 14:13) He tempted Jesus in the Garden when he told him to worship him. Jesus replied, "It is written, thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."

Joseph Smith, when asking the Lord which church he should join, was told "This is my beloved son, hear ye him." Join none of them because their creeds were an abomination in God's sight. Religions today do not preach the doctrine of Christ in its pureness but instead follow after the precepts of the men who founded them.

Brother Joe continued to elaborate upon the word of God—*Bible* and *Book of Mormon*, the spiritual gifts of the Church as stated in I Corinthians 12, and also the ordained offices of the Church. He related many experiences of his own callings into the various offices, emphasizing how important it was to keep the spirit of humility and love as he ascended the ladder as a servant of God.

Brother Joe also related many experiences with his involvement among the seed of Joseph in Mexico. He urged everyone to become involved with the missionary work of the Church in their localities. The Church of Jesus Christ has great expectations in working among the seed of Joseph, converting people

from other nations, and in the future establishment of Zion.

The Lord blessed Brother Joe with liberty in speaking that night, holding the attention of the audience from the beginning to the end. This was surely a meeting we wish would never have had to end.

## Erie, PA

By Stacey Light, Mission Editor

On Sunday, September 27, 1981, the brothers and sisters from the Glassport Branch traveled by bus to spend a day in worship with the saints of the Erie Mission. We were very pleased to see such a nice group of saints make an effort to be with us in Erie.

Our morning meeting was opened with a few remarks by Brother Harold Burge and then was left in the hands of the Lord and whoever felt His inspiration to bring forth the Word of God. Brother John Ali opened the meeting in prayer, and we then sang *Amazing Grace*.

Brother Alma Nolfi opened the meeting by using Psalms 1 and portions of Ezekiel 47 as his text. He expressed that trees by the river which bring forth good fruit are like the saints who stay close to the Gospel. Those close to the river will flourish, but those away from the main stream will struggle and not bring forth good fruit. Many times our testimony is the fruit that we leave behind when we pass on.

Brother John Ali followed, relating that the Lord is looking for good fruit on His trees and does not want to find any like the fig tree which had only leaves.

Brothers Joe Genaro and Jesse Carr also felt inspired to give the saints a few words. They followed the same theme, relating that those who are fed by the waters daily will bring forth good fruit. Let us all bring forth good fruit for the benefit of all mankind.

After the morning meeting was closed in prayer, the saints enjoyed lunch and some fellowship together.

The afternoon meeting was introduced by Brother David Nolfi. He

expressed that we should break our hearts before the Lord on behalf of those who have not yet obeyed the Gospel, just as Abraham broke his heart for Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham pleaded with the Lord on behalf of the souls of men and women.

A beautiful spirit of testimony prevailed throughout the remainder of the meeting. Many of the saints took advantage of the time in praising the Lord.

We of the Erie Mission are grateful for all of God's blessings and for the many visitors which we have had recently. We pray that God's blessings are upon all His people, and that someday soon we can gather as His people, never to part again.

## Monongahela, PA

By Tammy Nicklow

On September 13, 1981, we welcomed two visitors, Brother Art Gehly and his wife from the Fredonia Branch, and the spirit of the Lord also visited us.

Brother Art opened up the service reading from Revelations praising the glorious spirit of the Lord. He stated that we must reach out and seek the good things God has for us and that His spirit will strive with us if we are willing to seek out God's kingdom. We, as a people, have the potential to see the kingdom of God. We, as individuals, have the ability to see the New Jerusalem and that Holy City where we someday may dwell. He also stated that we must be fervent unto the Lord in our service. We are reminded that the Spirit of the Lord will not always strive with man. If we serve the Lord, we shall see Him in His glory. He will not force us to accept the things He gives us. If we don't accept it, then we choose that spiritual death. If man continually rejects the spirit of God, we will lose everything. We must go before God with a broken heart and a contrite spirit. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God?"

Brother Idris Martin continued, saying that we are mere mortals yet, at the same time, are temples of God. "Whosoever will, may come and partake of the waters freely..." We can become carbon copies of Christ.

Growing in the stature and understanding of the Lord. The Lord is constantly calling. We closed with Hymn #193, *Calling the Prodigal*, and Brother John Olexa closed in prayer.

After lunch we went down to the river to baptize Steven James Martin. Then we went back to the branch and sang hymns of rejoicing before opening. Brother Randy Beeman opened in prayer. Brother Idris Martin, our new brother's grandfather, who also baptized Brother Steve, opened the meeting.

Brother Steve was then asked to come up and have hands laid on him for the reception of the Holy Ghost. We reflect on that portion of scripture stating that "What shall be bound on earth shall be bound in heaven and what shall be loosed on earth shall be loosed in Heaven". We then sang a hymn while Brother Steve came up. Brother John Olexa laid hands upon him for the reception of the Holy Ghost. We sang, *There's a New Name Written Down In Glory*, and the congregation walked up to greet our new brother. Then Brother Steve gave his testimony. Sister Barbara Fleming then sang, *I Surrender All*, and the meeting was opened to testimony.

Truly we all surrendered to the Spirit of the Lord, and He blessed us in abundance.

## Sterling, MI

By Hazel Zoltek, Branch Editor

Sunday, September 20, was filled with many blessings for those who attended the Sterling Heights Branch. There were eleven elders present, including Brother Joe Lovalvo and Brother Dominic Thomas. There were several anointings, one of which was Sister Kay Vitto who has been having severe pain in her arm, and towards the end of the meeting, she stood and testified that her arm was free from pain for the first time in several weeks. Then we heard some good news; our Sister Diane Hawkins gave birth to an 8½ lb. baby boy, named Jeffrey Lee.

Connie Klein, a member of a Baptist church, favored us with two songs, one being *Precious Memories*, and the other *Amazing Grace*. She is truly blessed with a beautiful voice.

Brother Joe requested we sing

*Our Church*, and he then opened the service, stating that the singing was a sermon within itself. He told of how he missed the older brothers and sisters who have gone on to their reward. How beautiful they were in their dedication to the Church.

He read from Revelation 19:7-9. He chose this text because it pictures the people down through the ages. God has been forced to destroy the world and some cities because the people rebelled against Him. He sent His son to be the bridegroom of the Church, and He will come back to the earth to redeem His bride, the Church, and then once again, God will be forced to destroy the world because of wickedness.

When God picked Abraham, an old man of ninety-nine, and Sarah, a woman past the child-bearing age, He chose them because He wanted the world to know that the child they were to have was of God and was to be known as the child of promise. This could not have been if He had chosen a young, virile man. Through this child, the twelve tribes of Israel came forth. When they began to stray away from God, once again He had to come forth with a miracle, and He chose Mary, a virgin, to bear His Son who was destined to take on His shoulders the sins of the world and to make salvation possible.

When Jesus became a young man, He hand-picked His disciples. When He asked them to follow Him, they were electrified by Him and left everything to follow Him. Christ taught His bride, the Church, to obey all His commandments; He put the ring of authority upon her finger and presented her with many gifts and crowned her with the greatest blessing of all, **charity**. Her crown was adorned with twelve stars, and she was clothed with the sun, which is the Gospel. Brother Joe read some verses from Revelation 12. Paul taught there is one spirit, and that spirit is God. When sin started coming into the Church, God took His bride into the wilderness and there He nourished her for 1,260 years. There were many churches, but they had not the power; this is the only church in the world that preaches the Gospel in its entirety. Now with the Church in the wilderness, there had to be a restoration, and God made that possible. God promised He would set up His kingdom again upon the earth, and this is the work of this Church; the

elders to go forth, two by two, to work among the Indians, and to preach the true Gospel throughout the world.

Brother Joe told of how, when they were praying about setting up the Church in Mexico, he saw a vision of Christ walking down the aisle, His arms outstretched, and He said, "How long have I waited for my people to humble themselves." The Church is now established in Mexico, and there have been many baptisms. It is up to our elders now to pave the way for the Choice Seer. We are now preparing our Church for this event. We can all help physically and monetarily. Then will the Church begin to build the Mountain of Zion, and Jesus will come to that city, the New Jerusalem. The power of heaven will come down and Christ will be in the midst thereof. What a wonderful day that will be. The time will come when every nation will want to come to the Mountain of the Lord. Only the righteous will be accepted. Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess.

We sang, *Because He Lives*, and were dismissed by Brother Joe Calabrese. Brother Louis Vitto told us that Brother Calabrese is to go to India soon.

At the night meeting, we assembled to sing Songs of Zion. The Church was filled to capacity. Brother Joe Lovalvo offered prayer, and the Champine Brothers sang *The Morning Light*.

Brother Spencer Everett brought forth a message about Zion, stating there was more than one Zion spoken of in the *Bible*; three are geographical and one conditional. The one we are looking forward to is the one that will be established on this land of America. In II Chronicles 5:2, it tells of Zion in the City of David, and in Revelation 14:1, it speaks of the Heavenly Zion, and again in Hebrews 12:22. The third, the one to be set up on this land, is told about in III Nephi 16:16-20. Here there will be peace and joy as spoken of in Isaiah 52:9-10. The City of Jerusalem is the center of the earth, and the two continents on its north which resemble wings, are North and South America. Now as to the exact location of Zion, we know not, but it will not be in the coastal area. In Psalms 48:2, it says, "On the sides of the north". In Psalms 132:4-6, the word Ephratah means bountiful, and in the *Book of Mor-*

*mon*, the word Zarahemla means bountiful land in the fields of the woods. In Ether 13:4-8, Ether saw the New Jerusalem upon this land, a holy city like unto the Jerusalem of old, and in III Nephi 20:22, it says according to a covenant God had with Jacob, there would be a new Jerusalem and He would be in the midst of it. In III Nephi 21:23, it tells that the remnant of Jacob will be assisted in the building of the New Jerusalem.

Now God has a program for the future, the first step shall be the building of the New Jerusalem. The second step is the gathering in of the scattered on the face of the land, into the New Jerusalem. Step three is when Christ comes down in all His glory in the midst of the New Jerusalem. Step four is the gathering in together of all the dispersed, and the fifth step is when the work shall commence among all the nations.

Brother Spencer told of when he first heard the Songs of Zion; he began to notice the beats as they were played and how they resembled the melody of many nations, and God gave him the understanding that these songs will be representative to His introduction to all the different nations. We are now living in a new era that we might stand in God's righteousness, to be led by His spirit.

Brother Joe Lovalvo was asked by Brother Spencer to tell of his experience of seeing the City of Zion and of seeing Christ. He said that while he was returning from the reservation and rejoicing in the blessings he had received there, he was praying and thanking God. He was then taken away in the spirit, and it seemed he was no longer in his car. He beheld many people, and they were singing *The King Is Here*. Then he saw Christ coming down, clothed all in white and wearing white sandals, and everyone fell on their faces. He then saw Christ climb up to the top of the steps of a large, beautiful building and He turned and blessed this land and His people, the Israelites. Then Brother Joe was taken out of the spirit and his wife, noticing the tears on his cheeks, said you must have been receiving a blessing.

How wonderful it is to come to this Church and hear the wonderful experiences of those around us. How beautiful it will be when we all join hand in hand and rejoice with Christ in the New Jerusalem.

## Lakeside, AZ

*By Bonnie Smith, Branch Editor*

**The Restoration.** What does it mean to us as a people? At the Lakeside Branch we must continually reinforce the concept of the Restoration and our responsibilities here. It is the very reason for our existing in this part of the country. Without a profound conviction of the duty our Church possesses, the ongoing service here would be diminished.

The feeling of the Restoration provides a renewal of spirit; it renews life and gives a determination with hope that would many times otherwise waiver. How blest we are to have the opportunity to have this bonus in our service to God, even as Gentiles, to be included in the blessings to the House of Israel if we realize our commission and fulfill our responsibilities as a Church and people. Of utmost charge is our duty as examples, primarily to our young people. If we seek to do the Lord's work among His Chosen People, our children will enjoy the blessings and will then reflect the added strength and unity to the work of the Church.

With the fulfillment of our commission to the Restoration of the Gospel to the House of Israel, we stand to receive untold blessings. With this realization, we are indeed able to continue in our immediate concerns in presenting the Church to as many as would hear, and pray that we would not falter in this determination.

Please continue to remember our little branch here in Lakeside, AZ as we strive to do the Lord's will.

## Red Lake, AZ

We would like to take this opportunity to bring you up to date as to the current progress of the church building within the Navajo Nation.

The assignment seemed logical enough. The Lord asked us to build a church in which His people could worship. In the implementation of this task, we requested your assistance. The support came from across the Church in letters, donations and words of inspiration and encouragement. The Lord was reaffirming the

bond of love for this work between His people and the importance of a united commitment.

The land selected was donated, set aside and cleared in preparation for the building. Our goal was to begin construction the summer of 1981. As the warm days turned to fall breezes, we realized that our goal was unmet. An early winter and lack of funds were the cause of delay. It is difficult to describe the deep disappointment we felt and the period of discouragement we went through. We have been without a church building for 8 years. Going through another winter seemed unbearable.

Thank God our discouragement was turned to better understanding. We realized we have not been tutored these past 8 years only to build a church, but to also reach out to the many needs in the lives of these, the Navajo people.

Many lives are destroyed by violence and alcoholism. A desperate need exists to reach into their lives with the love of Christ. A church building here can serve as a true refuge from a troubled world; a place where battered or broken people can find solace from the troubles that beset them.

An Indian poet reflected well the despair in writing:

As I was crying yesterday  
Hiding behind my tears  
was my today  
My tomorrow  
I wonder how many years?

Only through a Church with hope for a better tomorrow can this kind of despair be set aside. Their lives need our Church, and we pray that we might see them receive it.

God is the Director of the building of His Church. We continue to need the loving spiritual and financial support to construct this place of peace and worship.

We invite you to join us in the joy of its preparation and in God's time, the celebration of its completion, "Our dedication".

## Detroit, Branch 4

Sunday, July 26, was a blessed,

joyful day as we gathered at Edison Lake to witness three baptisms.

We had listened that morning to the beautiful words of Christ from Matthew 13, the Parable of the Sower. Brother Dominic Moraca pointed out how the seed is sown in the hearts of men; how when it falls upon fertile ground it brings forth fruit. Dean Coppa arose stating he had come to the service with his heart prepared to ask for his baptism. Our cups were overflowing with happiness. Then his wife, Jan, asked to be baptized, followed by Debbie LaCivita. We all shed many tears of joy as we embraced each of them.

Brother Dean Coppa was baptized by Brother Ralph Leet and confirmed by Brother Dominic Moraca.

Jan Coppa was baptized by Brother Dominic Moraca and confirmed by Brother Ralph Leet.

Debbie LaCivita was baptized by her father-in-law, Brother Tullio LaCivita and confirmed by Brother Anthony Lovalvo.

On August 2, we enjoyed our Sunday morning service listening to portions of the Sermon on the Mount spoken by Christ to the multitudes gathered to hear Him. We were addressed by visiting Apostle Nicholas Pietrangelo. He emphasized "Love ye one another that ye may be the children of your Father" and "Love your enemies, pray for those who persecute you". He brought forth many ways we can apply this to our everyday living.

We then all partook of Sacrament and the ordinance of Feet Washing. It was a joy to see our newly-baptized taking an active part.

After the service, we enjoyed a time of fellowship in our dining area. Our recently baptized were honored with a beautifully decorated cake. Sister Ann Ciaravino surprised Brother Gorie with another sheet cake honoring his 70th birthday. It was a time of sharing with each other and expressing our love and caring for one another.

## Rochester, NY

On September 27, 1981, the Rochester, New York Mission had the

joy of having Brother Don and Sister Theresa Pandone visit with us. Brother Don chose for his text Acts 27—the shipwreck of the Apostle Paul and how he tried to warn the centurion against sailing in the tempestuous storm. God was with Paul all through his life and protected him from many dangers. Paul had a great love for the people, and he was willing to give his life if he could save a soul. We should also have a special love and show it in many ways and be firmly grounded and give our best to God and to one another.

Brother Ansel D'Amico spoke on the same subject and noted that Paul told the people that they had many instructors in Christ Jesus, but one father like he was, and he told them to, "be followers of me as I am of Christ." After sacrament was administered, we had feet washing.

On Sunday, December 6, 1981, Brothers Mark and George Kovacic from the Erie, PA Branch came to bring some sunshine and joy to our Mission. Brother Mark spoke on Romans 8, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall it be . . . I am persuaded that neither of these things can separate us from the love of God but our disobedience.

for all things work together for good for those who love God."

Brother Ansel D'Amico spoke of the wonderful work of the Apostle Paul, how he persecuted the Church at first, but later he gave his life after bringing many souls unto salvation.

The meeting was turned over to testimony, and a wonderful spirit of peace and joy was felt.

Brother George Kovacic offered the closing prayer.

## Imperial, PA

*By Eva Moore, Branch Editor*

October 18, the night following our General Conference in Greensburg, was a happy time for all those who had gathered for our Sunday night meeting. Brother Joe Calabrese and his wife, Sister Vicky, and Brother Tony Lovalvo and his wife, Sister Anne, told us that they were on their way to Lorain, Ohio. Brother Tony said, "I have never been to the Imperial Branch." Brother Joe said, "Well, we will just turn around and go to the Branch." We also had

Brother Sam DiFalco from Detroit with us, and he opened our service, expounding the great mercies of God which touched the hearts of the congregation. Brother Tony and Brother Joe followed, expressing their love for God's work and their desire to spread the Gospel.

As our service came to an end, there was in our midst a young man who was attending Lorain Branch (through an invitation by Sister Denise Ricco) who requested baptism. Brother Joe asked him, "When?" He answered, "Right now. I have my baptism clothes in the car, and I have been waiting for the right time." This was already 9:30 p.m. So by moonlight and car lights, Brother Joe took Joe Pennel down into the waters and baptized him.

We returned to the church building, and our new brother was confirmed by Brother Russ Martorana with the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost. We then had another meeting, which lasted until the midnight hour.

The Lorain group went home happy with another soul added to their number. Does God work at the midnight hour? Yes! Read Acts 16:25 and Acts 20:7.

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### CHURCH—D'AMICO

Mr. Jack Church of California and Sister Sharon D'Amico were united in holy wedlock on October 24, 1981 in Lockport, New York.

Brother Paul D'Amico, the bride's father, officiated at the ceremony. He was assisted by Brother Paul Whitton, and duets were sung by Sisters Laurie and Rebecca Whitton.

The newlyweds are residing in Simi Valley, California after a honeymoon in Hawaii.

## New Arrivals

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

Chastity Marie King to Mark Allen and Judith Ann King of Vanderbilt, PA;

Kelly Ann to Chuck and Cheryl Krocsko of Imperial, PA;

Jeffrey Paul to Jeffrey John and Kimberly Ann Buffington of Imperial, PA;

Talea Renee to Bob and Joyce Ramsey of Modesto, CA;

Jody Lynn to Melvin, Jr. and Margaret Mountain of Phoenix, AZ;

Jonathan Douglas to Leon and Terri Nath of Monongahela, PA.

## OBITUARIES

*We wish to express our sympathy to those that mourn over the loss of loved ones. May God bless and comfort you.*

### OLIVE E. CLARK

Sister Olive E. Clark, a member of the Vanderbilt, PA Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed away after being bedfast for seven years.

Brother Milford Eutsey, Sr. officiated at the funeral service held on September 30, 1981.

She is survived by three daughters and two sons.

# The Gospel News

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

(USPS 223-480)

March, 1982

Volume 38, No. 3

## Greetings from Mexico

*By Evelyn Perdue*

I am happy to write that our wonderful Lord is the same yesterday, today and forever and that He is still a worker of miracles. Several weeks ago a young couple came to the church. Their baby was very sick. They had taken it to the doctor. He gave it first aid emergency care and sent them home. After a few days they returned to the doctor. He told them that the baby needed surgery but refused to take care of the baby because the couple had no money. After being prayed for, the child was healed. This child's grandfather was also healed of tuberculosis sometime before.

In the month of September, Sister Ramona Rodriguez was on her way to church when her car overheated. When she thought it had cooled down, she took the radiator cap off. The hot steam burned her face. She was in a lot of pain, but still went to church. Shortly after, she was anointed and the pain stopped. After the meeting, some of the brothers went to check the car. When it was started, the car made a loud noise and black smoke came out. It lurched backwards and then forward running over a little boy four years old. Sister Ramona heard the noise and came running out. She saw what happened and ran into the church. She forgot all about her face and began crying mightily to God to save this boy. His nose and head were bleeding. The mother took him to a nearby clinic. The mother did not have any money, so the doctor bandaged the boy up and sent them home. The child became worse. The mother then tried the county hospital. They refused to help unless she would give all the details of the accident and

who was involved in it. Under Mexican law, when there is an accident they put everyone involved in jail. Our sister would not tell them anything and was turned away. She went to another doctor. He wanted to know who was going to pay for the care. She told the doctor not to worry and that soon someone would be there. About 2:00 a.m., Brother Vicente (minister) and Brother Luis Pacheco (minister) arrived at the clinic and assured the doctor that he would be taken care of. Both brothers anointed the child, and he was healed. The doctor kept the boy three weeks just to make some money and still wanted to keep the child longer, but Brother Perdue insisted that the child be returned home. The boy is fine and full of life. We thank God for this. There were two experiences had about this child. Sister Gloria Rivas had a dream where she saw the child dead. The Lord told her He was going to raise him up. Sister Ramona had a vision where she saw a large bubble and inside of this bubble was this child. On top of this bubble she saw a large white hand.

The following is a dream by our Brother Jose Alvarado in October, 1980. He is an Oaxacan Indian. We believe that he and his wife will be missionaries in Oaxaca. I (Brother Jose) dreamed as follows: I was inside of a church which looked like our church. It was about my height. I could hardly fit inside. There were no idols or people. I didn't know what to do. I thought to myself, "What am I going to do now? How can I get out?" Suddenly I found a door which was very narrow and I went out. When I

came out, there was a mountain, not too high and not too low. I climbed up a short distance and there I saw Jesus Christ, all in white. He was a short distance away, and I ran to catch up to

## Conference Notice

The April, 1982, General Church Conference will convene on Thursday, April 15, 1982, at 2:00 p.m. in our General Church Auditorium at Greensburg, PA.

The Thursday and Friday sessions will be open for the Priesthood and Teachers only.

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

The Sunday meeting will start at 10:00 a.m.

Meals will be furnished on a pay-as-you-attend basis. The cost will be \$1.50 per meal per person; children six to twelve years old will be \$.75; children under six years, free.

Those attending Conference must make their own arrangements for lodging.

We are looking forward to seeing you at Conference.

Brother Paul Palmieri  
Executive Secretary

Him and I asked him, "Are you Jesus Christ?" He turned around to see me. When I got near Him, He was not dressed in white. He was dressed like a policeman in a suit of blue, and He motioned to me with His hands to wait. I said, "Lord, I want to thank you in Spanish, but you gave me another language to speak. This is the only way I can thank you." He told me, "Wait and practice more." After that, I did not see Him anymore.

**OUR NOTE:** At the present time, this brother can read and write in Spanish very well and is able to preach in Spanish. He speaks the Oaxacan dialect and holds the attention of his people. This brother fasts and prays a lot. He is very desirous to go to Oaxaca to spread the Gospel, and we know in God's own due time, he will go back.

When Brother Perdue went to Oaxaca with Brothers Sam Randy, Joe Ciarolla and this Oaxacan brother and his wife, they truly had a wonderful time among these people. There were many who knew Brother Perdue. Many of these people had come to Tijuana and returned to Oaxaca. Their first meeting consisted of about 35 adults. An Oaxacan man and his wife told Brother Perdue that they want to be baptized in Oaxaca. Also that Brother Perdue must go to his home and to please take the Church to Oaxaca. We have two baptized people in Oaxaca. Many of these people invited the brothers to come to their homes to eat. We already have a place to meet in. Brother Jose Alvarado has a home built out of block which looks like a church and will hold at least fifty people. There was a dream had years ago that we would have a minister for our Oaxacan people, and we feel grateful that God has favored us in many ways. After working with these people for about 18 years, we finally have one who will be a good minister for these people. On August 30, 1981, Sister Gloria Rivas had the following vision: As Brother Alvarado was speaking in the Oaxacan dialect to his people, she saw a huge person dressed in white who was giving him the words to speak. When he spoke in Spanish, Brother Perdue was thinking, "What a brilliant mind this young man has".

The following dream was had by Angelina Alvarado, wife of Brother Alvarado. On August 17, 1981, I dreamed that I was walking with my husband to a place near my town (San

Jeronimo). We arrived there, and with us was a man, tall in stature dressed in white. Also with us were two women, and we arrived at the place where my husband had his farm. There was a river, and on the other side of this river there were steps, and the Lord started to climb up and we followed Him, But I lost sight of Him because He was so far ahead of us. We walked to the top of the hill. That is where the Lord ordered my husband to go and to start plowing the farm. I did not see my husband, Jose, obtain a yoke of oxen. He started to work right away with that yoke of oxen. This yoke of oxen was very beautiful and fat. My husband started to plow the ground. The Lord told him, "This land is for sale, but I will give it to you. Work it for a year. You are the first one to work this land. If you do well the first year, you will remain with it for many years." After He spoke these words, He was on top of a high and beautiful tree. I was at the foot of this tree, and I felt happy and again I heard the voice of the Lord say to my husband, "Hurry and work because you are going to stay here". Then He disappeared. I saw Him no more. My husband began to work the land. When I was close to the Lord, I saw a big tube and much water, crystal clear, coming out of it and it flowed to where my husband was working the land. Both of us saw the water. I said to my husband, "How good and we are going to sow the seeds because there is much water here. While you are working the land, I am going to town to look for good seed to plant here."

About six weeks ago, a woman about the age of 29 or 30 came to the church. It was on a Sunday. She embraced me and started to sob. I asked her what the matter was. She told me she had a dream the night before that she was in a church where the Lord Jesus was preaching telling the people to get baptized. She went to Him and said, "Lord, there are many churches. Which one shall I go to?" He told her to go to the church where she attended as a child. He also told her He was going to change her life and that she should go to The Church of Jesus Christ where Brother Eddy is. She asked for her baptism that morning along with the couple I first mentioned at the beginning of this article whose baby was healed. I cannot but help marvel at the way the Lord can send anyone to His Church.

I am going to relate how a couple came to the Church and were baptized by way of a dream. About two months or more ago, a woman (now a sister) by the name of Guadalupe had a dream where I had gone to her home to console her. Her husband had left her for two years. I stroked her hair and told her not to worry and that she would be baptized in our Church along with her husband. I did not know Guadalupe. A sister who lives across the street from her told us about her and the dream that she had, so Eddy and I decided to stop by and say hello. She was very happy to see us and shortly after started to come to church. Her husband returned and he started to come to church also. She asked for her baptism on November 14, and he asked for his baptism on November 21. Yesterday, December 6, they were baptized along with another young girl who had been waiting for several weeks. When our brother minister was baptizing these three, two people had the same vision where it was the Lord Jesus performing the baptisms and overhead were beautiful birds forming a half circle.

On Sunday, November 28, Sister Angelina Alvarado saw a white cloud over the sacrament table as prayers were being said. She sobbed as she was telling it. I thank God for His miracles.

Brother Piedad is going in for surgery next week for a tumor in his head. Yesterday (December 6) he was in the bathroom when he felt some water dripping on his head. He looked up but couldn't see any sign of water, and then he felt a hand on his head. This was very encouraging to him, and we are sure the Lord will watch over him.

I never cease to marvel at the greatness of our wonderful Lord and Saviour. We could never be worthy for all the things He has done for us. We just thank Him for the wonderful privilege of being able to be used by Him, not that we merit anything from Him.

May God bless all of my brothers and sisters everywhere. Surely we can sing of His redeeming grace. Remember us in your prayers that God's work might go forth. We also have another couple who desire to carry the Gospel to Nyarit, another state in Mexico. We have three young men in training now for the ministry, one for Tijuana and the other two as future missionaries. We send you our love.

## Faces

By Donald Ross

She is one of the few women mentioned in the *Book of Mormon*. By name she is identified five times and the only woman about whom enough is recorded to draw a description. Her descendants became a multitude of nations in the midst of the earth. Her name—Sariah.

Sariah is a beautiful Hebrew name. The root is Sara, meaning a princess and Jah, or Iah, for Jehovah. The "Jah" suffix often appears as "iah" and was frequently used by the Hebrews to refer to the name of God. The name, Sariah, is parallel to such biblical names as Isaiah, Jeremiah and Zedekiah. Thus "this princess of Jehovah", a significant name, because like Eve, she became a mother of nations. Sariah was the mother of six sons and some daughters, the exact number is not known. Nothing is recorded about her birth, lineage or death.

Her husband was the prophet Lehi, "a visionary man." She followed her husband, leaving behind every valuable possession. The record shows Sariah murmured or complained on one occasion. This was a mother's normal reaction, a mother who was concerned about the safety and security of her family. Their four sons, Laman, Lemuel, Nephi and Sam had returned to Jerusalem to secure the Brass Plates. She felt that they faced probable death. Sariah was comforted by her husband, Lehi, who told her, "I know that the Lord will deliver my sons . . . and bring them down again unto us in the wilderness."

When her sons returned, Nephi said, "my mother was comforted." Sariah's faith in the Lord was reassured. Her testimony was now a certainty that the Lord had commanded Lehi "to flee into the wilderness—yea, and I know of a surety that the Lord hath protected my sons and delivered them . . ."

Nephi, in a final reference to his mother, writes that while at sea his parents were "upon their sick beds." No doubt this was a result of their age, sorrow and grief they had suffered. However, Sariah lived to reach the Promised Land. She must have been an exemplary mother and faithful daughter of Israel. This conclusion comes from the first sentence of the *Book of Mormon*: "I Nephi, having been born of goodly parents . . ." Sariah, a true "princess of Jehovah."

## In Loving Memory of Sister Evelyn Dale

By the Brothers and Sisters of the San Carlos, Arizona Mission

Our dear Sister Evelyn Dale passed away unexpectedly early on the morning of November 28, 1981. She and her husband, Brother Emmett, have been our missionaries at San Carlos for the past four years.

Sister Evelyn, affectionately called "Muz" by all, suffered with her heart for many years. We were all concerned, and prayers went up in her behalf often. She enjoyed driving the Church van, transporting our brothers and sisters to and from Church, no matter what her physical condition was.

She was not feeling well on Wednesday night as we all gathered for our annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the mission, but she insisted on taking everyone home as usual. That was the last time we were all to be with her. She passed away early on Saturday morning.

We at San Carlos feel a gnawing emptiness at the mission, but we know she is resting peacefully and take comfort in that thought.

Brother Emmett feels the loss more deeply than any of us can realize, as they spent fifty years together as husband and wife. Remember our brother, that the Lord will mend his broken heart and give him peace and comfort.

Sister Evelyn is gone, but her memory lives within each life she has touched. We will all strive to meet "Muz" on the other side.

## My Testimony

By Carmella Mazzeo

Praise be the Lord! It was a long time I had been ill. I went to the doctor, but received no help. I went to a urologist. X-rays were taken which showed a shadow around the bladder. Suspecting a tumor or some sort of growth, I was told to enter the hospital for evaluation and biopsy. Needless to say, I was apprehensive, but I placed myself in God's hands and entered the hospital for surgery. I felt the doctor suspected something abnormal. I told him if he had something to say, to talk to me after he made inquiries about whether or not my daughter had arrived. I was given the pre-op shot, but was aware of my surroundings. I closed my eyes and prayed. While praying, I could hear in the distance a sweet, thin voice repeat a verse in the 23rd Psalm, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;" I answered, "Yes, I know Lord. Thou art with me." I heard the voice repeat that verse four times. On the fourth time, I again answered, "Yes, Lord, Thou are with me." Then I fell asleep. When I awoke, I was told all was well. I had nothing to worry about. Praise the Lord. He is so good!

I want to thank all my brothers and sisters for their prayers, in Florida and all the other branches of our Church. I know without your loving help I could not make it. Sincere thanks also for the phone calls and beautiful cards. May God bless you all. Please continue with your prayers. I am now having problems with my eyes, an illness called Myasthenia Gravis. There is no cure, but I depend on the Lord. He can do all things.

## An Experience

By Carmella D'Amico

On Sunday evening, November 15, 1981, Brother Rocco Biscotti called up on the phone, and in his conversation he asked me to pray for the Priesthood of the Church, especially for the newly-ordained elders. I did. On Monday morning I had this beautiful experience. I had a vision:

I saw a large field and Jesus was sitting under a big tree. I saw a large

crowd, mostly all elders and their wives, walking towards Jesus. I saw Brother Biscotti with the *Bible* and *Book of Mormon* under his arm and his wife beside him. Most all the elders had the *Bible* and *Book of Mormon* under their arms, walking towards Jesus.

Jesus spoke and said, "You have been called into the Royal Priesthood of God. I am going to send you into the world as sheep among wolves. As long as you are obedient to my commandments, I will bless and protect you from all the evils and dangers of this life. The Gospel is pure and the Church must be pure."

He blessed us all, raised His arms and was lifted up to Heaven and disappeared.

## 50th Anniversary

*By Annette Corrado*

Brother Joseph and Sister Dorothy Damore of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch observed their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Sunday, November 22, 1981. They had been united in marriage by Brother Anthony Corrado on November 23, 1931. They are the parents of three daughters: namely, Mrs. Rita Fusco, Sister Ruth Ann Zemko and the late Sister June Loewenthal. They also have one son, Joseph, and eight grandchildren.

Brother and Sister Damore were honored at a buffet reception given by their children at Mr. B's Tippecanoe House in Youngstown.

May God continue to bless Brother Joe and Sister Dorothy with many more years together.

## Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends,

Our sincere thanks and gratitude for all the prayers, cards, letters and phone calls during the passing of our loved one, Sister Meredith Lockwood.

Our deepest appreciation to Brother Mark Kovacic for his many trips to Buffalo with her, and also to Brother Paul D'Amico for the many uplifting visits he paid her while at Roswell Park.

May God bless you for all your love shown to us.

Sincerely,  
Brother Del Lockwood  
and Family

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you very much for your generous donations. Please continue to remember us in your prayers.

Love,  
The Red Lake Branch

## Young People Ask

*By John Griffith*

Dear Brother John,

*I have had the opportunity to work along with an individual who is homosexual. At first, I felt very uncomfortable, but as time went on, I found this person to be respectful and kind. Shouldn't I also respect this person's right of choice of life style?*

Each individual has been created with equal rights. Each has the right to choose his/her life style. For that, we should respect God more so for the freedoms that we, individually and collectively, enjoy.

In this area of free agency, we have found from the beginning of time that freedom of choice was. Joshua clearly made his choice when he stated, "but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15.

In I Kings 18:21, Elijah said unto all the people, "How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word."

In Jeremiah 8:3 we read, "And death shall be chosen rather than life by all the residue of them that remain of this evil family, ..."

John 6:66 states, "From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him ..."

Each individual is part of God's creation and should receive and give

respect one towards another. According to God's law of free agency, and there are many scriptures that relate to this, each should respect the right of choice that each has been given.

But scriptures have not shown me where we should respect the choice, especially when it is to follow evil.

According to scriptures, I find that homosexuality is wrong. This evil was found in a city eventually destroyed by the hand of God because of these evil abominations that existed therein.

Romans 1:18-32 states, "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. 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; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malig-

[Continued on Page 7]

**Editorial Viewpoint . . .****The Church Continues to Grow**

In last month's issue of *The Gospel News*, we were greeted by a brief but informative and interesting account of the establishment of The Church of Jesus Christ in India. In summarizing the report by Evangelists Joseph Calabrese and Alvin Swanson to him, Brother Joseph Ross, Secretary-Treasurer of the Foreign Missions Committee, noted one of the highlights of their fruitful and historic mission—bringing the Gospel to "another nation on another continent". Additionally, he noted that this event was a partial fulfillment of Scripture found in the New Testament and in the Book of Mormon.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28:19-20

Also from Nephi's prophetic vision of the Church in the latter days, "I beheld the church of the Lamb, who were the Saints of God, were also upon all the face of the earth; and their dominions upon the face of the earth were small . . ." 1 Nephi 14:12

**REASON TO REJOICE**

Surely, the people of God throughout the Church have great reason to rejoice in this latest expansion and enlargement of The Church of Jesus Christ. The hopes and expectations of many years are gradually being fulfilled. We are reminded here of the rejoicing of Ammon in the conversion of thousands of Lamanites:

"Now my brethren, we see that God is mindful of every people, whatsoever land they may be in; yea, he numbereth his people, and his bowels of mercy are over all the earth. Now this is my joy; . . . yea, and I will give thanks unto my God forever. Amen." Alma 26:37

The following hymn from our *Saints Hymnal* eloquently expresses our continuing hopes and expectations:

The morning breaks, the shadows flee,  
Lo! Zion's standard is unfurled!  
The dawning of a brighter day  
Majestic rises o'er the world.

The clouds of error disappear  
Before the rays of truth divine;  
The glory, bursting from afar,  
Wide o'er the nations soon will shine.

The Gentiles' fullness now comes in,  
And Israel's blessings are at hand;  
Lo! Judah's remnant, cleansed from sin,  
Shall in their promised Canaan stand.

Jehovah speaks! Let earth give ear,  
And Gentile nations turn and live;  
His mighty arm is making bare,  
His covenant people to receive.

Angels from heaven and truth from earth  
Have met, and both have record borne;  
Thus Zion's light is bursting forth,  
To bring her ransomed children home."

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Kenneth L. Staley  
301 Pine Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**ASSISTANT  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Thomas Ross  
260 Division St. Ext.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
Joseph Ross

**ASSISTANT  
MANAGING EDITOR**  
Richard Scaglione

**EDITORIALISTS AND  
CONSULTANTS**  
Paul Palmieri  
John Ross  
John Manes

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Cathy Gentile

**TYPISTS**  
Janet Gibson  
Sharon Staley

**CIRCULATION MANAGER**  
Janet Buffa

**GMBA EDITOR**  
Ryan G. Ross  
305 Pine Dr.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**GENERAL CIRCLE  
EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15005

**DISTRICT EDITORS**

**ARIZONA**  
Ken Surdock  
P. O. Box 1359  
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Joseph Perri  
3 Elizabeth Ct.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

**CALIFORNIA**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
4682 El Rancho Verde Dr.  
LaPalma, Calif. 90620

**FLORIDA**  
Elsie M. Eneana  
1921 S. E. Erwin Road  
Port St. Lucie, Fl. 33452

**OHIO**  
James Alessio  
1413 W. 37th St.  
Lorain, Ohio 44053

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Louis Pietrangelo  
5522 Bluehill  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Malcolm Paxon  
5304 Adobe Drive  
Baldwin, PA 15236

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**BUSINESS OFFICE**  
8423 Boettner Rd.  
Bridgewater, MI 48115  
313 429-5080

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock



## King Nebuchadnezzar's Son

Dear Girls and Boys,

Many years passed. Daniel was not close to the new king, Belshazzar, the son of Nebuchadnezzar. This Belshazzar planned a huge feast for over a thousand of his friends. While he was drinking wine before his guests, he ordered his servants to go and bring out the beautiful golden cups and vessels captured from the Jewish Temple.

As they drank from the holy vessels, they praised false gods, like the god of wood and stone and brass and silver and gold. They never thought about the one, true, living God or the fact that they were using holy vessels from God's Temple to drink from.

While Belshazzar was talking, all of a sudden his face changed. His knees began to knock against each other as he looked in terror at the wall. Out of the thin air was a single hand. This hand moved and was writing strange words before it again disappeared.

No one knew what this terrifying event meant. The four strange words were: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.

Belshazzar's mother was called to the feast. She told her son, "There is a man in this kingdom (Daniel) that your father made chief of all his wise men because he had an excellent spirit of the holy gods, with wisdom and understanding. Call him. He will tell you what this hand and words mean."

When Daniel appeared, Belshazzar told him, "If you can read that writing and tell me what it means, I will give you a chain of gold, fine

clothes of beautiful red, and make you the third ruler of the kingdom."

Daniel answered, "Give the gifts to yourself and your rewards to another, yet I will read the writing to the king and tell you their meaning."

He continued, "God made your father, Nebuchadnezzar, a most powerful ruler. But, when Nebuchadnezzar became too proud, he lost his kingdom and lived like a wild animal; he was fed with grass like an oxen. Seven years passed like this until he knew that the most high God ruled over every kingdom, and God chose whom to make the rulers. You knew the lesson your father learned, but you've not humbled yourself, and you've lifted yourself up against God. You've even brought the vessels of God's house here to drink wine in while you praised false gods.

This is the writing and what it means: MENE—God has finished your kingdom. TEKEL—You have been measured and are lacking. PERES—The kingdom is divided and given to the Persians and the Medes."

That night, enemy armies from Media attacked Belshazzar's palace. Belshazzar was killed. The new king was named Darius. He was a wise ruler like Nebuchadnezzar had been. He also promoted the captive Daniel to a position of leadership because of the excellent spirit that was in Daniel. This is what being a servant of the most high God means.

Sincerely,  
Sister Jan

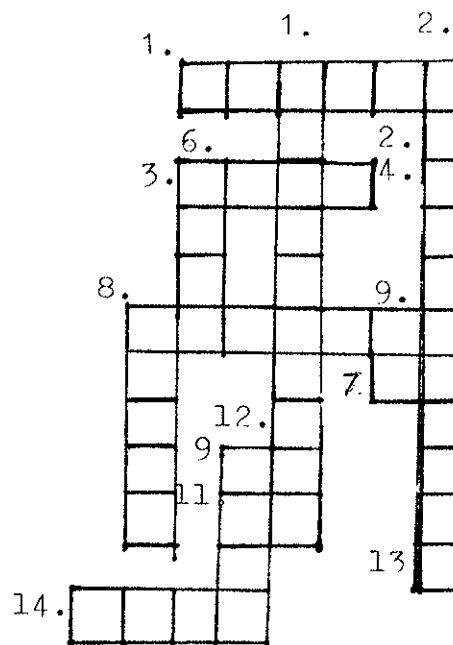
### ACROSS:

1. The King who captured Daniel was
2. Time before noon.
3. The vessels from God's temple were
4. Abbreviation for Northeast.
5. Belshazzar gave Daniel a
6. The King drank from a holy
7. Belshazzar was the new
8. Everything taken from the Jews became the King's
9. Abbreviation for Georgia.
10. They drank at the feast.
11. A word meaning either.
12. Belshazzar felt and his knees shook.
13. Daniel served the most high
14. Nebuchadnezzar was a king.

### DOWN:

1. Nebuchadnezzar's son was

### KING NEBU



2. What was on the wall?
3. Belteshazzar was the Babylonian for Daniel.
4. The first word written on the wall was
5. This story is found in the book of
6. Sixty seconds equals one
7. Nebuchadnezzar ate when he was insane.
8. The third word written on the wall was
9. Abbreviation for the United Kingdom.
10. Printer's word for the letter N.
11. Daniel had an excellent of God.
12. The holy vessels were made of
13. Nebuchadnezzar ate the same food as an
14. Abbreviation for the direction Northeast.
15. A period of time.

[Young People Ask continued]

nity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them."

And so evil begets evil. How does that scripture go? "and if ye break the least of my commandments, ye break all of them."

The very blessing of having the right to choose becomes a curse to those who would take evil over the ways of the Lord.

There are many nice people in this world, and many do not know of, or have not chosen to follow God's teachings.

Most definitely, respect all individuals as we are all God's creation. But do not allow yourself to respect evil that is present and seemingly acceptable in today's society.

Watch and pray.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you have a question or comment, please write. Share your thoughts with each other. We are our brother's keeper. God bless you.

Write: Young People Ask  
The Church of Jesus Christ  
Sixth & Lincoln Sts.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

## Bible School Material

It's time now to plan for that important summer event, Bible School.

The General Church Library would like to make you aware that four (4) sets of Bible School material, written by Sister Mabel Bickerton, are available for purchase.

Each set includes story books for primary, intermediate, and junior and

senior, coloring sheets for primary, a master song book, and individual song books.

The story books sell for 35 cents, the color sheets 15 cents, master song book \$1.00, and individual song books 10 cents.

The four (4) series are: The Long Old Story. The Jaredites, Saul of Tarsus, The Brave Ones.

Send orders to:

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## Branch and Mission News

### Modesto, CA

By Pam Cole, Branch Editor

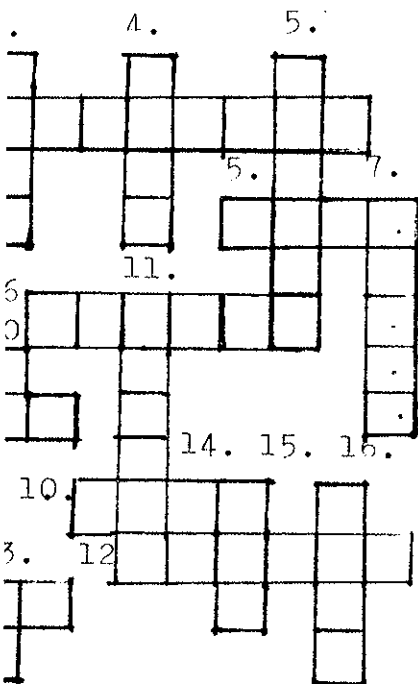
At the present time, the Modesto Branch building is undergoing some construction and remodeling. It is really looking nice, thanks to the brothers' and sisters' physical and financial contributions. A lot of brothers have given up their Saturdays and other days for this cause. May our constant prayer be that our dedication be under construction—that is, let us daily work to remodel our lives in the way Christ would want us to.

Besides our brand new walls, we have a brand new member in our Branch. He is Brother Jim Huffnagle of Cleveland, Ohio. Brother Jim moved here in October.

Just as we said our hellos to Jim, we had to say our goodbyes to two brothers, as they moved to Anaheim. Brother Anthony Cardinale and Brother Saul Tapia have made their home in Anaheim, but we know that it matters not where we are located now, for we know that someday we will all be reunited and never have to worry about saying goodbye again.

Brother Bob and Sister Joyce Ramsey did their part in "bringing one in '81". In November, the Lord blessed this husband and wife with a baby girl, Talea Renee. Awaiting the arrival of their grandchild, Joyce's parents, Brother Mike and Sister

### ADNEZZAR'S SON



Mary Feher of Phoenix, spent several weeks in Modesto. We were happy to have them!

We were also happy to have visiting with us on Sunday, November 29, Brother Chraig, Sister Vicki Meo, and their son Chraigy, Brother Bill Gamache and his wife, Sister Rita, and from Bell, California, Brother Bob and Sister Diane Meo and their son, Robby.

As 1981 is coming to an end, we thank God for His watching over us, His caring for us continually, and His daily guidance. He never fails us.

## McKees Rocks, PA

*By Martha Laird, Branch Editor*

McKees Rocks Branch has seen the 50th year of completion of the building where we have worshipped our God together. We were told of the many hardships our brothers and sisters went through both temporally and spiritually. Also, the many wonderful moments with the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit were told to us.

Many have gone to receive the promised crown of eternal life. We trust by the grace of God that those of us who are now left and those who will come after may receive much more of the joy of the saints because as time rolls onward, greater are the promises to Israel and the Gentiles.

Thanks be to God and His Son, Jesus, for everything. Pray for us.

## Kentucky

On October 24, 1981, Dewey A. Moore of Kentucky was baptized by Brother Jim Moore, Jr. and confirmed by Brother Jim Moore, Sr.

Brother Dewey heard the Gospel for many years, but delayed baptism until the age of 84. He rejoiced that God had patience with him so many years.

## Imperial, PA

On October 25, we had our usual Sunday morning service, and in our

midst was Robert and Michele Josiwiak, who have been coming to church with Brother Paul Ciotti.

As the testimony meeting started, Robert arose to his feet and asked for his baptism. To his surprise, his wife, Michele, arose and said, "I have been baptized with the baptism of John, but now, I want to be baptized under the authority of Jesus Christ into this Church."

We experienced the "joy of the saints", and we went out to the waters of baptism to see this young husband and wife baptized by Brother Bob Buffington. We returned to the church, and Sister Michele was confirmed by Brother George Ondrasik, and Brother Robert was confirmed by Brother James Moore, Sr.

All we can say is, "Oh happy day, when Jesus washed my sins away." We are thankful to see God adding to the Church such as should be saved.

## Greensburg, PA

*By Lana Fallavollitti, Branch Editor*

On Sunday, August 16, 1981, the Greensburg Branch had two baptisms. The two candidates were a young couple, Frank and Anita Kuzin. Visiting with us from the Glassport Branch that day were Brother John Ali and his daughter, Sister Joanne.

Brother Frank was baptized by Brother John Ali and confirmed by Brother Lirio Fallavollitti. Sister Anita was baptized by Brother Jesse Carr and confirmed by Brother Paul Gehly.

The day was overcast and cloudy, but as we were standing at the water's edge, the sun came out, and we felt it was a confirmation of God's blessing. We pray that the Lord will bless and keep our new brother and sister.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Greensburg Branch had the blessing of seeing Brother Joseph Draskovich ordained as a teacher on December 13, 1981. Brother Jesse Carr washed the feet of Brother Joe, and Brother Paul Gehly ordained him.

Brother Carr related a beautiful experience concerning Brother Joe, which was a confirmation of his

calling. We had many visitors from other branches with us that day also. Truly the Spirit of God was felt by all.

Our branch has been very active with Christmas caroling, and we also had our annual New Year's Eve watch service. We gathered to relate experiences, testifying of God's goodness. One family put on a lovely program. We prayed as the New Year entered that God would bless the Church and our many beloved brothers and sisters in other locations. The absence of Brother Jesse and Sister Ruth Carr in our branch was a sad note, but we pray that God will bless and keep them until they return.

## Erie, PA

Sunday, October 25, 1981, was a special day for the saints in Erie, PA and many of the saints of the Ohio District, who came to witness the ordination of Brother Mark Kovacic into the Ministry of Jesus Christ.

The morning service, under the direction of Brother Harold Burge (Presiding Elder), was opened by Brother Russ Martorana from Niles, Ohio. He used as his text I Timothy 4:12 and related that the Lord often uses the young to do His work and that the young should face the challenge by now preparing themselves through study, prayer and good works. He also exhorted the young to use their gifts and to be an example to all.

Brother Bill Prentice of Cleveland followed, pointing to the Apostle Paul's concern for Timothy. "Today," he said, "the Priesthood has the same concern and we should bring our talents to the Church and use them accordingly."

After lunch, the afternoon service was opened by Brother Frank Giovannone of Perry, Ohio, who paralleled Matthew 10 to the work of the Ministry. Brother Elmer Santilli, Ohio District President, spoke next laying forth the qualities and duties of a minister of Christ.

Brother Rocco Biscotti then took charge of the service as the District Apostle. He read from II Peter 5 and expounded his concern for the feeding of the flock and being a true and faithful minister.

A special prayer was offered by Brother Vince Gibson on behalf of the ordination and that God would bless us in this holy ordinance.

Brother Timothy Dom Bucci then washed Brother Mark's feet, setting him apart. Brother Bucci is Brother Mark's grandfather and has been an Evangelist in the Church for thirty years.

The Priesthood members then encircled Brother Mark (ten in all) as Brother Biscotti anointed and laid his hands on him and ordained him into the ministry of Jesus Christ. The power and authority of God truly descended during the ordination.

Afterwards, a number of saints offered their testimonies, and the Spirit of God was felt in each of their words. A sister had a vision in which she saw an angel standing next to Brother Mark during the feet washing. She also saw our Lord Jesus laying His hands on Brother Mark's head as he was ordained by Brother Biscotti. Another sister confirmed the vision by sharing with us that she had prayed towards that end earlier in the week.

Brother Bucci expressed that he was hopeful his grandson would now take up the work of the Gospel, even to taking up where he is leaving off now that he is advanced in age.

The saints in Erie (and Brother Mark) wish to thank all who came from the various branches in Ohio and Pennsylvania, who participated and prayed for this ordination.

## Fredonia, PA

*By Ethel Cadman, Branch Editor*

On Saturday, October 31, 1981, the Fredonia Branch celebrated the thirty-fifth year of meetings in the area, and the twenty-fifth anniversary of our building. Brothers and sisters from various branches gathered to honor this occasion by their presence. A wonderful evening was spent in relating the history of our branch and speaking the word of God. Speakers were Brothers Travis Perry, Raymond Cosetti, Fred Olexa, Robert Buffington, Paul Gehly, Arthur Gehly and Russell Cadman.

Brothers from the Youngstown,

Ohio Branch and Brother Samuel Kirschner of Monongahela, PA, were instrumental in starting the work in this area. With the increase of membership, we realized the need for a building. At the October, 1956 Conference, Brother Thurman Furrner requested that brothers come to Fredonia and help us erect a building. The response was very great. Brothers Dan and Tony Piciutto, Gene Kline and others came to build the building. We did not know these brothers previous to this time. After having them spend about six weeks with us, we came to love them both naturally and spiritually. The weather in the Fall of 1956 was very nice, and the brothers were able to get the church constructed quickly. We were able to hold our first meeting in the new building in December, 1956.

Many memories have accumulated during this span of thirty-five years of meetings and twenty-five years in our building.

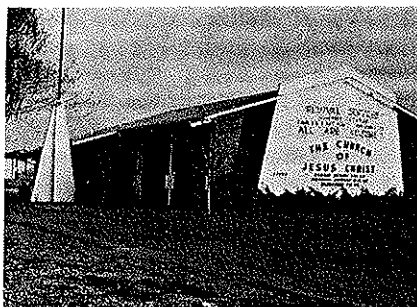
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Brother Paul Gehly opened our Sunday service on November 1, 1981. He used Psalms 139 as his text. Brother James King followed, giving us much to meditate upon.

We then had another blessing in a baptism. Joel Cadman Gehly requested baptism. Joel is the son of Brother Arthur and Sister Martha Gehly. Joel was baptized by his grandfather, Brother Russell Cadman, and confirmed by his father, Brother Arthur Gehly. Joel is one of the fifth generation of the Cadman family to obey the Gospel.

## Sterling, MI

*By Hazel Zoltek, Branch Editor*



In the picture, the banner announcing the Revival Service was made by Brother John Buffa. Because of this banner, one young man has been coming to our services, even after the closing of the Revival, and he has been bringing others with him. We all worked together to make these meetings a success. On Tuesday night, the youth of the branch passed out flyers along with a picture of the church and the Articles of Faith. They went to the homes in the area and to a nearby shopping center. It was here that Greg Vitto offered a man the flyer and he refused to take it, and Greg said, "O.K., but you will be the loser." With this kind of dedication, our Church has only one way to go and that is forward. There was a telephone committee selected to call those who had been affiliated with the Church in the past and who no longer attend, and several of these people did attend. Also, the Revival was announced on the radio and notices were placed in local papers. On Wednesday night, November 4, we had a Fast and Prayer Service, and again on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Thursday night, November 5, the first night of the Revival, we had a "Get acquainted, re-acquainted night", and many were there. After the service, we met in the church basement for refreshments. Here again, real love for the Church was portrayed in that the sisters of the Church worked hard to prepare the baked goods that were served.

Brother Steve Champine was selected to provide the entertainment, and as a result, the talent of the branch, as well as of the other branches, helped to make the meetings a success. The theme of our Revival was "God's Way Is Better", and Sister Hazel Zoltek wrote a poem with this theme in mind, which she recited on the opening night. Also, Brother Steve and Sister Diane Hawkins sang *The Lord's Prayer*. Brother Spencer Everett read from Psalms 118:8, "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man." Brother Spencer said for us to take care of our heart and soul and God will take care of the rest. We all have ability, and we must be available for God's work, and we must have dependability when we are given a job to do; we must do our utmost.

Brother Louis Vitto spoke of the need that we have for Christ in our

lives. He called upon Sister Diane Hawkins to give her testimony about how she had wanted to have a child for many years and that one of her friends also had this desire. When God answered her prayer, she began to earnestly pray for her friend, and she too was able to conceive. Sister Diane now has a healthy baby son, and her friend was blessed with a little girl. How wonderful God becomes in our life if we put Him first.

Brother Louis also called on Sister Diane Stigleman from Branch 1 to give her testimony. She has a history of not being able to carry a child full term. She had lost five before she was able to deliver a child. When she was in her fifth month, the doctor told her the baby was dead and would have to be taken; he said there had been no growth and there was no heartbeat. Sister Diane then went before the elders of the Church; she put her faith and trust in God. The next day at the doctor's office, the nurse detected a heartbeat, and when she told the doctor, he said it was impossible; the fetus was dead. Sister Diane now has a son seven and a half months old. Once again, when things are put in God's hands instead of man, He is able to grant us our desires if we but have the faith.

Brother Sam DiFalco related his experiences of how he had five mastoid operations and how he was in a coma, but through the prayers of the saints, he was healed.

On Friday night, November 6, we had a special prayer for Linda Westfall, a cousin of the Champine brothers. Brother John Buffa poured out his heart for God to put forth His hand in this young woman's life, and God did answer prayer; when she went in for her operation, there was no malignancy.

Brother Eugene and Sister Donna Amormino favored us with a beautiful hymn. Then Brother Dominic spoke to us, stating that there was a report in 1979 showing a 10% increase in population, but an 80% increase in crime. This is man's way. Our home life is being eroded by divorce, as it is the highest ever in this nation. More than half the world goes to bed hungry; man's way is not working. Our pews might be empty, but the seats in the adult houses are filled to capacity. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed because of sin, but they would blush in shame if they could

see what is going on in the world today. Everyone is in a mad rush, but going nowhere. When we walk in God's way, we are rewarded, and if we keep faithful, we will receive that crown of everlasting life. Noah, Abraham and Moses all had faith in God. We, too, are human beings, and if we live by faith as did the holy men of the scriptures, then we will please God. He will reward us through blessings, and He will fill us with His Holy Spirit. We thank God today for the angel that flew in the midst of heaven. Let us look to the heavens and say we have a home in glory land. Let us not despair, God's way is the better way.

Brother John Buffa told of the thousands of people who attend the crusades of noted ministers, but they do not hear the true Gospel. Through God's atonement, He has given us the better part. Let us revive our first love, the love of God we received when we were baptized; let us be ready to meet the bridegroom.

On Saturday, November 7, we had a special prayer for the sister of Sister Sally Dubreuil, who lives in Colorado and who is in critical condition. The infant child of the Castellis was anointed. We were informed later that the child was better and that Sister Sally's sister was much improved.

Brother Peter Capone spoke to us, saying that he had requested the Champine brothers to sing *Praise the Lord*, which they did earlier. He said that praising God is the most important thing in our life, and he thanked God that we were able to serve Him in this country in any way we desired. God has given us much more than we can ever give Him. When Christ came to this earth, He brought the true Gospel. He spoke to the people with a very meek spirit, but they were unwilling to listen; they turned their backs on Him. We, who have been born again, have something good in our life. Let us look to Christ who is the beginner and the finisher of our faith. Brother Pete read a poem concerning a dying soldier who prayed that he wished he had met God in his earlier years. We all have the opportunity to meet Him while we are young if we choose to do so.

Brothers Louis Vitto, Dave Di-Battista, Spencer Everett and Benny DiPronio, sang as a quartet, *Dear Jesus, Abide With Me* and *The Old*

*Country Church*. (This latter song really revived us.) Brother Louis then sang *For Those Tears I Died*.

Brother John Impastato was asked to give his testimony. He said it had been eight years since he gave his heart to Jesus, back when we were having services in the school gym.

Sunday, November 8, was a beautiful sun-filled day. We met at the church early for a special prayer service. After some beautiful singing, Brother Louis Vitto welcomed all, stating, "We are anticipating many blessings today." A friend of Brother Lou's, a man called Ricco, sang *The Lord's Prayer*. He had such beauty and power in his voice; we were expecting the window glass to shatter. The Champine brothers sang, *Never Walk Alone*. Brother Joe Milantoni then spoke to us. He said that after hearing the two above songs, there wasn't much he could add. He said it was a very good feeling to come into the building this morning and hear the brothers and sisters praying. We must, as God's creatures, deal with our individual self. The success of the overall Church is contingent on the success of each branch. The real meaning of God's power is lost when we feel we are superior; God will put us in our proper place.

Brother Joe read from Isaiah, "Your way is not my way." He went on to say the wisdom of man is foolishness with God. God's way is better. Consider the superiority of God; it has been proven since the beginning of time. God is our all in all. He even has mercy on the fowls of the air; they are His creation, but man is created in His image. How much more will He have mercy on us. So intense is a mother's love for her children that she protects them with her life, and so is Christ's love for us. How do we value our relationship, our love for God? It is the express purpose for our elders to exalt His name above all others. If we have done anything displeasing to God, He will show it to us.

Brother Joe said he could have chosen another vocation in life, but he chose God's way instead. Someday, we will receive that ultimate goal and meet our Maker face to face. If we have done well, He will say that we have proven faithful and can now enter the haven of rest.

Brother Joe read a portion of the *Book of Mormon* about baptism and about pressing onward towards eternal life. There is no other way. It is of paramount importance that we recognize what God wants us to do. When things go well with us, we lose sight of God's way. When things go wrong, when illness comes our way or we have setbacks, then we think of the value of Christ in our life. How blessed is that person who can go from the stability of life to the setbacks and remain consistent in his relationship with Christ.

We, as a Church, have much to achieve. We can do nothing of ourselves. If we are to fit into the scheme of world conversion, we must have that close relationship with God. Let us get ourselves ready for the future; let us ask God how we can get closer. This Church will receive the scriptural prophecy to convert the world. God's promise will be fulfilled; this Church will go forward. Let us look to the day when the House of Israel will once again be as it was. One day we will receive the glorious goals that belong to this Church. With God's help and strength, we can do all

things; but we must first rise above the spirit of man, put everything in God's hands, become humble and pleasing to Him. That is the better way.

The Restored Gospel Quartet sang again, *Abide With Me*. Brother Spencer Everett then spoke, saying it is comforting to know that God will abide with us. God is not looking for competition; that is man's way. He is not seeking those who want to become great. He wants to deal with those to whom He has given talents and abilities so He can use them to further the kingdom of God. That is God's way. Let us not get in God's way; let Him do it all. When we fail to operate in the spirit, then we have lost contact with God. We must remain intimate with Him. We must allow His spirit to revive us. If we become frustrated, let us read the Word; let us pray about it. God is more than enough, but He will not move against our will. It is better to trust in the Lord than to put our confidence in man.

On Sunday night, we had a nice crowd present with us.

Connie Stein sang *Peace In The*

*Valley and Mansion Over The Hilltop*. She is a member of another church but attends here frequently. She has a wonderful voice and could be quite an addition to this Gospel. We are praying about it.

Brother Tony Gerace remarked that there is nothing more inspiring to an elder than good singing. He said that he had been here every night because he wanted to be, and he wanted to be with the family of God.

Brother Lou read a poem entitled, *The Parable of an Empty Coffin*. This was about a minister who thought his church was dead, and he was holding a funeral for it. He asked his parishioners to file by the empty coffin, and as they did so, they found that the bottom of the coffin was a mirror, and they beheld their own countenance. This should have revived them.

Brother Steve Champine and Sister Diane Hawkins sang *In the Garden*, and the meeting was then left open for testimony. Many beautiful experiences were heard, and our Revival came to an end. We were dismissed by Brother Pete Capone.

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### MUNGER—FRANCIONE

Mr. Steve Allen Munger and Sister Lynne Marie Francione were united in holy matrimony on Friday, August 21, 1981 at The Church of Jesus Christ, Branch No. 3, Detroit, Michigan.

Brother Paul Whitton, the bride's uncle, performed the ceremony. Musical selections were presented by Brother Eugene Amormino, pianist, and Brother Leonard and Sister Loretta Lovalvo, soloists.

The newlyweds are residing in Detroit, Michigan. May God's blessings rest upon them in their new life together.

### PESHL—FURNARI

Mr. Ronald Peshl and Miss Kathy Furnari were united in marriage on Friday, September 18, 1981 at The Church of Jesus Christ, Branch No. 3, Detroit, Michigan.

The wedding ceremony was officiated by Brother Dan Parravano. Brother Eugene Amormino, pianist, presented musical selections. The bride's cousin, Mary Ellen Barletta, was soloist.

May the Lord richly bless the Peshl's in their new life.

### McCULLOUGH—GIBSON

Mr. Brian Keith McCullough and Miss Patricia

Lynn Gibson were united in holy matrimony on December 12, 1981 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Cleveland, Ohio.

Brother Bill Prentice officiated at the wedding ceremony. Sister Roberta Hufnagle, the vocalist, was accompanied by the pianist, Sister Betty Santilli.

The newlyweds are residing in Cleveland, Ohio. Our prayer is that God will be their companion in their new life together.

## New Arrivals

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

Alexander Mosiah to Hector and Rafaela Martinez of Bell, California;

Candace Joy to Joseph and Suzanne Catone of Broward County, Florida;

Lisa Gail to Tim and Brenda Capone of Branch No. 3, Detroit, Michigan;

Ryan David to Bruce and Deborah DiBattista Forrester of Sterling Heights, Michigan;

Timothy James, Jr. to Timothy and Mariena Scarsella of Youngstown, Ohio;

Aisha Yolanda to Stanley and Sharon Baldwin Boykin of Quincy, Florida;

Jennifer to John N. and Barbara Ammons Gray of Quincy, Florida;

Ron Terrence Delmaria to Odell and Jacquelynn Holmes Frye of Quincy, Florida;

Ed Deven to Eddie Lee and Ollie Mae Dennis Turner of Quincy, Florida;

Mandi Lee to Vernon and Lina Rogolino Evans of Fort Pierce, Florida;

Billy Joe, Jr. to Billy and Mygretta Ross of San Carlos, Arizona;

Margaret to Mr. and Mrs. Rustin of San Carlos, Arizona;

Andrita to Jack and Dolores Kayson of San Carlos, Arizona;

Gabrielle Angel to Charles and Wilma Hopkins Mull of San Carlos, Arizona;

Levi Nez to Harrison and Nellie (Pepper) Hopkins of San Carlos, Arizona;

Nancy Neisha to Noah and Geraldine Victor Timothy of San Carlos, Arizona.

## OBITUARIES

*We wish to express our sympathy to those that mourn over the loss of loved ones. May God bless and comfort you.*

### ROSE MARY RANDAZZO

Sister Rose Mary Randazzo passed on to her eternal reward on December 9, 1981. A member of Branch No. 3, Detroit, Michigan, Sister Rose was baptized on October 28, 1928 and remained a dedicated and faithful member for over 53 years.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Pete Capone and Paul Whitton.

Surviving Sister Randazzo are three children, five step-children, one sister, two nephews, twelve grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by her family, as well as by the brothers and sisters.

### DOROTHY CHASE

Sister Dorothy Chase, a member of The Church of Jesus Christ in Niles, Ohio, passed away from this life on December 18, 1981. She was born on May 9, 1920.

Brothers Wayne and Russell Martorana conducted

the funeral service.

Sister Chase is survived by her husband, Bob, four brothers and one sister.

She will be greatly missed by the saints in the Niles Branch.

### MAXWELL J. CARR

Brother Maxwell J. Carr passed away from this life on June 6, 1981. He was born on March 16, 1895 and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on July 31, 1949.

Brother Alvin Swanson officiated at the funeral services.

Brother Max was loved by all and was a faithful member of the Greensburg, Pennsylvania Branch. He leaves behind a family of one son, one daughter, six grandchildren, twenty great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

### EVELYN DALE

Sister Evelyn Dale of San Carlos, Arizona passed away on November 28, 1981. She was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on September 26, 1940 and was ordained a deaconess shortly after.

She is survived by her husband, Brother Emmett, and two daughters.

Brother Emerson Fuller conducted the funeral services at The Church of Jesus Christ in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania, Sister Evelyn's home branch, on December 3, 1981, which would have been her sixty-eighth birthday.

May God comfort all those who mourn her passing. She will be greatly missed on the San Carlos Reservation.

### GAETANO GERACE

Brother Gaetano Gerace passed away very peacefully to his Heavenly reward on January 21, 1982. He was born on February 18, 1886 and would have been 96 years old on February 18, 1982. He was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on October 30, 1932 (almost 50 years), by Brother Carmen Campitelle and confirmed by Brother Joseph Gianzante.

He is survived by his wife, Sister Frances Gerace, three sons, Joseph, Tony and Frank, seven grandchildren and a host of relatives and brothers and sisters of the Church.

The service was officiated by Brothers Anthony R. Lovalvo and J. D. Moraca.

He will be greatly missed by everyone.

# The Gospel News

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

(USPS 223-480)

April, 1982

Volume 38, No. 4

## News from Oklahoma

By Evelyn Crall

"Therefore said He unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." Luke 10:2

We are now in our eighth year in Oklahoma. We have had many great meetings in our home conducted by many of our elders. We are very happy with the many of the "Seed of Joseph" that have attended. By the time you read this, we will have had another meeting in our home as Brother Richard Christman will be stopping here on his way home from conference. We are looking forward to this meeting.

We are still travelling around our area attending various Indian Churches. We have travelled a radius of 60 miles. In this circle we have visited almost 25 different churches. We are asked for many repeat visits, especially if we haven't been there for a while.

I, Sister Evelyn, am still giving out the baby layettes that the sisters have been so faithful to send. One Indian lady that has many contacts, found out that I had been getting short, and she went to the ones that she had given layettes to and gathered the clothes that their babies had outgrown, washed them and brought them back to me. Every time I go to a garage sale I always buy most of the baby things, wash them and make up more boxes. Then I buy all the needed articles to complete the boxes. To the sisters that send money, this money is

used for these needed articles. This past week a layette was given, and I have another to give.

I will close with a quote from a daily devotions pamphlet I picked up this past Sunday at one of the many churches we visit. This particular church always invites our elders to the pulpit to preach. The following is the quote I referred to:

The command is to pray for workers, not dabblers. Adventurers can find satisfaction in world tours. God's call is always issued to workers. It takes much work to win people to Christ and to plant and develop churches in lands where the name of Jesus is not spoken. God is still in the business of calling workers. Ask God to send more needed workers into the fields. Remember those already laboring.

Brother Bill and Sister Evelyn Crall  
P. O. Box 1028  
Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

P.S. If you send packages by UPS, all you need is our name, Squaretop Road and Anadarko.

I have an address change for our daughter:

Dave and Sara Fox  
Old Address—Route one  
Anadarko, Oklahoma  
New address—111 West Texas  
Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

## TO THE READERS OF THE GOSPEL NEWS:

May I share some thoughts with you? I've been a faithful reader of The Gospel News many years. My mother, bless her, gives me a gift subscription for Mother's Day every year.

In our local daily paper, there is an insert each day entitled, "Thought for the Day". Recently, there was one that impressed me very much.

It told of a group of people standing on shore watching a ship as it disappeared over the horizon. As it became smaller and smaller, one person observed, "There she goes". Another remarked, "Maybe someone in the distance can see her coming."

This led me to reflect deeply. With our dear Lord's help, may we live our lives so that as our loved ones sadly say, "There she (he) goes," on the other side, the saints stand with our stretched, welcoming arms and exclaim, "There she (he) comes."

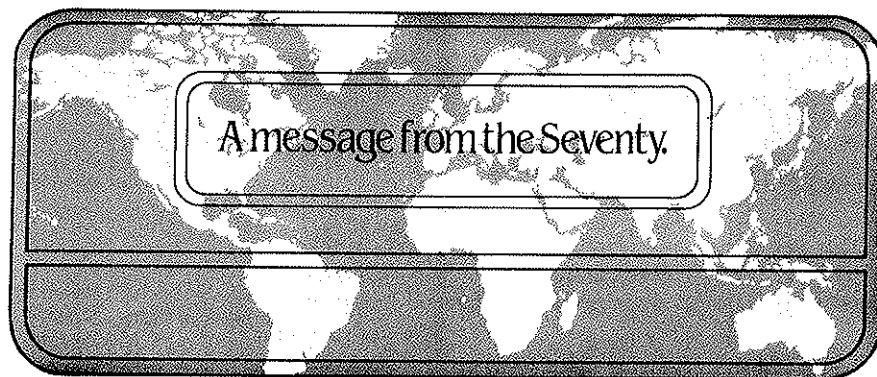
May God's heavenly light continue to shine on you.

Betty Lou Mote  
Plymouth, Indiana  
(Daughter of Sister  
Flossie Molinatto)

## Beyond Compare

The beauty of spring, it seems to me  
Is the Glory of Heaven descended  
As I breathe the fragrance in the air  
Of lilacs and roses, blended.

Author Unknown



*By Quorum News Coordinator,  
Paul Benyola  
Quorum Writer,  
Ralph Frammolino*

The Church of Jesus Christ is now officially established in India.

During a historic visit to that land last year, Evangelists Joseph Calabrese and Alvin Swanson organized two missions of the Church by ordaining two elders and supervising the baptism of 54 members. The missionary effort was the first ever for the Church and represents a new horizon for the Restored Gospel.

The work in India started eight years ago, when a group of people there wrote to Brother Joe and indicated they would like to join the Church. Brother Joe, then Correspondent for the General Church, kept in contact. In the meantime, Sister Darlene Large of Pennsylvania began to give her testimony to the people in India as she guided the work of her relief agency, HOINA.

These efforts bore fruit in April, 1981. Arulanandam Devanandam, director of the HOINA orphanage, came to America and was baptized shortly before General Church Conference. Brother Dev appeared before the Mission Board and the Quorum of Twelve. The Apostles chose Brothers Russell Cadman, Anthony Lovalvo and Joseph Calabrese to instruct Brother Dev further on the faith and doctrine of the Church.

"On Friday of that week, while in prayer, hymn #205 was given to me through the voice of God's spirit," Brother Calabrese wrote later in a report. "When we arose from prayer, I asked to sing the hymn, and when we reached the third verse (Millions now in sin and shame are dying; Listen to their sad and bitter cry;

Hasten brother, hasten to the rescue; Quickly answer, 'Master, here am I') the power of God fell upon us so strong, that there was no question in our minds: God had spoken. 'Go to India.'"

The spirit was confirmed the next day, when the brothers met in fasting and prayer. Brother Lovalvo had a vision of hymn #140, *Tell Others of Jesus*.

The Church prepared to do so. On August 31, 1981, the Mission Board made preparations for two brothers to visit India. The Board's recommendation was approved at the October, 1981 General Church Conference.

Those actions paved the way for Brothers Calabrese and Swanson to leave the United States November 17, 1981. Brother Calabrese left from Cleveland; Brother Swanson left from Miami. They met in New York and then flew to London, Delhi, Bombay, and Madras.

The brothers were greeted after their grueling trip by Brother Dev, Dr. David Livingston, Rajasek-Hara Babu and a boy named Zegv. Dr. Livingston placed a lei of flowers around the neck of each brother.

Later that evening, they met in the brothers' hotel room and expressed their hopes and expectations of spiritual things. Brother Calabrese asked Brother Dev if the Lord had given him any experiences since he was baptized.

"He said, 'Yes,' " Writes Brother Calabrese. "After he came home, about two weeks later, he had a dream. He saw a group of people, and he heard them singing. He saw a man coming towards him. The man took him by the hand, asking Brother Dev to follow him. The people were all

dressed in white. The man raised his hand and said to Brother Dev three times, 'You are a blessed man.' Brother Dev's garments then changed to white. Brother Alvin Swanson asked him, 'Who was the man?' Brother Dev responded, 'Jesus.'"

The Spirit of God was starting to work. The next morning, Dr. Livingston paid a visit to the brothers' hotel room before he was to return home about 350 miles north. The three talked at length about spiritual matters.

"In our discussions we saw the repentant spirit and humbleness that is seen when one asks for baptism, which he wanted very badly," writes Brother Calabrese. "He said he had made a mistake when he came to the United States in 1974 and did not ask then."

Dr. Livingston called for his baptism and they made plans to fulfill his wishes on December 6.

The brothers then visited the village of Thiraninoravur, where the Church was to be established. They went to Brother Dev's home before touring the new HOINA building, a solid structure with a chapel, library, guest room, dormitories and a courtyard.

After the trip, the brothers made a decision. "Based on the experience he had told us and our spiritual evaluation, we decided to ordain Brother Dev on Sunday, November 22," writes Brother Calabrese. "This would, of course, also make him available to baptize on November 29th, the following Sunday."

The ordination went as planned. "The church is a roof of palms about 30 feet by 50 feet, with no sides and mats on the floor for seats," writes Brother Calabrese. "There was music and singing of hymns. After the hymns came two little girls from nowhere and greeted us with a lei of flowers for each of us." There were over 200 people in attendance.

Brothers Dev, Swanson and Calabrese told the people about the meaning of baptism and why the Church had sent missionaries to India. Then, Brother Swanson washed Brother Dev's feet, and Brother Calabrese ordained him into the ministry. He told the brothers that he felt a "pain" of humility in his heart

during the ordinance. He also said he "felt like lightning go through his body" when the oil touched his head. Later, the brothers learned that an older woman in the congregation had seen a light over them during the ordination.

During the week, the brothers were able to meet Sannyasi Paul, who works for HOINA as a doctor in its leper colony. They also saw where history records the Apostle Thomas was killed for the cause of the Ancient Church.

On November 29, they again convened a meeting, with some 200 present. Brother Calabrese opened on Luke 4:18. Brother Swanson followed with John 3:5.

"We closed the meeting in prayer and began to assemble the people," writes Brother Calabrese. "It was one of the most impressive scenes you would ever want to see. Brothers Swanson, Dev and (myself) leading the way. Over 200 strong, as we walked to the lake about 1¼ miles or about 20 minutes."

The result: Brother Dev baptized 26 women and 14 men. (An encouraging way to start your ministry)

The congregation went back to the church building, where the converts were confirmed. The brothers then conducted the ordinances of sacrament and feet washing. They blessed children. They ordained a teacher, a deacon and a deaconess. They closed the meeting with this declaration:

"Having the authority given to us by the Church and by the Spirit, by which the Lord had anointed His Church, having complied with doing all that is required to effect an organization, we hereby declared that The Church of Jesus Christ is officially established in the land of India." The meeting had lasted five hours.

Brothers Calabrese and Swanson spent two days of the following week with Sannyasi Paul at the HOINA's Bethany Leper Colony. They saw him operate on a patient with an infected eye and witnessed him remove another person's toe. There are about 600 lepers in the colony, and Sannyasi Paul is trying to teach them to be self-sufficient, along with administering to their medical needs.

The brothers met with Dr. Livingston again as he testified about the Restored Gospel and dispensed medicine at another leper colony, not connected with HOINA. On December 5, they again met with Dr. Livingston privately.

"We went over the entire period of time with him from when he first came to the United States until now," writes Brother Calabrese. "While we were engaged in this, the Spirit of God fell upon us and we were led to ask him about the ministry or being ordained as an elder. He cried, indeed, God confirmed it with His Spirit that on the morrow we would ordain him."

The following day, five men and one woman were baptized. They were baptized by Brother Calabrese because Brother Dev could not make the trip to be with the group on December 6. The brothers then went through the ordinances of the Church, including the ordination of Brother Livingston into the priesthood.

During the testimony service, several new members told of experiences they had. One said that, when Brother Livingston's feet were being washed, he had a vision of Jesus Christ coming in the room, dressed in a flowing white robe and accompanied by his Disciples. He heard them say, "Let us kneel and pray." Brother Daniel Livingston, the son of Brother David Livingston, said he saw an angel come into the room. In the angel's hands were golden plates, which were so bright that they were blinding.

The last meeting the brothers attended was on December 13 with Brother Dev's group near Madras. Eight more people called for their baptisms. They also ordained another deacon and deaconess.

By December 15, Brothers Calabrese and Swanson were in New York. Their trip to India was completed and a spiritual success.

"We ask all that read this report to please remember in prayer all the brothers, sisters, children and friends in India, for God has blessed the Church with a new family," writes Brother Calabrese.

"What country or people next? One thing is sure: Every nation,

kindred, tongue and people will know the true love of God. Wherever He leads us, we shall go."

Praise God for His goodness, that He would grant us a new arm of the Church. The Quorum of Seventy (Evangelists) wishes to remind the readers of *The Gospel News* that missionary work is not only around the world in Africa or India, it can be right around the corner at your neighbor's house.

If you know of anyone desiring to hear more about the Restored Gospel, give your testimony and then alert the Evangelists in your area. The Church of Jesus Christ is for everybody.

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The Quorum expresses their sorrow at the passing away of Brother Rocco Ensana on October 2, 1981. An active evangelist from 1928, he was instrumental in establishing the Edison (Stelton), New Jersey Branch. He also served as President of the Atlantic Coast District from 1965 to 1969. A staunch follower of Christ, he preached an inspiring sermon at the Atlantic Coast District Conference in August, 1981, at the age of 83. May God comfort his family with the many pleasant memories that he has left behind.

\*\*\*\*\*

We welcome Brothers Samuel Dell of Levittown, PA, Mitchell Edwards of Warren, Ohio, and James Link of Bronx, New York, to the Quorum of Seventy. May God bless them in their spiritual endeavors.

Remember, along with your prayers, we need your combined efforts and enthusiasm for the spiritual advancement of our Church!

## New Unified Program to Guide Indian Work

By Dick Ackman,  
Arizona District Editor

A unified sense of direction and approach was the primary achievement of the General Church American Indian Committee which met the

week end of December 5-6, in Phoenix, Arizona.

The meeting was well attended with nearly every Branch located within the continental limits of the United States represented.

Highlighting the business session were talks by four Indian Brothers: Virgil Link, an Apache who has lived on both the San Carlos Apache Reservation and the Navaho Reservation and as an Urban Indian; Jerry Hopkins of San Carlos; Robert Kaye from the Hopi Reservation, now married and living on the Pima Reservation; and Randy Nez of the Navaho Reservation.

Brother Meredith Griffith of Florida, Chairman of the General Church Mission Board, said that it marked the first time in the history of the Board where the Indian brothers had so much input into the planned work among their respective peoples.

As a result of hundreds of hours of faithful prayer, work and study by the saints working in the field with the Seed of Joseph, three in depth plans formulated to satisfy the projected goals were presented for discussion. The initial goal being a new and unified program with which to move forward with trained, qualified people that will show the American Indian leadership throughout the Americas, our love for their peoples, a love that comes only through the Lord Himself.

Chairman, Joseph Lovalvo of Modesto, California, was astounded beyond expectations when he learned that all three projected plans were so near in content that they could be accepted as one to be presented by the committee to the General Church Mission Board at the upcoming General Church Conference. He said the Lord's presence was felt in the meeting room. It is the committee's aim to emerge from the Conference with one complete, unified plan which will spell out a new enthusiastic approach to the Indian work.

Submitting the three proposals were the Indian committee, itself, which is comprised of urban Indian workers: Brother Robert Watson of Miracle Valley, New Mexico, working on the large Navaho Reservation, and Brother Stephen Saffron of Phoenix, an Indian counselor at Scottsdale Community College which is located on the Pima Reservation.

Committee members in attendance included: Brothers Joseph Lovalvo, Chairman; Robert Watson, Vice-Chairman; Richard Scaglione of Monongahela, PA, Treasurer; Peter Scolaro of Detroit, Michigan, Secretary; Richard Christman of Phoenix; Fred Olexa of Roscoe, PA; Dwayne Jordan, the Navaho Reservation, New Mexico; and Wally Cihomski of New Jersey.

## In Memory of Sister Carrie Burch

*By Sam French, Muncey, Ontario*

In memory of a dear sister in Christ whose loving smile will always be remembered while here on earth we remain. To me she set the example and I can still hear her saying, "Fight on now, for in the end when we are called from this life, it will be worth it all." Her life since she made a covenant to serve the Lord was centered on love, and she treated me as one of her own sons, and I looked upon her as a son would to his mother.

At one time Jesus said, "If you love me, then keep my commandments." And this dear sister in Christ did just that because she was love, and she loved her family. Once again God has picked a beautiful rose from His garden here on earth to place in His bouquet of roses in heaven. Here she will be sadly missed, but not forgotten, until that day when all God's people who have made that covenant to serve the Lord in spirit and in truth will sit down to one of the greatest supper times of all, which is the marriage supper of the Lamb of God. There we will see her arrayed in white and pureness, to part no more, to spend eternity with one another.

I write this in memory of a very dear and wonderful sister in Christ, Sister Carrie Burch.

## Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Please let me express to you my gratitude for all your cards and notes, and most of all your prayers, sent my

way during my recent illness. I praise God for His mercy in extending my life that I may glorify His name. This is my joy.

I am still far from well, but I am getting around once again. Please remember me from time to time in your prayers; prayer has changed things for me so many times. God bless you all.

Sister Minnie DePiero

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I cannot begin to thank you all for your prayers, phone calls, beautiful cards and visits during my recent illness. It was so uplifting to have the thoughts of my brothers and sisters at a time like this. I was very seriously ill, but am slowly regaining my strength.

Brother Rocco V. Biscotti

\*\*\*\*\*

How can I tell you, Lord, that I love you?  
Words sound so empty and without meaning,  
They cannot express my soul's desire,  
Nor the thankfulness and gratitude.  
How can I tell you, Lord, that I love you?

Lord, I need you every day of my life.  
Never leave my side, always guide me;  
Show me the right path to take,  
Make me strong so I can fight,  
Lord, I need you every day of my life.

What is your will, Lord, I need to know?  
Place inside me what knowledge I need.  
Also, the spirit of discernment,  
Nurture the seed and cause it to grow,  
What is your will, Lord, I need to know?

As I was composing this poem, I actually felt the words coming to me; it seemed as though someone was telling me exactly what words to put down. I would finish one line and begin to think of how to start the next line, and suddenly, the words began to flow. May the spirit of the Lord always guide and direct me throughout my life.

Sister Patricia Gianfermi  
Sterling Heights Branch

*Editorial Viewpoint . . .***Resurrection Echoes from the Word**

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Kenneth L. Staley  
301 Pine Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**ASSISTANT  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Thomas Ross  
260 Division St. Ext.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
Joseph Ross

**ASSISTANT  
MANAGING EDITOR**  
Richard Scaglione

**EDITORIALISTS AND  
CONSULTANTS**  
Paul Palmieri  
John Ross  
John Maues

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Cathy Gentile

**TYPISTS**  
Janet Gibson  
Sharon Staley

**CIRCULATION MANAGER**  
Janet Buffa

**GMBA EDITOR**  
Ryan G. Ross  
305 Pine Dr.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**GENERAL CIRCLE  
EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15005

**DISTRICT EDITORS**

**ARIZONA**  
Ken Surdock  
P. O. Box 1359  
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Joseph Perri  
3 Elizabeth Ct.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

**CALIFORNIA**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
4682 El Rancho Verde Dr.  
La Palma, Calif. 90620

**FLORIDA**  
Elsie M. Ensana  
1921 S. E. Erwin Road  
Port St. Lucie, Fl. 33452

**OHIO**  
James Alessio  
1413 W. 37th St.  
Lorain, Ohio 44053

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Louis Pietrangelo  
5522 Bluehill  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Malcolm Paxton  
5304 Adobe Drive  
Baldwin, PA 15236

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**BUSINESS OFFICE**  
8423 Boettner Rd.  
Bridgewater, MI 48115  
313 429-5080

"He is risen." (Matthew 28:7)

"And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, and came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many." (Matthew 28:52,53)

"Because I live, ye shall live also." (John 14:9)

"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." (John 11:25,26)

"And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life." (I John 2:25)

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that when he shall appear, we shall be like him: for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." (I John 3:2-3)

"But behold, the bands of death shall be broken, and the son reigneth, and hath power over the dead; therefore he bringeth to pass the resurrection of the dead." (Mosiah 15:20)

"And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever." (Daniel 12:2,3)

"But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead." (I Corinthians 15:20,21)

"So also is the resurrection of the dead. It (body) is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption; it is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: it is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body . . ." (I Corinthians 15:42-44)

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trump shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory." (I Corinthians 15:52-54)

"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Corinthians 15:57)

"Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." (Revelations 2:10)

"I AM HE THAT LIVETH, AND WAS DEAD, AND BEHOLD, I AM ALIVE FOREVERMORE." (Revelations 1:18)

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock



## The Third King Daniel Served

Dear Girls and Boys,

A third king was now ruling Babylon. Nebchadnezzar had died, his son had done evil, and God had given the land to a warrior sixty-two years old, named Darius.

King Darius divided all of Babylon into sections and chose one hundred twenty princes to be the governors. Over these men he placed three presidents. Daniel was the first president. King Darius chose him over all because of the excellent spirit he had.

The other princes and presidents were jealous. They tried to find something Daniel did wrong so they could get him into trouble with King Darius. Finally, one of them said, "We'll never find anything wrong with Daniel, unless we can find it with the way he follows the laws of God."

This was their plan. Every day Daniel prayed three times to God. They would trick Darius into making a law that for thirty days, anyone who asked any god or man for anything, unless it was the king they asked, would be thrown into the lions' den. They knew that if King Darius signed the law, they could trap Daniel, because it was against the laws of their country for any king to change a law once it had been signed.

When Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house, and with his windows opened to Jerusalem, he knelt and prayed to God, just as he'd done before.

Daniel's enemies were watching. They went straight to the king and reminded him that he could not change the law he'd signed. King Darius was terribly upset. He set his heart on delivering Daniel and worked

until the sun went down trying to save him. But, there was nothing he could do. He was forced to obey the law he'd made.

King Darius sent for Daniel and took him to the den of lions. He said to Daniel, "The God that you serve constantly, he will save you." Sadly, the king ordered the guards to put Daniel in with the lions and roll a stone over the opening.

That night in his palace, the king did not sleep or eat or drink. He wouldn't listen to any music. Very early in the morning, he hurried to the lions' den. When he came to the den he cried with a sad voice, "Daniel, Oh Daniel, servant of the living God, was the God that you served able to save you from the lions?"

Then Daniel said unto the king, "Oh King, live forever. My God hath sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not hurt me."

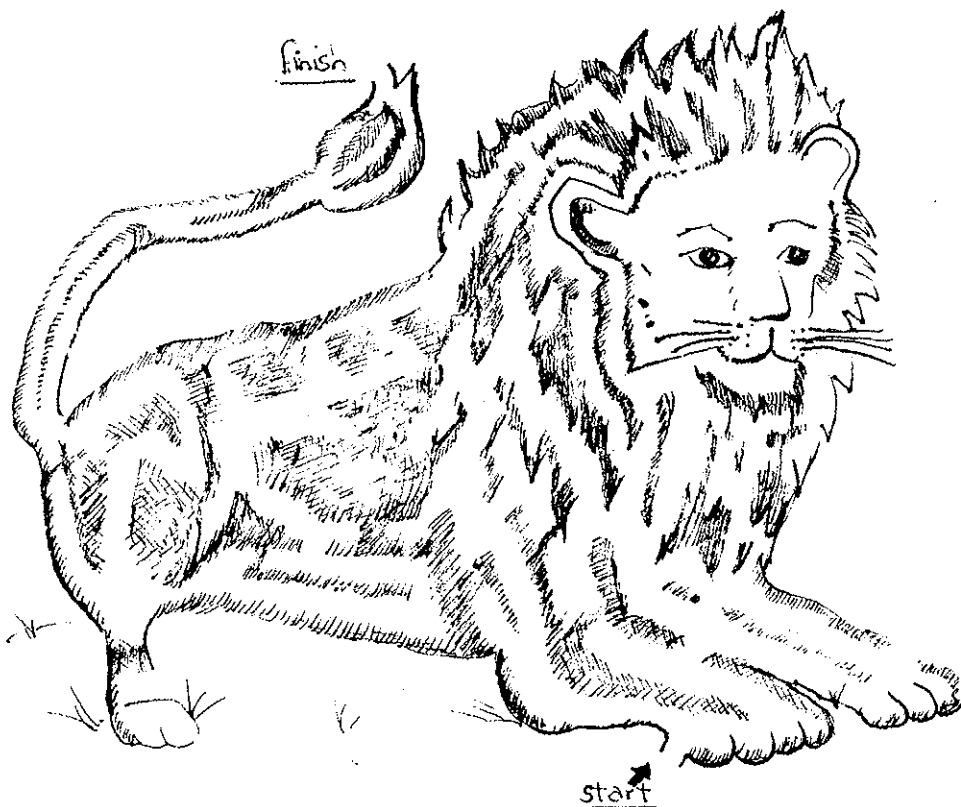
The King was glad for him and commanded that they take Daniel out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found on him because he believed in his God.

Then the King commanded, and they brought forth all those enemies who'd tried to have Daniel killed. The King took all of them, and all their families and threw them in with the lions. Their bones were broken into pieces before they even reached the bottom.

Then the great king, Darius, sent a decree throughout his lands telling all that the real, true, living God, was the God of Daniel. This is how God loves and protects those who love and serve Him, from now back to the days of old.

Sincerely,  
Sister Jan

Find your way through the LION MAZE.



## Young People Ask

By John Griffith

Dear Brother John,

*As much as I love being around people, I still find it hard at times to get along with everyone. I'm misunderstood, or I misunderstand someone. Where's the problem?*

This age old problem that you recognize affects all of us. There could be various reasons why we find it difficult to communicate effectively with each other. In this article, we'll look at one possible reason and probably the most basic; that is communication, effective communication. I wish to refer you to a writing I came across on the subject as prepared by Sister Gail Santilli.

Our lives consist of relationships with others. How successful these relationships are determine to a great extent, the quality of our lives.

Communication problems are the major cause of difficulties in relationships between people. Interpersonal communication is the process upon which our relationships with others depends.

Communicating with others effectively is not automatic. We can learn both good and bad habits in our interpersonal communications, or that meaningful exchange between individuals.

Refer to the following scripture references:

Romans 15:5-6	Jer. 29:11
12:3-8	Mos. 2:17
9:20-21	4:13,15-16
Hebrews 3:12-13	8:18
Col. 3:16	18:8-9
Eph. 4:25,16	John 14:26
James 5:16	I Cor. 12:25
Isaiah 14:24,27	

Unity and love, fitting together as in the body of Christ: we need each other.

Good communication with each other allows the fruits of the Spirit and your own spiritual gifts to show forth. (I Cor. 12) Being able to communicate effectively with each other show you care. It is a demonstration of love. (Mosiah 18:8-9; 4:15-16)

Sometimes it seems risky to communicate meaningfully with others; we are afraid to show others what we really are; they may not like what we are, or we may not like what we are—"I don't have anything to offer", "I'm afraid of sounding dumb", "I should keep my feelings to myself, no one will understand anyway", "If I tell you who I am, you may not like who I am, and it's all that I have."

It is impossible to overemphasize the immense need humans have to be really listened to, to be taken seriously, to be understood.

Though it is risky and makes us vulnerable, we must learn to open our lives to one another, especially within the body of Christ, for mutual support and encouragement.

Self-esteem is our attitudes about ourselves and our acceptance of ourselves. Poor self-concepts affect our relationship with others; defensive, condemning, easily threatened, comparing self with others.

Often, poor self-concept is based not on what we are, but what we think we are. We act and behave accordingly. How much self-esteem should we have? See Romans 12:3 and Mosiah 4:13.

How do we develop honest or scriptural self-esteem? We must first become more self-accepting. To do this, become more aware of our personal strengths. Secondly, we must become more accepting of others. Remember, acceptance can be communicated even if we don't approve of the behavior. (John 8) We must learn to take risks and make ourselves vulnerable to others, learn to drop any "false faces" and replace them with honest faces, learn to express warmth, learn to become helping persons.

Our concept of God also affects our self-esteem. Believe that God has a plan and purpose for us. We need to accept this in ourselves and accept it in others. See Isaiah 14:24,27; Psalm 138:8; 139:15-16; 37:23; Jeremiah 29:11; Romans 9:20-21; 15:7.

Through Christ and His Spirit living in us, we are unique and important! Refer to John 14:26; I Cor. 12:25; Eph. 4:16.

Let's seek out, care, love people to give us a positive image of ourselves. This works hand in hand with self-acceptance and acceptance of others. Communicate effectively.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you have a question or comment, please write. Share your thoughts with each other. We are our brother's keeper. God bless you.

Write: Young People Ask  
The Church of Jesus Christ  
Sixth & Lincoln Sts.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

## MBA HIGHLIGHTS

### Gathering in Tampa

By E. Ensana

An Area MBA Singspiration and a District gathering were held in Tampa on December 12 and 13. On Saturday, representatives of various Florida MBA locals gathered in the evening in the church building, and hymns were sung by the congregation and by the groups from each local present. A beautiful evening was spent and enjoyed by all. Refreshments were served at the end of the meeting.

On Sunday morning the saints gathered again in the church building. Apostle Joseph Bittinger, President of the District, was in charge of the meeting, assisted by Brothers M. Radd and A. Ensana, Counsellors. The meeting was opened by Brother Hildenbrand of Cape Coral, and he spoke on "Gathering" after the meeting was opened with singing *I Am Longing for the Gathering*. Other brethren continued on the subject, and Brother E. Perri, Jr. spoke on the kinds of gatherings, the future gathering and our assistance that will be required to work with Joseph in the building of the New Jerusalem. He also mentioned the beautiful gathering on the Day of Pentecost, the gatherings of the Apostles to continue to preach the word of God as taught to them by Christ, the gatherings in our present day campouts, the beautiful gatherings in New Jersey in the first days of our service to God when every

week trips were made to the river's edge to baptize new converts.

At our meetings this weekend, there were beautiful words spoken and beautiful songs of praise swelled the air. We enjoyed some testimonies for a brief period which was allotted for that purpose, and then the Lord's Supper was served.

We are thankful for a day well spent and for the wonderful hospitality of the saints in Tampa. Besides Florida, we had visitors from New Jersey, Maine, Pennsylvania and Michigan. A delicious lunch was served at the conclusion of the meeting.

## Michigan-Ontario Area MBA

*By Rosanne Scolaro, Area Editor*

On Friday night, November 20, the Michigan-Ontario Area was honored with a visit from Brother Don Ross, GMBA President. All the branches of the Area met at Detroit, Branch 2 to hear our brother's message and enjoy an evening of fellowship.

After some community singing and a welcome from Area MBA President, Brother John Buffa, the meeting was turned over to our guest speaker. Brother Don referred to Acts 9 and spoke of the disciple, Ananias, who was used by the Lord in the conversion of Saul. Brother Don pointed out the simple obedience of Ananias. When a voice spoke to Ananias, he immediately recognized it as the voice of the Lord. He did not hesitate, but answered quickly, "Behold, I am here, Lord". And although Ananias did not completely understand the reasons behind the actions, the Lord commanded him to take, he submissively obeyed.

Brother Don paralleled the example of Ananias to our service to God today. Just as Ananias was quick to recognize the voice of the Lord, so should our lives be in tune with God that when He would speak to us, we would not hesitate to say, "Behold, I am here, Lord". Just as Ananias did not understand God's reasons for sending him to Saul, we often do not understand the whys and wherefores

of God's will. But we should remember, as Ananias did, that God's love and knowledge is perfect and if we are to be His instruments on earth, we must be submissive to His will.

Brother Don stressed how important it is that each of us be ready and eager to work for the Lord. We should share what we have found in the Gospel with the world and show the difference He has made in our lives. Most important, we should love one another, for by our love "shall the world know that ye are my disciples". Brother Don asked each of us to take the position of Ananias as ready and obedient servants of the Lord.

Brother Frank Morle, GMBA Vice President, followed Brother Don and stressed the importance of being ready to work for the Lord. All of us cannot be great preachers, or great missionaries, or great leaders. But each of us can work to reflect and maintain the image of Christ in our lives. Each of us has a testimony to give that is totally our own. And each of us has God-given talents that should be used in the work of the Church. Brother Frank encouraged us to develop our individual talents as active members in the Church.

In his closing remarks, Brother John Buffa expressed his appreciation for our brother's visit to Detroit. We all enjoyed his inspiring message and look forward to his next visit.

## Branch and Mission News Levittown, PA

On Sunday, October 25, 1982, the Levittown Branch had a day filled with blessings. The morning began with the baptisms of Sister Sarah DeBeradinis and Sister Lisa Perry. Our sisters were taken into the waters of baptism by Brothers Paul Benyola and Samuel Dell. Upon returning to our Branch, which was filled to capacity, we opened our service in prayer. Our two sisters were confirmed by Brothers Jerry Valenti and Matthew Rogolino.

Our first speaker was Brother Dominic Moraca, Vice-President of the Quorum of Seventy. He spoke on Matthew 20, which refers to laborers

in the vineyard. No matter what hour you're hired to do a work, the reward is the same as long as you remain faithful. He mentioned how the Lord appointed the Seventy and sent them out to preach the Gospel two by two. Brothers Sam Sgro, Matthew Rogolino and Dominick Rose, of the Atlantic Coast District, spoke on the same theme and encouraged the saints to labor and endure. Brother Paul Benyola asked the members to support our Brother Sam Dell as well as all the ministry with their prayers.

A visiting friend from India, Sannyasi Paul, spoke on how a tree is known by its fruits and equated this to how baptism is the fruit of repentance and the Church is known for the converts we bring to it.

For the ordination of Brother Sam Dell to the Quorum of Seventy Evangelists, Brother Domenick Rose washed Brother Dell's feet after which Brother Dominic Moraca ordained him to the office of Evangelist.

Brother Sam Dell then related that he would use his talents, with the help of God, to continue to evangelize the Gospel.

The blessings of God were in our midst this day. May God bless our two new sisters with strength, wisdom and knowledge and our Brother Sam Dell as a member of the Quorum of Seventy.

## Detroit, Branch 2

*By Leona Buffa, Branch Editor*

Our Sunday meeting on October 4, 1981 began with Brother Leonard Lovalvo offering prayer, and we continued by singing, *Give of Your Best to the Master*.

Brother Alex Gentile spoke to us and repeated the words of the second verse to the hymn, *Give of Your Best to the Master*. When you give a little bit to the Lord, you get a lot in return. We must give the Lord the better portion of our life. Everyday we lose if we don't give our all to the Lord. We lose! We cannot make it up tomorrow.

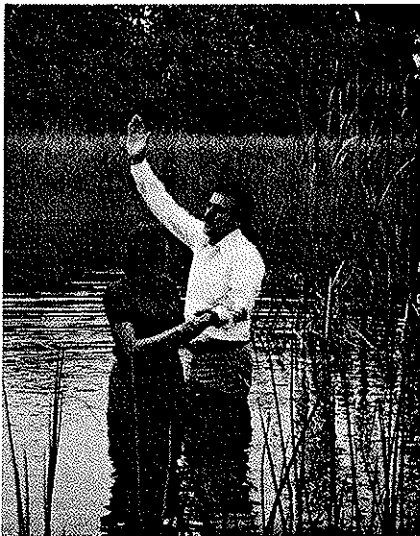
It is not wrong to make a mistake in serving the Lord; the mistake is in not admitting that you did. If we do not serve the Lord, we cannot make a mistake. Let us strive for perfection if

we have committed our life to Him. If we have not yet given our life to Him, consider giving Him our life, our service. Let's always remember prayer in our life.

We sang, *Take My Life and Let It Be*. Tina Sweatt then stood up and expressed herself. She stated how much she really appreciated the Ministry, and today she wanted to become a member of our Church. She had known the Church for four months when she asked for her baptism.

Brother Leonard Lovalvo then spoke to us, stating that none of us found the way by sitting back and not doing anything. Many of us were fortunate to have someone tell us of the Gospel. We pray for everyone to render themselves to Christ.

We closed our meeting in prayer and met down at the water's edge. Sister Tina was baptized by Brother Leonard Lovalvo.



We met back at Branch 2 and began in singing a few hymns. Sister Tina came forward, and Brother Leonard Lovalvo offered prayer as the Ministry knelt around our new sister. She was then confirmed by Brother Reno Bologna.

After Sacrament, we closed our meeting and sang, *Since Jesus Came Into My Heart*.

We all thank God for calling our Sister Tina into His Church. We enjoy her presence fully, and our prayers are that God will truly bless her in all she strives for in the Gospel.



## San Carlos, AZ

With plans finalized for a good turnout at our San Carlos Vacation Bible School, we met temporary disappointment when our late Sister Evelyn Dale returned with only four children in the van. Determined to do what we could without disappointing those who came, Sister Sara Vancik, our leader, taught them some songs and opened our lessons, studying from "The Long, Old Story". However, to our surprise, more children arrived, and our attendance quickly rose to twenty-five.

The next day our attendance increased even more, and we were able to have four nice classes, including six children in our teenage class, which was taught by Brother

Joe Griffith.

After good class participation, the children worked on crafts pertaining to their lessons. Bible School closed on Thursday afternoon, with the children being treated to a surprise cookout at the mission. Our attendance had risen to forty-one!

We especially wish to thank Brother Emmett Dale for his efforts, and for the efforts of his late wife, Sister Evelyn, Brother Joe and Sister Paulette Griffith, and Sister Isadora Kayson for their untiring efforts in making our Vacation Bible School a success.

We feel many good seeds were planted in the hearts and minds of the children who attended, and God, in His own due time, will help them to grow.

## Monongahela, PA

By Tammy Nicklow

The Monongahela Branch sponsored a young people's weekend in which we all could gather together in fellowship. The weekend started Saturday evening, October 31, when brothers, sisters and friends from Michigan, Branches 1 and 2, Windsor, Ontario, Canada, Atlanta, Georgia, Aliquippa, Clairton, Glassport, Greensburg, Roscoe and Vanderbilt gathered at the farm of Brother John and Sister Carolyn Griffith for a

hayride and food and fellowship. It was a fun-filled, enjoyable evening for all.

On Sunday, November 1, we gathered together for community singing. Different individuals and groups offered their talents. Brother John Griffith opened with a few inspirational comments, not only directed at the young, but to all, concerning the importance of being active in the Gospel and showing our thanks and showing gratitude for the blessings that God has given us.

Brother Richard Scaglione began

by telling us to put our trust in God and He will direct all our paths. Brother Rich related an event that occurred on his way home from work in which the leaves were just beginning to fall from the trees. As the leaves were falling from the trees, they were falling by the hundreds. He said he remembered driving through that same area in the summer when the leaves and the trees were at their fullest strength. He said there were many wind and rain storms but nothing could shake the leaves from the trees. The leaves had a firm grip and nothing could remove them from the trees. Then came the time (in the Fall) when they became weakened, and the wind and the rains cleared the leaves from the trees. He paralleled this event to Lehi's vision. He read from 1 Nephi 8:10-12. We all, at one time, saw this tree which is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We were led to it by our older brothers and sisters. He spoke of Lehi's desire to share it with his family, the fruit from the tree of life. He continued by reading verses 19-31. The journey along the pathway was overshadowed by darkness, yet, those who held fast to the Rod of Iron made it to the Tree of Life. Others chose to let go of the means by which they could reach their goal. The word of God (Bible and Book of Mormon) is our Rod of Iron, and if we hold fast, nothing can shake us. It is our responsibility that if we see someone slipping from the Rod of Iron, to pick them up and replant them. He stated that a brother once said to hold on to the Rod of Iron with both hands because if one is free it can be reaching for other things. If we have both hands on the Rod of Iron, we can't be reaching for anything but the word of God. He referred to Paul, that if we have our eyes centered upon the things of the Lord, nothing can make us let go of the Rod of Iron. "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." We can, if we allow ourselves, fall. If you remember, Lehi saw people pressing on to both places.

Brother Meridith Griffith continued by saying that we all have learned of the necessity of holding on to the

Rod of Iron. In time of need, all we have to do is breathe the precious name of Jesus. He referred to the hymn, *Jesus and I*. The perfect life which Christ set up. If we firmly hold on and with faith always looking up to God, He will give us all our needs.

Brother John Griffith continued that it is important to use all the talents God has given us and to fulfill the desire of wanting to serve the Lord through songs, testimony, prayer or by other means. He stated that whatever you do, do it for the Lord. This is the era of the Joshuas, and it is time to stand up.

We then broke for lunch, which was provided by the sisters. It was good to sit for a while and talk to our visiting brothers and sisters.

We began our afternoon meeting with community singing, and the young people sang a selection. Brother James Grazan opened the service. We continued by singing, *On Mountain Tops*. He directed his comments, saying that with the tools we have and the love of God, we can carry on the work of the Church. He told us not to worry about yesterday; it was the older brothers' and sisters' time. Tomorrow belongs to God, but today is ours. He told us to pray often and do the things we were taught. When God talks to us, He won't confuse us. He will be very plain.

The meeting was then opened for testimony. It was a time to thank God for His goodness. Time quickly went on and all too soon the meeting came to a close. We thank God for the many blessings He has bestowed on us. We thank God for the wonderful weekend of fellowship He allowed us to enjoy.

## Harrison, MI

By Mary Coppa, Editor

Greetings to our brothers and sisters everywhere from Harrison Mission. We have been holding meetings here in the northern part of Michigan for a year and a half and established as a Mission on August 8, 1981. We have started work on a small building to hold our services. We thank God for many blessings and encouragement we have felt in our labors.

On December 20, a cold winter

day with a temperature of 20 degrees, we witnessed our second baptism since the Gospel has been spread in this part of the vineyard. Nancy Criscuolo asked for her baptism, and the glory of God was felt by all present.

Sister Nancy was baptized and confirmed by her father-in-law, Brother Silver Criscuolo. We have been praying for God to increase our membership, and we thank Him for hearing our prayers.

We all ask you to remember our small group in your prayers.

## Detroit, Inner-City

Two new members were baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at the Detroit, Michigan Inner-City Branch on Sunday, December 6.

Taken into the waters at Detroit's Belle Isle by Brother Anthony Gerace were Rosemary Shipman and Dimatena Vasquez. Brother Joseph Milanoni confirmed Sister Vasquez and Brother Dominic Moraco confirmed Sister Shipman.

Both of our new sisters had been attending services at the downtown location for some time.

The Lord has been continually blessing the midtown flock, as was evidenced by these two recent additions.

## Carolina News

By Florence LaRosa

We are still holding meetings on the first Sunday of each month, rotating between Spartanburg, SC and Bryson City, New Bern and Gastonia, all in North Carolina.

Our November meeting was held in Gastonia with 21 in attendance. An added blessing was the presence of Brothers Joseph and John Genaro of Niles, Ohio. The theme of the sermons by Brothers Joe Genaro and Nathan Peterkin was "our love for one another". Speaking inspiringly, Brother Nathan was moved to embrace Brothers Bob Dyer and Jim Hickman and the warmth of this spirit was felt by all.

During Brother Nathan's talk, Brother Joe Genaro spoke in the gift of tongues, but there was no gift of interpretation. Brother Joe was disappointed and questioned the Lord about it. Testimonies were given by most everyone. Brother John Genaro expressed himself well on how the Lord brought him back to almost perfect physical condition after his serious accident that was to leave him almost helpless the rest of his life.

How the Lord works to show us how near He is! If there is any distance between God and man, surely, it is man who has moved.

We went into our feet washing service. Brother Jim washed Brother Nathan's feet, praying fervently and manifesting a humble spirit, again displaying his sincerity. This demonstrates the true love that only God can put into the heart of man. Racial integration did not come easily in the North Carolina locale where Brother Jim was born and raised, some 30 miles away from where Brother Nathan was born and raised.

Our December meeting was held in Spartanburg, SC. Meeting with us were Brothers Joe and John Genaro, and Brother Milton Timms of Columbia, SC. Brother Joe told us the Lord answered his prayer for the interpretation of tongues he had spoken in our last meeting. He was directed to I John 3:11, "For this is the message that ye have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another."

Our next meeting was held at New Bern, NC. Saturday evening was taken-up as a business meeting. Our Sunday morning meeting was well attended with 20 of us present, including Brothers Joe and John Genaro, Brother Raymond and Sister Mary Cosetti, Brother Jack and Sister Bertha Constantine, and Brother Rodney and Sister Judy Dyer and girls from Muncey, Ontario, Canada. We were not disappointed in our anticipation for more blessings.

We really look forward to our meetings even though traveling such a distance. On arriving, Brother Jim and Sister Jackie and all the saints greeted us warmly and opened their home to us. There is something special about meeting in the home.

Since being established as the

Carolina Mission, we have a one-page newsletter, appropriately entitled the "CARO-LINER". It is well put together by Sister Virginia Molinatto and sent out monthly, reporting our activities, meetings and future plans.

We thank all of you for your prayers and remembering our needs. We need each other in spirit if we cannot meet together.

## McKees Rocks, PA

By Martha Laird

We felt great joy in our Sabbath Day services on December 27, 1981 as Sunday School convened and then the preaching service.

These children were blessed at the beginning of the meeting: Vickey Lynn Rumpf, born October 10, 1969; Paul H. Rumpf, born October 31, 1970; Rikki Lea Rumpf, born January 28, 1972; and Cassie Ann, born February 27, 1974.

We then were taught to remember how the Saviour took the little children and blessed them. After His resurrection and appearance here in America, He also blessed little children. Angels also administered unto them. So we are taught, we must become as little children, having no hate or malice, for of such is the kingdom of God.

## Aliquippa, PA

By Dora Rossi

We had a day of spiritual rejoicing in Aliquippa, Sunday, February 21, 1982. There were visitors from McKees Rocks, Imperial, Ohio and California.

The morning service was opened by singing *I Asked the Lord*. Prayer was offered by Brother Anthony Palmieri. We continued by singing *I Saw A Man*.

Brother Paul Palmieri introduced the service by reading John 14 where Christ tells His disciples, "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."

Brother Paul stated that the Lord

loves and cares for us and that He will come again. "If ye shall ask anything in My name, I will do it." "If ye love me, keep my commandments." Our brother related an experience that Brother Paul D'Amico had when he was stricken with his heart ailment. Brother D'Amico prayed about this matter for a period of two months. God did answer his prayer. We know if we keep God's commandments, He will answer our prayers. He will send the comforter, or the spirit of the Holy Ghost to guide us. We sang *Through It All*.

Brother Anthony Palmieri followed by making a few comments. The greatest thing man can obtain in this life is the love of God. He recounted how God helped him through life and hopes that God is with us to the end of our days.

Brother Anthony Ross made a few remarks. He stated that God loves all mankind and helps us in all situations of life. Brother Tom Ross told us that God is aware of the needs of mankind whether they be little or big.

The morning service was brought to a close by singing *Isn't the Love of Jesus Something Wonderful*. Brother John Ross said the closing prayer.

The afternoon service was opened by singing *My Jesus I Love Thee*. Prayer was offered by Brother Joseph Ross. We sang *Follow, I Will Follow Thee*. Brother Joe Ross reminded us that the Holy Ghost is the mind of the Father and Son and how it guides us to do good.

After the anointings, communion was administered by Brother Paul Palmieri and Brother Anthony Ross. Brother Tom Ross read the duties of a deacon for the ordination of Brother David DeLuca. We sang *Ready*. Brother David's feet were washed by Brother Anthony Palmieri, his grandfather, and ordained by Brother Paul Palmieri, his uncle. The Aliquippa trio sang *You Gave Me Love*.

Brother David expressed himself and stated that God has blessed his life in the Church. He is grateful to God for his parents and wonderful brothers and sisters he met in the Gospel. Many bore their testimonies and gave thanks to God for His goodness. We sang *Because He Lives* for the closing hymn. Brother Paul Ciotti of Imperial said the closing prayer.

## 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 Paul to Robert and Pamela Thomas of Branch No. 3, Detroit, Michigan;

Melissa Ann Tietjen to James and Arlette Brutz of Albuquerque, New Mexico;

Shawn James to Mr. and Mrs. Banks of Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### HUGHES—STRAUCH

Mr. Thomas Hughes and Sister Pearl Strauch were united in holy matrimony on November 14, 1981 in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania by Brother Emerson Fuller, the brother of the bride.

The Hughes are residing in Grindstone, PA.

### SMOUSE—CZAPP

Mr. Craig R. Smouse and Sister Rosemary Czapp were married at The Church of Jesus Christ in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania on December 12, 1981.

Brother Milford W. Eutsey, Sr. officiated at the wedding ceremony. Sisters Bertha Jean Bilsky and Barbara Fleming presented musical selections.

The newlyweds are making their home in Fairmont, West Virginia.

## OBITUARIES

*We wish to express our sympathy to those that mourn over the loss of loved ones. May God bless and comfort you.*

### CATHERINE CALABRO

Sister Catherine Calabro passed on to her eternal reward on December 13, 1981. Born on January 22, 1903 in Picerno, Italy, she was baptized on October 4, 1931 by Brother Louis Mazzeo and was a charter member of The Church of Jesus Christ, Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch.

Brothers James Benyola, Joseph Perri and Paul Benyola officiated at the funeral service. Surviving Sister Catherine are her husband, Dominick, five children, nine grandchildren, one great-grandchild, one sister and two brothers.

She will be greatly missed by her family, as well as by all the brothers and sisters in Christ.

### ROSE FALLAVOLLITTI

On October 14, 1981, Sister Rose Fallavollitti, of the Cleveland Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to her eternal reward.

She was born on February 1, 1910 and was a member of the Church for over 50 years. She was faithful to her calling until she passed away and enjoyed having the saints visit her.

Services were held at the Baker Funeral Home in Berea, Ohio on October 16, 1981 with Brother Vince Gibson officiating. On October 19, burial services were held at the Bacha Funeral Home in Greensburg, PA with Brother Olearo Fallavollitti officiating. She is survived by her husband and three sisters.

### RUDOLPH L. PETERSON

Brother Rudolph L. Peterson passed away from this life on December 9, 1981. He was born on January 9, 1928 and had been a member of The Church of Jesus Christ at Cleveland, Ohio.

Brother Rudy was baptized December 25, 1977 in Lake Erie at Euclid, Ohio. He was in line as Chief of Chippewa, Grand Portage Reserve, but came to Cleveland, leaving that behind, so his children might have a better opportunity.

Brother Rudy received several certificates of merit from The Greater Cleveland Area Civic Councils Association for his leadership and service to the west side community of Cleveland. He was a staff member of the Cleveland Public Library for three (3) years as head of the American Indian Library.

He was one of the charter members of the Cleveland American Indian Center. He was a consultant to the Ohio District Mission Board.

Services were held on December 10, 1981 at Brickman Funeral Home, Euclid, Ohio and Clothier Funeral Home, Grand Marnis, Minnesota on December 13, 1981 with Brother Vince Gibson officiating at both services.

On December 14, 1981, graveside services with full military honors was held at Grand Portage, Minnesota Indian Reserve. Brother Vince Gibson officiated at the service.

Brother Rudy will be missed by all. He wanted the Gospel to go to his people on the reserve and plans were being made for summer, 1982, but his death took the Gospel Restored to the reserve and many of his people.

*Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. St. Luke 12:27*

# The Gospel News

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

(USPS 223-480)

May, 1982

Volume 38, No. 5

## Blessings at Arizona Conference

*By Dick Ackman, District Editor*

The baptism and confirmation of Brother Herbert Haynes, Sunday, February 14, climaxed a beautiful conference weekend at the waters of the Verde River on the Fort McDowell Indian Reservation about 20 miles north of Phoenix, Arizona.

Brother Herbert, a Creek Indian, resides on the San Carlos Apache Reservation near Globe, Arizona and has been attending the mission there in recent months.

Born in Oklahoma, Brother Haynes traveled westward to California until a severe illness forced him to seek help and shelter from a brother who previously relocated on the San Carlos Reservation.

On Friday, February 12, 1982, he approached Brother Joseph Griffith with a burning desire to be baptized in the Church of Jesus Christ. He later testified that he had been a Christian for many years as a member of another faith, but that in San Carlos he had found the true Church.

The baptism, conducted by Brother Griffith, was immediately followed by the laying on of hands and Brother Haynes' confirmation at the river's edge due to the lateness of the day and the hundreds of miles many of the saints had to travel to their respective homes.

It marked the second consecutive year that a member of the Seed of Joseph sought after and received his

conversion on a conference Sunday. Last year, Brother Robert Kaye, a Hopi Indian, was baptized during the early morning hours prior to the Sunday service. He has been a very active member in the Phoenix Branch since his acceptance of Christ through the Church.

The conference was long on business, commencing Friday evening and continuing all day Saturday. In fact, the close came so late that evening, the spiritual service had to be cancelled. However, the large gathering that had waited patiently throughout the day was able to gather together for a short session of hymn singing which provided the setting for the praises to God that followed on Sunday morning as approximately 150 saints gathered in the meeting room of the community center located in the Sunnyslope section of Phoenix.

Brother Dick Christman, chairman of the Arizona District, introduced Brother Haynes to the gathering following several congregational hymns.

Following the opening prayer by Brother Barry Mazzeo of Phoenix, Sister Elaine Jordan of the Red Lake Branch, sang *Till the Storm Passes By*.

Among the visiting elders were Brothers Reno Bologna of Detroit, Michigan, past President of the Quorum of Seventy, and James Moore of Imperial, Pennsylvania, who had baptized and married Brother Christman.

Brother Moore, speaking from the

First Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians, Chapter 15, Verse one, said, "We must trust the spirit of God," reminding all that "it takes God in our lives to accomplish that which we seek."

## Campout Notice

The annual GMBA Campout will be held this year at Massanetta Springs in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Camp will begin at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, July 3, and continue through Saturday, July 10. We look forward this year to another wonderful week spent enjoying the blessings of God in fellowship with our brothers, sisters and friends.

All planning to attend are encouraged to get their registration forms in as soon as possible in order to meet the June 1, 1982, registration deadline. This year's campout committee members are as follows:

Camp Director	-Robert Nicklow, Jr.
Registration	-Karen Progar
Accommodations	-Denise Fleming
Rules Committee	-Ron Dziak
Seminars	-John Griffith
Arts and Crafts	-Jan Steinrock
Publicity	-Kerry Carlini
Songbook	-Steve Champine
	-Larry Champine
Pulpit and PA System	-Jonathan Olexa
Pianist	-Tom Smith
Recreation	-David Deluca
Health & Safety	-Malcolm Paxon
Campout Choir	-Ken Lombardo
	-Flo Lombardo

"Ask God to help us as we help each other, and never forget to live for Him and glorify Him, for Christ died for us." He continued, "Be obedient to the word of God for time is running by quickly and we all face a life of eternity. We don't want to go to the grave in sin."

Brother Bologna pictured Christ hanging on the cross, thorns on His head, with His body and feet bruised, then standing more beautiful and exalted before the 500 after His resurrection, as Paul spoke about. "Christ offered, and is still offering, and our security can be found only in reconciliation with the Lord. We must be thankful," Brother Bologna added.

Brother Griffith, who later would be conducting his first baptism as an elder in the Church, continued with scripture provided by Paul, who said, "By the Grace of God I am what I am."

Brother Joe testified to what God has done for him throughout his life. "He showed me that the more you stand up and work for Him, the more He provides. Those who sit still in the Church of Jesus Christ receive little, but those who work get the real blessings. Brother Herbert is a good man, but I know that when he comes out of the waters of baptism today, he will be even a greater man," Brother Griffith stated.

Brothers Steve Saffron, Herbert Hemmings and Patsy Marinetti closed out the preaching service, all touching on Paul's teachings.

Brother Steve spoke on Paul's ministry and how he brought many sects of people, some pagans, to Christ.

"Paul had great power before he met Christ," Brother Patsy explained, "but all that hardness in his life melted like snow after his conversion."

Adding, "He received more depth than those leaders who had preceded him and walked with Christ. Had he followed the views of his peers, Paul would have failed. Peter had to relate to Paul because of his success. We, too, must relate to our families and the people of this world, and especially in the Church where there are the strong and the weak."

"Relate and not pre-judge others.

I may know more about scriptures than my neighbor, but he may show me compassion for others that I have never known," he said in conclusion.

Brother Hemmings elaborated on Paul's success following his conversion and how his work through Christ helped change the world.

Many hymns were sung. Prior to the close of the morning meeting, at the request of Sister Sara Vancik of San Carlos, a handkerchief was anointed by Brothers Larry Watson of Red Lake and Isaac Smith of Lakeside for the ill wife of a cousin of the Cadman family living in England who made a request for the anointed garment after learning of the Church's teaching through Sister Sara.

*How can I tell you, Lord, that I love you?*

*Words sound so empty and without meaning,*

*They cannot express my soul's desire, Nor the thankfulness and gratitude.*

*How can I tell you, Lord, that I love you?*

*Lord, I need you every day of my life.*

*Never leave my side, always guide me;*

*Show me the right path to take,*

*Make me strong so I can fight,*

*Lord, I need you every day of my life.*

*What is your will, Lord, I need to know?*

*Place inside me what knowledge I need.*

*Also, the spirit of discernment,*

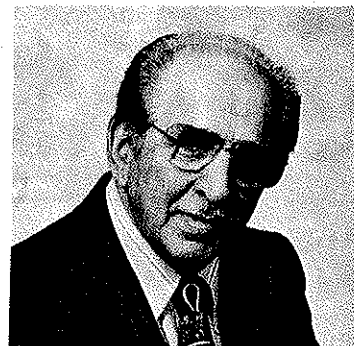
*Nurture the seed and cause it to grow,*

*What is your will, Lord, I need to know?*

As I was composing this poem, I actually felt the words coming to me; it seemed as though someone was telling me exactly what words to put down. I would finish one line and begin to think of how to start the next line, and suddenly, the words began to flow. May the spirit of the Lord always guide and direct me throughout my life.

Sister Patricia Gianfermi  
Sterling Heights Branch

## "It Is Written"



By V. J. Loyalvo, Apostle

TOPIC: God's "Thou shalt not" versus Man's "Thou shalt".

From the very beginning of time, man has rebelled against the commandments of the Lord. It seems that, human nature being what it is, mankind has found it expedient to obey the desires of the flesh rather than the wishes of the Almighty. It was this constant warfare of evil versus good that brought about the downfall and eventual destruction of the world by the great flood, the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, the destruction of Jerusalem, the destruction of the many empires that rose and fell, and the great destruction upon the land of America at the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ. History is filled with the many times that God has wreaked destruction upon nations and peoples because of iniquity and moral decay. One of the greatest examples is the Apostasy which took place because of sin and transgression against God's divine laws and principles.

Prior to the giving of the Law to the House of Israel, mankind was governed by the Word of God, given to holy men who imparted the same to the people. We read of Enoch, who walked and talked with God, whose history, though not extensive, yet tells of a glorious existence upon the earth among those that adhered to the teachings of Enoch. This is called the **First Dominion** in prophecy. Nonetheless, in process of time, man again rebelled against a righteous condition and chose that which was evil, bringing upon themselves the flood.

After the flood, though the world began to be populated again through Noah and his family, history relates how mankind returned to rebelling

against God and began to make gods of their own choosing; monuments to immortalize themselves rather than serve the Creator of heaven and earth. (The Tower of Babel is a very good example.)

The majority of nations, Egypt, Persia, Babylon, Greece, Rome, and others, had a multitude of Gods. Rulers, themselves, were hailed as gods and worshipped as such. But, every one of the great empires fell because of moral decay through transgression of natural and divine laws. How often, because man failed to listen to God's admonition spoken by holy men, He let them feel His wrath to their sometimes utter destruction.

Eventually, seeing that mankind would not adhere to the holy men that He sent among them from time to time, He gave the Written Law to the people that He had chosen as His nation. First came the Ten Commandments, and then the many, many other laws, because of their stiff-neckedness and hardness of heart. Think for a moment: though Israel was brought out of the fiery furnace, Egypt, led by a wonderful man of God, Moses, brought across the Red Sea dry-shod, yet within the span of forty days, the time spent by Moses on the Mount receiving the Ten Commandments, Israel made a golden calf, worshipped it, and revelled in sin and in transgression. When Moses came down from the Mount and saw the wickedness of Israel, he broke the tablets upon which was written the law of God. He then had to go up to the mountain again to receive of God the second set of Ten Commandments.

Reading the Commandments carefully, one will note that there are eight (8) Commandments that begin with "Thou shalt not". Two are positive ones of "Doing". They are, "Remember the Sabbath Day" and "Honor thy father and thy mother." The vast majority of the laws, given for instructions to the House of Israel, are "Don'ts", (Thou shalt not). Even the instructions of Jesus Christ and His commandments to the multitudes (amongst which were His Disciples), taken from His sermon on the mount, are filled with "Don'ts". For example: "Do not give your alms before men; Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth; take no thought, what shall we eat; take no thought for the morrow; Judge not", etc. Many of

the commandments He gave had a punishment attached to them, to wit; "Whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of judgment . . .; thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing". On the other hand, many of His commandments had a wonderful blessing attached to them also.

Man, on the other hand, has had and has his own commandments and life-style, which is in direct opposition to God's divine law and justice. From the beginning, he (man) has lived by the law of "Thou shalt live by lying, by deceit, by fraud, by lust, by avarice, by worshipping other gods, by adultery, by fornication, by common-law existence, by calling evil good and good evil."

Few, in comparison to the vast majority of people, have lived by the divine precepts of the Lord. Those that have done so, have known how truly blessed it is to keep His commandments. For almost two hundred years, the Nephites had a reign of peace unparalleled in history, except perhaps the reign in Enoch's time. On the opposite end of the human spectrum, those who live in sin and transgression have known the consequences, also, of suffering and destruction.

It has always been the evil design of Satan to change the divine laws of God by deceiving the human family, starting from within the Garden of Eden when he said to our first parents, "Thou shalt not surely die," in contrast to God's strict commandment regarding the forbidden fruit when He said, "Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die." So, as Christ said, "He that liveth by the sword shall die by the sword," let me paraphrase this following quotation, "He that lives by sin, shall die in his sins," unless he repents and comes to Christ.

Consider this, that down through the ages God has endeavored to first persuade His people by loving care and admonishment, and when that failed because of the hardness of their hearts, He gave the stern commandments with stern consequences. It is quite evident why He said to them, "Thou shalt not." It was because they were quickly prone to do that which was contrary to His will. If mankind was naturally humble and desirous to do that which was good, God would

have had no reason to always remind them that they must not do certain things in violation of His will which would result in dire punishment for them.

So, God's "Thou shalt not do this or that" was like a catalyst in the hearts of men and women (with a few exceptions), and they rebelled against the Creator; mankind is still rebelling against the divine law and order of the Lord. So, man has established his own law and his own life-style of "Thou shalt, or mayest do your own thing."

Satan, on the other hand, has always copied the Lord and has attempted to imitate Him to deceive mankind. He tried it when Moses stood before Pharaoh, until he was not able to turn the dust into lice; he tries to imitate God, giving false revelations, false gifts, and even appears as an angel of light to deceive the very elect of God. He also imitates the Lord in telling the unwary, "Thou shalt not". For example: to Eve, "thou shalt not surely die", to others, "thou shalt not" suffer any ill effects if you commit adultery, if you steal, if you lie, etc.

Dear reader, do not be deceived by the wiles of Satan. He can make evil look like good; he can make the righteousness of God appear like a stumbling block; he can blind the eyes of man so that the scriptures take on false meanings and interpretations. Satan worked his evil designs on the sons of Lehi, Laman and Lemuel, making them believe that their father was deceived in leaving Jerusalem, that Nephi, the younger brother, usurped authority over them, and many more beliefs which carried over into the generations following causing wars and contentions until that fateful time on Cumorah's hill, where the almost complete annihilation of the Nephites took place.

Satan has stirred up the minds of men today to rebel against the establishment of government, of moral living, of decency, by his own deceptive laws of "thou shalt not" receive any punishment from God. He will only give you a few stripes and forgive you, and you will be saved anyway. But, do not let anyone be deceived by the devil's philosophy. The mercy of God will never rob His justice. A very good example of this is when David, the king of Israel, sinned by taking the wife of Uriah and commanding his general to place

Uriah in the forefront of the battle to be killed, the prophet, Nathan, came to David and told him of the displeasure of the Lord at what he had done. And though David repented, the prophet told him that "the sword would never leave his house". Another example: Because Moses, that wonderful man of God who spoke with the Lord face to face, did not glorify God at Meribah-Kadesh, he was not allowed to enter the land of Canaan—God's justice—but was taken to heaven nevertheless—God's mercy.

Therefore, it is wisdom that we adhere to the commandments of the Almighty, to His "Thou shalt not's" rather than Satan's "thou shalt or mayest". And if some may think that the people of God have too many "Don'ts" in our philosophy of living, it is better, by far, to have a few "Don'ts" in order to bring us closer to God, rather than have too many "allowable Do's" that will only have a tendency to bring us down to the level of many, many sectarian churches who "allow" so many things just to have increase in numbers until there may be a strong possibility that no distinguishing characteristics or factors will ever be noticed between them and The Church of Jesus Christ restored in these latter days.

May the Lord help the saints of God to hold up the Standard of the Gospel, waving it triumphantly over land and sea, that all nations will see, hear, and know that there is a people living in righteousness and keeping the commandments of the Almighty and will say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, up to the House of God, and learn of His ways, and walk in His paths, . . ."

It is written that we must be a "peculiar people", a "royal Priesthood", a people "set apart" by the Lord to bring about His purposes in the latter days, and establish the Kingdom of Christ upon the face of the earth. So it is written.

## Mothers

Something of God is in a mother's love,  
Something of His tenderness and care;  
I never see a mother bent above  
An ailing child, but I can see God there.

*Author Unknown*

## Greetings in Christ,

Doubt fears the shadows, but faith sees the ray.

Doubt thinks it's impossible, but faith finds the way.

Doubt sees obstruction, but faith clears the way.

Doubt says, "Who can overcome?" but faith says, "I can."

What are your doubts, brothers? January 7, Brother Joseph Lovalvo and his wife, Virginia, and I went to Phoenix, Arizona to witness the re-instatement of Charles Giles in The Church of Jesus Christ.

It was a beautiful day. I went to stay with Brother and Sister George Neill. Sunday, January 10, was an extraordinary day for all present.

On Monday, Brother Phil VanAllsburg took the Neill's and me to San Carlos where we met Jim and Eva Moore, who have been visiting Brother Dale, whose beloved wife passed away recently. It was a great meeting for us. They need our prayers, especially Brother Dale, since his late wife was a real companion to him and a humble worker in the mission there.

We held a meeting on Tuesday evening, since Brother VanAllsburg had to return to his duty as a public school teacher on Wednesday night. In spite of the quick notice, we had a good representation of our Apaches. A young man, the son of Sister Ross, said in his testimony, "Brother Marco prayed for me in 1968 when I was so sick and God healed me." Young Ross is an Apache who attends college in Phoenix.

We left that same night to return to Casa Grande, and we slept at the home of the VanAllsburg's. The next morning, Sister Valerie drove us to Sister Connie Ross' home. After a short visit, we proceeded to Phoenix with Sister Connie also coming along.

Sister Val took a day off her teaching job to be with us. We attended the Wednesday night service at Phoenix and left for home on the following day, January 14. We had a trip full of praises and thanksgiving to our Lord God.

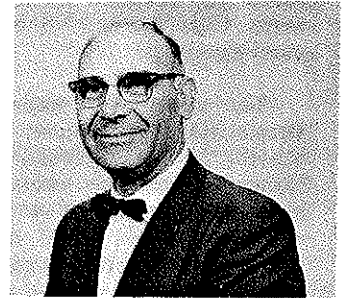
On January 23, I left for Portland, Oregon where we have two (2) wonderful members, Eugene and Mabel Lassen. As always, it was good to see them again. We held a meeting here yesterday, January 24. It was truly good to hear their testimony and fervent desire to see the Church here.

If any of you know of any former members in Oregon or Washington, or even interested persons, please won't you let us know? Send any address that you may have and we will look them up.

We need your prayers very much. The glory of the Lord is our business; let us glorify Him together. The peace that passes all understanding be with you and your families.

Let us praise the Lord while we live so that we may be in tune when we shall pass on to the other side.

Brother Mark Randy  
Evangelist



*Editorial Viewpoint . . .***Mother's Day**

Surely, it is a privilege to occupy this page in honor of living mothers everywhere and in memory of mothers who have gone to their rewards.

As we mark the annual observance of another Mother's Day, we are so easily reminded of the thoughtfulness and dedication of the author and founder of this memorable and noble tribute to mothers. It is common knowledge that Miss Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, successfully promoted the observance of Mother's Day beginning in May, 1907. It was her thought that at least once a year, sons and daughters should pay tribute to their mothers. She arranged for a special service in one of the churches and asked that white carnations be worn by those in attendance.

However, the custom of wearing a white carnation was later modified so that a distinction might be made between those whose mothers were living and those whose mothers were dead. White flowers are worn by the motherless and red flowers by the others whose mothers are still living.

Happily, the plan appealed to the interest and imagination of others, and services were held in more churches the following year. The second Sunday in May was finally agreed upon as a suitable date for the annual celebration of this newly-conceived holiday dedicated to the honor of mothers.

**WIDESPREAD OBSERVANCE**

By the year, 1911, the observance had spread so far and wide that there was not a state in the United States in which special services were not held. It is reported that Mother's Day was also observed that year in Canada, Mexico, South America, Africa, China and Japan and some of the isles of the sea. Leaflets suggesting programs for the exercises and activities were printed in ten different languages and distributed in the different countries. Following is a passage from one of the leaflets:

"The common possession of the living world is a mother. Everyone has—or has had—a mother. The marvelous growth of Mother's Day in a few years to a national and international day can be attributed to the heart and living interest it possesses for almost every home and every person of a mother-loving heart in this and other countries."

**ROLE OF MOTHERS**

The role of mothers in the early care and tutoring of their children is awesome.

A mother's task is not easy.

A mother's work is never ended.

No mother has an easy time.

Many mothers have very hard times.

In honoring mothers, we also honor God. "Honour thy father and thy mother . . ." Exodus 20:12.

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Kenneth L. Staley  
301 Pine Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**ASSISTANT  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Thomas Ross  
260 Division St. Ext.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
Joseph Ross

**ASSISTANT  
MANAGING EDITOR**  
Richard Scaglione

**EDITORIALISTS AND  
CONSULTANTS**  
Paul Palmieri  
John Ross  
John Manes

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Cathy Gentile

**TYPISTS**  
Janet Gibson  
Sharon Staley

**CIRCULATION MANAGER**  
Janet Buffa

**GMBA EDITOR**  
Ryan G. Ross  
305 Pine Dr.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**GENERAL CIRCLE  
EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15005

**DISTRICT EDITORS**

**ARIZONA**  
Ken Surdock  
P. O. Box 1359  
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Joseph Perri  
3 Elizabeth Ct.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

**CALIFORNIA**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
4682 El Rancho Verde Dr.  
LaPalma, Calif. 90620

**FLORIDA**  
Elsie M. Ensana  
1921 S. E. Erwin Road  
Port St. Lucie, Fl. 33452

**OHIO**  
James Alessio  
1413 W. 37th St.  
Lorain, Ohio 44053

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Louis Pietrangelo  
5522 Bluehill  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Malcolm Paxon  
5304 Adobe Drive  
Baldwin, PA 15236

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**BUSINESS OFFICE**  
8423 Boettner Rd.  
Bridgewater, MI 48115  
313 429-5080

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock

## An Angel Visits Daniel

Dear Girls and Boys,

Daniel was a man who hungered to know the mysteries of God. He spent many years of his life praying for his people who were Jewish captives. He asked God with fasting and prayer to show him what would happen in the future.

In the third year that Cyrus was the new king of Persia, something was revealed unto Daniel. The revelation was true, but the time for it to come to pass was long. Daniel understood the meaning of the revelation shown in his vision, but not without serious work on his part.

For twenty-one days, Daniel ate no meat or special cakes and drank no wine, and he never dressed in fancy clothes or tried to look especially nice. He prayed, and prayed and prayed.

He kept praying. On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, he was by the river, Hiddekel, when he saw an astonishing vision! He lifted up his eyes and looked and saw a man dressed in fine cloth, wearing a belt of gold. His body was pure white; his face shone bright as lightening, his eyes shone even brighter, his arms and feet were like polished brass, and his voice was so great that it sounded like the voice of a huge crowd.

Daniel, alone, saw the vision. A great shaking fell upon the men that were with him, and they ran to hide themselves. Daniel, too, was overcome. When he heard the voice of the angel in this amazing vision, he fell into a deep sleep with his face towards the ground. The angel touched him, and he rose to his hands and knees.

Again the angel spoke and said, "Daniel, you are greatly beloved of God. Understand the words I speak

and stand upright, for God has heard your prayers and sent me to you."

He continued, "Don't be afraid Daniel, because from the very first day that you began to pray unto the Lord, and stopped enjoying the luxuries of your life while you prayed, your words were heard. I am sent to you because of your request. Now, it took me this long to be here because I was fighting a battle for twenty-one days and couldn't leave until the angel, Michael, came to help. Now I have come to show you and make you understand what will happen to your people thousands of years from now, the latter days."

When the angel said these words to Daniel, again he set his face to the ground and was speechless. Then a heavenly being, looking like one of the sons of men, touched Daniel's lips. Then Daniel could speak, and he said to the angel before him, "Oh my lord, how can I speak with YOU? As soon as I saw you, I felt weak and there isn't even any breath in me."

Again, there came one with the appearance of a man, who touched Daniel, giving him strength. And he said, "Fear not: peace be unto you. Be strong, yes, be strong. You are a man greatly beloved."

Then Daniel was strengthened and said, "Let my lord speak now, for you have strengthened me."

The angel said, "Do you know why I come unto you? I must return to my battle, but I will show you that which is told in the scripture of truth. No one but me and the angel, Michael, knows these things."

Daniel was shown the great things of the future, seeing unto this day and time. He was shown what would happen to his Jewish people for



centuries to come.

This was the Daniel who kept God's laws as a boy captive in Babylon; the Daniel who openly prayed when he knew that he would be thrown into the cage of lions. This was the Daniel who kept asking God for answers to all the things he wondered about.

The same angels are there to help us if we so desire; the same God rules heaven and earth. We must do as Daniel did. First, we must obey God's commandments, keep going when times are rough, and not fear to ask God to be closer to Him. He will care for us as He did Daniel, the greatly beloved.

Sincerely,  
Sister Jan

### PUZZLE: ADD IT UP

Question: How many days did Daniel pray before the angel came to visit him? (Add up the numbers of each answer below.)

1. How many uncles did Muppim, Huppim and Ard have on their father's side? (Genesis 46:21) \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many daughters did Job give an equal inheritance to? (Job 42:14) \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many of each "clean" animal and each type of bird did Noah take on his ark? (Genesis 7:21) \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many days did Esther and all the Jews in Shushan fast and pray before she broke the law and went unto the king without being asked? (Esther 4:16) \_\_\_\_\_

Total = number of days Daniel was praying before the angel appeared. \_\_\_\_\_

## MBA Highlights

## GMBA Activities Committee Meeting

By Ryan Gene Ross, GMBA Editor

GMBA at Massanetta Springs,

July 3-10, is already on its way to being a success, according to an early report given by Camp Director, Brother Bob Nicklow, Jr. Several committee heads have already been selected.

The Activities Committee is supportive of the efforts to be undertaken by Brother Bob and his committee chairpersons. As usual, the goal of this year's camp will be to provide an opportunity for the youth who come in contact with the Church in a relaxed atmosphere and experience the "true love of God", that always prevails among the saints. What greater, tangible evidence can be given to our youth than that a restored Gospel truly exists and is very much alive?

A report on the status of the Lay Missionary Program, given by Brother Richard Scaglione, provided a summary of the December 5, 1981 meeting of the American Indian Committee in Phoenix, Arizona. There, the A.I.C. conducted a training seminar that would ultimately be developed into a broader reaching program which would familiarize and prepare members throughout the Church for the Church's missions to the Seed of Joseph. Several native American brothers spoke up at the A.I.C. meeting, encouraging the Church to fulfill its obligation of taking the *Book of Mormon* to their people. The committee is focusing its efforts on presenting the traditional native American beliefs and lifestyles. Another report will be presented at the May, GMBA Conference.

Several proposed sites for the 1983 and 1984 GMBA Campouts were presented by the Camp Procurement Committee. Among some of the proposed sites are Camp Wonderland in Wisconsin (60 miles north of Chicago) with a sleeping capacity of 524, the week of July 25-31. Massanetta Springs and Camp Summerlife in Sante Fe, New Mexico (with a sleeping capacity of 400 at a price of \$17.00 per day for weeks in May, June and August) were also mentioned.

Another proposed activity discussed was the possibility of having weekend retreats/seminars. The Michigan Area MBA officers will be responsible for investigating potential sites and dates. Also mentioned was the storage problem at the General Church Auditorium for GMBA pub-

lications. MBA locals should be aware that copies of our paperback *Book of Mormon* and *Book of Mormon Lesson Plans* are readily available for purchase. Simply contact Brother Joe Draskovich of Greensburg.

A beautiful day was enjoyed by all those in attendance, and we dismissed with the anticipation of reuniting in the upcoming months.

## 50th Anniversary

On September 13, 1981, members of Detroit, Michigan, Branch 1 honored Sister Fannie Pontillo by presenting her with a corsage commemorating her fifty years in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Sister Fannie was baptized on September 13, 1931, by Brother Carmine Campitelle and confirmed by Brother Matthew Miller.

The day was enjoyed by all who attended. Our prayer is that the Lord will continue to bless our sister for many more years to come.



## Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is with the sincerest gratitude that we express to our many brothers and sisters, relatives and friends our appreciation of their love and kindly expressions in the many cards, letters and words of sympathy which came to

us in our bereavement in the loss of a beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Brother Sam Cuomo.

Your prayers and expressions of sympathy have helped to lighten our burdens of sorrow. May God bless you for the love shown to us.

Sister Mary Cuomo and Family

(The following poem expresses our feelings and the wonderful hope we have.)

## Don't Grieve

*When loved ones leave us here behind,  
For God just called them home;  
We grieve in secret, try to find  
Some consolation, as we roam.  
Around the old, familiar things  
We shared with them thru years,  
What memories to mind it brings  
We view them thru our tears.*

*We wonder why they went ahead,  
And left us here behind  
So lonely, with a heart of lead,  
We wonder? Then we find;  
The Bible says, we all must tread  
The path that they have taken  
That all of us will be forsaken.*

*We stop to ponder, and realize  
It's foolish for to grieve;  
We know our Father is most wise  
If we will just believe.  
Our loved ones have just gone ahead  
And when we are no more  
They're waiting for us, it is said  
On that far distant shore.*

*You see, I think it's nice to know,  
There's someone gone before,  
To welcome us, take us in tow  
And greet us at the door.  
We'd feel so timid, strange and shy  
If we crossed all alone;  
We'd hear no sweet familiar cry  
A voice say . . . Welcome Home!*

*So now I'll sit and bide my time,  
Till my turn comes to go,  
The ache is gone, I feel sublime  
For one thing I do know.  
I have some loved ones waiting there  
Who watch and wait for me,  
I know that God hears every prayer  
Someday them all I'll see.*

## OUR WOMEN TODAY

### Glassport Hosts Conference

By Mary Tamburrino, Editor

The General Ladies Uplift Circle Conference was held at Glassport, Pennsylvania on March 27, 1982. There were sisters present from Arizona, Canada, Florida, Michigan, Ohio and various locals from the Pennsylvania Area.

The Glassport Circle presented a program on "The Things We Cannot See". They sang *To God Be the Glory* and read inspirational readings pertaining to that title. Sister Mabel Bickerton, the President, briefly welcomed everyone and emphasized *To God Be the Glory*.

The business session began with the roll call of officers. The minutes of the last meeting, held at Sterling Heights, Michigan, were read. Next, the delegates and treasurers reports were given. Layettes were sent and

donations were given towards the education of two female students in Africa. The questions and answers assigned to the General Circle were, "What was the name of the woman, a prophetess, who dwelt in the college in Jerusalem?" II Kings 22:14; "What do you have to do to be lifted up at the last days?" I Nephi 13:37; and "Where in the Bible do we find a man referred to as the Saint of the Lord?" Psalms 106.

Contributions were made to the Memorial Fund in memory of Sister Rose Randazzo, Sister Cora Fowler, Robert Bucci, Brother Salvatore Cuomo, and Mrs. Virgil Huey. Sister Mary Criscuola reported that she mailed sixty-one cards to various ones in need. Brother John Ross reported that the freezer was purchased for the mission in Africa. Money was then donated to African Relief, the General Church Budget, food for Mexico, seeds for India, and the General Church Indian Missionary Fund.

The project until the October Conference will be a special drive for

the Mission house in Africa and for the two students that the General Circle is sponsoring.

A vote of thanks was given to the Glassport Circle for their hospitality.

The next General Circle Conference will be held at Edison, New Jersey, on October 2, 1982. A bus will be chartered.

Sister Eva Moore of Imperial, Pennsylvania, told of her visit to the San Carlos, Arizona Reservation, and Sister Darlene Large of Levittown, Pennsylvania told of her trip to India. Both said the sisters enjoyed the Circle meetings and that they are eager to learn both spiritual and natural things.

Brother John Griffith represented the General Church Mission Board. He thanked the Circles for their support to the Church's missionary efforts, and he presented everyone present with a silk flower. Those who attended the conference felt uplifted and are looking forward to the next meeting.

## Branch and Mission News

### Bell, CA

By Rosemary Scalise, Branch Editor

On Sunday, February 7, 1982, Brother Raymond Zamora of Bell Branch, CA was ordained a teacher of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Our meeting was opened by Brother Luis Pacheco, who was visiting with us from San Diego, CA. He spoke mainly in Spanish because we had many brothers and sisters visiting from our Spanish mission in Santa Ana, CA. He spoke of many miracles that are being performed among our Spanish members. He also called the hymn, *Something Good Is Going To Happen To You*, referring to our Brother Raymond's ordination as teacher.

The family of Brother Raymond sang a hymn in Spanish and then in English. It was a beautiful hymn echoing the words, "To be used of God is my desire."

Brother Vincent Scalise, followed by Brother Luis, told of Jesus calling and ordaining men into His Church to go into all the world and spread the Gospel, that this same calling has come down to our day and time, and that the need is the same today as it was in the days of Christ. We need men today to carry on the work that was begun by men of old.

Brother Harry Marshall followed, reading from the *Book of Mormon*. He read from Jacob 1 mentioning especially verses 18 and 19. Brother Harry works among our Mexican people and holds meetings in various homes, hoping to spread the Gospel of Christ among them.

Our Presiding Elder, Brother Tom Jones, read the duties of a teacher from the Minister's Manual. Brother Raymond was then called forward as we sang, *Ready to Go*. Brother Raymond's feet were washed by Brother Vincent Scalise. Brother Luis Pacheco then ordained Brother Raymond. Brother Raymond said a few

words of testimony thanking God for protecting him and bringing him to this point in his spiritual life.

Truly, we at Bell Branch praise God for this brother. He has been an example unto his family, and we thank God for calling him to be a teacher. We are starting to go forward in growth and once again thank God for this.

A delicious lunch was prepared for everyone by our sisters, and we were able to fellowship together.

### San Fernando Valley, CA

By Virginia Suprenant

On January 17, 1982, Sisters Grace King and Cindy Hood were ordained into the office of deaconess.

The congregation sang, *Ready to Go*, as our sisters were called forward. Sister Betty Azzinaro washed

Sister Grace King's feet, and Sister Pearl Nestor washed Sister Cindy Hood's feet. Brother Paul Liberto, visiting from San Diego with his family, ordained Sister Cindy Hood, and Brother Frank Verardo ordained Sister Grace King.

Brother Paul Liberto spoke on the power of Jesus Christ. He also spoke of choices such as when the sisters were asked if they would be willing to serve as deaconesses; they had a choice to refuse, but they chose to serve the Lord in this office. He then read from Psalms 29. He also spoke from Isaiah 55, "To not seek after things that are unrewarding, but to seek things that are of God."

We sang the hymn, *Cleanse Me*, and Brother John Azzinaro told of a dream he had regarding Sister Cindy Hood's calling. He said that in a dream he was administering sacrament. He ran out of bread, and Sister Cindy came and brought him bread to continue serving sacrament. He also emphasized that the office of deaconess is the highest office a woman can achieve in the Church.

We then sang *Higher Ground*, and the meeting was opened for testimonies. Brother Frank Verardo spoke to us on Romans 16. We sang, *Blessed Assurance*, and testimonies were shared and followed by the Lord's Supper.

We are still meeting in the Seventh Day Adventist church building and praying that the Lord will direct us to a permanent building. Please continue to remember our branch in your prayers.

## An MBA Project at Sterling Heights

By Hazel E. Zoltek

In the year 1980, the Sterling Branch received such wonderful blessings when they made up Christmas baskets for the needy, that they decided to do it again in '81.

The first of November at our MBA meeting, Brother Tony DiFalco suggested the children canvas their neighborhood for donations of food, and the adults to bring something each time they come to church. A tremendous amount of food was brought in; some of the members

brought cases of soups and other items as well. Money was donated which allowed us to give each recipient of a basket an \$8.00 gift certificate, which would allow them to purchase the meat for their Christmas dinner. We made up twenty-three baskets; seventeen went to the Inner-City, others were distributed in the area. Some of the baskets contained a toy for a child. The value of these baskets was roughly \$1200.00. We are looking forward to '82 to do even better.

An incident worth mentioning concerns our Brother Michael Dragonetti. He was in a super market and he lost \$3.00. He went home and prayed that the person finding this money would truly be in need of it. A day or so later, he walked out in front of his home and was confronted by a strange man. This stranger handed him \$3.00 and asked him to give it to a needy family. Brother Mike brought this money to the church and asked that it be added to the fund for the Christmas baskets. Brother Mike is up in years, is a deacon of the Church, and has been a faithful and dedicated member for many years. May God continue to bless him.

At this time, I would like to say that one of the very important things to occur at Sterling this year was the rededication of young Brother Louis Visconti. After hearing a sermon by Brother John Buffa on the Prodigal Son, Brother Louis asked to be reinstated. Thanks be to our Lord, he is now a member in good standing.

## Quincy, Florida

By Meredith Martin

Apostles Nicholas Pietrangelo and Gorie Ciaravino recently visited Quincy, Florida. Following is a brief account of their visit:

Tuesday evening is our regular weekly meeting. The brothers accompanied us in our travel about 25 miles to pick up Sister Holmes. When she saw the brothers she exclaimed, "I saw this brother in my dream just last night!" Referring to Brother Gorie, she added, "This is the man I don't know anything about. I never met him before, but last night, he was the man I saw in my dream."

We arrived at the church, and after the meeting was opened the

Sunday School children presented a program on Revelations 12. The presentation included the Apostasy, Restoration, and events of the Restoration work in our day, including the present twelve Apostles, the twelve stars that are sitting at the head of this glorious Church.

Brother Nick spoke from Psalms 139. As God knew David's down-sitting and his uprising and understood his thoughts afar off, surely, he concluded, "My God, My God Thou Seeth Me." As David knew he could not hide from God, we likewise know, "Whither shall we flee from His presence?" Brother Nick shared powerful experiences to substantiate the results of utilizing what he referred to as a secret weapon—prayer. We felt the capability and end results of his words. Brother Nick concluded and Brother Cleveland sat silently waiting for Brother Gorie to get up. Brother Gorie asked Brother Nick, "Didn't you tell them I can't talk?" Brother Nick said, "No, you just tell them one of the greatest experiences I feel you had, the one about the motorcycle accident." Brother Gorie then told us of his experience 49 years ago. While traveling to conference on his motorcycle, he met with a terrible accident. He stated it was because of the prayers of the saints that he was now standing before us. He also told us of the operation he had recently and how God performed a miracle that he didn't have to undergo surgery again, as was predicted. However, he was rejoicing not in the healing as much as he rejoiced that his name was written down in the Lamb's Book of Life. Brother Gorie spoke for 22 minutes and encountered no problems. He stated that for two years he was not able to stand before a congregation and speak, only for a very short period of time, nothing like he was doing now.

After the meeting, we gathered in the church dining room, and there Brother Gorie spoke to a visitor for over an hour.

The next morning before they began their journey home, they administered unto Brother Cleveland. Again Brother Gorie prayed, speaking under the power and influence of the Holy Spirit. Then with wonder, amazement, inward joy and satisfied spirit, they departed and left us with precious reflections.

## OBITUARIES

*We wish to express our sympathy to those that mourn over the loss of loved ones. May God bless and comfort you.*

### HILDA G. SUMNER

Sister Hilda G. Sumner, a member of the Youngstown Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed away from this life on March 11, 1982. Sister Hilda was born on December 27, 1892 and was baptized and confirmed by Brother William H. Cadman on March 3, 1929.

Brother Anthony Corrado officiated at the funeral service and was assisted by Brothers Russell Cadman and Ralph Berardino.

Sister Hilda is survived by a daughter, a son, one brother, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She was quite staunch in her faith and always had a great desire to attend services whenever possible. She will be missed by her family and the saints of Youngstown Branch.

### DR. ROBERT EARL LYNCH

Brother Robert Earl Lynch passed on to his reward in the Veterans Hospital, Albuquerque, New Mexico. He was born on June 1, 1888.

Brother Lynch had been a resident of New Mexico for 29 years and was a retired Doctor of Chiropractic.

He is survived by a brother, John Lynch, St. John, Kansas, and a sister, Elizabeth Parlor, Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

Brother Alex Robinson conducted the funeral services on March 15, 1982.

### SALVATORE CUOMO

Brother Salvatore Cuomo, a member of The Church of Jesus Christ in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, passed away from this life on February 3, 1982. He was baptized in April of 1938 and was ordained an elder in July of 1944.

He is survived by his wife, Sister Mary, two sons, six daughters, thirty-four grandchildren and nineteen great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was conducted by Brother Kenneth Wright.

Brother Sam continually exhorted the saints to love God and keep His commandments and to serve Him to the best of their ability. Our beloved brother will be missed as much by his spiritual family as by his natural family.

### FEDELE TAMBURRINO

Mr. Fedele Tamburrino, the husband of Sister Domenica Tamburrino, passed away on January 18, 1982. He was born on June 2, 1889 in Montenerodomo, Italy.

He is survived by his wife, Domenica, one son, one daughter, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Peter H. Capone of Branch No. 3, Detroit, Michigan.

Mr. Tamburrino will be missed by all.

### REBECCA GAVAGHAN

Rebecca Gavaghan of the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed away on February 24, 1982. Born on February 23, 1969, she is survived by her father and mother, two sisters, her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Black and Sister Mary Gavaghan, and her great-grandmother, Sister Marie Wineland.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Richard Scaglione on Friday, February 26, 1982.

Although Becky was not a baptized member of the Church, her great hope and faith in Jesus Christ was truly outstanding. An inspiration to all who knew her, Becky will be missed by many. But God, who loves little children, has surely taken Becky to a place of joy and rest.

## A Tribute to Becky Gavaghan

Many of us will not accomplish in our entire life times as much as Becky Gavaghan has accomplished in a life of thirteen years. Although Becky suffered tremendously, the brothers and sisters of The Church of Jesus Christ shared her pain.

As Becky sat in front of almost 600 people at the 1981 GMBA Campout, every heart was turned to God in her behalf. Unity, a necessity for growth in the Church, was brought about by a twelve year old child. A miracle was witnessed as 600 people unified their faith and desires, pouring their hearts out to the Lord. For months after the campout, brothers and sisters from all parts of the country fasted and prayed for a child that some did not even know personally. Calls were received from the West coast to the East coast, brothers and sisters inquiring about Becky.

Ours is not to question why she was not healed, but only to thank God for giving her the rest which she has long desired and to pray that we may be as great an asset to The Church of Jesus Christ as was this young child, Becky.

## G.M.B.A CAMPOUT REGISTRATION FORM

The annual G.M.B.A. Campout at Massanetta Springs, Harrisonburg, Virginia will be held from Saturday, July 3, 1982 at 1:00 PM to Saturday July 10, 1982 at 11:00AM. Please do not arrive at camp prior to 1:00 P M, as camp rules prohibit early arrivals.

Please complete this form and return it , with the required payment by June 1, 1982 to Karen L. Progar, R.D.#2 Box 250, Aliquippa, Pa. 15001.

Registration will be on a first come, first serve basis, GENERALLY SPEAKING. Preference will be given to those who pay their balance in full or to those who have special needs. The G.M.B.A. Activities Committee has empowered the registration and accommodation committees to enforce a time (June 1, 1982) or a bed number (approximately 700) limit for accepting camp registration forms, WHICHEVER LIMIT OCCURS FIRST. No refunds will be made once a specific meal has been ordered and paid for in order to avoid confusion and the waste of prepared servings.

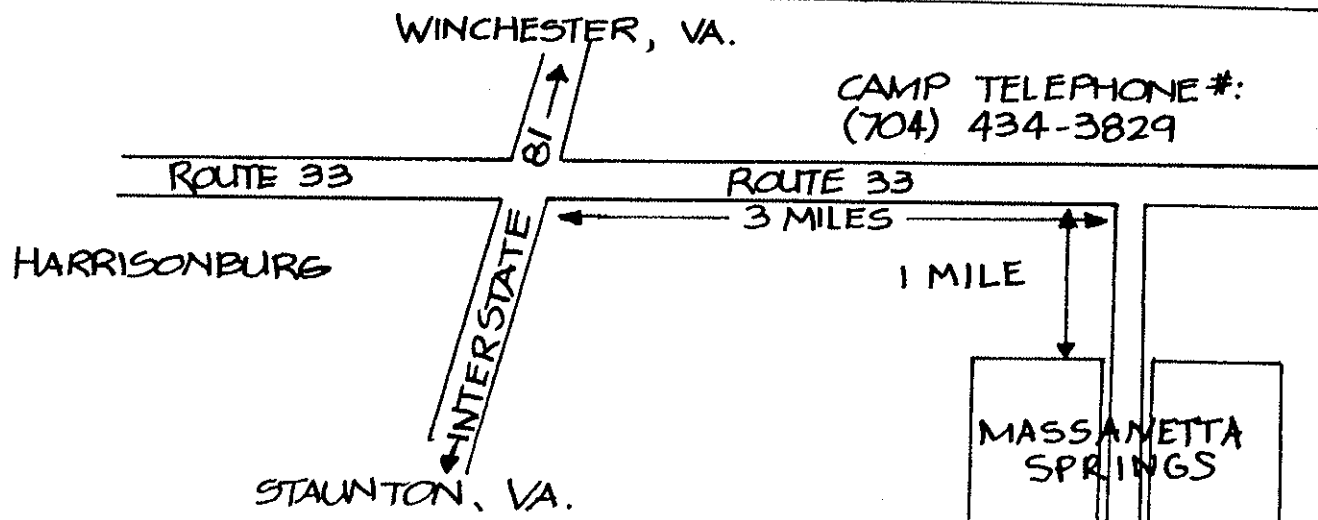
Prices Below Include lodging, meals, insurance\* and sales tax

Ages	7 days	6days	5days	4days	3days	2days	1day
10 yrs & up	95.00	91.00	82.00	69.00	55.00	41.00	22.00
2 to 9 yrs	47.50	45.50	41.00	34.50	27.50	20.50	11.00
under 2 yrs	FREE						

\* people over 65 years of age and under 4 years of age are not covered.

SONG BOOKS - \$2.00

Song books must be preordered and prepaid. Please specify the number of books wanted. Include song book cost with registration fee.



NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

WILL ARRIVE \_\_\_\_\_ WILL DEPART \_\_\_\_\_ DAYS AT CAMP \_\_\_\_\_

Please list ordained office(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any type of medical training \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian (Persons under 18 years of age) \_\_\_\_\_

List required information and lodging preference

NAME	Sex	Age	Dorm	Motel	tents & trailer	other
1. _____						
2. _____						
3. _____						
4. _____						
5. _____						
6. _____						

List number of persons eating each meal

	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
breakfast	NONE							
lunch	NONE							NONE
supper								NONE

Number of song books wanted \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$2.00 each total due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL COST \_\_\_\_\_

Total cost is payable with return of registration form. Make checks payable to  
G. M. B. A. Campout '82' "

REGISTRATION FORMS, ALONG WITH FULL PAYMENT, MUST BE RETURNED BY  
JUNE 1, 1982 !

# The Gospel News

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

(USPS 223-480)

June, 1982

Volume 38, No. 6

## Ohio District Hosts Apostles in Lorain

Imagine walking down an empty hallway and hearing the sound of angels singing! If you were in Lorain, Ohio, on Sunday, March 21, 1982, you, too, could have heard the same sound—only the sound was the congregational singing before the opening of the meeting.

Brother Joseph Calabrese gave welcoming comments to all who were present at the mini-conference. We had visitors from Pennsylvania, Michigan, California, Florida, Arizona, and the Atlantic Coast combined with the brothers and sisters and friends from Ohio. It was very well attended.

The Champine brothers followed with a lovely selection, and the Lorain Choir sang after them, finishing their selections with *Hallelujah the Gospel Is Restored*.

Brother Joseph Lovalvo told us of an experience had concerning this week's meetings. In the experience a train was being loaded with fruit, and on this train was Brother Joe Lovalvo, who represented the Quorum of Twelve. They were on their way to Lorain, and the "fruits of their labors" were going with them.

After Brother Elmer Santilli opened in prayer, Brother V. James Lovalvo sang us a song.

Brother Russell Cadman opened the service concerning the prophecies of the first coming of Christ in comparison to the Restoration. As

people couldn't understand Christ, even so today, they don't understand the Restoration.

Sister Carla Dziak then sang *The King Is Coming*. Brother V. J. Lovalvo then continued about how the Gospel fell away because the people had no fear and transgressed. He continued with the desire of Nephi to see what Lehi had seen and how our desire should be to see the fulfillment of prophecies of the Peaceful Reign. Brother Lovalvo concluded with a request to bring our own "fruits" and get on the "gospel train".

The congregation then sang *Our Church*. Brother Dominic Thomas then continued to feed our spiritual appetites by encouraging us to become more involved. The Church is not a dream. It's a reality. Involvement is the key. Everyone can be involved in some manner. It doesn't cost anything, for example, to pray, fast, visit, or testify. He encouraged us to become more like Nephi and

Sarah. Brother Thomas re-emphasized our need to be as one. He asked all to pray for the Quorum of Twelve.

Our concluding speaker was Brother Joseph Lovalvo, who said that the Church has the same authority today as in days of old. If any feel that the Church has changed, the fact is that we're the ones that changed, not the Church.

Experiences are still had as in days gone by. God many times reveals to us where to go and who to preach to. There are so many looking for the Church. Let us invite Christ into our lives.

We sang *We're Marching to Zion*. Brother M. Griffith closed in prayer. Blessings were felt by all in attendance, thus ending a glorious week of meetings by the Quorum of Twelve and the various mission boards of the Church.

## General Church Calendar

July	3-10	-	GMBA Campout, Massenta Springs, VA
	17,18	-	California District Conference
Aug.		-	Arizona Conference—Campout
	7	-	Atlantic Coast District Conference, New Brunswick, NJ
	7	-	Ohio District Conference, Warren, OH
	10-12	-	Michigan-Ontario District Conference
	14	-	Florida District Conference, Fort Pierce, FL
	14	-	Pennsylvania District Conference, Vanderbilt, PA
Sept.	2-5	-	Quorum of Twelve meets, Red Lake, AZ
Oct.	2	-	General Ladies Uplift Circle, NJ
	15-17	-	Spiritual Conference, General Church Auditorium, Greensburg, PA
Nov.	13	-	GMBA Conference, General Church Auditorium, Greensburg, PA



By Mark Kovacic  
General Board of Missions Editor

What is the General Board of Missions and what are its duties? The Law and Order of The Church of Jesus Christ states:

"It shall be responsible to the General Church Priesthood for:

1. Development of programs to meet the needs of each of its missions.
2. The supervision of the foreign and domestic missions assigned to them by the Church.
3. Make available to the Church and its auxiliaries a list of approved mission projects to augment the mission program."

The members elected to the General Board of Missions by the Priesthood of the Church meet periodically to carry out these duties and responsibilities, as well as gather missionary information from all the District Mission Boards and sub-committees. The GBM met in Lorain, Ohio, on March 20, 1982.

The committees under the direction of the Board are: Foreign Missions Committee, American Indian Missions Committee, Domestic Missions Committee, and the Urban American Indian Committee.

The Foreign Missions Committee, chaired by Brother Joseph Bittinger, deals with the Church's missions in Nigeria—including the designated missionary there, Brother Nephi DeMercurio—Ghana, Italy, and most recently, India.

The American Indian Committee, chaired by Brother Joseph Lovalvo, is

the committee which develops and oversees the Church's activities among Native Americans in the United States, Canada and Mexico. The AIC also counsels with Districts and Branches who are actively involved with Native Americans in their communities. The Urban American Indian Sub-Committee, chaired by Brother Richard Scaglione, focuses on the labor among Native Americans in our urban centers and on urban reservations.

The Domestic Committee, chaired by Brother Joseph Calabrese, with representatives from each District (the Chairman of the Quorum of Seventy from the District) devises goals and programs to aid the Church's missionary effort in the domestic field, that is, in our Branches and Missions (and our neighborhoods).

Presently, the General Board of Missions is chaired by Brother M. R. Griffith, with Brother John R. Griffith as Secretary-Treasurer, Brother Richard Scaglione as Assistant Secretary, Brother Dominic Thomas as Consultant, and Brother Richard Lawson as Church Correspondent.

The GBM has two main themes. The first is, "Truly the harvest is great, and the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."

The Church is always in need of laborers; sincere, faithful members willing to do their part in the great latter day harvest of the Lord. There is work to be done among Gentiles and Israelites, at home and abroad.

The second theme is, "And the Lord said unto the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.'"

Does this mean to physically force people to come to The Church of Jesus Christ? No! This only means that we should put forth a strong, concerted, determined effort in spreading the Restored Gospel, leaving no stone unturned and allowing no opportunity to slip by. What sacrifice is too great when serving our Lord and His Church?

If you would like additional information or would like to cast your lot into the Latter Day work, you can

contact the District Mission Board of your District or one of the other brothers that have been mentioned.

"Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all." I Timothy 4:15.

In our next few articles, we will focus on various missionary fields of the Church and how God is blessing those labors.

## How important is the word of God to you?

By Ether M. Furnier, Phoenix, AZ

"And thus, if ye will not nourish the word, looking forward with an eye of faith to the fruit thereof, ye can never pluck of the fruit of the tree of life." Alma 32:40.

What were your motives at the time of your acceptance of Christ as your Saviour? Surely, the one most outstanding was the promise of eternal life, i.e., partaking of the fruit of the tree of life.

The verse of scripture above is plain in stating that the word of God is not something to take lightly, if you are serious about being a recipient of eternal life.

Your faith has led you to believe in God and his son, Jesus Christ, also to repent of your sins and to be baptized according to the commands of Christ. In order to do these things, you must have been serious in your efforts.

If the promise of eternal life was appealing enough to move you to this extent, then the means of maintaining this promise alive in your heart is of paramount importance. The Apostle Paul said, "It is not he that begins the race, but he that finishes the race, that obtains the prize."

Prayerful reading of God's word on a regular basis is most needful for you to keep your heart, mind and soul stirred in the spirit of Christ. To ignore this fact is to leave the door ajar for the enemy of your soul to steal away your peace and possibly even to rob you from obtaining the fulfillment of receiving the gift of eternal life.

The price of neglect is much too high; therefore, feast upon the words of Christ and you will find the joy of His Spirit springing up in your heart as a constant bubbling fountain of hope and blessing. And in the end, eternal life. God cannot lie.

## Sons and Daughters of God

By David Nolfi, Glassport, PA

Before reading this article, I ask you to have your *Bible* and *Book of Mormon* handy to look up the scriptural references left out to save space.

In searching the scriptures, both *Bible* and *Book of Mormon*, we read many prophecies yet to be fulfilled. We may try to visualize that glorious day when the latter day prophecies shall come to pass, desiring to witness its fulness; yet being only a Gentile according to the flesh and possibly not living long enough to witness the fulness of the latter day work, we may miss some of the great workings of God. Many times our desire to labor for the Lord is in the hope of doing the latter day works—the coming of the Choice Seer, the revealing of other hidden records, the New Jerusalem, the establishment of Zion, and the gathering of the lost tribes of Israel—possibly feeling that if we do not live to behold these events we will surely have missed God's greatest work.

We are made to think upon the words of Jesus found in St. Luke 10:17-20. (Please read.) Here the seventy have returned from their missionary labors rejoicing in the power Jesus Christ has ordained them with: Jesus says, "Notwithstanding, in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you, but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven." When we ponder what message Jesus is conveying to the seventy, we likewise have the same cause to rejoice, for the greatest gift to man is eternal life through Jesus Christ. Though we are not of the House of Israel or the Seed of Joseph, though we may never see the Choice Seer or the New Jerusalem, yet if we have entered into the covenant of baptism with our Lord Jesus, we are the sons and daughters of God, heirs

to the kingdom of heaven; likewise, there is no difference between the Gentile who has made a covenant in baptism to God through Christ and those of the House of Israel who will do the same. Please read Romans 10:12, Galatians 3:27-29, and II Nephi 30:1,2. Thus we see according to God's word all who covenant with Him are His children. We may hold an individual in high esteem because of their color or race or wealth or position in life, but God is not a respecter of persons. All redeemed souls are precious in God's sight and the fulness of joy for those souls is to enter into God's eternal kingdom.

Though our desire may be to partake of the latter day blessings that the prophecies point to, yet our present day task certainly needs our full attention. Have our neighbors, our friends, our children, our husbands, our wives, our relatives, and even our enemies heard this true Gospel? We must apply our faith into works, while time yet remains, to go among all people and spread this Gospel, for the day will come that this privilege will be taken from the Gentiles. III Nephi 16:13, 20:15-16, 30:1-2. (Please read.)

If we look ahead and see the remaining days of life are few, if age has robbed us of the hope of seeing greater spiritual manifestations in the flesh, look to the heavens above and know that as you have been faithful to your covenant with God, there is a place prepared for you to dwell with the Father and the Son for all countless ages of eternity, whose joy is not to be compared to anything in this present life.

Praise be to God for this everlasting prize purchased for His children by the offering of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

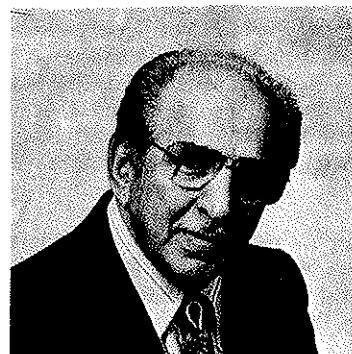
## Golden Nugget

Among the many acts of gratitude we owe to God, it may be accounted one to study and contemplate the perfections and beauties of His work of creation. Every new discovery must necessarily raise in us a fresh sense of the greatness, wisdom, and power of God.

Jonathan Edwards

## "It Is Written"

By V. J. Lovalvo, Apostle



While I was in Florida recently, a copy of *The Gospel News* was given to me by Brother Gene Perri, in which was printed an article by Brother James Curry. This article was printed in the issue of September, 1946. It is entitled, "Wives Obey Your Husbands". I was so impressed with Brother Curry's writing, that I am asking the Editor to reprint this most interesting article.

In this era of Women's Liberation, I have noticed that many Ministers omit from the marriage ceremony the words, "Will you obey". This omission is partly on the part of the Minister and partly on the insistence of the bride. Nonetheless, this omission is the result of the lack of understanding of what the word, **obey**, truly means. Our Brother Curry does a fine job in the explanation of the word and also its spiritual allegory. I pray that our Ministers never leave that word out of the marriage ceremony when they are performing the same.

Please read the following article; I'm sure you will enjoy it as much as I do.

## WIVES OBEY YOUR HUSBANDS

By James Curry

The affinity between the male and female in the marriage state is one of the most remarkable elements of the natural life.

Particularly puzzling (at least emotional make-up of his weaker, to the male) is the mental and, nonetheless complex, other half.

So baffling, so unpredictable is she, that even the great Solomon was

made to exclaim, "Who knoweth the heart of a woman?"

This writer, with true masculine ineptitude, never knew anything more about women than the average male. The story that follows was opened up to him through obedience to the loving heart of our great Husband, who sits on the right hand of the Eternal Father, providing all things essential for our sustenance and growth.

Let us notice first of all that the woman was made for the man, and that the commandment is to, "Obey thy husband."

The word, obey, as used in this connection is very offensive to modern feminine ears. There probably isn't one woman in a million that has any appreciation of its significance in the framework of the natural life. I'd like to impress upon the readers' minds that it is a great, fixed law, which, if violated, is as merciless to those who violate it as the law of gravitation.

The hospitals are full of people that have broken nature's law. Whether done so ignorantly, or not, makes no difference; nature exacts her fearful toll of the innocent and the guilty alike.

The word obey is so distasteful to modern femininity, indeed, that many ministers omit the word from the marriage ceremony, thus revealing a most profound ignorance regarding one of life's most wonderful affinities. Nor is the fault always on the ministers' part. The aggressive bridegroom, whose ears are quick to detect the intoning of the fateful word, forthwith fashions it into a club, which he wields with true masculine dexterity, over her to whom the word obey is the breath of life—or death.

Benjamin Franklin observed that there is no more unnatural sight in the world than a rooster that cackles or a hen that crows.

What do we conclude from this observation? Simply that God so fashioned the female in the beginning that she was to forever remain a creature who was to find happiness in obedience to the dictates of the loving heart of her husband.

Have we ever found happiness in the strong willed female that hen-

pecks her husband? If she is able, by the sheer force of a more powerful will, to dominate him, she will at the same time despise him for his weakness.

Some of us have known strong willed women who live lonely, loveless and embittered lives because they never met the man who was able to dominate them. These poor souls wander restlessly from door to door, trying to project into the lives of others what they have failed to generate in their own; often to the embarrassment, if not outright dismay, of those who make a more excellent application of love on the part of the husband, and obedience on the part of the wife.

Modern husbands are no less guilty than the wives in their failure to understand, or if they do understand, fail to apply, the law of love. As in the spiritual world, love in the marriage state is the fulfilling of the law. If we have this one thing called love, we do all of the things that are required of us unconsciously.

Henry Drummond asks, "If a man love God, would he take His name in vain? Would he steal from someone he loves?" By the same token, would a man impose any hardship upon her whose only source of happiness is in obedience? The iron-fisted husband, that is determined to boss his family at all costs, and who looks upon his mate as a creature of convenience, is in the gall of bitterness and needs to be awakened to the law of cause and effect.

The disobedient wife also, having lost her first love, and finding obedience a task, pours her story of woe into the ears of a lawyer, who sets the well oiled machinery of legal action in motion to secure for her the coveted decree.

Do these two not realize that they are one? If a man brutalizes his wife, he dethrones himself, because the female is the glory of the male.

How is the female the glory of the male?

If she obeys the loving dictates of this creature's heart, whose judgment in all the affairs of life is, or ought to be, superior to her own, she begins to grow in his image; and because she is a creature delicately sensitive to every pulsation of his heart, she carries her

husband's image into every phase of life that she may enter. Do we find her in a beer garden? Is she on her knees before God? It could very well be that her husband put her there, because she is no more, nor less than an obedient manifestation of whatever kind of person the husband may be in his heart.

It is possible to tell a great deal about a man by talking to his wife. A skillful student of human nature could, by observing an obedient wife, gain a pretty accurate estimate of her husband, even though he had never met the man. It is quite possible that we could lift up our voice in praise of him whom we have never seen, because we have just looked upon a vibrant, glowing, physical counterpart of him in the personage of his wife, whose whole being reflects his character and personality.

The sum total of everything that is in the male heart is communicated to the female organism, which thrills to the feelings of peace and happiness that are generated in her by the simple process of obedience.

The diviner precept of protestantism generated a better understanding of God's laws than has been in existence among men since the time of the falling away of those divine precepts which governed the early Church of our Lord.

The foreigner from Rome-ruled lands, arriving upon these American shores, is amazed, delighted, and at the same time scornful of our finer concept of freedom. He accepts the more abundant life that he finds here, while at the same time scorning those institutions which generated that greater abundance. Especially does he sneer at America's treatment of her women folk. It goes without saying that the Romish treatment of the gentler sex is a yardstick with which we are able to measure the worth of his religion.

If he understood the natural application of those laws governing the institution of marriage, he could not fail to understand the spiritual counterpart, because they both operate upon the same principle.

Some four thousand years ago, a woman named Sarah rendered perfect obedience to one Abraham, calling him Lord. Abraham also, understanding both the natural and spiritual

applications of the law, rendered that same perfect obedience to God. It was through the medium of their obedience in the natural, and skillful application of God's laws in the spiritual, that the Church under the law was able to conceive and bring forth her greatest Son, which is our great Redeemer, Husband, and King. The son of man, and the Son of God.

Modern man may, by making skillful application of love on the part of the husband and obedience on the part of the wife, lead a faithful family into a life of greater and yet greater abundance; but since God has pronounced the sentence of death upon the natural, we turn away from that way of life, that seems right to the natural man, to that way of life which leads to the eternal throne of God.

*So now we are the bride adorning  
And preparing for the great I AM  
That we may all receive a blessing  
At the marriage supper of the Lamb.*

We read in the story of the first creation that the Lord caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, whereupon the Lord opened his side and took out a rib, from which he fashioned Eve, the bride of Adam.

In the second creation, as the Saviour slept the sleep of death upon the cross, His side was pierced by the thrust of a spear in the hands of a Roman soldier. The blood and water that flowed from the wound was essential to the creation of the living woman, the Church, the bride of Christ.

As in the first creation, the woman, the Church, is a creature whose only chance for happiness lies in obedience to the loving dictates of her husband's heart.

*Trust and obey  
For there's no other way  
To be happy in Jesus  
But to trust and obey.*

Unlike the imperfect natural man, our Lord Jesus Christ is the ideal, the perfect husband. Unfailing in His supply of love, it remains obedient to His will. If she will do His will, the whole female organism will begin to vibrate in one grand symphony of praise to her Husband's name. How do we praise Him by doing His will? Simply by the bride yielding herself, and reflecting to others, His character and personality.

As in the natural creation, the sincere seeker after truth, in observing the bride, is able to lift up his voice in praise of Him whom he has never seen, because he has just looked upon a vibrant, glowing spiritual counterpart of the husband in the personage of the weaker vessel, who thrills to the feelings of peace and happiness that are generated in her by the simple process of obedience.

## California District Conference

*By Ken Jones, District Editor*

California District Conference convened on Friday, February 19, with elders and teachers from all the branches eager to get together and commence with the affairs of the Church.

Due to much business, the Friday and Saturday meetings were open to elders and teachers only. Saturday night program by the Bell Branch dramatically portrayed a story in the *Book of Mormon*. (Helaman 8th and 9th chapters)

On Sunday morning, there was beautiful music heard in the neighborhood as the saints began singing at 10:00 a.m. Visiting Apostle, Brother Bob Watson, opened the morning meeting speaking about the faith of the brother of Jared and the sixteen stones. He was followed by Brothers Joe Lovalvo, Rusty Heaps and David Alcaez. Solo selections by Brother Ken Jones, Sister Diane Surdock and Brother Leonard Lovalvo were sung through the course of the day. God's love on the west coast has been growing immensely.

## Florida District Campout

*By Joe Catone, Jr.*

On March 5, 6, and 7, the Florida District held its annual Campout at the Gold Coast Christian Camp in Lantana, Florida. Saints from all the

Florida Branches and Missions attended, as well as many saints from other parts of our Church. Our Camp Director, Brother Edward Whelan from Lake Worth Branch, hosted the saints to one of the most joyous camps ever. Our camp theme was "Awake My Soul".

The brothers and sisters from the newly-established Hollywood Mission have been praising God ever since for adding three new saints to our Mission during this campout. We thank God for awakening their souls to Him.

Camp opened Friday night, and during our orientation meeting, Brother Dennis Moraco announced that his sister-in-law, Tracy Wandless, wanted to be baptized. What a beautiful way to begin a campout! Sister Tracy was baptized on Saturday morning by Brother Dennis Moraco and confirmed by Brother Eugene Perri, Jr. Later in the meeting as the spirit of God was flowing from one vessel to another, the calling from the Lord fell upon Nancy DiNardo and Keith Stone, and they also asked to be baptized. We cannot praise God enough for our three new saints in Hollywood. All three are young and have very much to offer God and His Church. Sister Nancy was baptized by Brother Joseph Catone, Sr. and confirmed by Brother Dennis Moraco, and Brother Keith was also baptized by Brother Joseph Catone, Sr. and confirmed by Brother Anthony Ensana.

Hollywood also received two transfers into the Mission as Brother Douglas and Sister Candace Obradovich transferred from Lake Worth after moving into our area. We welcome them with us and hope and pray to God that their worship with us will be a blessing. God bless you both and may you always find both strength and joy in serving God with us.

On March 14, 1982, the second Sunday service held after being established as a Mission, each saint's cup was overflowing as the blessings of God came down among us. Our service was opened by visiting Brother Jesse Carr. He read and expounded upon scripture in the Book of Isaiah, encouraging us to be faithful. Brother Dennis Moraco followed and continued to keep the spirit alive, referring to Malachi 3:10, "... and prove me now herewith, saith the

Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Closing words were spoken by Brother Joseph Catone, Sr. thanking God for the wonderful words spoken by our two brothers and urging us to always have faith in the Lord, as He is the only one we can fully depend on. After the meeting was closed, John Catone went to the elders and asked for his baptism.

Our meeting was then reopened, and after singing a few hymns, the saints all went to the Atlantic Ocean where John was baptized for the remission of his sins and, as a symbol of the burial and resurrection of Christ. A beautiful spirit was felt as Brother Joseph Catone, Sr. baptized his youngest son, John, who is 16 years old. Praise God for the youth in our Church! We then gathered back at the mission where Brother Dennis Moraco confirmed our new brother. In Brother John's testimony, he related to us that as his heart was pounding within him, he asked the Lord to let him hear his favorite hymn, *Just As I Am*, if the Lord truly was calling him. During sacrament, following Brother John's silent prayer, visiting Brother Ralph Frammolino went to the piano and began playing the answer to Brother John's prayer, *Just As I Am*. God is alive, brothers and sisters!

## Ohio District Conference

*By Joel Calabrese, District Editor*

The Saturday session of the Ohio District Semi-annual Conference was hosted by the Cleveland, Ohio Branch on February 13, 1982. The business was conducted smoothly, and a seminar on missionary work in the branches highlighted the day's activities. Brother Elmer Santilli will continue as President and Brothers Russel Martorana and Ron Genaro were elected Counselors. Brother Joel Calabrese was elected District Gospel News Editor.

The Sunday meeting was held in the Youngstown Branch. The service began by congregational singing and a few selections sung by a group of young people.

Brother Mark Kovacic from Erie, Pennsylvania, who was just recently ordained an elder, was our opening speaker. His text was taken from Joshua 1:1-8, "... Be strong and of a good courage ..." Brother Mark alluded to the experience of Brother Ether Furnier concerning the Moses Era coming to an end and it is now time for the Joshuas to stand up. As Joshuas, we should be willing to give our best effort to the Church. Today is the day for action as we are to continue to build the Kingdom of God.

Brother Dom Bucci followed and spoke on the necessity of exercising faith and warned that we must not be at ease in our service to God, but be diligent and work.

Brother Wayne Martorana continued on the subject of the Joshua Era as it relates to the Church today. As a Church, we have been promised a land of Canaan in our day, the Americas, and we must have faith that the Word of God will be fulfilled in our day. "All that was promised the saints will be given," but we must be in a position to be used of God.

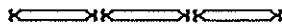
Brother Joseph Calabrese effectively carried the theme and said that today he feels the spirit that will carry us to Zion. He noted that we are the only Church that believes in the establishment of the condition of Zion in the flesh.

Brother Joe gave us a brief report on his trip to India. He will present a series of articles about his trip in future editions of the Gospel News.

Brother Elmer Santilli, in his closing remarks, warned that we cannot afford to be like the Israelites that did not enter into Canaan because of a lack of vision and unbelief.

Brother Vince Gibson thanked all for their support in the work of the District in the past year, especially in the missionary work.

Brother Ron Genaro closed our conference in prayer.



"Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Exodus 21:12

## A Testimony and Experience

I was blessed in The Church of Jesus Christ when I was just an infant. I remember many times as I grew up God blessing me and being anointed and God healing me.

When I was around nine years old, I had a dream where I saw destruction coming. I saw lava moving up the road, and as it moved it spread out. I remember running up over a hill with my family, but we were not afraid. When we got there, I saw a wolf and a deer lying together. I saw other children of the saints there and a little Indian girl was there also.

I always knew that this was the true Church and believed someday I would become a member. When I got around 13 years old, my friends from school and those I was with a lot began to get into things that weren't good. I remember my Mother telling me that she had a dream that she saw me with this one friend and how neither of us had any shoes on. She said that my friend's feet were filthy dirty and that mine were clean but just beginning to pick up dust. I knew what this meant. It was a very short time, and my friends all left me and I felt very alone. I didn't know then that God was watching over me and caused this to happen.

For quite some time I felt very alone but then began to feel closer to the Church. I loved when the brothers and sisters would come to our home and enjoyed listening to them speak. Many times I felt like asking them to pray for me, But I was afraid. I never knew God would call me so soon.

On Sunday, March 28, I went to the Imperial Branch with my dad. After church, we were going to the airport nearby to pick up my grandfather, Brother John Ward, who was coming in from Florida. I had no idea what God had planned for me. My mom, sister and brother couldn't go with us as they had to stay at the Roscoe Branch and help practice for the Easter program that morning. It was a beautiful, sunny day, and I was very glad to be able to go. I have always felt close to the saints at Imperial and was always happy when they came to Roscoe.

One of the first songs they sang

that morning was from the Songs of Zion Hymnal, *Good Morning God*. It was so beautiful, as was all the preaching, songs that were sung, and the testimonies. It seemed that they were all directed to me.

When my father was testifying, I became filled within and felt like crying. It has always been hard for me to cry, especially in front of my family, but I couldn't stop. Many thoughts were running through my mind when I looked down at the Songs of Zion Hymnal, which was opened up to *See the Morning Light*. I was hoping that they would sing it as it is my favorite. I looked at the opposite page, and I began to read the song, *My Place*. When I got to verses four and five, it sounded just like me. Tongues were spoken and the interpretation was given, "I will shine my face upon all who will come unto me." When the sacrament was being passed, I kept looking around to see if there was anyone else who felt like I did. Brother James Moore, Jr. spoke about a young girl who he thought in a meeting was going to ask for her baptism, but she walked out of the church. He was afraid that she wouldn't come back, but she did and asked for her baptism. I thought to myself how hard it was going to be for me to leave, and I thought if I did, I might not have another chance and maybe I wouldn't be able to come back as she did. I couldn't stop crying. After the meeting was over, I started to get up. There was a brother and sister sitting behind me, and the brother said, "For a minute I thought you were going to jump up there." I sat back down and again began to cry. Brother James Moore, Jr. came back and asked me why I was crying. It was then I asked for my baptism.

We called my mom at home in Roscoe, and she, along with my brother, sister, Grandma Bilsky, and three other carloads of saints came from Roscoe. We also picked my grandfather up at the airport, and he was able to see me get baptized.

Brother Bob Buffington took me into the waters of baptism at 6:30 that evening. After returning to the church, I was confirmed by Brother B. J. Martin. Tongues were spoken after my confirmation, "This is My child, this is My child." All of the brothers and sisters then came up and welcomed me into the fold.

I am so happy and thankful to be a

member of The Church of Jesus Christ and have such a wonderful new family. Pray for me as I am very young (17 years), that I may always keep this desire in my heart to serve God and keep the covenant I made to Him all the days of my life. This is a day I will never forget.

Sister Kellie L. Bilsky

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On April 4, 1982, during our afternoon meeting at the Roscoe Branch, there were many testimonies given. Sister Kellie Bilsky, who had just been baptized the week before, stated in her testimony how she had wanted to pray in the fast and prayer meeting held at the branch the previous week, but found it hard to find the words to pray and asked that we might remember her that God would help her and teach her to pray. Another young brother gave his testimony as to how God brought to his remembrance an experience he had had as she was testifying. I asked him to write it that you might share the experience that God had given him.

Sister Bertha J. Bilsky

When Sister Kellie was saying her testimony about finding the words to pray, the Lord brought to my memory the time I was first baptized. I also had a hard time in finding the words to say, so I kept telling the Lord that I couldn't pray. Then one night the Lord rebuked me with a dream:

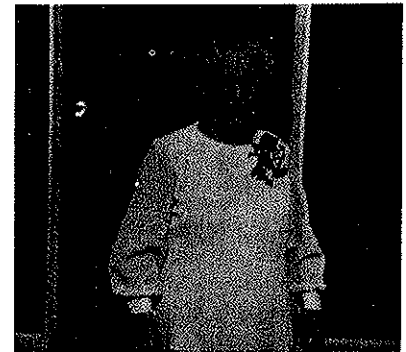
I saw myself lying on my back in my bedroom looking around. The light shone through the window. The Lord seemed so close, like He was right above me. Then the thought came to me, how powerful is Satan. When I started to think upon this, I felt the Lord turn and walk away. As He went further away, the darker it got, and the more presence of evil I could feel, until the room was completely dark. The darkness was so thick you could cut it with a knife. My whole body started to shake. Never was I so scared in my life. I reached up to turn on my light, and it wouldn't come on. I got out of bed and made my way to the wall switch, flipping it up and down, but the light never came on. I then made my way to the next room, finding the light switch, only the light didn't come on. A fear went through me as there was no

hope left; then a thought came to me to pray. I then made my way back to the bed, where I knelt saying, "Heavenly Father, forgive me." I felt the Lord turn around and look at me. At the same time, the light in the other room came on. Seeing this, I got up and tried the other two lights, which both came on. I got back in bed and went to sleep.

In this dream I was taught a lesson; instead of doubting and telling the Lord I couldn't pray, I should have trusted in His power and asked Him to help me to pray. Also I learned when you pray, it's now how many words you say, but that you pray with full intent and from the heart.

Brother James Abbott

## 50th Anniversary



Sister Raffeala DiFalco was born in America in Burlington, Vermont on May 8, 1905. On December 6, 1931, she was baptized and recently celebrated 50 years in the Gospel. This is her testimony.

I want to thank God for all the brothers and sisters of the Church of Jesus Christ. Nine years before I was baptized, I first visited the Church when meetings were held in a store building on Cadillac and Forest. After I married my husband, we moved away from the saints, not intentionally, but because all our friends lived on the North side. One day the Lord told Brother Gesidio Frachione to come to our home and offer us another house that he owned. We accepted his offer. By this time we had three children, and I was expecting my fourth child, my son Ether, in March.

While in our new home we were

planning to have our new son baptized and were thinking of godparents for him. One night I had a dream that my husband, myself and the godparents were all dressed in black and the baby was as white as snow. I asked God to show me the interpretation of this dream. In another dream, I saw a man and a woman standing on the river bank dressed in black. The man entered the water, was baptized, and when he came out he had on a white gown. After him the woman entered the water and she too had on a white gown after being baptized. Then I knew that my husband and I were being called by God. That next Sunday we were both baptized. My husband, Antonio DiFalco, was baptized by Brother Matthew T. Miller and Brother Carmen Campitelle baptized me. At five o'clock Brother Thurman S. Furnier was saying the closing prayer. In the middle of his prayer, I asked for my baptism and he continued to pray, but his voice changed; he was more in the spirit and it sounded like an angel speaking.

On December 6, 1981, Branch 1 presented me with a lovely corsage, and Brother Jerry Benyola called my entire family up front to sing the hymn, *Blessed Be the Name*. My son, Brother Sam DiFalco, reflected on how the Lord worked within our family.

Later that evening, a dinner reception was held at Brother Richard and Sister Lorraine Thomas' home. The Lord called my husband, Antonio DiFalco, home to his eternal reward on February 2, 1980. I want to thank everyone for your cards and prayers.

Sister Raffeala DiFalco

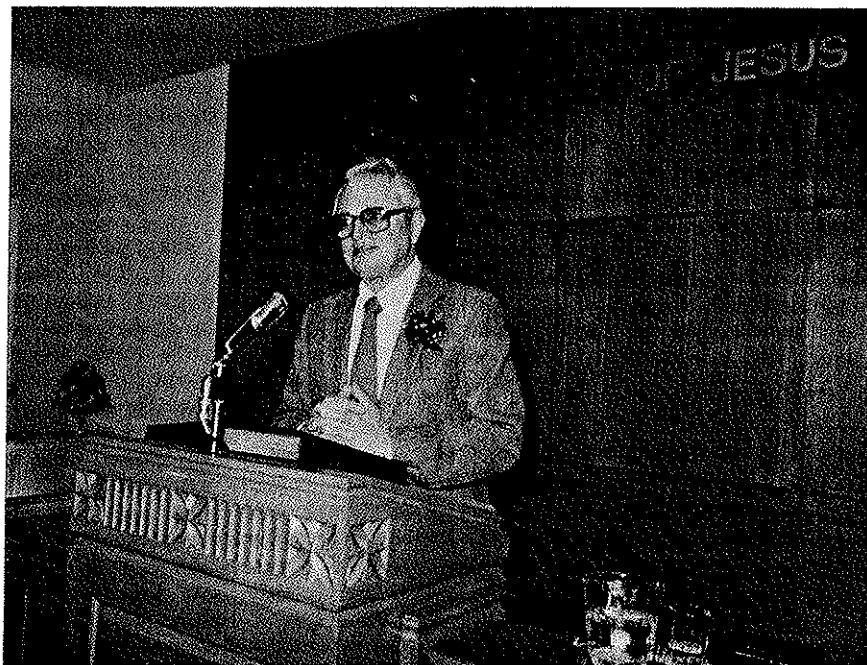
## God's Wonderful Works

*Lord, open my eyes...that I may see... thy wonderful works...surrounding me...The glories of Spring...so fresh and green...as they come alive...calm and serene...The warmth of Summer...its drowsy days...with foliage abloom...beneath the haze...The glorious Fall...in red and gold...when Nature prepares...for Winter's cold... The snow of Winter...so pure and white...as it gently falls...a charming sight...Lord, help me to see...what thou hast wrought...these are the things...that can't be bought.*

Mrs. Frank Wenner

## 50th Anniversary

By Josephine Pepper



On Sunday, January 17, 1982, a wonderful day was had by the members of Branch 4, Redford, Michigan, along with visiting brothers and sisters from various branches, including Ohio and California, to commemorate a happy occasion in honor of Brother Gorie Ciaravino, who has obeyed the Gospel for fifty years.

A beautiful hymn, "The Longer I Serve Him", was sung by Sister Julia Cotellesse and dedicated to her brother. Brother Anthony Lovalvo requested we sing Brother Gorie's favorite hymn, "Supper Time".

Brother Nick Pietrangelo, who spoke for Brother Gorie, told us the highlights of his fifty years in the Gospel. He was born in Detroit, Michigan, August 5, 1911, the son of Brother Tony and Sister Rose Ciaravino. His parents were Atheist and did not permit him to attend a church of any kind.

At the age of seventeen, his parents had a different view about God and realized that He existed, thus his father began to search. They resided in New York at this time. While on vacation in Detroit, they were introduced to The Church of Jesus Christ by a very close friend, Brother Dominick Benenati. Upon returning to New York, they located a

church in Brooklyn and New Brunswick, New Jersey. After several visits to the Church, his parents were baptized in July of 1931.

Brother Gorie told of an experience prior to his baptism. While on a trip to Connecticut, his mind was far from the Lord. Out of nowhere, he felt the Spirit of God speak to him and question him, "What will become of your soul should your life end during this journey". This question pierced his heart because of his knowledge of the Church. He excused himself because of his youth and that he was not ready to serve Him. In quiet prayer he asked the Lord to give him the opportunity, and upon returning home he would embrace the Gospel. The Lord heard and answered his prayer. On Sunday, January 17, 1932, he was baptized by Brother Joseph DiFede and confirmed by Brother Salvatore Valenti.

Not long after he was baptized, he was traveling on his motorcycle to the General Conference in Youngstown, Ohio. He befell a terrible accident in which he was critically injured. He was given about five hours to live. So badly was he injured, that the doctors made no attempt to repair the injuries, which were extensive. The

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**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Kenneth L. Staley  
301 Pine Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**ASSISTANT  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Thomas Ross  
260 Division St. Ext.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
Joseph Ross

**ASSISTANT  
MANAGING EDITOR**  
Richard Scaglione

**EDITORIALISTS AND  
CONSULTANTS**  
Paul Palmieri  
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**TYPISTS**  
Janet Gibson  
Sharon Staley

**CIRCULATION MANAGER**  
Janet Buffa

**GMBA EDITOR**  
Ryan G. Ross  
305 Pine Dr.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**GENERAL CIRCLE  
EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15005

**DISTRICT EDITORS**

**ARIZONA**  
Dick Ackman  
8403 E. Piccadilly Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Joseph Perri  
3 Elizabeth Ct.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

**CALIFORNIA**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
4682 El Rancho Verde Dr.  
LaPalma, Calif. 90620

**FLORIDA**  
Elsie M. Ensana  
1921 S. E. Erwin Road  
Port St. Lucie, Fl. 33452

**OHIO**  
James Alessio  
1413 W. 37th St.  
Lorain, Ohio 44053

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Louie Pietrangelo  
5522 Bluehill  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Malcolm Paxon  
5304 Adobe Drive  
Baldwin, PA 15236

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**BUSINESS OFFICE**  
8423 Rootner Rd.  
Bridgewater, MI 48115  
313 429-5080

## *Editorial Viewpoint . . .*

### **Father's Day**

Last month, in keeping with our annual observance of Mother's Day, this page was dedicated to the honor of mothers. Appropriately, in keeping with our annual observance of Father's Day, we happily dedicate this page to the honor of fathers.

Firstly, we are deeply indebted to the God and Father of all humanity for so wisely and properly including as one of the great Ten Commandments, the commandment, "Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Exodus 20:12 Furthermore, we are awed by the solemnity and importance that our Heavenly Father placed upon our duty to honor our parents. May we note that it ranks as the Fifth Commandment, following the First, Second, Third and Fourth Commandments, and rightly so, all of which stress our prime obligation and duty to God. Whereas, the remaining five Commandments stress our obligation for proper, wholesome and honest behavior in our relationships with others.

#### **LET US HONOR FATHERS**

Let us honor fathers for their devotion, self-sacrifice and tenacity in endeavoring to fulfill their special and important role as the breadwinner in the family circle.

Let us honor fathers for the love and affection they display for their children at any age level and in many ways too numerous and varied to single out or point up.

Let us honor fathers for their many tender acts of service, encouragement and courtesy.

Let us honor fathers for their many, goodly thoughts and heartfelt concern for the welfare, safety and good counseling of their children.

Let us honor fathers for the immeasurable degree of their time that they devote to their children, beginning early in their childhood and progressively to adulthood.

Let us honor fathers for their dedication and devotion to the ideal that Fatherhood is a most important and holy duty and privilege in the proper and wholesome rearing of children.

The eloquence of the pen or the spoken word in extolling the labor, love and self-sacrifice of fathers for their children falls far short of noting the full measure of honor they so richly deserve.

We can never sufficiently honor fathers. The time, labor, love and devotion that they have expended in their awesome task of rearing their children are immeasurably beyond our capacity to properly value.

It behooves us to manifest our appreciation, esteem and honor. May God richly bless and reward them.

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock

## Noah's Zoo

Dear Girls and Boys,

Way at the beginning of *Bible* time, God made Adam and Eve. They had many children, and soon thousands of people lived on earth.

When these people began to do wicked, hurtful things to each other, God was so angry and disappointed that He sent a long lasting flood and everybody drowned but one good man, Noah, and his family.

They didn't drown because God spoke to Noah and told him how to build a boat. Noah's boat was three hundred cubits long. That is about one and a half times as long as a football field. The boat had three stories, one door and a window. It had to be huge because it was a regular zoo!

Noah spent years building that ark and collecting animals. Any animal not on the ark would have also drowned and become extinct. Can you imagine how crazy the people must have thought Noah was? First he was building a giant boat in the middle of dry land, and then he began to fill it with his own personal zoo.

God told Noah to take into the ark two of every living thing and seven of different fowls and clean beasts.

Finally, the day came that old man Noah and his family had dreaded and believed in. The Lord told them all to enter their ark. The rain began, and the Lord shut the door.

How many times Noah had begged other people to stop their sin and love God and each other. Now it was too late for everyone except the ark full of innocent animals and the family of Noah.



The fountains of earth and heaven opened; the rain poured day and night for forty days. I wonder how the animals liked the rocking of the ark as the water rose and finally, with a lurch they began to float.

After seven months, the waters began to go back down. On the tenth month, Noah opened the little window and could see the tops of the mountains. He let a raven fly out. If there were any trees not covered by water, his little bird would not come back. He sent a dove out also. But the dove found not rest for her foot on the earth and she flew back. One week later, Noah tried the dove again. She returned with leaves from the olive tree in her mouth. The next time she flew out, she never returned. It was time to leave the ark.

And Noah built an altar unto the Lord. He took one of every clean beast and one of every bird and he offered a burnt offering prayer with each one of the hundreds of animals.

God was pleased and blessed Noah. He made a promise never to bring a flood on earth again to destroy everything. As a sign of this promise, he put a rainbow in the sky.

Everytime you see a rainbow, remember it means God keeps His promises. He can teach a Noah to build a boat, He can put rainbows in the sky. If we are patient and believe, God will also work through us to do marvelous things.

Sincerely,  
Sister Jan

Find the animals on Noah's Ark.

O E G A Z E L L E  
T N C A M E L S A  
N I T A O G R G R  
A P U M A O S I B  
H U S M H R R P E  
P C D I E I D Y Z  
E R R D E L K O X  
L O I P L L A M A  
E P B U G A D O G  
S K H C I R T S O

gorilla	zebra	pigs
ox	elephant	llama
horse	hyena	elk
sloth	gazelle	royx
emu	goat	birds
ostrich	dog	bug
camels		

## MBA Highlights

## Lake Worth News

By Jerry DiFede, Editor

In considering the many beautiful things about The Church of Jesus Christ, I must include the MBA at the top of the list. The MBA in Lake Worth, as all over the country, is an encouragement and help to the youth of the Church.

We have been taught and have learned together the *Book of Mormon* all through and have presented many programs depicting the events therein. In this way we have no reason not to know and understand what our mission is in the Church and what the Lord expects of us.

We have visited other MBA Locals and shared a Christmas Program with Fort Pierce, a seminar on the Holy Ghost, singspirations, visits to the Reservation to speak and sing, and done a wide variety of activities with the nearby locals in Florida.

We have received a great enjoyment and sense of accomplishment in the singing of hymns together, whether in groups or congregational, or the Florida Area Choir, singing in parts, singing the Songs of Zion, the old standards, and even those written by our local members.

We gather together on Friday nights as an added activity at the home of Brother and Sister Eugene and Flo Perri and study the *Book of Mormon*, discuss problems of daily living and school life together, and sing praises together with great enthusiasm.

Many of us visit in each other's homes and the homes of our elders during the week as well to keep in close communion with each other and the Church.

Our MBA meetings are held on Sunday night at 7:00 p.m. We end the Lord's Day in the MBA meeting and many times those precious memories come to us during the week as a source of strength and encouragement, recalling the singing, teaching and fellowship together with my brothers and sisters.

I feel thankful for the support of our Branch membership, guidance and assistance of our Ministry, and an enthusiastic and willing group of young people to serve the Lord together with me in our MBA in Lake Worth, Florida.

## Tri-MBA Meeting in Aliquippa, PA

By Carol L. Jumper

On Friday, April 9, 1982, the Aliquippa Local MBA hosted a tri-meeting of the Aliquippa, McKees Rocks and Imperial MBA Locals. Each of the locals presented a short session of musical selections in commemoration of the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Imperial Local introduced the evening of singing with four selections from the Songs of Zion written by Sister Arlene Buffington, including *Touch the Nailprints*, *He Held His Arms* and *I Ran In*, and *There's No Rainbow*.

The McKees Rocks Local followed with two hymns in the Italian language. Brother Joseph Lorrice then sang *Tell Me the Story of Jesus* in Italian and briefly expressed himself, stating that the Lord is alive within our hearts. The McKees Rocks Quintet then followed with two lovely selections.

The Aliquippa Local sang four selections—*This Holy Night*, *He Carried the Cross for Me*, *Christ Is Arisen*, *Indeed* and *Christ Arose*.

In conclusion, a group of brothers and sisters from each of the three locals sang *In the Garden*. Brother David DeLuca, the Aliquippa MBA President, thanked all who attended and invited everyone to join us for refreshments and fellowship following the service.

The McKees Rocks Quintet sang *Only One Life*, and the meeting was adjourned in prayer. It was an evening well spent in worship and fellowship with our brothers, sisters and friends.

## Area MBA Holds Weekend Retreat

By Anthony J. Scolaro

On Friday evening, February 12, 1982, brothers, sisters, and young people from the Michigan-Ontario Area arrived at Camp High Scope in Clinton, Michigan, about 50 miles west of Detroit, armed with suitcases and sleeping bags for a winter weekend retreat. Fifty-two people were registered, including a carload from Lorain, Ohio. We assembled together in the lower level of the camp's main building for orientation, which was preceded by community singing led by Brother Tim Scolaro, Area MBA Vice-President.

Our Area President, Brother John P. Buffa, welcomed all of us to the retreat and filled us in on the administrative details of our stay at the camp, such as meals, counsellors, etc. We were dismissed and all went upstairs where refreshments were laid out for an evening of fellowship. The winter had been unusually harsh, and because of the weather, many of us hadn't seen each other for quite

some time; so there was plenty of catching up to do socially. The midnight curfew came upon us sooner than we would have liked.

Saturday morning we arose to a tasty breakfast, after which we had our morning chapel service presided over by Brother Dan Parravano, Area MBA Chaplain. He expressed how beautiful it was to see so many young people united in singing praises to God at 9:30 on a Saturday morning. We continued singing hymns after our brother's opening remarks until about 10:15, when we broke into our two seminar groups.

The seminar topics were:

1. Finding Your Spiritual Balance, taught by Brother Dan Parravano and Brother Dominic Moraca.
2. Male/Female Relationships, headed by Brother Peter A. Scolaro and Sister Cathy Gentile.

Although no particular age group was assigned to either of the seminars, the older half of the group (mostly baptized) found themselves in the first seminar while the second seminar was filled mostly with teenagers. The group leaders focused their subject matter accordingly, and both seminars were quite successful in achieving their respective goals. We organized ourselves into groups to plan various skits on what we had learned in the seminars before going into the dining hall for lunch.

After we had eaten, we all gathered in the parking lot to participate in the recreation that had been planned for the day. After some interesting variations on the basic theme of a relay race, most of us went indoors where it was warm and dry. A few brave ones, however, made a noble attempt at tobogganing, which was difficult because the entire countryside was covered by two feet of untrodden snow. One or two people even made it into the creek, however unintentionally. Eventually everyone came back inside, and the time remaining before dinner was spent by everyone busily working on the skits to be presented later that evening.

We had dinner and started our evening meeting at 7:00. We were anxiously looking forward to seeing how each group would deal with their particular topic, so the players had the undivided attention of everyone

present throughout the evening. The first group, dealing with spiritual balance, showed us different aspects of the law of offense. In order to bring their point across, the actors carried their reactions to unrealistic extremes, which made for a very entertaining as well as an educational evening. We saw that a good spiritual balance is important not only in dealing with being offended, but also in determining if someone else's actions would or would not offend us at all.

The second group showed us different ways of being unbalanced spiritually. We saw an example of not letting the Holy Spirit work enough in our lives, followed by someone who allowed pride to lift her above her brothers and sisters, attributing the blessings she received to her superior desire to serve the Lord.

The third skit showed a family so entirely devoted to prayer that they lost sight of the real needs of the people around them. Their lack of spiritual balance reached its peak while they were seated at Thanksgiving dinner. When a poor woman came to their door, starving, without friends or family, they simply told her that they would "pray" for her, and went back to enjoying their meal.

A fourth group portrayed the trials of Job, showing how his consistent attitude in serving the Lord kept him going through it all. Truly Job's example is one we can all learn from as trials come up in each of our lives.

The last skit was given by the younger group, who had attended the seminar on dating. Their presentation dealt with many of the things teenagers come up against as they go through a time of life that seems to become more and more difficult with each new generation. As much as it was presented for the rest of the group at the retreat, this play served also as an exercise for all those who participated in it, teaching us all to follow the example laid out for us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

When all the plays had been presented, Brother John Buffa spoke on behalf of the Area MBA to extend their appreciation of the magnificent degree of cooperation by everyone at this retreat. After the meeting was closed, we spent several hours singing many of the Songs of Zion as well as other favorites.

Our Sunday meeting began at 10:00 a.m. beginning, like all the others, with exceptionally beautiful community singing. Brother Dan Parravano asked our visiting Brother Flip Palacios to open the meeting. Brother Flip recounted to us the many ways in which the Lord has worked in his life, guiding him even in his choice of a natural occupation. His testimony was truly a blessing and an inspiration to all of us. Brother Dan followed, reading the Apostle Paul's words to Timothy at the beginning of Paul's second epistle to him, ending with the 12th verse, "I know whom I have believed..." He expounded on Paul's almost paternal solicitude toward Timothy's spiritual welfare, and paralleled it to the care of the brothers and sisters today for all the young people. Brother Dan then turned the meeting over to testimony, and many beautiful expressions of gratitude for God's goodness were heard from our young people. Brother Frank Morle, GMBA Vice-President, responded very exuberantly to the testimonies and left us with some encouraging remarks.

The meeting was closed, and after lunch we all reluctantly packed our things and headed homeward. Many of us stopped at the homes of the saints in Saline, Michigan to spend the remainder of the day enjoying their hospitality. We all went home feeling very much uplifted at having spent a season of time together sharing the love that God has given us.

## OUR WOMEN TODAY Anaheim Hosts Circle Conference

By Shirley Pershin

The Anaheim Ladies Uplift Circle has just celebrated our second anniversary as a part of this wonderful organization on March 1, 1982. We presently have twenty-seven members and pray that we will continue to grow in number as well as in spirit.

On March 13, Anaheim hosted its first Ladies Circle Conference. We had a beautiful time of fellowship. The response and participation of all our sisters was truly a labor of love and unity. Sister Alyse Genaro from

the Valley conducted a seminar for our sisters on communications. Sister Elizabeth Sempson took charge of our teen-age girls and held a seminar on "Parents Are People Too". We had a salad buffet luncheon prepared by our sisters and served by our brothers. The decorations consisted of pastel Easter colors and silk flower arrangements.

Brother Rusty Heaps was the chef for our evening meal, serving a "mean Beef Stroganoff". Eighty sisters in all seemed to enjoy good food and fellowship that day.

Our evening program was most enjoyable; the theme was "God Speaks to Us Thru Song". Each Ladies Circle was to choose a song written by our brothers and sisters from the Ladies Circle book, "Experiences, Yesterday and Today". They related the experiences that inspired that song to be written and then sang the song. After Sister Diane Surdock sang *My God Thou Seest Me*, we continued to feel the spirit of God as we had during the entire day.

The Anaheim sisters asked Brother Rusty Heaps to bring our program to an end with one of the Songs of Zion. He related the experience by Sister Arlene Buffington on *The Valleys Are Green, Sir*. As Sisters Carrie Jankowski and Janice Huttenberger sang the song, a Spanish sister from Bell Branch had a vision of two personages, one standing beside each one of them while they sang.

A sadness was felt for Brother Alex Cavallero of Lindsay Branch. We sang *God Will Take Care of You* and took a special collection for him and his family, as they are in need due to his illness. God surely touched our brothers and sisters because the response was generous that evening. Where can we go but to the Lord, and the family of God when we are in need. I praise God for His goodness unto us.

## Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

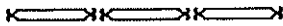
My words are barely adequate to express my appreciation to all my brothers and sisters for their prayers, cards and telephone calls. Your outpouring of love has been most

encouraging to my family and me during my recent surgery.

I returned home from the hospital on April 12 after undergoing successful by-pass surgery on April 2. Although the recovery period takes a few months, I thank God that He has helped me and been with me throughout this ordeal.

I can't begin to thank everyone individually, but I wanted to use this opportunity to thank you all for your concern on my behalf. Our prayer is that God will bless each of you.

Brother Dick Lawson  
and Family



**Ciaravino 50th Anniversary continued**  
brothers and sisters heard of his accident and prayers led by Brother J. K. Penn were asked in his behalf. Shortly after, he was anointed by Brother Joseph Corrado and received the gift of healing. The doctor asked, "What time did the young man die last night?" The nurse replied, "He is still alive." The doctor was amazed and gave orders to take care of him. Brother Angelo Corrado administered to him constantly during the next six weeks. There were many experiences given to the saints about the accident. The Lord had plans for our brother.

Brother Gorie made his home in Detroit, along with his wife, Sister Antoinette, and children, Carol Ann and Gordon.

During his fifty years in the Church, he has been dedicated and has served the Lord and the Church in many capacities. He was elected by the General Church Conference as Assistant Secretary in 1937, ordained a Teacher in 1935, Elder in 1936, Evangelist in 1940, and from 1942 to 1948 was GMBP President. He was Presiding Elder at Branch 4 and elected Secretary to the General Church from 1946 to 1960, ordained Apostle in 1956, served as first President of Michigan-Ontario District from 1959 to 1964, elected General Church First Counselor in 1964 and from 1965 to 1974 was President of the General Church. He served again as First Counselor in 1974 and spent some time in Nigeria, Africa in 1972 and 1974 and in Italy in 1977. He retired as First Counselor of the Church in 1979.

Brother Nick concluded that God

will give him strength and we would continue to pray for him that he would have many more years.

Brother Dominic Thomas presented Brother Gorie with a boutonniere and a corsage to Sister Antoinette. He mentioned the many years he knew and listened to our brother speak.

Brother Dominic Moraca commented on the many times they spent together doing the work of the Lord and how we owe it all to God for allowing us the opportunity to serve Him.

Brother Joseph Calabrese elaborated on how he and Brother Gorie traveled together and talked about the Church. He said our brother is a real example of what the Church stands for.

Brother Spencer Everett congratulated Brother Gorie on his fifty years in the Gospel and remarked how he was a father to many young and old.

Brother Gorie expressed himself by saying how these fifty years in the Church seemed like a dream, but this is not the end, that he plans to serve the Lord all the days of his life.

In conclusion, the service was closed in prayer by Brother John Romano. A delicious lunch, hosted by Gordon and Cynthia Ciaravino, was enjoyed by all. It was a beautiful day we will all cherish.

Brother Gorie has been an inspiration to all, and to many, an example. We can say, "Well done." May God bless our brother and continue to give him strength to do His will.

## Yucaipa, CA

Farewell! But not for long.

Those were the words spoken by Brother Cliff Wells as he closed the church door to return to Omaha, Nebraska.

Brother and Sister Wells came to California in 1978 from Omaha, Nebraska, where Brother Cliff was stationed in the USMC. He was not in active duty in 29 Palms, California. Yucaipa is where we met our new Brother and Sister in Christ.

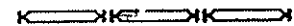
During the past three years, we have enjoyed their fellowship and friendship and have shared our many experiences. Brother and Sister Wells are now returning to Omaha, Nebraska, after completing his duties in the service, to work and worship in that mission. We, at the Yucaipa Mission, will miss them dearly and await their return.

*You've traveled around, far and near  
We're very happy-you traveled here.  
Abide in His Love, wherever you go,  
For memories stay and blessings  
flow.*

Until we meet again, may God bless you in your endeavors.



Cliff and Valerie Wells



## My Jesus

*My Jesus loves me,  
My Jesus forgives me,  
My Jesus went to the cross for me,  
My Jesus washed my sins away,  
My Jesus is the Son of God,  
My Jesus will be there when I come  
home,  
My Jesus will welcome me with open  
arms,*

*My Jesus is my strength,  
My Jesus is always there to take my  
burdens,  
My Jesus helps me to understand His  
word,  
My Jesus spent a few years on this  
earth to set the stage for my  
salvation,  
My Jesus loves me, and I love Jesus,  
My Jesus has made me a better man,  
and I love God for sending MY  
JESUS!*

Brother Howard Noble  
Tampa Branch

## Branch and Mission News

### Meaford, Ontario

*By Bertha Ford*

With much prayer and fasting, we have rented a place in which to hold our meetings. For the past 23 years we were holding our meetings in our homes, mostly in the home of Sister Mabel McKay.

On June, 1981, we held our first Sunday meeting in our building. God has surely been with us in unity of the Spirit as we have accomplished a great deal with much prayer and hard work and the help from our wonderful brothers and sisters in the other branches and missions. We owe a special thanks to Brother Mario and Sister Mary Coppa, as they have been a wonderful blessing to us.

On Sunday, September 13, 1981 we had our dedication service. I am sure it was as much a blessing to Sister Leata Ford as it was to us, for over 23 years she went through much heartache and discouragements for us and on this Sunday she was able to see the fruits of her labors.

Our elders for our dedication were Brothers Don Collison and Bob Stanek. There were 43 of us for service and fellowship.

We were again blessed on October 25, 1981 in having Brother John and Sister Leona Buffa and Brother Gary Carlini from Saline, Michigan, Sister Becky Philips from Atlanta, Georgia, Sister JoAnn Coppa from Detroit, Michigan, and Brother Larry and Sister Cindy Henderson from Windsor, Ontario. These brothers and sisters came to help us to organize our local MBA.

We have had a penny roll, and in November we held a bazaar with the help of Sister Mary Coppa and Detroit sisters.

We have been greatly blessed with God's Spirit and the visits from the Priesthood. Our teacher is Brother Richard Elzby; and, not having an elder, Rick takes our Sunday service and God surely has blessed him.

Brother Rick and Sister Jane have been helping the Lamanite people here in Meaford and in Cape Croker. With the help of food boxes from

Windsor, we have been able to take food and clothes to those in need.

We look forward to your visits. We are six (6) members, six (6) children, and two (2) people who attend our meetings. I can testify that we have each one felt God's Spirit with us in this beautiful place. We are listed in the Church phone directory.

### Omaha-Bedford

On Saturday, January 16, 1982, our mission received one of its many blessings welcoming Brother Mitchell Edwards for the weekend. Upon his arrival, we proceeded to our business meeting in Bedford, IA, which was held at the home of our Brother Calvin and Sister Dorothy Matthews. Among our business, we accepted the transfers of Brother Clifton and Sister Valerie Wells, who returned to Omaha from the Yucaipa Mission in California.

The Spirit of God prevailed during our service on Sunday, January 17, 1982, as we sang our opening hymn, *Trust and Obey*. Brother Mitchell spoke from St. Luke 4:1-14 of how the devil tempted Jesus after He was in the wilderness forty days. Brother English Webb, our Presiding Elder, continued on from St. Luke 4:18 as he spoke of "the acceptable year of the Lord", also referring to Isaiah 61.

Brother Mitchell then read the duties of the offices of teacher and deaconess. Brother English washed Brother Calvin's feet, while Sister Dorothy Miller's feet were not washed since she is our first deaconess. Brother Mitchell ordained Brother Calvin and Brother English ordained Sister Dorothy.

Many inspiring testimonies were given to praise and glorify God's name. After the service, we fellowshiped with friends at dinner.

On January 31, 1982, evidence of God's blessings upon this mission prevailed as Mary Jane Harris asked for her baptism. She was baptized in the Missouri River at Bellevue, NE by Brother English Webb. Her faith proved incredible as she stepped into the icy river. The sun shone, and a brilliant glow was about her face as

she emerged from the water. Brother English laid hands upon her for the reception of the Holy Ghost.

We ask for your prayers and strength for our new sister and the work in the Omaha-Bedford Mission, and our prayers are extended to all of our brothers and sisters in Christ and friends to feel free to visit Omaha-Bedford Mission in the spirit of love.

### Detroit, Branch 3

*By Dawn Francione and  
Becky Whitton*

Today at Branch 3 we had visiting with us Brother Don Ross from the Edison Branch in New Jersey, Brothers Frank Morle and Dominic Thomas from the Detroit, Branch 2, and Brother Mike LaSala from the Detroit, Branch 1.

Brother Don Ross opened the meeting talking about how Christ is a shelter in the time of storm. He read from III Nephi 11:1-3. Brother Don said that this portion of scripture is marvelous. It tells about the change after Christ was crucified.

Brother Mike LaSala followed Brother Don. He told of how he was seeking to find the Church. He also said that if it were not for the love of God, we wouldn't be here today. He also continued to tell us how God has blessed our land. He then said that one day our Church will be identical to the people in the *Book of Mormon*.

After Brother Mike talked, the young people went up to sing. Afterwards, Brother Mark Coppa and his wife, Sister Sue, from San Diego, California, gave their testimonies, relating their experience of how they chose to be baptized. Brother Jerry Morle, who has been away at school, also gave his testimony.

We are sure that all who attended the meeting were truly blessed by the words that our brothers had spoken.

### Sterling, MI

*By Hazel E. Zoltek, Branch Editor*

Forty-five members of the Sterling Heights Branch, accompanied by Brother John and sister Bessie Impastato of Branch 1, took a chartered bus trip to the Hill Cumorah. Brother Tony DiFalco made all the arrangements for this trip, and everything was perfect; even the children were well behaved.

Before leaving, we sang several hymns of praise in the church, and Brother John Buffa thanked the Lord that we were able to go on this journey and asked that He protect us. We continued singing on the bus, and we had the Songs of Zion with us, and we sang many of them.

Everyone brought food with them, and we stopped and had lunch at a wayside table; it was like one big happy family. We, at Sterling, like to eat and sing.

We arrived at The Treadway Motel at 4:00 p.m. and had a few minutes to relax before leaving on the bus for the Hill. Most of us climbed the hill where the great battle took place and stood next to the statue of the Angel Moroni and not far from where the plates were found. We then left the hill, and our bus driver took us to Joseph Smith's house where we observed the furnishings of that period. At this point, I wish to commend the Mormon Church for keeping up the home and the grounds and the hill itself and for the wonderful pageant which we saw, all without charge. We then walked to the grove, walking down the same path that Joseph Smith trod, and when we came to the clearing where Joseph went to the Lord for wisdom, Brother Louis Vitto asked one of the elders to pray, but the lot fell upon him. There were many strangers standing around, and Brother Lou asked them to join us. The spirit of God fell upon him, and he was truly touched by the hand of God and words from heaven were spoken as he prayed. We all felt we were standing on holy ground. We then sang, *An Angel Came Down*. One of the strangers stepped forth and shook Brother Lou's hand and said he had never heard a prayer like that in his life, and he asked permission to walk

back with our group. He walked along side of Brother Frank DiDonato, and you who know him can rest assured that he filled this man's heart with the precepts of The Church of Jesus Christ.

We then returned to the Hill Cumorah where we heard a recorded concert by the Salt Lake Mormon Tabernacle Choir. We then waited for darkness to descend, and at about 9:15 p.m., the pageant began. The first thing we saw, was the unfurling of a very large American Flag, and the National Anthem was played. We were all touched by this and thanked God that we live in this land of America, which has been blessed above all other lands. We think there must have been at least 20,000 people in attendance. We even met a group from New Jersey, and along with them was Janet Frammolino.

Sunday morning, after enjoying a smorgasbord breakfast at the motel, we boarded the bus for our trip to Lockport, again singing songs of praise on the bus.

As we arrived at the Lockport Mission, we were met by the smiling face of Brother Paul D'Amico. Only three of our members had visited here before, it being the first time for the remaining forty-four. Brother Paul expressed his pleasure in having the saints from Sterling, and asked the visiting elders to open the service. Brother Sam DiFalco opened the meeting with his text from the *Book of Mormon*, and the Champine Brothers favored us with the beautiful hymn, *The Morning Light*. Brother John Buffa followed with his text from the *Bible*, Matthew 22:1-4, which was about the wedding of the king's son. Brother Louis Vitto then spoke on the love of God, which is so prevalent in this Church, and the meeting was then left open for testimony. Brother Paul spoke about the Church and his early affiliation with it and how he was chosen by God at an early age to do His work. Brother Dave DiBattista closed the meeting with prayer. We then enjoyed a wonderful lunch, which was prepared by the sisters of Lockport. Then came the sad moment of departure as we sang on the bus,

*God Be With You 'Til We Meet Again*, and Brother Paul prayed that God would watch over and protect and bless us on our way home.

We stopped at Niagara Falls. It was raining lightly, but we did get off the bus and go over to the railing to behold one of the Seven Wonders of the World and another of God's beautiful creations, which might have been formed when the destruction fell on this land when Christ was crucified and which we saw portrayed in the last scene at the pageant as the lightning flashed and the thunder roared.

Then we headed for home, singing hymns and associating with one another. Many fell asleep and all was quiet for awhile. We must not forget our bus driver, Carl Price, because he was a prince of a person and went out of his way to make this an enjoyable trip.

On arriving back at the church, before we left the bus, Brother Lou gave a little speech of thanks to our driver and presented him with a token of appreciation from all on the bus. He remarked that he had been driving for thirty years and had made many chartered trips, but never had he met a group like ours before, and he promised to attend the church sometime in the future.

At our Wednesday evening MBA service, Brother Dave DiBattista interviewed all the children and the youth who were on the trip asking them what they enjoyed most and by what they were most impressed. One of the children said, "the bus ride." One of the older ones said, "the unfurling of the flag", and some made reference to the furnishings in Joseph Smith's home, especially the weasel, from whence comes the song, *Pop Goes the Weasel*.

In closing, I highly recommend this trip to anyone who hasn't been there before, and now as we read the *Book of Mormon*, we can picture the scenes and can understand it better. The light, the dialogue, the costumes of the five hundred or more who took part were marvelous.

## New Arrivals

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families:

Tiffany Dawn to Louis and Dawn Ruiz of Modesto, California;

Michael Joseph to Michael and Debbie Gulick of

Edison, New Jersey;

Andrew Philip to Philip and Francine Jackson of Kinsman, Ohio;

Alyson Faye to Ronald and Cathy Genaro of Niles, Ohio.

Mark Henderson to Joe and Patty Rabe of Anaheim, California;

Jessica Christine to Tony and Christine Benyola of Dallas, Texas;

Erin Crystal to Russel and Nancy Gross of Erie, Pennsylvania;

Randy Scott to Deborah Metcalf and the late Randy Metcalf;

Heidi Renae to Arthur and Bonny Landrey of Phoenix, Arizona;

Jose Manual to Ernesto and Eva Figueroa of Phoenix, Arizona;

Michael Frank III to Michael and Linda Carrozzino Italiano of Youngstown, Ohio.

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### PNIEWSKI-HARVEY

Mr. Leslie C. Pniewski and Miss Kathy Louise Harvey were united in marriage on February 6, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Perry, Ohio.

Brother Elmer Santilli officiated at the ceremony, and Sister Betty Santilli presented musical selections.

The Pniewski's are making their home in Elkton, West Virginia. May God's richest blessings be upon them.

## OBITUARIES

*We wish to express our sympathy to those that mourn over the loss of loved ones. May God bless and comfort you.*

### JAMES V. VELARDI

Brother James V. Velardi, born in Italy, passed away on November 19, 1981 in San Diego, California, where he labored as an elder in The Church of Jesus Christ. He had previously served the Church in Ohio and Florida before moving to California.

The funeral service took place on November 20, 1981, and was officiated by Brother Frank Genaro, who was assisted by Brothers Ken Surdock and William

DiFranco.

Brother Velardi is survived by his wife, Sister Jeanette, two daughters and four grandchildren.

### EVERETT R. KEENEY, SR.

Brother Everett R. Keeney, a member of the Warren, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed away from this life on February 28, 1982.

He is survived by his wife, one son and four daughters.

Brothers Jerry Giovannone and Mitchell Edwards officiated at the funeral services.

### JOSEPH MICHAEL ERNEST LOBZUN

Joseph Lobzun, the son of Brother Dick and Sister Grace Lobzun, passed away from this life on March 22, 1982. He was born on May 18, 1962 and attended the Windsor, Ontario Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

He is survived by his parents, four brothers and one sister.

Brother Bob Stanek officiated at the funeral services.

### MALACHI LEE SHIPMEN

The Detroit Inner-City Branch was saddened by the unexpected death of Malachi Lee Shipmen, the infant son of Vaughn and Sister Rosemary Shipmen.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Joseph Milantoni and Dominic Moraca.

May God comfort and bless the Shipmen's at this time of grief.

## God Doeth All Things Well

*When you're weary and disappointed,  
And sunshine gives place to night,  
Have faith! You've a loving Father,  
Who will set all things aright!*

*In His good time, God will grant you  
Blessings far too great to tell;  
He will love you, guide you, guard you,  
For "He doeth all things well!"*

Jon Gilbert

# The Gospel News

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

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July, 1982

## Independence Day Its Meaning for Today

By Patsy Marinetti, Tucson, Arizona

This Day of Independence has always stirred the hearts and minds of men who cherish the God given rights of freedom. The desire to be free from oppressive forces goes back to man's earliest days. The deep love for freedom has always been man's most intense and fervent struggle. The price to be free always runs high, and it can never be taken for granted. Millions of people that have moved across the stage of history have paid the supreme sacrifice in their struggle to achieve freedom for themselves and for others. The forces which seek to deprive every man of his precious liberties are always present. Therefore, the preservation of freedom requires every man to be constantly alert.

As freedom loving people reflect upon the purpose or meaning of this national holiday, one's thoughts are focused on that stormy period in history when the creation of Independence Day was to awaken and set in motion the dormant capabilities of a new nation yet untried.

During the confusing days of indecision which kept most of the colonists uncommitted, a very effective influence occurred. Thomas Paine's fiery pamphlet, *Common Sense*, helped to crystallize America's decision to act. His burning words permeated the minds of all Americans for freedom's cause. *Common Sense* cried out boldly what many Ameri-

cans had been feeling, but not saying. Paine's words burned themselves into the colonial American conscience. Motivated by Paine's words Jefferson, Washington, Patrick Henry, John Adams, Madison and many other brave men combined all their talents and energies toward a common purpose. These men, with moral dedication and courage, responded effectively in a crucial time in American history to help shape the course of a unique nation.

Thomas Jefferson was admired for his "peculiar felicity of expression". When it came to drawing up resolutions or penning declarations, Jefferson was a natural choice. Therefore, this "Demosthenes with the pen" was selected to frame the thoughts which were ultimately to become the historic Declaration of Independence. Half a century after writing the Declaration, Jefferson said: "Neither aiming at originality of principle or sentiment, nor yet copied from any particular and previous writing, it was intended to be an expression of the American mind."

The colonies' political organization was an embryo; its military personnel without much experience. To write lofty phrases about liberty and concentrate rational arguments against tyranny was one thing. The realistic responsibility of carrying out those ideas advanced in the Declaration of Independence was soon to be tested under fire. History long confirmed that with God as their primary

assistance, the colonists finally freed themselves from the British yoke.

Of all the great leaders that America has produced, Lincoln's prophetic depth of vision recognized the all inclusive range of the Declaration of Independence. His keen observation was as follows: "I have often inquired of myself what great principle it was that kept this confederacy so long together. It was not the mere matter of separation of the colonies from the motherland, but the sentiment in the Declaration of Independence which gave liberty not alone to the people of this country, but hope to all the world, for all future time."

How is freedom valued in our land today? In every section of our country we are viewing the aftermath caused by riots, demonstrations, dissent, discriminations and protests of all types. The grievances are many. While some of these social, political, educational and moral upheavals have justifiable grounds for redress, some are outwardly disguised as worthy causes. A number of these organized groups are deceptively geared for the long range objective of undermining and dividing our nation.

When freedom lacks discipline, responsibility and respect for law and order, it eventually leads to excessive abuses. This twisted permissiveness also infringes on the just rights of all other people. Such uninhibited license is as bad and sometimes worse than tyranny, because it promotes disorder and strife. Liberty in its fullest meaning maintains a stable central course allowing all people to share in its unlimited opportunities. Only when these opportunities are

given a chance to blossom normally can men reach their fullest expression and creative growth.

Those forces which seek to deprive or regiment men's lawful liberties have always been and still are destruction to his happiness. Likewise those forces which abuse men's liberties and disregard long proven established standards are also detrimental to man's efforts to achieve a productive happy life.

How can these complex problems ever be resolved? If there is a prescription for the many conflicting human problems, it rests within the borders of the two greatest declarations ever created. Namely, "To love God above all things, and thy neighbor as thyself". In obedience to these laws man can find freedom from his most perplexing conflicts and his deepest fears. He can discover the truest dimension of independence.

When the human family reaches the plateau in understanding his relationship to these two laws, then we shall all develop the highest possible degree in human relations and behavior. Today, we are faced with what appears to be unsurmountable barriers in the complex structure of human affairs. However, these present obstacles dissolve completely when every individual will blend his daily living with the two above mentioned laws.

With fearless conviction, the courageous founders of this new nation emphatically declared that only God would be their king. This allegiance to a Divine power was the initial step which was to move America toward that ultimate historic hour with destiny when America shall "Confirm its soul in self control" and when "All success shall be nobleness and every gain Divine".

## Trust

Build a little fence of trust  
Around today...

Fill the space with loving work  
And therein stay.

Look not between the shelt'ring bars  
Upon tomorrow,

But take whatever comes to thee  
Of joy or sorrow.

Mary F. Butts

## Branch and Mission News

### Red Lake, AZ

We, of the Red Lake Branch, would like to extend the warmest of greetings to all our brothers and sisters and friends throughout the Church. We are sincerely grateful to those of you who have contributed so generously to our building fund. While we have not yet received enough funds to complete the building, we have sufficient amount to begin construction—which, God willing, we intend to do this Spring.

We have also received many wonderful letters of encouragement and support, which means more to us than you can possibly imagine. While it is true that our wealth of natural resources in the Church is limited, yet we have one very important resource to draw upon which is in abundant supply—the love of the saints. It is this love, coupled with the Spirit of God, which manifests itself in the kind of teamwork which makes any accomplishment within our grasp. We recognize more than ever before our need for the support of the balance of the Church.

I have always been impressed by how Christ, who was the Son of God himself, condescended from His lofty position to become a servant to mankind. We find Him going to the wedding in Cana, visiting the homes of Zacchaeus, Lazarus, Matthew and even of the Pharisees. Here He was the Son of God, and yet He did not expect the people to come to Him—on the contrary, He went to where they lived, becoming personally involved in the lives of many of them. This was reflected in the words of Christ to His Disciples, "Even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister . . ." (Matthew 20:28) This has certainly been an inspiration to us here. Many times we find ourselves preaching and testifying to the same people in Church over and over again. We have felt inspired to make a concerted and systematic effort to go out into the community and bring our urgent message to the people where they are rather than waiting for them to come to us.

What follows are some of the highlights of some of the efforts we

are making to reach into the lives of those around us:

#### 1. Thanksgiving Feast

Our traditional Thanksgiving Feast with the Red Lake Chapter featured a few changes this year. After eight years of hosting this dinner, they turned the tables on us by deciding they would host it and invite us this time. Actually, it is becoming less clear and less important each year who is really doing the hosting because we both share the responsibility of organizing it, and they have virtually accepted us as bona fide members of their community. Peter MacDonald, the Chairman of the Navajo Nation, was the guest of honor at this dinner. In his address to the Chapter people, he made special mention of our group. He commended us for our efforts to understand and assist his people. He then commented on the uniqueness of our friendship with them. He also said that our relationship with the Red Lake Chapter was an exemplary model of how a non-Navajo organization had come to their reservation to join forces with his people for their welfare, in contrast to many other groups whose presence on the reservation has been a detriment to their well-being. The Red Lake Chapter is one of over 100 communities on the Navajo Reservation, which are sub-units of the Tribe, as counties are to a state government.

#### 2. Executive Dinner Meeting

On November 20, 1981, we had a special meeting with the officers of the Red Lake Chapter. We had a very frank and profitable discussion with them concerning the planning and implementation of joint projects for the welfare of their community.

#### 3. Christmas Banquet

It seems that we don't even need an invitation any more for the traditional Christmas Banquet held by the Red Lake Chapter; they simply expect us to attend as any other member of their community. Once again, we were extended the opportunity to sing, pray and speak—our participation, of course, centered around the theme of Christmas.

#### 4. Christmas Concert Performance

We presented a medley of songs for the Christian Reformed Church. An all Navajo congregation received us very warmly and invited us to stay for refreshments where we had an opportunity to visit and become better acquainted.

#### 5. Counselor Training Workshops

Side by Side recently hosted a series of special workshops entitled, "How Can I Become a Better Helper in the Community?" They were held on January 30, February 6 and February 27 in Window Rock, Arizona. These sessions were designed to prepare the participants to be more effective counselors and helpers in the following areas: alcohol and drug abuse, family violence and disruptions, and family and individual counseling. Several professionals and para-professionals from the surrounding area as well as from the Church served as presentors in their field or expertise. These sessions were video taped and will be available soon for anyone interested in using them.

#### 6. Visits to the Jail and Hospital

We have continued our visits to the jail and hospital located on this part of the reservation as a regular part of our outreach program. It is difficult to actually measure the results of these visits, but many times they have asked us to come back or stay a little longer.

Every year we evaluate our past performance in order to set new goals and objectives for the future. Please continue to pray for us that we might be able to adequately reflect the high standards and truths embodied in The Church of Jesus Christ here amongst the Navajo people.

## Edison, NJ

*By Ruth Arcuri, Branch Editor*

We in Edison, New Jersey, have the privilege and pleasure of announcing two more baptisms in our branch. The Lord is truly blessing us by allowing us to grow as a branch.

Angelo Zaino and his wife, Lydia, called for their baptisms after visiting

us only a few times. They may not have been fully knowledgeable about all points of doctrine, but so great is their love for the Lord and His Church that they are eager to accept whatever the Church believes. We pray that God will bless them for their faith and trust.

Brother Angelo was baptized by Brother Art Searcy, and Sister Lydia was baptized by Brother Phil Arcuri. The morning of February 21, 1982, was rainy and cold, but the sun was shining in our hearts and souls. Brother Angelo was confirmed by Brother Phil, and Sister Lydia was confirmed by Brother Art.

We thank God for our new members, and we pray that He will always strengthen and bless them daily along with their three young children as they learn more about the new family of Christ that they have become a part of.

## Dallas, TX

*By Ralph Frammolino*

When Brother George Benyola stood up March 21 and said a blessing on his infant grand-daughter, Jessica, the saints here knew they were witnesses to two mighty miracles of God.

A man who had been close to death was holding a child who shouldn't have lived.

Jessica was born February 2, the first child for Tony and Christie Benyola and the first grandchild for Brother George and Sister Stella Benyola. But their joy soon turned to grief when the baby lost her healthy color and turned blue after only a couple of hours of life.

The doctors found cause for alarm. After examining Jessica, they told the Benyolas that she had a heart defect. The baby's circulatory system had not developed correctly, and instead of two main arteries leading from the heart to the lungs, Jessica had only one. The doctors could only correct the problem with open-heart surgery, yet Jessica was too young to withstand the shock.

The prognosis: Within three

weeks, blood would overwhelm Jessica's tiny lungs and she would die of a massive heart attack.

Immediately, the brothers and sisters here went into fasting and prayer. The saints in Detroit, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, California—all over the Church—were alerted and began petitioning God on Jessica's behalf.

The doctors insisted on performing a heart catheterization. The process allows the doctors to insert a tube through a blood vessel and inject dye into the heart. The test seemed to reveal nothing new and the doctors repeated their gloomy predictions.

But late the next night, Tony received a call from the head physician. He informed Tony that the doctors decided to look at the pictures from the test one more time. They examined every frame carefully, even running the series of pictures backwards. They were amazed.

"We found a tiny blood vessel, a tiny artery where an artery shouldn't be," he said. The doctor explained that the artery ran from the heart to one of Jessica's lungs. It was large enough to help distribute the blood properly, he added.

Jessica improved from that point on, regaining her color and breathing so well that nurses removed her from the oxygen tent. She was discharged from the hospital February 12. She survived without the aid of an operation.

That was miracle number one.

God moved His Hand a second time on behalf of Brother George. On February 21, he woke up and prepared himself for another Sunday service. He is the only elder in the Dallas Mission.

However, something went wrong when he walked outside to pick up the newspaper on his front porch. As he bent down, he became very dizzy. He walked inside and to the bedroom. There was a tightness in his chest and his skin was clammy. He had all the classic symptoms of a heart attack. Despite his desire to lead the service, Brother George was unable to get up from the bed.

Later that night, at the urgings of Sister Stella and the other brothers

and sisters, Brother George went to the hospital. The doctors took one look at him, studied his pulse, and immediately sent him to the intensive care ward. They put wires on his chest and placed him on a monitor.

The doctors feared for his life. They confided afterwards that they expected Brother George to suffer a massive heart attack sometime Monday or Tuesday, February 22 or 23. The staff was just waiting for that fateful moment.

The saints in Dallas, still recovering from the ordeal with Jessica, again fell to their knees. Calls again reached coast to coast, and the Church was in prayer for our brother.

On February 24—exactly two weeks to the day Jessica underwent her tests—doctors ordered a heart catheterization for Brother George. They were looking for damage that might have been caused by what seemed to be an impending heart attack.

They found none.

Unsatisfied, the doctors transferred Brother George to another hospital and ordered a stress test. This is a procedure requiring a person to walk and then run up an inclined, moving belt—much like a jogging machine at a health club. When the results were in, the doctors couldn't believe it; Brother George's heart responded like an 18-year-old's.

"Whatever was wrong with you is gone," they told him. He was discharged February 26, weakened but out of danger.

Miracle number two.

So it was with particular relish that we looked on in March as the blessing was performed on Jessica Benyola by Brother George. The child will be a living testimony of the absolute power of God. And Brother George, who was spared while four people died around him in the intensive care ward, has yet another blessing for which to be thankful.

The saints in Dallas wish to express our deepest gratitude to all our brothers, sisters and friends who offered their sincere prayers in our time of need. The plight of Jessica even touched those outside the bounds of the Church. One man, a

minister of another faith who was employed at a Dallas-area shop, stopped production during the day and asked people to kneel as he prayed for Jessica.

Yes, we are tried and our faith is stretched. But we of the Restored Gospel can certainly echo the words of that woman, whose faith in God helped her cope with the hideous atrocities of the extermination camps during World War II: "There is no pit so big, that He is not bigger still."

## Erie, PA

Brother George A. Kovacic of the Erie Mission was ordained into the office of a teacher on April 4, 1982.

His feet were washed by his brother, Brother Mark S. Kovacic, and he was ordained by his grandfather, Brother Timothy D. Bucci.

Brother George was baptized into the Church on May 22, 1968. May God continue to bless him as he fulfills the duties of his ordained office in the Church.

## Monongahela, PA

*By LuAnn Scaglione, Branch Editor*

The Monongahela Branch was not only full of visitors on February 28, 1982, but more important, the church was filled with the Spirit of God. Brothers and sisters from Michigan, Ohio, and many branches in Pennsylvania enjoyed a beautiful day of blessings and fellowship.

Musical selections were sung by the Aliquippa trio, the Monongahela girls quartet, and a duet from Monongahela. The morning service was opened by Brother Frank Morle, who read from Titus 2 concerning sound doctrine. In verses one through eight, sound doctrine is defined to be sober, sound in faith, charity, and patience, teaching good things, discreet and sincere, so that others can have no evil thing to say of us. Brother Morle urged us to ask ourselves, "Who am I?" Then he said we should let others tell us who we

are. If we live right, upholding sound doctrine, then others who know us will say we are righteous, having "no evil thing to say of us." Brother Morle continued by telling how thankful he is for the Church, and stating that God has taken each one of us out of the world and put us on a higher plane. The Church should try more to compete with the activities of the world because the Church has much to offer all people. After a few comments from Brother Paul Palmieri, the morning service was closed in prayer. Lunch was provided by the Monongahela Branch and gave the opportunity for all to fellowship with one another.

At the beginning of the afternoon meeting, the Voyagers, a group of very young people from Monongahela, honored us with a few hymns. Brother Paul Palmieri opened the service, speaking about audible praise. He chose for his text Psalms 18, which reads, "I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised." Brother Paul then reminded us of the many things God has given us such as his ordinances. The Lord deserves to be praised and loved and trusted. In conclusion, Brother Paul stated that he looks forward to seeing God face to face and praising Him for The Church of Jesus Christ. As a beautiful spirit of testimony prevailed throughout the remainder of the meeting, the blessings overflowed. At the close of the meeting, Brother Palmieri thanked the Monongahela Branch for their hospitality and extended an invitation for all to visit Aliquippa. Reluctantly, the meeting was brought to a close. All went home feeling that their cups were filled by God's holy Spirit.

The Spirit of God continued to be with us throughout our MBA service, also. Brother Jim Grazan spoke enthusiastically, stating that the Church is now at a high point. Although small in number, it can be powerful if all members are dedicated. In the task of the Church, missionary work, we will be a success! But nothing happens until we cause it to happen. Brother Jim then admonished us to use our talents so that they may be multiplied. We must share with the world, teaching them the love of God. The world is full of fear, and we as a Church must dispel their fear. It was stressed that because God is working with us, there will be a bright future.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9.....

*Editorial Viewpoint . . .***The Wages of Sin Is Death***By Dominic Moraca, Guest Editorialist*

The Apostle Paul's profound expression is true not only of the spiritual death, but also the temporal as well. Those who persist in sin not only stand to lose their soul's salvation, but often die terrible and premature deaths. The people of Sodom and Gomorrah are a good example of how they brought upon themselves and their land total destruction and death.

The region around the Dead Sea is a vast desert extending as far as Beersheba. When you get near the sea, you can see Mount Usdum honed out of a layer of salt 164 feet thick. Further on one can see the sulphurous waters, the bushes bearing ash-colored fruits, the stone blocks piled in masses of asphalt, and the awesome and imposing desolation of this region. These sites are a reminder of the cities which will ever serve as an example of God's ire. All its soil is nothing but sulphur and salt, a burnt-out waste, unsown and unfruitful, without a blade of grass. We are told in the Bible how righteous Lot was saved from God's wrath, but his wife, who disobeyed, became a pillar of salt. Today there yet remains a testimony to their sinful ways and how the wages of sin was death. Remaining today, is a smoking desert, plants bearing fruit that never ripens, and the tomb of a disbelieving soul, a standing pillar of salt.

The words of Isaiah concerning Edom are true also of this area:

*Edom's rivers shall be turned to pitch,  
And her dust into sulphur;  
Her land shall become a burning sulphur,  
It shall not be quenched night or day,  
Its smoke shall arise forever.  
From generation to generation it shall lie waste,  
None shall pass through it forever and ever;  
The cormorant and the bittern shall possess it,  
The owl and the raven shall possess her;  
God shall stretch upon her the line of confusion,  
And she shall be stones of emptiness;  
Her nobles shall be no more,  
Her princes shall be nothing;  
She shall be overrun with thorns,  
And her fortresses with thistles and briers,  
She shall be an habitation of dragons and a court for owls.  
Wild beasts shall meet with desert beasts,  
There the hoot owl shall nest and lay eggs.*

Today we see that the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah, the sins of old Babylon and ancient Rome, are the sins of some of our modern cities. We can only assume that God, who never changes, will pay the same wages today to the sinful inhabitants of our modern cities as He did upon the ancients.

Although this is a frightful thought to ponder, we can find comfort in the knowledge that the wages of righteousness is the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Moreover, all those who live Godly in Christ Jesus, are living testimonies of the goodness of God and the truthfulness of the words of the Book of Mormon: "... Moreover, I would desire that ye should consider on the blessed and happy state of those that keep the commandments of God. For behold, they are blessed in all things, both temporal and spiritual; and if they hold out faithful to the end they are received into heaven, that thereby they may dwell with God in a state of never-ending happiness. O remember, remember that these things are true; for the Lord God hath spoken it."

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
Kenneth L. Staley  
301 Pine Drive  
Alliquippa, Pa. 15001

ASSISTANT  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
Thomas Ross  
260 Division St. Ext.  
Alliquippa, Pa. 15001

MANAGING EDITOR  
Joseph Ross

ASSISTANT  
MANAGING EDITOR  
Richard Scaglione

EDITORIALISTS AND  
CONSULTANTS  
Paul Palmieri  
John Ross  
John Manes

OFFICE MANAGER  
Cathy Gentile

TYPISTS  
Janet Gibson  
Sharon Staley

CIRCULATION MANAGER  
Janet Buffa

GMBA EDITOR  
Ryan G. Ross  
305 Pine Dr.  
Alliquippa, Pa. 15001

GENERAL CIRCLE  
EDITOR  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Alliquippa, Pa. 15005

## DISTRICT EDITORS

ARIZONA  
Dick Ackman  
8403 E. Piccadilly Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

ATLANTIC COAST  
Joseph Perri  
3 Elizabeth Ct.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

CALIFORNIA  
Kenneth R. Jones  
4682 El Rancho Verde Dr.  
LaPalma, Calif. 90626

FLORIDA  
Elsie M. Emsana  
1921 S. E. Erwin Road  
Port St. Lucie, Fl. 33452

OHIO  
Joel T. Calabrese  
2722 Collins Drive  
Lorain, Ohio 44053

MICHIGAN-ONTARIO  
Louie Pietrangelo  
5522 Bluehill  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

PENNSYLVANIA  
Malcolm Paxon  
5304 Adobe Drive  
Baldwin, PA 15236

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BUSINESS OFFICE  
8423 Boettner Rd.  
Bridgewater, MI 48115  
313 429-5080

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock



## The Children of Noah

Dear Girls and Boys,

Noah, the ark-builder, safely carried animals and people with him through the great flood. Within a few hundred years, his children had children and they had children, and thousands of people, all related, spoke the same language. These people moved to the land of Shinar together. They found a flat piece of land and said to each other, "Go, let us make brick and build us a city and a tower whose top may reach unto heaven, and let us make a name for ourselves lest we be scattered around the face of the whole earth."

The Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the children of Noah had built. And the Lord said, "Behold, the people are together; they have one language, and see what they begin to do. Now they will do anything they have imagined to do. I will confound their language and scatter them upon all the face of the earth."

One of these tower-builders was a man named Jared. He had a brother, a large and mighty man, who was very close with the Lord. Jared told his brother, "Cry unto the Lord, that He will not confound us so that we will not understand our words." And it came to pass that the brother of Jared did cry unto the Lord, and the Lord cared for them and did not confound their language. Then Jared told his brother, "Cry again unto the Lord, ask him not to be angry with our friends, and perhaps he won't confound their language also."

The Lord heard the brother of Jared's pleas. The city was full of neighbors and families all not able to understand the simplest questions of one another. You can imagine how

grateful the families of Jared and their friends were to understand each other.

Now Jared was a thinking man. He told his brother, "Go, ask the Lord whether He will drive us out of the land, and if He will drive us out, cry unto Him and ask where He will send us. Who knows, perhaps He will take us to a land that is the best above all the whole earth, and if the Lord agrees, we then must be faithful so we can keep it."

The brother of Jared went and cried and prayed to the Lord. The Lord was pleased and told him He would bless him and Jared and raise up a great, great nation from their children's children. The Lord said there would be no nation greater than that nation on the earth, and He told him that He was doing this because of the long time that the brother of Jared had cried unto Him.

The Lord told them to gather flocks of animals, male and female of every kind. He told them to bring birds from the air, and containers to hold fish. They found ways to also carry swarms of wild bees, and every kind of seeds. These tower-builders were the first settlers in the Americas after the flood. Carrying much with them, they were on their way to a land choice above all other lands, a land preserved for a righteous people, a land of promise.

Sincerely,  
Sister Jan

### WORD SEARCH

All the people of this world are children of great-great-great (on and on) grandfather Noah. We are all also

in the great big family of God. Find the following words in the word search of our cousins:

U K C H I N A	Canada
I A I G R M D	America
T F N E E B A	Africa
A R D R L A N	China
L I I M A R A	India
Y C A A N A C	German
A A I N D I A	Arab
	Italy
	UK
	Ireland

## Young People Ask

By John Griffith

Dear Brother John,

*I have trouble being kind to people who don't like me or who knowingly have tried to hurt me in some way. How should I respond to them?*

As a fellow human being, I can share with you these types of feelings. It isn't odd that you feel discomfort when someone tries to take advantage over you or when it becomes obvious of an individual, possibly a close friend, attempting to discredit you, neglecting to recognize your feelings, etc. We can go on and on listing ways in which we can be hurt. It isn't odd, it's human. No one wants to be hurt, but it does happen. I suppose it is fair to say that one should expect it from time to time.

Life to me is a series of interactions, people with people. How we individually deal with these interactions tells others who we really are, what we stand for, our beliefs, our attitudes.

It's easy and comes natural to lash back. But this is where the knowledge of God helps us. If we believe in His word and hold fast to the teachings of Jesus Christ, we as individuals grow to become something that is greater than just being human. We grow into the stature of a Godly creation, someone who, in the end, is more highly respected, someone who is sought after for friendship and closeness of companionship, someone who is stable and consistent; all those

sought after virtues become ours as we yield to the enticements of God's spirit.

"Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you. Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also." Luke 6:27-29. Everything that we are told does not come natural. It is not man/woman's nature to react in such a way. Do you want to be natural or God-like?

"But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also." Matthew 5:39-40. The word of God surely differs greatly from our natural reaction, "Let's get him! I'll make her pay for that!" But do we want to be natural or God-like?

Dear friend, never avenge yourself, leave it to God. He has the right temperament to handle that. Be clothed in sincere compassion one towards the other. Be kind, gentle, meek, and long-suffering. The Lord has forgiven each of us for our mistakes; shouldn't we forgive others of theirs?

Don't allow yourself to be overpowered by evil. Rather, take the offensive; overpower evil with good.

"For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them. And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same. And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil." Luke 6:32-35.

Allow the Gospel of Jesus Christ to shine through you. Don't be satisfied with being natural, be God-like.

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If you have a question or comment, please write. Share your thoughts with each other. We are our brother's keeper. God bless you.

Write: Young People Ask  
The Church of Jesus Christ  
Sixth & Lincoln Sts.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

## MBA Highlights

### May GMBA 1982: Business As . . . Unusual

*By Ryan Gene Ross, GMBA Editor*

Flash! Here is another bulletin from the WMBA newsroom: "GMBA Conference in New Brunswick, New Jersey is spent in not only business, but an afternoon of testimony, a creative evening program by the Atlantic Coast Choir, and a Sunday service that featured six speakers!"

This news bulletin is actually a take-off on the Saturday evening program format that focused on service to God in our troubled times by using a news station broadcast team from W"MB". It consisted of both young and old men and women. They spoke of many of the problems we hear, see and read about in the day to day news. But for each problem, they gave an answer in a song. Truly, all in attendance enjoyed themselves listening to the choral selections.

Earlier in the day, GMBA President, Brother Donald Ross, greeted a small, but Church-wide group representing Florida, Michigan-Ontario, Ohio, Pennsylvania and the host Area, Atlantic Coast. Reports were received from several officers concerning Book of Mormon lesson plans, Book of Mormon Concordance, GMBA finances and the camp procurement committee. Brother Bob Nicklow, Jr., this year's camp director, reported progress on GMBA Campout 1982.

So why was business unusual? Well, during the afternoon session, a vigorous discussion concerning proposed campsites for 1983 and 1984

seemed destined to reach an impasse. But, the seemingly divided congregation suddenly united in thought on the goal of our campouts: that a campout should provide people (young especially, but not exclusively) an opportunity to experience the Gospel and a personal relationship with Christ in an informal, undisturbed atmosphere.

Prompted by the Spirit of God, Brother Ross turned the meeting over for testimony, and truly, a blessing was felt in the experiences related by several brothers and sisters. Hymns were sung, and the assembly dismissed with the pleasant spirit. Campsites proposed for 1983 and 1984 will be resolved in November.

All in all, the conference was a success, and we are looking forward first to a successful campout in July 3-10 (forms are readily available) and second to a good GMBA Conference in November.

## 50th Anniversary



Filomena Cerone was honored with a special tribute on Mother's Day, May 9, 1982 by the congregation of the Lorain Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. To commemorate her 50th Anniversary, Sister Filomena was presented with a lovely corsage by the brothers and sisters of the Branch.

Sister Filomena Cerone was born on December 21, 1897 in Hudson, Ohio. She was baptized into the Church on November 8, 1931 by Brother Leonard Alessio and confirmed by Brother Patsy Fyre on the same date. She married Brother Frank Thomas in July of 1933 and

became mother to his four motherless children: Sisters Anna Lovalvo, Vickie Calabrese, Christina Taormino (deceased), and Brother Dominic Thomas, the current President of the Church.

On April 22, 1945, after being widowed, she married Louis Cerone. Sister Filomena has been a very devoted and loving sister to all who know her. She has exemplified the basic tenets and beliefs of the Church.

## 50th Anniversary

By Joseph A. Ignagni, Branch Editor



Brother Pietro Scolaro  
Sister Florence Tonachella  
Brother Michelangelo Gioia

April 25 was a special day at Detroit Branch 1. Sister Florence Tonachella, Brother Michelangelo Gioia, and Brother Pietro Scolaro celebrated fifty years in the Church. It was a day spent reminiscing about past events, but one which gave all those who were present inspirations for the future.

Brother Peter Scolaro opened the meeting by speaking about the great advances the Church was making in Detroit in 1932. In that year Branch 1 had 81 baptisms. That total included 18 baptisms in May and 17 in July. There were also 51 children blessed that year, several of whom are present members of Branch 1. Brother Peter began discussing Alma 26 and the importance of letting God direct us. He pointed out how the Nephites thought it was unwise for Ammon to go and preach to the Lamanites. Ammon, however, ig-

nored the logic of men, and instead allowed God to guide him, which eventually led to the conversion of many Lamanites.

The morning service continued with Brother Nick Pietrangelo recounting the parable of the prodigal son. Brother Nick explained how pride can easily get in our way and become a stumbling block. People often do not want to admit they are wrong. However, as was shown in this parable, if one can overcome this pride and ask to be forgiven, our Heavenly Father will gladly receive him. The morning meeting was dismissed after we stood and sang, *Calling the Prodigal*.

The afternoon service began with Sister Florence, Brother Pietro, and Brother Michelangelo giving their testimonies. They each told of how the Spirit of God had led them to the Church. All three were very grateful for the blessings they had received and expressed the desire to continue to praise the Lord until they go on to their heavenly reward. All of their families were then asked to step forward and to sing a hymn. Approximately 35 people went up front and sang, *Sweeter As The Years Go By*.

The meeting was then left open for testimony. Several brothers and sisters got up and testified about how as children, they remembered their parents joining the Church approximately fifty years ago, and how this greatly affected their lives. Brother Peter Scolaro got up and left us with a few final thoughts. He reminded us that whatever happened fifty years ago could once again happen today. God certainly hasn't changed in the last fifty years, but maybe we have. He then asked the young people to come forward and sing the closing hymn, *Zion's Border Line*.

During the morning meeting, Brother Vince Mulla was inspired to write a poem which captured the sentiments of the Branch:

*In nineteen hundred and thirty-two  
To serve the Lord, Jesus called you.  
The life of Christ you chose and sought*

*Thru many battles fought,  
Though years have passed,  
Your praises to God will last.  
The golden prize you've won  
Of fifty years well done.*

## 61st Anniversary

By Joseph Perri



Brother Eugene Perri, Sr.

My wife and I recently visited my parents in Jupiter, Florida, and while we were there, I had the opportunity to spend time with my dad and to have many hours listening to his experiences of when he was a boy in Italy. He told me how God miraculously saved him while he was a soldier in the Italian Army, how God provided a way for him to come to America where he met with his natural sister, Sister Carmela Alessio (now deceased), and the way the Lord brought the Restored Gospel into his life.

He was baptized into the Church in 1921. As I listened, I marvelled the way God worked in his life. He has spent 61 years serving God in The Church of Jesus Christ. Since he was ordained an elder in 1922, 60 years ago, then an evangelist in 1923, God has blessed him along with other brothers of the Priesthood in establishing the Church here in the Atlantic Coast. He labored much in bringing souls into the Gospel. He told of how God would speak to him and send him to homes to preach the Gospel. Of all the Priesthood who labored in establishing the work here in the New Jersey, New York Area, he alone remains to tell the historical facts of the early Church.

He expresses gratitude to God for granting him these many years. If God permits, Christmas Day, this year, he will be 85 years young. A good number of brothers and sisters who have heard him preach as of late, have told me that his knowledge of

the scripture is amazing.

Focusing on Father's Day, I'm so thankful to have a father like him, and I certainly appreciate how he taught me in my youth to love the Lord. My prayer is that God will continue to grant him life so that he can still be a blessing to my mother and to us who are his children and to the members of the Church in the Florida District.

Too often we fail to respect and honor our fathers and brothers of the Priesthood of the Church, especially those who are up in years. We wait until the time of death to remember all the good they have done. I'd like to pay tribute to my dad while he is still alive, and I want to tell him how much I love him and appreciate all he has done and given me.

I often feel this way, if at their passing my parents leave me nothing that is tangible, they have given me the best that anyone could want, the greatest treasure in the world, The Church of Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul in addressing the Corinthian Church writes: "For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers". Brother Eugene Perri, Sr. is not only my natural father, but he is also my spiritual father, having been a good example to me.

Those who may read this article and may have a father who is living, I urge you to honor, love and respect him, along with our older brothers of the Priesthood who are still with us and who have been spiritual fathers to us. Let us tell them what they mean to us while they are still living. God bless them all.

I write this article with no other thought in mind but to thank God for the wonderful father he has given to me.

I'd like to use the words of the First Psalm in closing :

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth

forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish."

My dad's delight is in the law of the Lord and in his law he meditates day and night. It would be impossible to write the many experiences he related to me.

## MONONGAHELA, PA CON'T...

The meeting was then left open for remarks. It was brought out that we should be more known in our communities. As a Church we have much to offer, but we must have unity within to work on the outside. Brother Grazan asked what two things we need in order to progress in our task. Before starting any work, it is necessary to have preparation and faith. We have to be made aware of our negatives so that we can turn them into positives. Then The Church of Jesus Christ will be a success. In closing the meeting, Brother Malcolm Paxon, local president, commented on the meetings throughout the day. It was truly a day enjoyed by all; our cups had overflowed with the blessings of God.

## San Diego, CA

The year, 1981, was a good one filled with many blessings for the San Diego Branch. During the year, we had many visitors from within the California District along with many from other parts of the nation.

Along with the joy of visitors, our branch was blessed with five baptisms. Brother Mark and Sister Susan Coppa asked for their baptisms in the spring, and Brother Rafael Morro, brother of Brother Luis Pacheco of Tijuana, called for his baptism on Mother's Day. During the 1981 Oak Glen Campout, Sister Laura Dulisse

and Brother Tom Liberto were baptized. All of these young people are a great asset to our branch, and we thank God for their desire to love and serve Him and ask that we all pray for them and others throughout the Church.

We also acquired new members to our branch by way of brothers and sisters relocating to the San Diego area. Brother Jonathan and Sister Pam Molinatto, through the grace of the U.S. Navy, moved here during the summer and shortly thereafter blessed our branch with twin boys, Jonathan Ross and David Peter. Later in the year, Brother Ken and Sister Diane Surdock, along with their children, Sister Dina, Darron and Christopher, returned to San Diego after being in the Red Lake, Arizona area for four years. We welcome them all to our branch.

Our branch experienced a sadness this year in the passing away of one of our elder brothers, Brother James V. Velardi. He will be missed in our branch. Brother Jim had served the Lord faithfully for over 50 years.

Members in the San Diego Branch have been experiencing many blessings by attending the meetings and witnessing the baptisms in the new work in Mexicali, Baja Ca., Mexico. The new mission is visited twice a month by Brother Luis Pacheco and other brothers from the district.

The San Diego Branch has been blessed over and over again this past year and hopefully the blessings and love of God will continue to shower over the Church as a whole. The San Diego brothers and sisters are very thankful for everything that God has bestowed upon us.

## Lake Worth, FL

*By Terri Benyola*

We travelled to Brighton Indian Reservation on Christmas Day in time for the feast, delivering some 200 gifts and many boxes of clothing and food. We felt welcome upon our arrival and received a great blessing that will long be remembered.

We ate with our Indian friends, a delicious meal, and then they asked us to come forward and have a place in the program. We sang several

hymns, and then Brother Gene Perri, Jr. spoke a few words regarding the love of God and the joy of giving. We sang *Amazing Grace* and were led in prayer by Brother John D'Orazio.

Many Indians present then came forward and sang to us in Creek Indian, *Amazing Grace*, which was a very touching experience. They then presented a gift to Brother Gene and Sister Flo Perri, indicating they wished they could give a gift to each of us.

This response of love was more than we had hoped for, and as we played with the children and mingled with the group while they opened our gifts, they also presented some of the gifts to our own children.

As we departed, we certainly had to thank God for his "amazing grace" which afforded us this beautiful experience.

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On March 14, 1982, the saints were blessed with many visitors, Brothers Paul and Frank Vitto from Detroit, Michigan, Brother Ralph and Sister Jean Frammolino from Dallas, Texas, and Brother Al Coney from Detroit.

During our meeting, we had five visitors who came in off the street. Brother Paul Vitto opened the meeting by reading from Hebrews 11:1 concerning faith and how necessary it is to our service to God. He also brought to our remembrance how Lehi and his family used faith as their spiritual sight in coming to this land. Several other scriptural references of faith being used as spiritual sight were brought forth and related to our own lives.

Brother Frank Vitto then read from the Book of Ether, how the brother of Jared was privileged to see the finger of God because of his faith. He then pointed out how we put our own faith in men for our every day decisions instead of putting our faith in God. The development of our faith, with God's help, is essential to our spiritual growth and takes time and effort to cultivate. Brother Frank also pointed out how, along with our faith, we must cry unto the Lord if we want to see Him move more in our lives.

At the close of our meeting, we could surely say that our brothers

spoke with the power and authority of God. At the end of this day we can say that our cups were overflowing with God's wonderful love and spirit.

## Tampa, FL

By Pearl Zinzi

January 31, 1982, was a blessed day for the Tampa Branch members and visitors as this was a day set aside for fasting and prayer and also the ordinations of Brother Sam Risola, Jr. in which a good feeling prevailed.

The regular service was then begun with Brother Duane Lowe, our Presiding Elder, giving a few opening remarks and then turning over the meeting to Brother Charles (Chuck) Smith from Fort Pierce, Florida, Branch, who was visiting us. Brother Smith used St. John 11 about the raising up of Lazarus for his text.

Before the ordinations, we sang *To the Work*, while Brother Doug Obradovich, who also was visiting us, prepared the basins for the feet washing of the new candidates. Brother Duane Lowe read from the Minister's Manual the duties of a teacher and deacon. What a wonderful feeling we enjoyed when Brother Sam Risola, Sr. washed his son's feet and Brother Doug Obradovich washed Brother Ike Smith's feet.

Brothers Lowe, Tucker, Griffith, Risola and Smith then formed a circle around the new candidates. Brother Griffith ordained Brother Risola, Jr. and Brother Smith ordained Brother Ike Smith. A wonderful blessing was felt by all during the ordinations. As it is written, "It was good to be in the house of the Lord."

## Lorain, OH

By Renee Alessio

The Lorain Branch is delighted to announce that three of our members have given the greater portion of their lives to serving the Lord and quite a few years of dedicated service to the Church. The combined years of service total 155. Their determination and faithfulness throughout the years have been good examples to us.

Sister Nancy DeCredico was bap-

tized May 9, 1920, accounting for 62 years in the Church. Sister Filomena Cerone, who was baptized November 8, 1931, just marked her 50th spiritual year. Sister Vera Naro, who was baptized November 20, 1938, celebrated her 43rd year in the Church.

We praise the Lord for keeping our sisters in His care and pray that He will continue to bless them in the future.

## Niles, OH

By Kathy Brooks, Branch Editor

On January 31, 1982, Brother Joe Calabrese and his companion, Sister Vicki, visited our branch in Niles, and the Spirit of God was with us throughout the day.

Our morning began with a talk from Brother Calabrese in our Sunday School about his recent trip to India with Brother Swanson. We realized that the trip would be an historical event and the importance of it to our future as a Church, so we took advantage of every minute with our brother. Our brothers were protected by holy messengers of God, and along with our brothers, we are thankful. As we listened to the many experiences both naturally and spiritually, we were reminded of our lives here in this blessed land. The Lord truly strengthened and guided our brothers every step of the way.

Once again, we were reminded of the great contrast between our land and theirs. We should be grateful for our country and our God and for the many blessings He bestows upon us as His people.

As Brother Joe continued with a few more experiences, we felt the sincerity of the brothers and sisters there in India. One of the experiences that touched our hearts is when Brother Dev was ordained. Brother Joe had asked Brother Dev how he felt when his feet were being washed, and Brother Dev replied, "I felt a pain in my heart." What a beautiful expression of humility.

It was definitely good to be in the house of the Lord that day. The young as well as the old thank Brother Joe for the time and effort he and Brother Swanson put forth. God has surely

blessed those who labor to bring our Church forward in these the latter days.

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On March 14, 1982, in the Niles, Ohio Branch, we had showers of blessings from heaven. Brother Brian Martorana was ordained a teacher in The Church of Jesus Christ.

The day began early in the

morning for those who wished to gather for prayer. By Sunday School, there were over 100 to be found in the house of God. Visitors from Lorain, Kent, Warren, Kinsman, Erie, Imperial and Windsor were among the many to praise God on that Sabbath Day.

The morning meeting was opened by Brother Frank Calabrese, using Acts 2. Brother Frank was inspired to bring forth, through this chapter, our personal identity and the importance of being identified with the Church.

Brother Jim Moore, Jr. then followed with many experiences and a plea to the unbaptized to unite themselves with the people of God.

The afternoon meeting was introduced by Brother Joseph Genaro with Brother Ron Genaro following with a few words of how we must follow our school master (Jesus Christ). The gift of tongues was spoken and the interpretation was, "I will be with you, I will be with you," referring especially to Brother Brian.

Brother Bob Ciarrochi then described the duties and responsibilities of a teacher in the Church. Brother Bob also mentioned of how the Lord has called, "And he gave some apostles, and some, prophets; and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Ephesians 4:11-12

As Brother Brian prepared for feet washing, Brother Ron made mention that Brother Lou Pandone, also a teacher, felt to wash our brother's feet. The elders then gathered around Brother Brian for the ordination, and while we sang the hymn, *Ye Who Are Called to Labor*, one of our brothers in the ministry was taken in the spirit and spoke to Brother Brian saying, "An angel of God is here at this moment and he shall bless my brother and he will guide him all the days of his life and no harm will fall upon him as long as he follows the commandments and teachings of God. Brother Brian, there is much work to be done, there is much work saith the Lord."

Brother Bob Ciarrochi felt to offer a word of prayer before the ordination in behalf of our brother. Brother Russ Martorana ordained Brother Brian with a truly inspired prayer.

The Lord's Supper was then administered and a season of testimony followed. Many beautiful experiences and testimonies, confirming Brother Brian's calling, were brought forth.

We are truly grateful for the Spirit of the Lord and His confirmations. Our prayers are that you might continue to remember the Niles Branch and Brother Brian in your prayers as he takes on this added responsibility. We know that in these latter days there is much work to be done, and we continue to give God all the honor and glory.

## Faces

By Donald Ross

Except for Jesus Christ, no greater personality walked the Americas than this prophet. He was true as steel, never wavering, full of integrity, faith and zeal. For example, he stated "the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them . . ." He was born of "goodly parents" and "taught somewhat in the learning" of his father. Also, he was the first writer in the *Book of Mormon*. His name—Nephi.

Nephi was a prophet of the first rank of the Lord. As all prophets, his trials were large, but he exhibited and maintained a zealous devotion to serve God. Nephi predicted events to come. He was a true revelator, interpreting dreams and making plain the teachings of the Gospel. In approximately 600 B.C., Nephi saw in a vision that many parts of the Gospel "which are plain and precious" were altered or removed from the Jewish scripture—the *Bible*. Nephi knew the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. He saw the baptism of Christ. A significant result of this experience, Nephi taught and preached the necessity of baptism.

A natural leader whose heart overflowed with compassion for his family and friends, Nephi humbly sought and secured God's direction in everything. Nephi spent his entire life preaching repentance. And yet he was a skilled craftsman. By divine guidance, he built a ship to carry his father's people to the Western Hemisphere. He fashioned tools and weapons; taught the women how to make wool and taught men how to build and farm.

Nephi was true to his heritage—courageous when confronted by danger—patient and loving with those who rejected his counsel—tireless in his opposition to evil. Many times he stood alone, while those he loved most abused, reviled and persecuted him. On several occasions, he pleaded with his brothers to repent and humble themselves before God. Sometimes he was successful.

In his youth he was visited by the Lord who told him that because of his devotion and faithfulness he would "be made a ruler and a teacher over thy brethren." Nephi was asked by his followers to be their king because of their love for him. He accepted, but did so with great reluctance.

Nephi's character is a study of charity. He stated that he had charity for the Jew and Gentile. Full of charity, he exclaimed, "I pray the Father in the name of Christ that many of us, if not all, may be saved in his kingdom at that great and last day." His faith was so great that he was confident that he would meet many spotless souls at the throne of God.

Due to his unwavering faith, Nephi's father, Lehi, told him ". . . and thou shalt be favored of the Lord, because thou hast not murmured." Was Nephi favored of the Lord? The only answer is yes. He saw the Lord; he saw the Apostle John; he heard the voices of the Father and the Son. What a man of faith!

## Metuchen, NJ

*By Jo Ann Arcuri*

The sun shone brightly upon the Metuchen, New Jersey Branch on Sunday, March 14, 1982, as we gathered to worship together and to witness the ordination of Brother Gary Ciccati to the office of teacher.

Our Presiding Elder, Brother Wally Cihomsky, opened the morning meeting with St. John 13, concerning feet washing. He reminded us that we must not only humble ourselves before our brothers and sisters, but

we must also humble ourselves to the world. We must take the time to listen and do God's will.

Brother Tony Vadasz, Sr. followed with the message that we must be sincere in our service to the Lord.

Brother Joe Arcuri could not be with us, as he was ministering to the Seed of Joseph in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

Brother Joe Perri, visiting from the Hopelawn Branch, opened our afternoon meeting in prayer. Brother Wally then read the duties of a teacher. Brother Ken Lombardo, Pre-

siding Teacher, washed the feet of Brother Gary, and he was ordained as a teacher in the Church through the laying on of hands by Brother Wally Cihomsky.

Brother Joe Perri expounded that there is much work to do and so few laborers. We all must work together, brother and sister alike, that when we stand before the judgment bar of God, we may give an account of our stewardship.

Remember Brother Gary in your prayers, as he strives to seek and do God's will.

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### ROBINSON—BRIGHT

Brother Paul Robinson and Sister Connie Bright were united in marriage on April 24, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Monongahela, Pennsylvania. Brother Alex Robinson, father of the groom, officiated, and Brother William Chepanoske assisted in the ceremony.

Musical selections were presented by George and Melissa Bright, and the groom, accompanied on the guitar by George Marynychak. Valerie Marynychak was organist for the occasion.

The newlyweds are residing in St. John, Kansas. May God bless them in their new life together.

### JOSEPHINE D'AMICO

Sister Josephine D'Amico departed from this life on April 2, 1982. She was a member of Branch No. 3 in Detroit, Michigan. She was born on March 4, 1915, baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on January 24, 1932, and held the office of a deaconess.

Sister Josephine is survived by one son, four daughters, eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, as well as four sisters and one brother.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Querino Bologna and Silverio Coppa.

Sister D'Amico will be greatly missed by Detroit Branch No. 3 and all who knew her.

### NUNZIATA (NANCY) DeCREDICO

Sister Nancy DeCredico, a member of the Lorain, Ohio Branch, passed to her eternal reward on May 19, 1982. She was born on March 24, 1901 and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on May 9, 1920. She was also ordained a deaconess in July, 1920.

Brothers Joseph and Frank Calabrese officiated at the funeral service.

Sister Nancy is survived by three sons, one daughter, three brothers and two sisters.

She spent the last fifteen years of her life in a rest home, and in spite of her handicap and limited speech, she never lost faith, but instead formed words and sang hymns of praise.

She was an example and inspiration to many.

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If a task is once begun  
Never leave it till it's done.  
Be the labor great or small,  
Do it well or not at all.

Unknown

## New Arrivals

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

Jamie Lee to Kim and Nancy Hemming of San Diego, California;

Ashley Ann to Tom and Cindy Kubala of Glassport, Pennsylvania;

George George Frank to George Frank and Agnes Otu Arthur of Ft. Pierce, Florida.

## OBITUARIES

*We wish to express our sympathy to those that mourn over the loss of loved ones. May God bless and comfort you.*

# The Gospel News

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

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August, 1982

## Mini-Conference and Ordination in Dallas, Texas

*By Sister Stella Benyola*

Brother Ralph Frammolino was ordained into the ministry May 30, climaxing a busy weekend for the saints in Dallas as we received visitors from Arizona, Detroit, New Jersey and California for the occasion.

One of the highlights during the weekend was witnessing Brother Ralph and his father, Brother Carl Frammolino, from the Detroit Inner-City Branch, pass sacrament for the first time together as elders in The Church of Jesus Christ.

We were also very blessed to have with us Sister Joanne, Brother Ralph's mother, who was able to make the trip from Michigan with her husband and Brother Ralph's grandparents, Brother Tony and Sister Nicoletta Lombardo. For the past several months, it looked doubtful that Sister Joanne would be able to come for the ordination, but God surely heard our prayers and gave her the strength to travel so far. How merciful God is.

The weekend of fellowship began with a special meeting Saturday night, May 29. In addition to our visitors from Michigan, we were happy to receive Brother Ike and Sister Bonnie Smith from Pinetop, Arizona, and Sister Stella Arcuri from Metuchen, New Jersey.

Brother Ike opened the special meeting with the theme, "What is the purpose of the Gospel today?" Using the words of Isaiah as his text,

Brother Ike remarked how the responsibilities and gifts of the Church will be passed on from generation to generation. Brother Carl followed on the theme, relating some of the many experiences he and his family have enjoyed throughout their years in the Church. A beautiful spirit of testimony prevailed and we enjoyed a special treat when Brother George Inyang, who is from Nigeria but has been worshipping with us for the past six months as he attends college near Dallas, sang a solo in his native tongue.

Before we realized it, the night had passed and we were back in church on Sunday morning. As a special blessing, we welcomed Brother V. James and Sister Mary Lovalvo from California. While they were not able to fly to Dallas in time for the Saturday night service, everyone certainly enjoyed their presence all throughout the Lord's Day.

To open the Sunday service May 30, the members of the Dallas Mission sang two selections they had practiced for weeks—*Greater Is He That Is In Me* and *Rise Again*. Brother Jim Lovalvo then sang a solo. Brother Carl opened the service with an exhortation to his son to follow the example of Paul, who wrote in Romans 1:16, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: For it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." Brother Jim followed, elaborating on the theme by depicting Paul before Agrippa. He also reminded us of the great respon-

sibility of a man in the ministry of Christ, admonishing Brother Ralph to fashion his life after Jesus Christ and to show the devotion of Paul after his calling.

Brother Ike, an ordained Evangelist of the Church, then washed Brother Ralph's feet, setting him apart for the ministry. Brother Carl performed the ordination. Everyone shared in the joy and love as we witnessed Brother Carl apply the Holy Oil and lay his hands upon the head of his young son and then ask for the power and authority of the priesthood to be pronounced upon Brother Ralph.

Following another season of testimony, Brother George Benyola, who has been the only elder in Dallas for the past nine years, told everyone about the good feelings he had from the very beginning about the calling of Brother Ralph. He said he felt that Brother Ralph would be a tremendous asset to the Dallas Mission and the entire Church.

The fellowship continued a little while longer as everyone enjoyed refreshments at the home of Brother George and Sister Stella Benyola Sunday afternoon.

A final meeting for elders only was held Sunday evening by Brother Jim Lovalvo. Brother Jim is one of the Apostles in charge of tutoring Brother Ralph during the first years of his ministry, and Brother Jim took this opportunity to give the first lesson. He spoke about the responsibilities

and duties of the priesthood, giving many good suggestions on how to speak and how to perform the ordinances of the Church.

The saints in Dallas wish to express their many thanks to all of our visitors for coming to Texas for this special service. We ask everyone to keep us in their prayers and say, in return, may God continue to bless you.

## Anaheim, CA Ordinations

By Shirley Pershin

On April 25, we had visitors from all parts of the Church. Brother Ken Jones and Brother Walt Jankowski were ordained elders. The meeting was opened in prayer by Brother Tom Jones. Fernando Rodriguez was blessed as prayer was offered by Brother Otto Henderson. His family is part of the Santa Ana Mission.

A trio consisting of Brother Ken Jones, Sister Diane Surdock and Sister Carrie Jankowski sang *Teach Me to Wait Lord*. This day was like a conference as our church was full.

Brother Rusty Heaps opened the morning service. He spoke of the joys and sorrows of our new ministers. He spoke on Samuel anointing Saul, on "the Lord seeth not as man seeth", during David's anointing and on the potter molding his vessel. He said the Church was the potter's house, for here we hear the word of God to mold our lives. Brother Rusty spoke of the change that would have to come into the lives of our two brothers, and they would have to go back on the potter's wheel to be used of God. Saul was anointed but would not be molded, and God was displeased.

Brother Tom Jones followed on Helaman speaking of the tens of thousands that came into the Church through much fasting and prayer and sincerity of heart.

Hands were laid upon Sister Carrie Jankowski by Brother Frank Ciotti and he offered prayer, and on Sister Bennie Jones, prayer was offered by Brother Otto Henderson.

Brother Walt Jankowski had his feet washed by Brother Lou Cicatti. Brother Ken Jones had his feet washed by Brother Del Carnival. The ministry then knelt in prayer before ordaining our brothers. As the words were prayed that God would direct whom He would to anoint our brothers, Brother John Huttenberger had a vision in which God revealed who would anoint our new elders. Brother Walt was ordained by Brother Rusty Heaps. Brother Ken was ordained by his brother, Brother Tom Jones. That sweet, sweet Holy Spirit rested over all of us like a blanket and caused us to weep tears of joy and love. May God's richest blessings abide with both of them. Their first ordinance was to administer Sacrament to the congregation. Brother Walt then spoke to us regarding our lives. His prayer was that he might bless God and he felt it was accomplished this day. Brother Ken then spoke and referred to the heavy load that has been placed on his shoulders for souls. He told of how his whole life is church and that is all he desires.

Sister Diane Surdock and Brother Ken Jones then sang, *This Is the Time I Must Sing*. It was beautiful. The meeting was then turned over to testimony. We praise God for the blessings we receive in His service.

## Ordination in Lake Worth, FL

By Carmella Mazzeo

Sunday, April 25, 1982, was a full and blessed day. The brothers and sisters from Hollywood met with us. Infant Michael Derrick Steven Radd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Radd of Lake Worth, was presented to his grandfather, Brother Michael Radd, to ask the Lord's blessing.

Brother Joe Catone, Jr. from Hollywood was then ordained an elder. His feet were washed by his father, Brother Joseph Catone, Sr. The ordination was performed by Brother Eugene Perri, Jr. Brother Joe was baptized on August 29, 1974, and was ordained as a teacher on March 1, 1981.

During the prayer for ordination, Sister Marilyn Carradi saw a glow around the Priesthood. It was so bright that it hurt her eyes. Sister Marilyn then closed her eyes and opened them again, then she saw Jesus standing there among the elders.

The testimonies were beautiful. Sister Louise Lloyd testified that she had received a clean bill of health from the doctors. Praise God, our sister was healed of cancer. God is so good. Afterwards our feet washing service was held. Needless to say, we went home filled with the love of God.

## News from Mexico

By Brother and Sister Perdue

It certainly was wonderful to meet so many brothers and sisters at the April Conference. Some we only knew by name. We want to thank all for the wonderful and warm reception given to us. It was a week we shall never forget. It was the first time in 27 years that we had a vacation together. All of our travels have been to places in Mexico to carry on the work further. We received some very nice letters from brothers and sisters whom we met at the Conference.

We just thank God for what He is doing in gathering the Seed of Joseph. We know that in the future there will be more missionaries going out from Tijuana into other parts of Mexico.

We have always taught all of our people in Tijuana that this is their Church and that they should take care of it. They know how to handle all of the affairs of the Church. We have now had three churches at Mission No. 1, and it is filled to capacity. On Wednesdays we have two different groups at different times. We have only had the last church built a little over two years ago. The first six months of this year we have had 15 baptisms. We just can't help marveling at what the Lord is doing. One sister had a dream in which the Lord told her that wherever He puts His Church, no one can move it as He is going to recover His people.

An Oaxacan sister had a dream where she saw Sister Perdue (repre-

sents the Church) in Oaxaca and she was surrounded by many people. Also there was a little child on each side of her. We feel the greatest work of all will be in Oaxaca. It is our desire to see that come true before the Lord calls us home. We already have the building at no cost to the Church to meet in. Also in the state of Nyarit we will have the land given to the Church at no cost to the Church.

We can surely say that we have seen the heavens open up and the glory of God fill the Church where almost everyone was crying and many people asking for their baptisms. We are getting many young people, for which we are very thankful, as they will be the Church of tomorrow.

We feel most unworthy that God would even notice us, and less that He would send us out. We thank Him and adore Him, and all that we have is His, and we are willing to go anywhere that He would send us. Our only desire in this life is to find souls for Him, and when our mission is completed, that He might take us home rapidly.

May God bless all of our brothers and sisters everywhere. Remember us in your prayers. We send you our love.

## Brother George Frank Arthur Graduates

*By Brother Joseph Bittinger*

Brother George Frank Arthur, former Executive Secretary for the Nigeria Church, arrived in the United States on August 9, 1979 to study at Bethune Cookman College, Daytona Beach, Florida. Pursuing his studies in Political Science with Public Administration, he received with honors his Bachelor of Arts Degree on April 26, 1982.

Prior to his graduation date he was offered admission to study for a Master of Science Degree in Public Administration at Florida State University, Tallahassee.

Brother George, with his family, moved from Daytona Beach to Tallahassee on May 8, 1982. The following

is his new address:

George Frank Arthur  
171-6 Brittain Drive  
Florida State Univer. Alumni Village  
Tallahassee, Florida 32304



Brother George Frank Arthur  
Brother Joseph Bittinger

His wife, Sister Agnes George F. Arthur, and daughter, Ima, joined him on December 2, 1980. On April 3, 1982, Sister Agnes gave birth to a male child given the name of George George Frank Arthur. The baby boy was blessed on May 2, 1982 by Brother Joseph Bittinger.

Brother George has five children now. Three of his children are with his uncle, Brother E.U.A. Arthur (Nigeria Church President).

Brother George's determination demonstrates great interest for the Church. His testimonies indicate that his higher education will be an instrument for the benefit of the Church not only in Nigeria, but everywhere the Church establishes.

Brother George has commended the brothers and sisters of the Florida District for their hospitality and spiritual strengthening. He wishes the Lord to bless all.

In attendance for the graduation service were Brother and Sister George Katsaras and son and Brother and Sister Joseph Bittinger. After witnessing the ceremony along with Sister Agnes Arthur and children, we

all returned to their apartment to visit with the family for a period of time. It is needless to say that they were overjoyed that we came for the program and to show our interest and love for them.

We were very happy and thankful to God that we could be present for this occasion. Our presence proved to be a spiritual uplift to our brother and sister in Christ who are members of The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria. We thank God for calling Brother Arthur and family into the Church years ago, and we thank Him for the love He has given us for our Nigerian brothers and sisters and for all people who obey the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ.

It was a day well spent and an occasion to be remembered by each of us. We wish the best of blessings for Brother George and his family.

## District Gathering in Florida

*By E. Ensana, District Editor*

A gathering was held in Florida at Ft. Pierce on Sunday, June 13. The meeting was in charge of District President, Brother Michael Radd. Prior to the opening of the meeting, groups from the various branches and missions presented various musical selections. The meeting was opened by our young, newly ordained elder from Hollywood, Brother Joseph Catone, Jr. We enjoyed his talk and the Lord did bless us all in the words that he gave to us. He spoke of "burdens" and of Jesus Christ. After prayer was offered by Brother Swanson, the hymn, *Jesus Took My Burden*, was sung. Brother Joe spoke of how everyone has burdens and how sad it is that there are many people who do not allow their Creator to enter into the hearts that He created. Brother Joe read a few verses from Isaiah 53, "He is despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, . . . and with his stripes we are healed." Yes, Jesus takes our burdens away and Brother Joe expressed himself that this is probably the most beautiful experience anyone can have. We each have a cross to bear and Christ will help us, although nobody helped Christ with the one He

bore. He bore it all alone. He invited all to open their hearts to Jesus and through Him we will find happiness.

Brother John D'Orazio of Lake Worth followed on the same subject and Brother Frank Rogolino of Ft. Pierce, Brother Duane Lowe of Tampa and Brother Alvin Swanson of Miami, also spoke. Several of the brothers and sisters gave their testimonies and sacrament was served.

Apostle for the Florida District, Brother Joseph Bittinger, made some remarks, and the meeting was brought to a close by singing, *We're Marching to Zion*. The singing of this hymn was beautiful, and we felt as the meeting closed, we surely had this day marched on somewhat further.

We thank God for a beautiful meeting, the beautiful words we heard, the glorious songs that were sung. The meeting was dismissed with prayer by Brother Anthony Ensana.

## Michigan-Ontario District Meeting

By Anthony J. Scolaro

On Sunday, May 2, 1982, the members of the Michigan-Ontario District assembled at the Southlake High School in St. Clair Shores, Michigan, for a day of worship and fellowship.

The morning service was opened by Brother Peter A. Scolaro, who chose *You Must Open the Door* as an opening hymn. He read from Alma 32:16 and spoke upon the blessed state of a willing servant of God, one who voluntarily humbles himself and seeks to do the Lord's will. Brother Peter contrasted this type of servant to the Israelites in Elijah's time who fell down and worshipped God only after seeing fire come down from heaven. Where was their faith? They only proclaimed the Lord to be God after there was no room for doubt. But as Christ told His apostle, Thomas, "Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." Brother Peter went on to tell of the wonderful opportunity we have to live our lives by faith, if only we choose to do so. Every single day we make scores of decisions which fundamentally involve a choice to go for or against the

will of God. It is important, he reminded us, to keep our commitment to God at the forefront of our minds.

Brother Dan Parravano followed, elaborating on Brother Peter's words, and brought out Isaiah 40:6, "All flesh is grass . . .", relating to the temporary condition of this life as compared to the timeless state of God's word. Brother Dan recounted to us many experiences he had throughout his childhood and young adulthood, all of which served as "stimuli" to bolster his faith and eventually led him to serve the Lord. In closing, he exhorted each one of us to do a little more to draw closer to God as we endeavor to serve Him.

Our third speaker this morning was District President, Dominic Moraca, who told us how the Lord is pleased when we seek Him consistently, not just when things aren't going well. He extolled the virtues of strong, unwavering faith, and cited as a prime example the brother of Jared, whose faith was so great that the Lord saw fit to reveal all things to him. Brother Dominic related some experiences of his mother, Sister Marietta Ruzzi, whose faith saw her and many others through the perils of this life.

After the morning meeting was dismissed, we all gathered in the school cafeteria where we ate the lunches we had brought with us. Here we had a chance to enjoy the company of our brothers and sisters for a time before we went back into the auditorium for the afternoon service.

Brother Sam DiFalco opened our second meeting, praising the Lord for His goodness. He gave many examples of the Lord's intervention in the lives of the saints, pointing out that it was because of their faith that God worked with them.

The young people were called to the front to sing a hymn. They chose *Are Ye Able, Said the Master*, and also sang *Amazing Grace* before they sat down. We then heard the testimony of 93-year-old Brother Carlo Saragosa, who told us how he came to know the Church.

The Champine brothers offered a song of praise, and we heard from Brother Tony Lovalvo, who spoke of the prophet, Enos, and the importance of serving God in your youth.

Brother Dominic Thomas, our

General Church President, was the last speaker. He told us of the marvelous future that awaits the Church as the great plan of God unfolds. There are tremendous opportunities, he continued, open to all those who would dedicate their lives to the service of the Lord. The greater the individual desire, the greater the work God has in store for us.

## Ohio Evangelists Meeting

By Joel T. Calabrese

The Ohio District Evangelists held a meeting in Kent, Ohio. The well attended service was opened with *Longing for the Gathering*, after which Brother Travis Perry was presented with a plaque for his many years of service as an evangelist.

Brother Joe Genaro was our opening speaker, and he instructed us that without the direction and power of God, we have nothing. Also he read Revelation 14:16-17 saying the harvest of the earth is ripe and the earth will be reaped. We of the Church, though, should trust in the Lord in all things.

After we sang *I Saw a Mighty Angel Fly*, Brother Travis Perry told us of the seven seals in Revelation, and how only Christ could open them because Christ is better than the world. He, Christ, revealed the words to us. Brother Travis went on to tell us that the twelve apostles are the foundation of the Church today and that we can overcome anything if we obey God's commandments and make a covenant at the water's edge.

We then had a couple of selections sung by our young people, and most also bore their testimony. Thank God for the many experiences He gives to the young.

Brother Frank Calabrese followed by telling us it's time for the Joshuas and that the Gospel was restored with everything. Also let us not be afraid for God is with us even as He was with Moses.

Then we heard of the work going on in Kilvert, Ohio from Brother Vince Gibson. The love and spirit of our Church has never been felt or seen by these people before, and they are truly being blessed. He concluded by saying we can all be missionaries in God's vineyard.

*Editorial Viewpoint . . .***Lest We Forget***By Mark Randy, Guest Editorialist*

The redwood trees are among the giants of the forest. These magnificent trees are towering into the air as much as three hundred feet. You would think such tall trees would require very deep roots. Actually, redwoods have very shallow roots, a system designed to capture all the surface moisture possible. These roots spread out in all directions, and, as a result, all the roots of the trees in a redwood grove are intertwined. They are locked together so that when the wind blows and the storms strike against them, they will not fall. All the trees support and sustain one another. This is why you almost never see a redwood stand alone. They need one another to survive.

Most people do too. This may be the reason Jesus did not send His disciples alone. Also, the early Church followed the same order. When the Angel manifested himself to Joseph Smith, Jr. to restore the Everlasting Gospel, the Angel instructed him to follow the order of sending them two by two to preach the Gospel of repentance. The restoration message has brought about the same spirit of being one for all and all for the one. Being one body in Christ is better fortified when we become intertwined to survive against the storms of life with one head, Christ. Much is written about the need to live and support one another, truly care and depend on one another for our very existence.

When I presided at Muncey, Ontario, Canada, from 1937 to 1946, we became intertwined as a congregation and its minister ought to be. I remember one Sunday morning I woke up with a high fever of 104. I tried to find a replacement, but to no avail at such a short notice. I went, over the objections of my young wife. I sang all the way, "If Jesus goes with me, I'll go anywhere." That day as I spoke, Sister Julia Nicholas stood up and said, "I see a man standing on the right side of Brother Marco." Sister Snake also stood up and said how this strange personage looked and was dressed. It was one and the same as Julia saw. Those present cried with a great joy though they saw not. Neither did I see anything, but believed these two wonderful sisters. I turned to where they said the person stood and said, I see you not, but if you truly be an Angel of God, bless me that I may serve God better." At this saying, the Spirit of God overwhelmed me and the fever that afflicted me left.

On another occasion, again on a Sunday morning, I saw Brother George Nicholas who stood at the foot of my bed and said in a loud voice, "Marco, do not come to Muncey today. You will not make it." I rose from my sleep and told my wife of the strange voice. "Look outside," she said. I did. The snow that fell during the night was so high on the ground. Actually a few had met at George Nicholas' home very early that morning to see if there was some way to notify me not to come as the snow there was impassable. They prayed for me, and as they prayed Brother Nicholas (who was the Chief of the reservation) stood up and in a loud voice shouted, "Marco, do not come. You won't make it today." What a beautiful telephone connection between God's children. Indeed, we are intertwined to sustain and survive.

If you think you can stand alone, you are fooling yourself. If you again think that you do not need anyone, you are not like that mighty redwood tree that does endure the fire and the great storms. Be not a loner. Together we will be a blessing to others, as others will be a blessing to us. "Without me you can do nothing," said Jesus. We're together in Christ and Christ in God.

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Kenneth L. Staley  
301 Pine Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**ASSISTANT  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Thomas Ross  
260 Division St. Ext.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
Joseph Ross

**ASSISTANT  
MANAGING EDITOR**  
Richard Scaglione

**EDITORIALISTS AND  
CONSULTANTS**  
Paul Palmieri  
John Ross  
John Manes

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Cathy Gentle

**TYPISTS**  
Janet Gibson  
Sharon Staley

**CIRCULATION MANAGER**  
Janet Buila

**GMEA EDITOR**  
Ryan G. Ross  
305 Pine Dr.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**GENERAL CIRCLE  
EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15005

**DISTRICT EDITORS**

**ARIZONA**  
Dick Ackman  
8403 E. Piccadilly Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Joseph Porri  
3 Elizabeth Ct.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

**CALIFORNIA**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
4682 El Rancho Verde Dr.  
La Palma, Calif. 90620

**FLORIDA**  
Elsie M. Essana  
1921 S. E. Erwin Road  
Port St. Lucie, Fl. 33452

**OHIO**  
Joel Calabrese  
4280 Knickerbocker  
Sheffield Lake, Ohio 44054

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Louis Pietrangolo  
5522 Bluehill  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Malcolm Paxon  
5304 Adobe Drive  
Baldwin, PA 15236

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**BUSINESS OFFICE**  
8423 Boettner Rd.  
Bridgewater, MI 48115  
313 429-5080

# The Children's

## Corner

*By Jan Steinrock*



## The Journey Continues

Dear Girls and Boys,

The friends of Jared and his brother were on the move. The Lord had touched their city of Babel and all of a sudden everyone was speaking a strange language. The confused people were fleeing the city and scattering all around the earth.

But the brother of Jared cried unto the Lord and the Lord heard his prayers. He agreed not to mix up their language and said he would send them to the best land in the whole earth. This was a land that would always be protected from its enemies as long as the people there followed the teachings of Jesus Christ.

The friends of Jared and his brother believed the Lord. About twenty-two of them began gathering seeds and animals, bees and fish for their long trip to a new land. They walked into a part of the world where no one had ever been before. There were no paths or roads or trails ready for them. When they didn't know which way to go, the Lord talked with them, standing in a cloud to give them directions.

He taught them how to build barges and boats to cross the rivers and a sea. They wanted to stay when they crossed the sea, but the Lord wanted them to travel on. Years passed. Finally the Lord brought them to the edge of a great ocean. They pitched their tents and named that place Moriancumer.

You can imagine how glad they were to stop walking. They had traveled far and seen sights that no other human had ever seen. They had climbed rough land and been through scary waters. Now they could finally rest. They stayed there by the beach,

these twenty-some people, their flocks and pets, resting. Somewhere during this vacation, the brother of Jared began forgetting to call on the Lord.

After four years, the Lord came to the brother of Jared again and stood in a cloud and talked with him. For three hours he talked with him. The brother of Jared begged the Lord to forgive him and his brethren for forgetting to call on the name of the Lord.

The Lord did forgive him, and he sent the brother of Jared to go and start building the boats they would use to cross the great ocean to the land of promise.

Now these boats, or barges, as they were called, were amazing. They were small and totally closed in. They were not like other boats that would travel only on top of the water. They would be tossed upon the waves of the sea in front of a great wind that the Lord would send and be buried many times in the deep parts of the sea. They built a hole in the top and a hole in the bottom that could be unstopped for air. These barges were as long as a tree, peaked on the ends, and tight like a dish.

Yet, there was one problem; they couldn't have windows, for they would be broken by the heavy waves, and no fire could go with them either.

The brother of Jared cried unto the Lord to help them so his people wouldn't have to cross the raging deep in darkness. He went to tall Mount Shelem and heated the rock there to melt out sixteen small, white, clear stones. He carried these stones

which were as transparent as glass to the top of the mountain and there cried to the Lord, "Oh Lord, I know that you have all power and can do whatever you will to help man. Touch these stones with your finger, and prepare them so they will shine for us in the darkness so we may put them with us in the barges."

The brother of Jared earnestly believed that the Lord could do this. Because of his faith, the brother of Jared was able to see the finger of the Lord, Jesus Christ. No other man up to that time had ever believed in Jesus as this man. Although the brother of Jared fell on his face filled with fear, the Lord comforted him and showed him many wonderful things. He even showed him all the people of the world that ever had been or ever would be. (That means he even saw you and me.)

The rest of the world was not to know all the things about Jesus until the future when Jesus would be on earth, born of Mary. The brother of Jared wrote the things he learned in a language that the world could not read. He was given two stones by the Lord to use to interpret that language. Everything was to be sealed up until the day the Lord decided to bring it forth.

This faithful follower of Jesus Christ took his sixteen stones and placed two in each barge. At last the people and their possessions were ready to finish the last part of their journey to the promised land, the land saved for those who would serve God.

As we travel through the problems of life using the teachings of Jesus as our light, they travelled through the darkness using the stones for a light.

When a father overheard one of his sons say, "If you do that, father won't love you," he approached his children with these words: "I shall always love you. When you do what is right, I love you with a glad heart, and when you do what is wrong, I still love you, but with a heart full of sorrow."

*Author Unknown*

## MBA Highlights

### California Area MBA

*By Pam Cole, Area Editor*

On Saturday, January 30, 1982, Californians representing several Branches of our District gathered in the Snow Summit Ski Resort in Big Bear, California (which is in the San Bernadino Mountains east of Los Angeles).

Brother Mark Coppa of San Diego, who was in charge, said that the ski trip was truly a success—from the sunny weather to the good skiing conditions. The only injuries were sunburned faces and tired muscles. A good time was had by all.

A young women's retreat was held April 16, 17 and 18 at Pinecrest Lake Resort (in the Sierra Mountains 80 miles east of Modesto). This weekend retreat was for women between the ages of 14 and 25. Young women from nearly every Branch of the District

came up for the three day gathering. In charge and chaperoning were Sisters Grace Lovalvo, Nancy Camarda, and Delores Picciuto. This activity also was a success, and we thank the Lord for this and every opportunity we have to gather together.

Please remember the California MBA and our efforts to serve God, that we may do our best for Him. He

is always by our side and giving us the guidance we need. Our sincere prayer is that every Branch of the District, and every District of the Church be in one accord in allowing Jesus Christ in their lives.

California District Young Women's Retreat 1982.



## Branch and Mission News

### Modesto, CA

*By Pam Cole*

Greetings from the Modesto Branch. We would like to take this opportunity to share some brief highlights of what has been going on out our way.

We've been honored with visitors from out-of-town and out-of-state these past couple of months. On Sunday, March 21, 1982, visiting were Brother Alex and Sister Lydia Cavallaro, Sister Lucy DeCaro and daughter, Andrea, and Brother John Vela, all from Lindsay, California. From Detroit, Michigan, Brother Reno and Sister Isabella Bologna visited us. From Anaheim, California, we had Sister Rose Anderson and Brother Saul Tapia.

Easter Sunday the Branch gathered in our newly remodeled church building. It is beautiful! We had many visitors that day, including out-of-

staters Brother Mike and Sister Mary Feher of Phoenix, Arizona.

We have four new members in our Branch. This is a result of a husband and wife being baptized into the Gospel of Jesus Christ and a husband and wife (and children) moving here from Arizona. Brother Mark Foley and his wife, Sister Delmy, were baptized April 4. Mark was baptized and confirmed by Brother Leonard Lovalvo. Delmy was baptized by Brother Joe Lovalvo and confirmed by Brother Mark Randy. Moving here from Phoenix is the VanAllsburg family, Brother Phil, his wife, Sister Valerie, and their children.

There was an ordination on May 2. Brother Dan Picciuto was ordained an elder by Brother Joe Lovalvo. His feet were washed by Brother Mark Randy.

Also on May 2, Sister Marion Meo was here from Bell, California. Visiting with us for about a week in May was Brother Flip Palacios from Lorain, Ohio.

These are just a few of the many reasons we have for praising the Lord. God is so good.

### Lake Worth, FL

*By Terri Benyola*

Sunday, June 20, 1982, was a beautiful day. Our meeting was opened by the blessing of Christin Marie, the daughter of Brother Ed and Sister Annette Whelan of Lake Worth, Florida. Brother Eugene Perri, Jr. asked the blessing upon this baby.

We had visiting with us today Brother Nick and Sister Pearl Zinzi from Tampa, Sister Pearl's sister, Mary, who lives here, and Brother and Sister Noble, also from the Tampa area.

Brother Gene Perri, Jr. was inspired to read from Ephesians 6 in reference to putting on the whole

armor of God. Our brother brought forth many beautiful words that were food for our souls. Brother John D'Orazio then followed with even more encouraging words. We truly have to praise God for our ministry and their efforts for bringing forth the word of God.

In our afternoon meeting there were many beautiful testimonies of the goodness and mercy the Lord gives to each and every one of the saints. Sister Marilyn Carradi told of her vision while the baby was being blessed: "A big and beautiful light glowed around our brother as he blessed Christin. The glow also encased the parents of this beautiful child and was outlined in gold." Brother Everett Jasmin then testified that while the baby was being blessed he saw an arm writing the name Christin Marie in a beautiful white book, *The Lambs Book of Life*.

I can surely say that we all went home with our cups running over with the blessings of God.

## Harrison, MI

The Harrison Mission was blessed with two baptisms on Sunday, May 16, 1982. Opal Manchester and Lyle Criscuolo were baptized and confirmed by Brother Silver Criscuolo, Lyle's father.

It was a beautiful day in Harrison as the saints welcomed our new members. Our cup runneth over with His blessings.

We are also pleased to announce the baptism of James Carrabia during his visit on May 30, 1982. Brother Jim, along with several brothers, came up to work on our church building on Saturday and stayed for our Sunday meeting. Brother Jim was baptized by Brother Silverio Coppa and confirmed by Brother Silverio Criscuolo.

May God bless our new members as they endeavor to serve the Lord.

## Cleveland, OH

*By Margaret Abbott, Branch Editor*

The weekend of May 21, 22 and 23, 1982, was an inspiring time for the

saints of Cleveland.

Brother Elmer Santilli gave a beautiful message on the topic that we all have been asked many times, "What is the Book of Mormon?" The saints and visitors were greatly inspired with this kind of meeting, and we are looking forward to more such services. Thank you, Brother Santilli, for such wonderful instruction.

Sunday, May 23, we had a special day of reunion; the children of the saints, friends and relatives were invited. We had a small number of visitors, but the Lord blessed us greatly.

The brothers spoke of the miracles our saints have experienced and the blessings and healings of the children of the saints. A few were present to relive the wonders the Lord performed on them.

At noon we adjourned to the basement for a light lunch and to socialize with our visitors. A joyous time was had by all.

The afternoon testimony service was very inspiring, and the Lord surely blessed us all this week.

We ask everyone to remember the elderly of our branch in prayer. Brother Albert Ventura, 87 years old, has not been well. Age and affliction are upon him and his companion, Sister Carmella. Sister Madilina Ranieri is also elderly and not well. Many others are in need of the prayers of the saints.

May the Lord be with you all is our prayer.

## Ft. Pierce, FL

*By Elsie Ensana*

Sister Ann Costarella of the Ft. Pierce, Florida Branch of the Church was ordained into the office of deaconess on February 28, 1982. Her feet were washed by Sister Elsie Ensana, and she was ordained by Brother Joseph Bittinger.

Sister Ann was baptized on June 20, 1939. May God bless our sister as she endeavors to fulfill her spiritual

office.

## Detroit, Branch 3

*By Dawn Francione*

On March 28, 1982, Branch No. 3 was blessed with having two brothers from Anaheim, California with us, Brothers Frank Ciotti and Walter Jankowski. Brother Frank opened the meeting with prayer. Then he continued by speaking of the hymn, *I've Discovered the Way of Gladness*, and how some of us have not found the way of gladness yet. Brother Frank believes in a saying that we should build our lives around the Church and not the Church around our lives. Without this in our lives, we are lacking the center of the Church, which is Christ.

Brother Ciotti read to us from the Book of Enos, stating that Enos found that "way of gladness" through his father, who taught him about the Church. What is better than a father who teaches his children about the Word of God? This world is confused and does not have much stability. He asked the question, "Is it possible to have that joy of gladness in this world? How can a person who has nothing stand up and testify of all that God has done for him, that is, the spirit of God?" The only source of true happiness is in Jesus Christ. The fruits of the spirit, such as joy, can fill our hearts if we only have a little touch of the Master. When we feel that touch, we want more, just like Enos. He had the spirit of God. It makes you much hungrier for the Word of God.

Are we willing to make the sacrifice to read and study the Word of God and to pray? If we do this, we can have this joy and spirit with us. By having this, we should be able to weather anything that comes our way. So in the end, we will be able to praise His name.

Brother Frank then related the story of Paul and Silas when they were thrown into prison. Paul and Silas bore their stripes for Christ.

How do we get this joy? It is very simple—follow the commandments of God. Christ set the example. If we want to drink of the fountain of joy, we can. Do you feel the joy of the saints? Do you want to feel that joy?

Just follow the will of God.

The meeting was then left open for testimony. We heard many wonderful testimonies.

Brother Pete Capone made some closing remarks, and Brother Walter Jankowski closed in prayer.

## Omaha—Bedford

By Valarie Wells, Mission Editor

We wish to extend our prayers to all of our brothers and sisters in Christ, as the Lord continues to shower our Mission with His blessings.

On Sunday, February 14, 1982, we witnessed the baptism of Gieselia Owens by Brother English Webb in the Missouri River in Bellevue, Nebraska. Some of us truly noted the presence of the "evil one" as he lost the battle for another soul. Sister Gieselia later testified she felt the devil struggle to keep her under the water until she heard the words, "Get up, Gieselia," which she did. She was also confirmed by Brother English. We thank God for calling Sister Gieselia to our Mission on the testimony of our Sister Mary Jane Harris.

On March 19, 1982, we welcomed the visits of Brother Mitchell Edwards and Brother John Genaro. Our weekend was filled with God's love as we fellowshiped in Omaha and Bedford, Iowa.

On Sunday, March 21, 1982 our service was filled with a beautiful spirit of God, as Brother Clifton Wells was ordained into the office of deacon. Brother Mitchell read the duties of a deacon from I Timothy 3:8-13. Brother Clifton's feet were washed by Brother Calvin Matthews, and ordained by Brother English and Brother Mitchell with prayer. We then went into a spiritual service with both elders speaking on the beautiful subject, "Christ in you, the hope of glory".

During testimony we heard from Brother John Genaro and many others thanking God for His many blessings and mercy He has bestowed on us. After receiving sacrament, our ser-

vice was closed in prayer by Brother Clifton, and we gathered for a fellowship dinner. Our Mission has continued to grow with God's grace which has enabled us to meet every Sunday for two years. The Lord has provided all of our needs which has been our continued prayer. We thank God very much for sending us our elder, Brother English Webb, and we ask that you may keep him and his family constantly in your prayers, and we will continue to pray for all of God's children everywhere.

## Rochester, NY

By Carmella D'Amico

On Sunday, April 4, 1982, Rochester, New York, had the joy of having Brother and Sister Russ Martarano from Niles, Ohio as per visitation schedule.

Brother Russ chose his text from the Book of Ruth. Naomi and Elimelech and two sons moved from Bethlehem-Judah to the land of Moab. Her husband and sons died. Naomi told her daughters-in-law to return to their families. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clave unto her and said, "Entreat me not to leave thee..., for whither thou goest, I will go and thy people shall be my people, and thy God, my God!" She went to glean in Boaz' field. Later she married Boaz and gave birth to Obed, who was the father of Jesse, and Jesse begat David, the forefather of Joseph, the husband of Mary. We should all be pioneers in the Church and should be gems above all gems.

After testimony service, sacrament was administered. Afterwards Brother Ansel D'Amico gave the concluding remarks of the wonderful words of life that Brother Russ had spoken. Joshua said, "Choose ye this day, whom ye will serve, but as for me and my house we will serve the Lord."

We were dismissed by singing *God Bless You Everyone* and were closed in prayer.

On May 9, 1982, we had Brother and Sister Richard Santilli from Youngstown, Ohio as per visitation schedule. Brother Richard chose his text from the Book of Daniel con-

cerning the worship of the Golden Image, where Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego chose to be thrown in the fiery furnace rather than to worship the idol. Because of their faith, God sent his angel to deliver them from the burning fire. When the king checked on them he said, "I see four men walking in the midst of the fire, they have no hurt and the form of the fourth one is like the Son of God." Brother Richard continued by saying, "we have the Everlasting Gospel and the first shall be last and the last first", concluding with, *I Know that My Redeemer Lives*.

We sang, *Our Church*, and the meeting was opened for testimony followed by sacrament.

Brother Ansel D'Amico emphasized on the same subject and spoke on the importance of Mother's Day. We should also love our mothers and the Church as the spiritual mother.

A wonderful spirit prevailed all during the meetings, and it was another beautiful day spent in the service of God.

## Glassport, PA

The Glassport Branch had a beautiful weekend on March 27, 1982. The General Ladies Circle met in Glassport with the building filled to capacity. Many brothers, sisters and friends enjoyed the beautiful program the Glassport Circle chose titled "My Tribute". A delicious lunch was served and a truly enjoyable day filled with the blessings of God was shared by all.

On Sunday we were blessed to have Brother Russell Cadman and his companion, Sister Ethel. Brother Russel spoke on the need for baptism according to the Gospel of St. John 3. We had many visitors that morning who have not yet rendered obedience, making it an appropriate portion of Scripture.

Our afternoon meeting was filled with many beautiful testimonies and hymns of praise to the Lord, which touched the hearts of all the brothers, sisters and our visiting friends. Brother Alfred Nolfi's granddaughter Ginger Lee Canova, was brought forth by her parents, Frank and Patricia

Canova, to be blessed.

The Lord's blessings were richly bestowed throughout the weekend and the Lord's Spirit was felt by all. We are thankful to the Lord for our brothers and sisters that we fellowship with from time to time. Our desire is to serve the Lord in unity that someday we will meet to part no more in the Paradise of God.

Come and visit our branch when you desire to travel throughout the Lord's vineyard. We are willing to accommodate those in need of lodging.

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The saints of Glassport send their love to all the saints throughout the Church. We thank God for His continued blessings in our lives. Our meetings have been seasoned with the Spirit of God. Our souls have been nourished. We continue to dwell in the goodness of God's grace.

We are continually reminded that this precious salvation has been purchased by Jesus Christ dying upon the cross. We rejoice to know that His resurrection will be our resurrection, and His glory will be our glory if we endure to the end.

We express our dearest thanks to those brothers and sisters who have visited our branch, bringing with them the words of life, the fellowship of the Gospel and their testimony of praise. We extend an invitation to all to come and visit our branch. We look forward to the saints visits. Come and lift our hearts with words of encouragement in serving God.

Our desire is to continue in God's service bringing more souls to Jesus Christ, to be rooted and founded upon the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please remember us in your prayers as we pray for you.

## McKees Rocks, PA

*By Ruth Rogalla, Assistant Editor*

Sunday, April 25, was a very enjoyable day in the McKees Rocks Branch. We were privileged to have Brothers Alex and David Robinson from St. John, Kansas with us. Many

of us had never had the opportunity to meet these brothers. Also visiting were Brothers Fred DiAntonio and Dave DeLuca from Aliquippa.

Brother Alex opened the morning service by reading from Matthew 14:44, "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man had found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field." He continued by reading the verse in Italian for the benefit of Brother Joseph LoRicco, who is presently attending our branch on an extended visit from Italy. He expounded on the verse and also told of his experiences of God's blessings towards him while in the military service.

Before our afternoon service began, we were very thankful and surprised to see our Brother Dick Lawson come in. He was able to come to Church only a few weeks after heart surgery. His testimony was that he thanks God for keeping him thus far and thanks the brothers and sisters for their many prayers and inquiries.

Brother LoRicco spoke relating some experiences from Italy (translated by Brother Dan Casasanta). Brothers LoRicco and Alex Robinson then sang an Italian hymn. Although many of us don't understand Italian, we relate to the spirit in which Brother LoRicco speaks and thoroughly enjoy listening to him.

We can certainly say we enjoyed a wonderful Sabbath Day.

## Monongahela, PA

*By LuAnn Scaglione*

In Luke 10 we read, "After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two by two before his face into every city and place." Just as in the days of Christ when these men were called, on May 2, 1982 two brothers from Monongahela, Richard Scaglione and John Griffith, were ordained to serve in the Quorum of Seventy Evangelists.

Our morning service was opened by Brother Joseph Calabrese from Lorain, Ohio, who read Ephesians 4:1-15. Brother Joe began by saying

that God sent Christ to earth in order to give mankind instruction. How important teaching is! Because man needs instruction, God called apostles, evangelists, elders, teachers, deacons, and deaconesses. All offices are for the edifying of the Church, and all have a work to do. The evangelists were sent into the world to preach and to teach. Even the members of the Church have great responsibility, but the Twelve Apostles and Seventy Evangelists are the pillars. From the beginning, the Church has been set up according to God's plan, and the structure must remain the same today as it was set up in the past.

Brother Russell Cadman, one of the Twelve Apostles, followed by asking why we need the ordained offices. The members called into the offices, he answered, must be the leaders, working in unity to the perfecting of all the saints. One member is as necessary as another, each laboring individually, but for one purpose, the work of the Lord.

After welcoming the visitors and inviting all to partake of the lunch provided by the sisters, Brother John Griffith brought the service to a close.

At 1:30, after a short time of fellowship, we reconvened for the afternoon meeting. Brother Jim Grazan opened the service, reminding us that this is an ordination meeting. Chairman of the Pennsylvania District Evangelists, Brother John Manes, then read the duties of an evangelist. From II Timothy 4 he read, "Preach the work, ...reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering, ...endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist." Also, Brother John spoke on Paul's words in Ephesians 4, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry for the edifying of the body of Christ." Brother Manes stated that since the brothers were being ordained into a higher office, their service to the members would be greater, and in being servants to others, their humility and meekness would increase.

Brother Jim Grazan then proceeded to wash Brother John's feet, and Brother Rich had his feet washed by Brother Jim Campbell. A prayer for God's blessings upon the ordinations was offered by Brother Calabrese.

As all the evangelists and apostle, Brother Cadman, circled the two, Brother Paul Palmieri ordained Brother Rich, and Brother John was ordained by his father, Brother Meredith Griffith. God's presence was surely felt as the prayers were offered to set aside our brothers as a part of God's chosen Seventy.

The two newest members of the Quorum were asked to express themselves. Thankfulness for all of God's blessings seemed to be emphasized by both. Brother Scaglione testified that during the ordination he felt a second pair of hands upon his head, as a warmth came over him filling him with love. Brother Griffith told the congregation that throughout his life he has felt exhorted to prepare himself, first for the ministry, and now to be an evangelist. Both stressed that the calling to be a member is the greatest of all. The other offices just add to a member's responsibility.

The two new evangelists were then welcomed into the Quorum by Brother John Manes. Brother Russell Cadman continued the meeting, speaking from Alma 13, concerning the high priests being called with a holy calling and ordained with a holy ordinance, as were Brothers John and Rich. After Brother Cadman's final comments, the meeting was closed. Truly today has been a day of blessing to all as we shared in the joy of our two new evangelists. Our prayers go with them that God might lead and direct them to be used in His work.

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On May 9, 1982, Monongahela received a double portion of blessings as twins, Joy Kurowsky and Joyce Kogler were taken down to the waters of baptism. Brother John Griffith, brother of the twins, opened our morning service, speaking on faith, repentance, baptism, and re-

ception of the Holy Ghost. From Hebrews 11, Brother John read, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Faith is the beginning of a relationship with God, a divine trust, a confidence in Jesus Christ. In Alma 32, Alma teaches the people that faith is not to have perfect knowledge, but when you have faith, you obtain a hope for things which are not seen. The word of God is compared to a seed planted in the heart. As it is nourished by faith, it swells in the breast, growing into perfect knowledge.

Brother John continued by reading from II Corinthians 7, "For godly sorrow worketh repentance," which repentance cometh through faith. As Christ was, we must also be baptized, being completely immersed in water. The baptism washes away sins, making us new Christ-like individuals. After faith, repentance and baptism, the laying on of hands for the reception of the Holy Ghost follows. This Holy Spirit is our Comforter, causing us to never feel alone. Through the Comforter, we become a part of Christ. Finally, Brother John stated that by the process of faith, repentance, baptism, and the reception of the Holy Ghost, we give ourselves to God to be used in His work.

At 1:00 we gathered at the shores of the Monongahela River to witness the Holy Ordinance. Both Joy and Joyce were baptized by Brother John Griffith, as a beautiful spirit prevailed. Our afternoon meeting was opened by Brother Meredith Griffith, the twins' father. He began by saying that we must all become as little children, filled with God's love; then we can be called of God. When baptized, it is not only water we are covered with, but it is God's Holy Spirit. Brother Griffith then proceeded to read from John 15 in which Christ speaks, "Ye are my friends, if

ye do whatsoever I command you." Ye are not servants, for servants do not know what their Lord doeth, but I have made known to you all that I've heard from my Father. "I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit."

Brother Idris Martin continued the meeting stating that man is drawn unto Christ through the Holy Spirit. As it is written in I Peter 1, even the angels desire to look into the matter of the Holy Ghost. Brother Idris emphasized that we need the Holy Ghost, our Comforter.

A few comments were offered by Brother Richard Scaglione, who reminded us that it feels different for each individual when being confirmed, and although it is the same spirit, it is manifested in different ways.

Sister Joyce was confirmed by Brother Idris Martin, who prayed that our new sister would be filled with overflowing peace and joy. Brother Meredith Griffith then laid his hands upon Joy, asking God to bestow upon her the Holy Ghost. His prayer was for a oneness of thought and spirit and that Joy would never question her calling.

The meeting was then opened for testimony. Sister Irene Griffith, mother of Joy and Joyce, thanked God for the beautiful Mother's Day gift she had received when the twins asked for their baptisms. Both Joy and Joyce were very thankful for their callings. Several of the congregation testified that during the confirmations a strong wind was heard blowing across the building. It brought our minds back to the Day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended as a rushing mighty wind, and we felt that the Lord was with us in the confirmations. We thank God for our two new sisters and ask God's blessings upon them throughout their lives.

## \* WEDDINGS \*

North Carolina.

### KARR—BATTLES

On Saturday, April 24, 1982, Sister Sheryll Ann Karr and Mr. Steven Battles were united in holy matrimony at The Church of Jesus Christ in Lake Worth, Florida.

Brother Mike Radd, grandfather of the bride, officiated at the ceremony.

The newlyweds are taking their residence in Clyde,

### JASMIN—MADDOX

The uniting of Sister Diane Carol Jasmin to Brother Charles Dwayne Maddox took place on Saturday, May 29, 1982, at the Lake Worth Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Eugene Perri, Jr. performed the marriage ceremony. Brother Michael DiFede accompanied the soloist, Sister JoAnn Arcuri.

May the Lord bless this couple as they start their new life together.

#### RINEHART—ROSS

On Saturday, June 19, 1982, Sister Mary Lou Rinehart and Brother Ryan Gene Ross were joined in holy wedlock at The Church of Jesus Christ, Lake Worth, Florida.

Brothers Eugene Perri, Jr. and John D'Orazio conducted the wedding ceremony.

Musical selections were provided by Brother Michael DiFede. Brother Pete Giannetti, Jr. was soloist and also accompanied the groom as he sang to his bride.

The newlyweds are residing in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. May God bless them both in their new chapter in life.

## New Arrivals

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

Elizabeth Nicole to William V. and Debra M. Kall of Cleveland, Ohio;

Jeffrey Ryan to Gary and Boni Lombardo of Cleveland, Ohio;

Jason Keith to Brian Keith and Patricia McCullough of Cleveland, Ohio;

Joseph Daniel to Joe and Lisa Naples of Lake Worth, Florida;

Dustin Samuel to Joe and Mary Randy of Modesto, California;

Gracie Monica to Eddie and Rachel Salazar of Modesto, California;

Christin Marie to Ed and Annette Whelan of Lake Worth, Florida.

## OBITUARIES

*We wish to express our sympathy to those that mourn over the loss of loved ones. May God bless and comfort you.*

#### PHYLLIS MAE WERGIN

Sister Phyllis Mae Wergin, born in England in 1904, passed away on May 2, 1982.

She was the daughter of Rees Powell Jones and Sarah Ann Jones and came to the United States about 1910 with her parents. She was baptized in Little Red Stone, Fayette City, Pennsylvania by Brother John K. Penn in 1914.

She is survived by a daughter and two grandchildren and will surely be missed by them and all who knew and loved her.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Alexander Robinson of St. John, Kansas. Burial was in Wichita, Kansas.

#### A TRIBUTE TO SISTER WERGIN

Sister Phyllis Mae Wergin was married to Edward John Wergin in 1928. Edward preceded her in death in 1974. Phyllis became a naturalized citizen of the United States in the 1940's. She gave birth to one daughter, Amelia Mae, in 1935.

She remained faithful to the Lord and was always active in church work. Her sudden passing from time to eternity leaves her family and friends to mourn her loss. Her parents, Rees and Sarah Jones, were among those who were sent to the "Colony" in Kansas many years ago.

Part of the history contained in this obituary was found already composed—a self-written obituary—and placed carefully between the pages of the family Bible for a future searcher to find. The following poem was found amidst some of Sister Phyllis' papers. It was marked, "Keep This Poem".

## Peace Amidst the Pain

*The sweetest word cannot express,  
Nor deepest sea can 'ere possess,  
Nor all the world can 'ere contain,  
The peace God gives amidst the pain.*

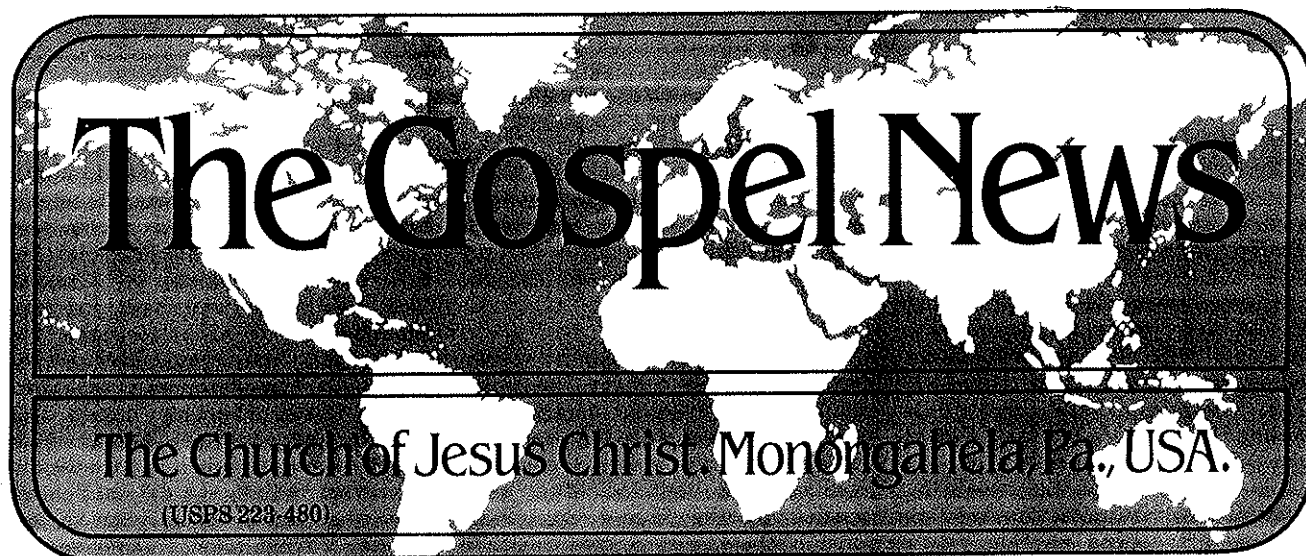
*For tho' my heartbreaks lay me low,  
Confound my path, remove life's glow,  
And troubles hit on every hand,  
I have a friend who'll understand.*

*And when I face my darkest hour,  
I have a Source of secret power,  
And to that Source I fain would go,  
Because I find no help below.*

*How oft' I've knelt upon my knee,  
And poured my anguish out to Thee,  
Oh, God, I praise Thee for this pain,  
That more of your sweet peace I'll gain.*

Beverly Brush





September, 1982

Volume 38, No. 9

## American Indian Labors

*By Mark S. Kovacic,  
General Board of Missions Editor*

At the GMBA Campout in Massanetta Springs, Virginia, Brother Dominic Thomas, President of the Church, addressed the saints who were gathered one evening and told them that there was so much that needs to be done: small things, large things, easy and hard things, work for missions, branches, auxiliaries, at home and abroad.

Let's focus in on some of what is happening in the way of American Indian missionary labor, recalling it is the number one priority to the Church and the great latter day work. The following are only brief excerpts from the report of the American Indian Committee:

At the San Carlos Mission in Arizona, the Sunday evening service alternates between meeting at the Church and at the Sheltered Care Home for the aged. They are also developing programs to have activities with the youth of the Reserve.

The Red Lake Branch in Arizona is continuing its visits to the jail and hospital on the Navajo Reservation, as well as gathering and sharing with the Navajos during Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Also in Arizona, the Lakeside Branch is maintaining contact by delivering baby layettes to the Indian Hospital and providing transportation for the Indians on the Reserve on Sundays.

In the Atlantic Coast District, activities are being pursued in Bridgeton, New Jersey. Meetings are held and opportunities given to expound the *Book of Mormon* and its promises. Prayers are shared with the Native Americans, and food is donated to those in need.

In California, efforts among the Mexican people are being supported and expanded as the work in Mexico increases. Activity in centers and reservations is being implemented to a greater degree by the branches which includes the supply of food and other personal needs.

In the southern part of the Church, the saints in Florida maintain contact with the Brighton Reservation by food, layettes and furniture donations. They also meet with the Indians and offer hymns and prayers.

The Inner City Branch in Detroit, Michigan is being used as a focal point for contacting others in the Indian communities, and with growing support the work proceeds fervently.

The Church has continued its Vacation Bible School in Muncey, Ontario, where many children come to hear about the Restored Gospel and the future of the American Indian.

The Ohio saints have executed a Self Development Program in Kilvert, which has led to opportunities to speak to a church group on occasion and to distribute Church pamphlets and *Books of Mormon*. The work in

Akron, Cleveland, and Youngstown still continues.

In Pennsylvania, the Church keeps contact with the Three Rivers American Indian Center and enjoys discussions about the expectations of the Church and the Native American.

These are brief highlights of the many activities and programs that are continuing to bring Joseph to the knowledge of the Restoration and of their forefathers. It's not just elders and evangelists, but brothers and sisters (old and young) who support and encourage the work in whatever way they can.

How about you? "Wo unto him that is at ease in Zion." Contact your American Indian Committee chairman and ask, "What can I do?"

## Conference Notice

The October, 1982 Conference will be a non-business Conference starting on Friday, October 14 at 9:30 a.m. The Friday meeting will be for elders and teachers only. The following is a tentative schedule for the Conference:

Friday, October 14, 1982	
9:30 a.m.	Opening
10:00-12:30	Seminars for elders and teachers
12:30- 1:30	Lunch
1:30- 4:00	Seminars
4:00- 5:00	Seminar summary
5:00- 6:00	Dinner
6:00- 8:00	Evening meeting.
8:00- 9:00	Social time and refreshments

[Continued on Page 4]

## GMBA Campout 1982

*By Ryan Gene Ross, GMBA Editor*

Approximately 400 people spent time at this year's annual GMBA Campout, held at the Massanetta Springs campgrounds in Harrisonburg, Virginia. GMBA President, Brother Don Ross, called upon Elders John Griffith and John D'Orazio to act as his assistants for the weeklong activities and meetings. Brother Bob Nicklow, Jr. served as this year's Camp Director over a lively group of both young and old, representing Arizona, California, Florida, the Atlantic Coast, Ohio, Pennsylvania and the Michigan-Ontario Area. The week was one that featured baptisms, blessings and beautiful experiences.

Three individuals were baptized during the week:

1. Sister Shelley McNelis of Monongahela, Pennsylvania
2. Brother Dennis Bruno of

Branch 4, Detroit, Michigan  
3. Brother David Catalano of Bronx, New York

Each of them had beautiful testimonies of their calling from God. May God richly bless them as they begin their journey on the straight and narrow path!

The blessings of God were evidenced in early prayer meetings, seminars and evening meetings. Of particular interest were the wonderful testimonies of the young people who have yet to be baptized. Many were touched by the Lord's Spirit and spoke of their need to grow closer to Him before they make their commitment in serving as members of the Church.

Beautiful experiences were also given to many in the form of visions and healings. On Monday evening, Brother Dominic Thomas addressed the congregation in an attitude of instruction as to how to live more righteous lives and do more for the Church. As he spoke, the following experiences transpired simultaneously:

Sister Lori Kimmel saw a personage in white hand Brother Thomas a crown of jewels, and Brother Dominic placed it upon his own head. Many witnessed Brother Thomas touching his head several times as he was speaking. Sister Fannie Prudenti saw this crown of jewels on Brother Dominic's head and said he was repositioning it as he touched his head again and again. Meanwhile, Sister Ida Napolitano saw the Lord Jesus Christ kneeling beside the podium near Brother Thomas (with the crown on his head) in an attitude of prayer. At first, she did not believe her eyes, but a voice spoke to her saying, "What must I show you to make you believe what you have seen to be true?" Sister Mabel Bickerton was given a strong feeling that a crown was on Brother Thomas' head, but she was not granted a view of it. Truly this was a wonderful event!

All committee persons performed admirably in registration, accommodations, recreation, arts and crafts, health and safety, seminars, rules, camp choir and songbooks. They are to be commended for a job well done. The week was truly a peaceful and enjoyable one.





## MBA Highlights

### California Area MBA

*By Pam Cole, Editor*

A ladies retreat was held the weekend of May 21, 22, and 23 in Apple Valley, California. Twenty-two sisters, with ages ranging from 17 to 78, gathered together for a weekend of getting to know each other—and more importantly, getting to know God. Time was spent in prayer, singing hymns, reading the scriptures, and testifying to the honor and glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We feel to thank God for our sisters who attended, and a special thanks for Sister Elizabeth Simpson for organizing the retreat. There was a blessing felt in fellowshiping with our sisters. The credit is definitely due to God.

Never let it be said that there isn't a retreat for everyone in California. June 25, 26, and 27 was a weekend set for the young mens retreat. Organizing this camping expedition was Brother Sam Camarda of Modesto. Brother Sam reported that the weekend get-together was truly a success. Twelve young men from northern and southern California gathered at Lake Eleanor, after a six mile hike from Cherry Lake (approximately two hours from Modesto). Brother John Azzinaro from San Fernando Valley held a seminar on positive thinking entitled "I'll Meet You at the Top". This two-part seminar will be concluded at the California Campout in August.

We're so thankful to God. It is such a privilege to have these special times together.

### Meaford, Ontario MBA News

*By Bertha Ford, Editor*

Friday night, June 4, we in Meaford had a night for the seed of Joseph and friends of the children.

Slides were shown by Brother Richard and Sister Jane Elzby. They have been trying to reach out to the seed of Joseph in our area, in the trailer park and also in Cape Croker. Our brother and sister have made several visits to them, bringing them canned goods and baby layettes.

We here in this part of God's vineyard feel we are put here for a purpose as we are surrounded by the seed of Joseph in this area.

### News from the Ohio Area MBA

*By Carolyn Martorana*

May was a busy month for the Ohio Area MBA. In addition to local activities, the Area sponsored two events for saints and friends to participate in.

On Saturday, May 22, members from various locals met at Kirtland, Ohio to tour the temple that the early saints of the Restoration had built there. The Kirtland Temple, erected in 1836, hosted such men as Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon; it has a very full history. It is now owned by the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ, which provides guided tours and presentations with historical and spiritual highlights. At the conclusion of our tour, we met in the main meeting room and sang, *The Spirit of God Like a Fire Is Burning*, which was written for the dedication of the structure. One of our brothers was requested to offer a prayer before leaving. It was very interesting and informative to all.

The following weekend we met again. Saturday began with a morning fast and prayer service at the Erie Branch. From there, we gathered at Presque Isle State Park to join in a fund-raiser for missionary work. Twenty-five men, women and children participated in a Walk-A-Thon for which people pledged donations to the walkers, dependent on the distance the walkers were able to endure. Sore feet notwithstanding, some walked (or ran) up to 15 miles that day! Several hundred dollars were collected as a result. Lunch was served, and that evening we held our Area MBA Conference as more saints

joined us.

We are grateful for the participation of MBA supporters and thank God for their enthusiasm to help further the work of the Church.

### An Experience

*By Carmella D'Amico*

July 23, 1982

I dreamed that I was in Detroit. I saw a large crowd, mostly of all old brothers and sisters, lined up in front of the church building. The elders were giving a diploma and a beautiful gift package to each brother and sister. I asked the elder what was in the package. He said, "A gold cup for fifty years of service in the service of God!"

I awoke and felt a wonderful blessing.

### Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to thank all of you for your fasting and prayers in my behalf. Also, I appreciate the many beautiful cards sent to me while I went through my open heart surgery.

My prayer is that God will bless each and every one of you for your great love of Jesus Christ.

Your Sister in Christ Jesus,  
Irene Beeman  
Vanderbilt, PA Branch

### CONFERENCE NOTICE continued...

Saturday, October 15—Open to all  
10:00-12:00 Preaching service  
12:00- 1:30 Lunch  
1:30- 4:30 Communion  
4:30- 6:00 Dinner  
6:00- 8:00 Singspiration  
8:00-10:00 Social time, all are welcome

Sunday, October 16  
10:00 a.m. Service

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Kenneth L. Staley  
381 Pine Drive  
Alliquippa, Pa. 15001

**ASSISTANT  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Thomas Ross  
260 Division St. Ext.  
Alliquippa, Pa. 15001

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
Joseph Ross

**ASSISTANT  
MANAGING EDITOR**  
Richard Scaglione

**EDITORIALISTS AND  
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Paul Palmieri  
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Cathy Gentile

**TYPISTS**  
Janet Gibson  
Sharon Staley

**CIRCULATION MANAGER**  
Janet Buffa

**GMBA EDITOR**  
Ryan G. Ross  
305 Pine Dr.  
Alliquippa, Pa. 15001

**GENERAL CIRCLE  
EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Alliquippa, Pa. 15005

#### DISTRICT EDITORS

**ARIZONA**  
Dick Ackman  
8403 E. Piccadilly Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Joseph Perri  
3 Elizabeth Ct.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

**CALIFORNIA**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
4682 El Rancho Verde Dr.  
LaPalma, Calif. 90620

**FLORIDA**  
Elsie M. Ensana  
1921 S. E. Erwin Road  
Port St. Lucie, FL 33452

**OHIO**  
Joel Calabrese  
4280 Knickerbocker  
Sheffield Lake, Ohio 44054

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Louis Pietrangelo  
5522 Bluehill  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Malcolm Paxon  
5304 Adobe Drive  
Baldwin, PA 15236

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**BUSINESS OFFICE**  
8423 Boettner Rd.  
Bridgewater, MI 48115  
313 429-5080

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

### GMBA Campout 1982

For the fifth consecutive summer, the annual General Missionary Benevolent Association Campout was held at Massanetta Springs near Harrisonburg, Virginia, beginning Saturday, July 3 through Saturday, July 10. We are indebted to the Massanetta Springs staff for their continuing generosity in graciously accommodating our annual GMBA Campout.

In fact, on his arrival at the campsite and reporting to the staff office, our Campout Director, Brother Robert Nicklow, Jr., was presented a letter welcoming us again with pleasure and hospitality. This surely speaks well of the wholesome and proper behavior of our people. We are gratified with the staff's confidence in the overall direction and conduct of our many and varied activities throughout our usual week-long campout.

#### A GENEROUS TURNOUT

The turnout at this campout was generous, with attendance varying roughly between 400 to 500 people, including children, young people and older ones. Those present represented many locations from as far west as California and as far east as Florida. Also present was a good representation of the General Church Priesthood, including our President, Brother Dominic Thomas, evangelists and elders.

This well-attended campout afforded another opportunity for another wonderful time and place to renew acquaintances and to make new ones. What a blessing it was to many of the saints, their children, their loved ones and their friends to share with others another week-long round of getting better acquainted, dining together, engaging in, as well as witnessing, various recreational activities, participating in the arts and crafts, community singing, camp choir, and last, but by no means least, worshipping together.

It was a time to relax. It was a time to participate. It was a time to socialize. It was a time to chat, to stroll, to dine together with a little more time to socialize. It was a time to reminisce, to sit under the voices of our brothers who enlarged upon the written Word of God, who exhorted, encouraged and admonished us.

#### MUCH NEEDS TO BE DONE

It was a time to bestir ourselves as our Brother Dominic Thomas reminded us, "There is so much that needs to be done; small things, large things, easy things, hard things; work for missions, branches and districts; work for auxiliaries; work at home and abroad."

It was a time for a good turnout at a special meeting generously accorded by the GMBA officers to Sister Mabel Bickerton, General Ladies Uplift Circle President, who gave a brief history of the Circle from its origin to the present time. It was a time for several brief reports of the work of the Circle. It was a time for Brother Dominic Thomas, on behalf of the General Church, to extend gratitude to the Circle for generously supporting many Church programs.

It was a time of extra blessings as three new converts were immersed in the waters of the beautiful camp lake.

Praise God for another good campout!

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock



## The Journey Continues

Dear Girls and Boys,

Many many months passed while Jared, his brother, their friends and their children tossed upon the great ocean in their small barges. We don't know just how many people there were in each barge. We only know that twenty-two people left Babel, and that as the years passed, children were born to them.

Each barge was as long as a tree, and held the animals, fish, wild birds, and honey bees that God had told them to bring with them. How many families fit in each barge? Were some of the children separated from their mothers to fit in another barge? For all the years that these people had traveled together, they must surely have known each other very well.

Now they were in their barges, day and night, for three hundred forty-four days (almost one year). When they were under the water, they cried unto the Lord and he brought them again on top of the waters.

God watched over the small barges, and no monster of the sea could break them, nor could any huge fish hurt them. Because the brother of Jared had asked God to touch sixteen small stones so they would shine, the people had light continuously, whether they were above the water or under it.

What do you think the children did all those hours for nearly a year? The Book of Mormon tells us they often sang praises unto the Lord day and night. Perhaps they petted and cared for the animals they were bringing.

Finally the winds blew them to the end of their journey! They were on the other side of the world from where they had started, and they were on a land which was best above all the lands

of the world. When their feet touched the shores, they bowed themselves down on the face of the land and humbled themselves before God. They shed tears of joy before the Lord for all the care and love he had shown them.

You can imagine how wonderful it must have felt to the children to run and roll and play on the grass. Even the animals must have been overjoyed. The people settled in and they farmed the land. They remembered how God had led them and protected them and as the children grew up and married, they also taught their children to love God and walk humbly before him. They were a blessed people, a great nation as God had promised the brother of Jared in Babel, and were taught from "on high", the Book of Mormon tells us.

The complete record telling all the wonderful things these people learned and shared, the record that the brother of Jared wrote concerning the things that Jesus Christ showed him, will come forth in the future. We will have this wonderful record, written in the ancient, unconfounded language, only when we, the Gentile people, will become clean before the Lord and exercise faith in the Lord, even as the brother of Jared did. Then we will see the knowledge that is hidden up because of unbelief.

Sincerely,  
Sister Jan

### WORD FIND

brother	praise
monster	light
barges	stone
deep	eight
water	big
sing	prayer

W D T H G I L  
R E H T O R B  
E E N O T S A  
T P W A T E R  
S I N G I B G  
N P R A I S E  
O T H G I E S  
M P R A Y E R

## Young People Ask

By John Griffith

Dear Brother John,

*I am bothered with a feeling of jealousy. I see what someone else has and it bothers me. How can I deal with it?*

Jealous, jealousy—feeling resentment against a person because of his rivalry, success, or advantages, etc., or against another's success or advantage itself. (Random House Dictionary)

"For jealousy is the rage of a man..." Proverbs 6:34

Jealousy is a human emotion, not a spiritual feeling. Jealousy is against the order that God would have man/woman to be. Although there is a form of spiritual jealousy, one where an individual recognizes the association another has with God and desires the same, which is good, yet at this time we should deal with the human aspect of it.

How can I or anyone else condemn you of this feeling. We have all felt its effects, and we each deal with its proper control daily. We are first human. Recognizing our state, we seek ways to better ourselves and our existence. Each of us must openly be aware of our individual human weaknesses and deal with them in a positive, effective manner.

There are a multitude of jealous feelings we can recall. Possibly, someone is taller, thinner, more athletic, better looking, more popular, wiser, born of better parents, or maybe someone was born with that "golden spoon in their mouth."

We know what jealousy is. How do we deal with it?

There is only one way to help our human weaknesses diminish. It isn't in the food we eat, it's not found in our exercise program. It is evidenced in our maturing relationship with Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As we become more like Him, we become less likened to these human weaknesses, because Jesus does help us to overcome them. Yes, we're still human, but we begin to carry those spiritually positive qualities.

Jealousy in our lives should be a sign to us. It tells of our state of being at the present time. "For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" I Corinthians 3:3

We must work diligently to keep that spiritual existence alive within us and the carnal being dead. The carnal instincts will come back, even after baptism, if we allow them. "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another." Galatians 5:25-26

Jealousy and envy are dangerous to our soul. "But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work." James 3:14-16

We can deal with jealousy and every other human attitude through our developing relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Not only do we gain eternal hope and joy, but we can see the immediate effects the power of God has upon us, even to making us a better individual today.

"Wherefore laying aside all ma-

lice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious." 1 Peter 2:1-2

Yield unto the Lord, that you might be that new creature. "A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones." Proverbs 14:30

By your recognizing this small problem, it is evident that the Spirit of God is alive and working in you. Allow it to work. Draw closer to Him for the perfection you desire. God bless you.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you have a question or comment, please write. Share your thoughts with others. We are our brother's keeper. God bless you.

Write: Young People Ask  
The Church of Jesus Christ  
Sixth & Lincoln Sts.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

## OUR WOMEN TODAY

### Ladies Circle Meeting at GMBA Campout

*By Mary Tamburrino, Editor*

The Ladies Circle met on Sunday, July 4, 1982 at the GMBA Campout held in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Sister Mabel Bickerton welcomed all those in attendance and gave a brief history of the Circle from the start up to the present day.

Sister Mabel asked a few brothers to express themselves concerning the work of the Circle. Brother Anthony Lovalvo told of the work done for the Six Nations Mission. He reported that layettes and appliances were purchased and the expenses of the brothers traveling to the Mission were defrayed by the Circle.

Sister Ida Napolitano then related a vision she had in which Sister Mabel was standing in mid-air; the platform on which she was standing completely

disappeared.

Brother Meredith Griffith spoke of Sister Sadie Cadman's devotion to the Ladies Circle and of the inspiration she had in his life. Brother Dominic Thomas, President of the Church, followed by extending his gratitude to the Circle for all that has been done for the Church. He encouraged each person to play their role in the Church, all working together.

A beautiful spirit was felt by all who were able to attend.

### Bloom Where You Are!

*By Arline Whitton*

A special work shop was enjoyed by many sisters and friends of the Michigan-Ontario Ladies Uplift Circle on Monday evening, June 7, at Branch 1.

Sister Jan Steinrock, workshop co-ordinator, introduced the three

sisters that were our leaders for the evening and their topics:

1. Sister Cathy Gentile, "Unbury Those Hidden Talents"
2. Sister Shirley Vitto, "He's Ordained, What's My Role"
3. Sister Angeline Scolaro, "Financial Wisdom for Women"

After the workshop sessions, the sisters of Branch 1 provided refreshments, which gave us all an opportunity for further fellowship.

The many that attended expressed how they enjoyed the evening and are eagerly looking forward to the next workshop, which is being planned for September, 1982.

### Not Far Away

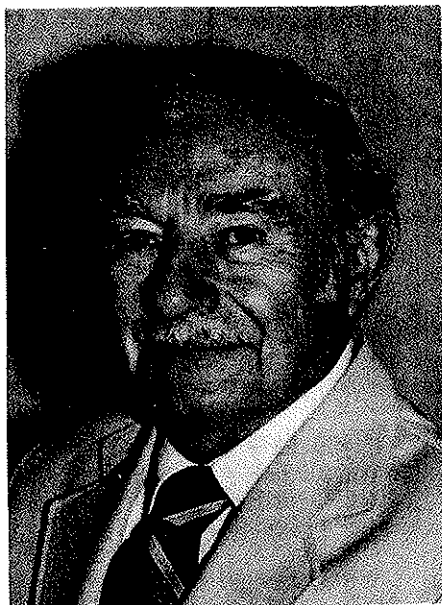
*God is not far away,  
Unmindful of our lives  
This truth I know  
I feel His power stir my soul  
Each time I see the sunset glow.*

*God must be very near.  
And though I cannot touch Him  
In the crowded way,  
I see the wonders of His hands  
Surrounding me each newborn day.*

K. Stevenson Shaffer

## 50th Anniversary

By Leona Buffa



April 4, 1982, marked a very special day for Brother Reno Bologna as he has been in The Church of Jesus Christ for fifty years. Our opening hymn was *After All*, and Brother Leonard Lovalvo offered prayer. Bro-

ther Dominic Thomas expressed some beautiful comments about Brother Reno. He was ordained an elder on May 5, 1946 and an evangelist in the fall of 1949. Brother Dominic stated that Brother Reno has been a wonderful help to all the branches and missions throughout the Church. Brother Dominic called Sister Isabel up front to stand by her husband while he presented him with a carnation.

Brother Reno will now be presiding over the Saline Mission. He told some experiences he has had during these past years. He remembers back when he was Sunday School Superintendent, and as the years went by, he grew in the Church. Some day, he will pass from this life and have eternal life. "What God has prepared for me and you as far as activities—it staggers the mind. God has much for us to do," said Brother Reno.

Brother Reno then read Psalm III. He was introduced to this passage of Scripture while in California. While he had in mind one thought, God had another. When the Lord tells us something, we should surely do it. We here are called by the Lord to be His family. There are many things we

need to do. If you slack down, pick yourself up and be revitalized. Help those who need support. Give a helping hand, even as Jesus said, "Love one another."

We sang *Standing on the Promises*. Brother Dominic Moraca stated how Brother Reno brought compassion to the Church. Fifty years is a long time—a lifetime! In the fifty years he has known Brother Reno, God has blessed him temporally and spiritually.

Brother Dan Parravano added that Brother Reno has been an inspiration to him in all he can remember.

We closed singing, *There's No Rainbow Can Shine Like Jesus*, and prayer was offered by Brother Alex Gentile.

After the meeting, Brother Reno's family prepared a very gracious dinner for the members of Branch 2 in honor of their father's fifty years in the Church. The dinner and fellowship were very much enjoyed by all there.

May God bless Brother Reno with many more years in the Gospel.

## Branch and Mission News

### Saline, MI

By Janet Buffa, Mission Editor

As members of The Church of Jesus Christ, we can all remember the great joy and anticipation we felt within us when we joined the Church. The saints in the Saline, Michigan area are now experiencing a similar exhilaration with the establishment of the Saline Mission.

It all began a few years ago when several of the saints and their families moved from their Downriver communities near Detroit to the rural area of Saline. It was the dream of many that maybe "someday" we could share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with our new friends and neighbors. That dream became reality when we were officially organized into an established mission by our Michigan-Ontario District officers, Brothers Spencer Everett, Carl Frammolino, and Leonard Lovalvo in April, 1982.

April 25, 1982, marked our first Sunday meeting held in the local township hall. God has certainly blessed us because not only do we have a beautiful and spacious building in which to meet, but also a very enthusiastic group of brothers and sisters, children, and friends united in one cause. He has also blessed us in opening many doors, both naturally and spiritually, showing us that future growth is truly possible.

In our first meeting, Brother Reno Bologna, our Presiding Elder, reminded us of the story of Jesus' crucifixion, and drew from the text the theme of worship, and man's distaste for worshipping, or bowing before one another. How different it was in that time when they wrapped themselves around Jesus and bowed at his feet! But also, look at the promise He has made to His followers, "I will be with you always, even until the end of the world."

Our elder brother admonished us,

as a new mission, to constantly pray in any endeavor we plan to undertake. We are not perfect, but do serve a perfect God. It is our personal responsibility to serve God to the best of our ability, but at the same time remembering that each person's ability differs.

In keeping with our elder's preaching, we have prayed fervently that God would be ever with us and multiply our numbers as He sees fit. We were recently rewarded for those prayers on May 30, 1982, when one of our regular visitors asked for her baptism at the conclusion of our Sunday service. Sister Bette Broadbent was baptized that afternoon by Brother Frank Morle and later confirmed by Brother Reno at the home of Brother Peter and Sister Eleanor Buffa. Our prayer is for our sister's continued growth in the Gospel, and that she may enjoy many fruitful years in God's service.

In closing, we earnestly invite your prayers that God will continue to

manifest His works in this part of the vineyard. We also welcome anyone visiting in our area to fellowship with us. Sunday School and Morning Service is held at the York Township Hall, and midweek services are held in the homes of the saints.

Brother Reno Bologna, our Presiding Elder, resides at:

8085 Schneider Road  
Manchester, MI 48158  
(313) 428-9434

## Detroit, Branch 2

By Leona Buffa

Our Sunday service, March 7, 1982, opened with prayer by Brother Dominic Thomas. Brother Steve Champagne sang *Jesus Use Me*. Visiting speaker, Brother Pete Capone, read from Romans 8:35-39, elaborating on the Apostle Paul's experiences. He also referred to Job, how the Lord richly rewarded him after his many trials, granting him seven sons, three more daughters and a long life of 140 years.

He noted that Jesus also taught many things, and His love will never change. Brother Pete asked, "Are we persuaded? Without the love of God, our lives are void." Brother Frank Morle closed in prayer.

Many visitors were present for the afternoon meeting. Brother Tullio LaCivita began by asking, "Do we appreciate what Christ has done for us? Are we telling others of the Gospel as someone told our parents? Are we hiding our light under a bushel?"

Brother Tony Lovalvo followed, noting how the early Church relieved the apostles by appointing seven men to help them. There are many responsibilities in the office of a deacon. Brother Alex Gentile then read the duties of a deacon.

All who were baptized with Brother Emil Lambert at the Nauvoo Campout sang the camp theme, *Heaven Came Down and Glory Filled My Soul*. Brother Emil expressed thanks to God for His Church and blessings.

Brother Dominic Thomas related a few experiences. Brother Joe Vargo then washed Brother Emil's feet, and Brother Thomas offered prayer as the

elders knelt in a circle around Brother Emil. Brother Leonard Lovalvo's prayer, ordaining Brother Emil to the office of deacon, manifested a peaceful, sweet spirit.

Brother Alex Gentile gave Brother Emil's and Sister Yvonne's parents an opportunity to express themselves.

We closed, singing *In the Service of the King*, and Brother Dan Parravano closed in prayer.

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An evening singspiration was held at Branch 2 on March 28. We began with community singing. Brother Dan Parravano welcomed everyone, noting that music surely moves our inner spirits. He remembers one particular time in singing at a General Church Conference how there was such a blessing, you could feel the building vibrate.

After we sang *I'm a Child of the King*, Brother Flip Palacios prayed. We then sang many favorites of our brothers, sisters and friends.

The young people sang *God's Still on His Throne* and *Weighed in the Balance*. Brother Dan commented on the Area Weekend Retreat held this past February, expressing pleasure of being with the young people and that he is really proud of them. During that weekend, they sang those two songs they just sang over and over again.

Brother Eugene and Sister Donna Amormino went over some of the *Songs of Zion* to teach them to us. A few young people sang *Zion's City*. Afterwards, the Branch 2 Quartet sang *Zion's Border Line*. Brother Dan said this was one of the most beautiful songs he has ever heard. We have to have a vision of where we are going, and that song tells him.

In closing, we sang *God's Still on His Throne*, and Brother Alex Gentile offered prayer. Afterwards, we gathered for refreshments prepared by our sisters. A very good time was surely enjoyed by all in the spirit of singing, love and fellowship, one for another.

## Cleveland, OH

On July 11, 1982, Judy Hufnagle,

daughter of Brother Bill and Sister Roberta Hufnagle, Branch 1, was baptized. She was baptized at Simm's Park, Euclid, Ohio by her father, Brother Bill, and she was confirmed by Brother Vince Gibson.

May God bless Sister Judy in her commitment to Christ and to her family on this joyous event.

## Roscoe, PA

By Bertha Jean Bilski, Branch Editor

On May 9, 1982, the brothers and sisters at Roscoe Branch gathered along with visitors from Clairton, Fredonia, Monongahela, and Vanderbilt Branches to welcome Brother Matthew Laktash into the ministry of The Church of Jesus Christ.

During the afternoon services, Brother Art Gehly, First Counsellor of the Pennsylvania District, read from the Minister's Manual the duties of an elder. Brother Fred Olexa spoke from I Peter 5 concerning the calling of an elder and how they are to feed the flock and become as examples to the flock. He expressed how close he had become to Brother Matthew, having known him for many years, and of the joy he felt that they would be able to work together in the ministry.

Brother John Olexa from Monongahela and Brother James King from Vanderbilt expressed themselves, telling how they had known Brother Matthew for many years and told of experiences they had shared with him and rejoiced to be able to witness his ordination into the Priesthood.

Brother Laktash's feet were washed by Brother B. J. Martin, and he was ordained by laying on of hands by Brother Art Gehly. Brother Matthew also expressed himself and told a dream that God had given him the night before confirming his calling into the ministry and his ordination into the Priesthood.

May God bless Brother Matthew and help him to fulfill his wonderful calling and do the work that God would have him to do.



## Bronx, NY

*By Linda Benyola, Branch Editor*

On Sunday, April 4, 1982, the Bronx Branch decided to extend their Sabbath Day for several calorie-packed hours of conversation. So, after being filled with the spiritual food we have all come to need and enjoy, our group of brothers, sisters, friends, and visitors moved the gathering to the rear of the building, which just happens to include the kitchen! Actually, after several weeks of planning and organizing, each of the sisters pledged a contribution to provide a complete spaghetti dinner, including homemade goodies for dessert.

There was almost perfect attendance, and speaking for everyone, young and old, it was a meal to remember. To be able to share our talents, both spiritually and naturally, is a privilege not to be taken for granted. Even clean-up went with ease, children assisting. This was one event that was even better than the anticipation.

It has also been tradition in the branch to begin our feet washing services with a fast and prayer meeting, as it was most recently on June 27, 1982. The humble and Holy Spirit which always permeates these meetings was evident then, as well. And, in keeping with our efforts toward unity, we broke our fast simultaneously with refreshments at the close of the service.

We can truthfully say that God has blessed us with nourishment abundant.

## McKees Rocks, PA

*By Carol Monaghan, Branch Editor*

The McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania Branch recently celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the dedication of our building. Many letters had been sent to families and members who had at one time attended the McKees Rocks Branch. Although many could not attend, we received many replies of congratulations and recollections of past blessings.

Many memories were recalled of the past 50 years. The building fund was started with members pledging \$5.00/month—a great deal of money during those times. Many of the brothers recalled when the building was dedicated and reflected on those who had done much work on the building and have since gone to their reward.

During the Friday evening meeting, Brothers Paul Palmieri, Russell Cadman and Tony Palmieri spoke. Brother Dan Casasanta gave us the history of the Branch and brought to mind many of the blessings and hardships the saints were willing to share to bring us to this day. We praise God for such dedicated and faithful brothers and sisters.

Fifty year veterans of the Branch are Brother Dan and Sister Fannie Casasanta and Sister Mary Nolfi.

The first three elders ordained making the Mission a Branch were Brothers Vincent Clements, Tony Nolfi and Dan Casasanta.

A chart was made listing all those baptized from 1923 to the present. Pictures of present and previous members were displayed. There were many brothers and sisters and friends who had a part in this celebration. Special thanks should go to Brother Joe Rogalla for the overall organization, Sister Nina DiCenzo for making the charts, picture displays and handling the guest book, and to Sister Vickie DiAntonio of the Aliquippa Branch for baking a beautiful, special cake.

We thank all those who came to celebrate the anniversary with us and sincerely pray that all those who have ever entered these doors in our Branch will always remember the blessings of God.

## Sterling, MI

*By Hazel Zoltek, Branch Editor*

We thank God that today, June 6, Sister Diane Hawkins, who has been ill for three weeks, was back with us.

After Brother Steve Champine sang *My God Is Real*, Brother Sam DiFalco offered prayer, followed by Brother Steve's and Sister Diane's

rendition of *The Lord's Prayer*. Sister Diane then gave her testimony explaining her recent illness and how the doctor told her it would be at least two more weeks before she could resume her job because she must stay off her feet as much as possible. She was very discouraged and she called Brother Louis Vitto and Brother Spencer Everett to come and anoint her. She went back to her doctor, and he was amazed at her speedy recovery.

Brother Sam DiFalco chose to speak from Matthew 25:19-34, concerning talents. God gives each of us something different, something we can handle. He wants us to do something with our talents. He does not want us to cast them out. He wants us to use them for His glory, as Brother Steve and Sister Diane did today. We must always remember that we will all appear before Him at some future date. We cannot hide anything from Him. We must be sincere in everything we do because the Lord knows all about us.

Brother Sam told of attending his daughter, Nancy's, graduation service. There were many talents represented by these young people, and Brother Sam began to put a spiritual meaning towards them. These young people had worked hard to receive their diploma, some worked harder than others, some barely made it, but they all received the same reward—their diploma. We might be failing in this world, but we have an opportunity to do something with our lives. We must start working for the Lord, stand the test, and receive our reward. There is a straight and narrow path, no longer can we tread that wide, flowery path. It is only through the power of Jesus Christ that we can emerge victorious.

Brother Louis then said that we are not here to force anyone to baptism. We are trying to shake the tree a little so that the ripe fruit might fall. Brother Louis told of an experience which Brother John Impastato had, of how he was in a very large field with many people. Some of these people were wealthy, some were dignitaries carrying important papers. In front of them was a closed gate, and everyone was attempting to get through; but some were not carrying the correct credentials. When it became time for Brother John to enter, the man at the gate asked him his name, checked the book he was holding and allowed him to enter. He then beheld the saints of God rejoicing with Him.

We sang *Power In The Blood*, and there were a few testimonies when Brother John Buffa stood. He was shaking with the Spirit of God upon him, and he could hardly hold his composure. He said he must read some scripture which God had directed him to read, and he read Luke 19:1-10. Then he asked, "When is graduation? Not in this life. It is when we stand before God. No one can receive his diploma, cannot graduate without obedience to the Gospel." Brother John asked, "Will we receive that call to salvation, will we wear that spotless gown of white? How many times had God called you? There is a time to register; you either graduate or you drop out. Which is your choice? Many are called but few are chosen; these are the words of God."

We sang *When the Roll Is Called*

*Up Yonder* and were dismissed by Brother John Buffa. Beverly Visconti, young Louis Visconti's wife, asked for her baptism. What a wonderful way for a young couple to begin—in the service of God.

Sister Beverly was baptized by Brother Louis Vitto. At our night service, Brother Carl Frammolino and Brother Louis Vitto sang a duet, *Sheltered in the Arms of God*. Brother Carl offered prayer and Sister Anita Znoy sang *Follow Me*. Surely her voice is her talent.

We sang *Ready to Go* as Sister Beverly came forth to receive her confirmation. The elders gathered around her, and Brother John Buffa offered prayer. She was then confirmed by Brother Paul Whitton. Sister Beverly was introduced to this Church by Pam Whitton Thomas.

Sister Beverly gave her testimony. She said that she did not want the gate to be closed against her, and she was praying for God to give her strength to ask for her baptism today.

We, here in the Sterling Branch, have held fasting and prayer services for the unbaptized spouses of the saints. At our last Ladies Circle prayer service, we especially prayed for Sister Beverly. God has begun to answer our prayers.

Brother Carl Frammolino spoke to us telling us of his trip to Dallas when his son, Brother Ralph, was ordained an elder. He said that our purpose in this Church is to bring souls to Christ. (He later told us that Sister Joanne was the first person to be anointed by Brother Ralph. What a great experience for both mother and son.)

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### CHERRY—BRIGHT

Brother Alexander Cherry and Sister Melissa Bright were united in marriage on June 12, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Monongahela, PA.

Brother Paul Carr officiated in the ceremony with Brother John Griffith assisting. Soloist was Sister Barbara Fleming, and she was accompanied on the organ by Valerie Marynachak.

The newlyweds will be residing in Monongahela. Our prayer is that they will receive God's greatest blessing in their new life together.

### BANYASKI—COPPA

Brother Tom Banyaski and Sister Linda Coppa were united in marriage on May 7, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Hopelawn, New Jersey.

Brother Frank Mazzeo conducted the marriage ceremony.

The newlyweds are residing in Keasbey, New Jersey.

### KING—RYAN

Brother John A. King and Miss Tommie Lee Ryan were joined in holy wedlock on May 22, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ, Vanderbilt, PA.

Brother James L. King officiated at the ceremony. Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky was the soloist.

The newlyweds are residing in Uniontown, PA.

### CRUZ—OLMO

Gil Cruz and Annie Olmo were united in marriage on April 10, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ, Brooklyn, New York.

Brother James R. Link, Sr. officiated at the ceremony. Sister Linda Gomes was the soloist.

The newlyweds are residing in Brooklyn, New York.

### PIANKO—GIOIA

Mr. Martin Pianko and Sister Patricia Gioia were united in holy matrimony on April 30, 1982 at the home of Brother John and Sister Bessie Impastato, the sister and brother-in-law of the bride.

Brother Nick Pietrangelo officiated at the wedding ceremony. Musical selections were presented by Brother Eugene Amormino.

The newlyweds will reside in West Bloomfield, Michigan. May the Lord truly bless them in their new life together.

### FALLAVOLLITA—MARKOVICH

Mr. Steven Fallavollita and Miss Mary Markovich were united in marriage on Saturday, March 27, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Bell, California.

Brother Tom Jones performed the ceremony. Musical selections were presented by Brother Ken Jones.

The newlyweds will reside in Arcadia, California. May God's blessing rest upon them in their new life together.

## New Arrivals

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

Ammon Alexander to George Alan and Jill Kovacic of Erie, Pennsylvania;

Heather Renee to Tom and Cindy Everett of Detroit, Michigan, Branch 1;

Anthony Joseph to Tom and Nancy Lombardo of Detroit, Michigan, Branch 1;

Amber Lynn to Kenneth and Bonnie Gibson of Cleveland, Ohio.

## OBITUARIES

*We wish to express our sympathy to those that mourn over the loss of loved ones. May God bless and comfort you.*

### WILSA GILLEY

Sister Wilsa Gilley, a resident of Durham, California, recently passed away. She was born on April 27, 1911 in Dallas, Texas and died at the age of 71.

Sister Wilsa is survived by her husband, one daughter, one sister and two grandchildren.

Brother Mark Randy of Modesto, California conducted the funeral services.

Sister Wilsa was a true saint and an example in deed to all that knew her.

### MATTHEW DAVID YATES

Matthew David Yates passed away on May 9, 1982. He was born on March 11, 1982 and died suddenly due to a crib death.

He is survived by his mother, Elizabeth Yates, grandmother, Sister Edith Snyder, and aunts, uncles and cousins.

Brothers John Kendall and Matthew Laktash conducted the funeral service.

May God comfort the hearts of all who mourn the loss of Matthew, is our prayer.

### FRANK SCOLARO

Brother Frank Scolaro passed away on April 19, 1982. He was born on February 4, 1893. Brother Frank was a

member of Branch 1, Detroit, and was baptized on April 16, 1933.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Paul Vitto with the assistance of the nephew of the deceased, Brother Tony Scolaro.

He is survived by his wife, Sister Jennie, and two sons. He will be greatly missed by the brothers and sisters of Branch 1.

### JOHN OLEXA

Brother John Olexa, a member of the Monongahela Branch, passed away peacefully to his heavenly reward on June 12, 1982. Born in 1905, Brother John was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on August 28, 1940 by Brother Paul Vancik, Sr. Four (4) years later, in 1944, Brother Olexa was ordained an elder by Brother W. H. Cadman.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers John Griffith and Jim Grazan.

Brother John is survived by his wife, Sister Susan, two sons, Kenneth and Fred, one daughter, Carolee Sutch, and nine grandchildren.

Brother Olexa's life was a testimony and example to all, as he remained a faithful and dedicated member of the Church throughout his years. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

### LUCY CALABRESE

Sister Lucy Calabrese, a member of the Lorain, Ohio Branch, passed on to her eternal reward on June 28, 1982. She was born on December 13, 1916 and was baptized on June 6, 1948.

She is survived by her husband, Louis, one daughter, one son, four grandchildren, one brother and two sisters.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Frank and Joseph Calabrese.

### CARLO ROMANO

Brother Carlo Romano of the Fort Pierce, Florida Branch passed away from this life on June 22, 1982. He was born on October 29, 1902 and baptized on March 31, 1935. On August 5, 1979 he was ordained a deacon.

He is survived by his wife, Sally, one daughter, one son, eight grandchildren, one brother and two sisters.

Brothers Charles Smith and Anthony Ensana conducted the funeral services on June 25, 1982.

Brother Carlo will be greatly missed for his testimony to all. He will be remembered for his faith and love of God. We will all miss his gentle spirit.

# The Gospel News

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

(USPS 224-480)

October, 1982

Volume 38, No. 10

## My Testimony

*By Sister Ann Creevy*

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow." As it is written in Psalms 116, yes, I love the Lord, because he hears me and listens to my prayers. He listens to me everytime I call to him. Death drew its ropes tight around us, the horrors of the grave closed in on us and we were filled with fear and anxiety. Then I cried to the Lord, Oh how I cried, "I beg you Lord, save my son."

On December 27, 1981, my son, Barry, age 29, was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit after a week of illness. He was suffering from a high fever, 105.8, mental depression, double pneumonia, disease of an unknown origin and lung infection. On that Sunday afternoon during our meeting, I was called out by my husband, who gave me the dreaded news that our son was critical and had only a few hours left to live. As I left the church, the elders led the brothers and sisters in prayer for him. For five days he was in a coma, and medically speaking he was dead, and was being kept alive by life-supporting respirators and tubes. One lung was totally blocked, as the doctor described, like a piece of liver and his fever still remained at 105.

The elders from the Hopelawn Branch and other local branches went to anoint him and prayed as did all the saints. They came in bitter cold weather and snow and all hours of the day and night. God bless them all.

He was in I.C.U. for several days when one doctor said to me, "We are

doing all we can; now it's time to pray." I replied, "Doctor, he has had enough prayers to fill this hospital". Meanwhile, they still didn't know why his fever was not breaking and what the infectious disease was. A specialist was called in and they injected all sorts of exotic drugs into him, some never tried on humans. They figured he was as good as dead, so what was there to lose.

After about two weeks, the results came in from the Atlanta, Georgia Disease Control Center that Barry had Legionnaires Disease. Now the doctors knew what to work with. Massive doses of drugs were injected into him, and slowly his fever broke and signs of improvement began. However, the medication had bad reactions on him. Every time he went one step forward, he went two back. The elders kept coming, and we all kept praying on his behalf.

Barry is not a member of the Church and is not very close to the Lord. He still can't seem to understand that it was the Lord that saved him. In fact, I am the only one in my family who belongs to the Church. Perhaps, as Sister Helen Kovacs said, he may not yet realize that by the grace of God, his life was spared. He may yet see the light. If not, then the miracle was for the benefit of those around him, his family and those who prayed for him that God's name be glorified.

Barry spent 30 days in I.C.U., slowly all machines and tubes were disconnected. He was then transferred to a regular room. He spent 43 days in the hospital, and his weight went down to 103 pounds from 155 pounds.

Today he is well, his health improved and weight up to 145 pounds. Brothers and sisters, I ask all of you who read this to remember him in your prayers that someday he will find his way and his footsteps be guided to The Church of Jesus Christ to bear his testimony to this miracle.

I want, also, to thank all who shared in this, for those whose shoulders I cried on. Without their help it would not have been possible. May God bless you all.

## An Experience

*By Brother Henry Berardi*

March 26, 1946, we had the dedication of The Church of Jesus Christ in Lockport, New York. To dedicate our church for the glory of God was President, William H. Cadman, the main speaker, followed by Brother Ishmael D'Amico. A minister of the Presbyterian church was also present. We had two baptisms that day.

A few weeks after the dedication, a local priest began to speak to his congregation against the saints of God stating, "They were all crazy." He did not mind our reading the *Bible*, but felt that we did not understand it.

One Sunday, after our church service, we were coming out of our church. We met some of the people who had heard their priest speak against our Church. When they saw me, they spoke out against me, "You exalt your church, and our priest said

you are all crazy!" As I was walking further and met other people, I heard them repeat the same statement over and over again. I never answered them.

The next day, I was working in the factory near the church and thought of what I heard the day before. I made this a matter of prayer to the Lord God saying, "Oh, Lord God! You know all things, and also what the priest is saying against Your Church! I know You are almighty in doing all things. We have dedicated our Church for the preaching of the Restoration of the Gospel of peace. But now, this priest is trying to scare people who love Thy Gospel."

At once before me appeared a personage dressed in white with a long and radiant garment. He said to me, "Do not be afraid. You go to his house and tell him that this is My Church and that I am sending you to him. Also tell him all the words which I rehearsed to you." That night, I went home; I did not go to speak to the priest.

The following day as I went to work, the personage appeared again, strongly reproofing me. He questioned me about many things. He asked me why I did not speak to the priest. I began to defend myself, saying, "He is a learned man. He might have me arrested for going into his house and disturbing his privacy." The personage answered me, "Not when I send you. And if he should not be convinced, you tell him this." He opened a scroll of paper and made me read words written in gold upon it. Then he rolled it up again, saying, "These are the last words you shall tell him."

That evening after supper, I knelt down praying to the Lord, "Oh, Lord God, I am going to the priest's house. Go before me, and if this is Thy Spirit and will for me to go, cause that I meet no one on the way so that I may know for sure Thou art the one who sends me, that this is not a temptation but is Thy will; or give me a sign to turn back."

My wife, seeing me going out, asked me, "Where are you going?" I answered, "I am taking a walk." I walked about a couple of blocks and turned to the priest's house, not having met anyone on my way. I rang the bell and he answered the door. I saluted him, knowing him personally. We shook hands. I was invited into the home. Then I stated my reason for

paying him a visit. "As you know," I said, "we have dedicated The Church of Jesus Christ on Ontario Street. This is our Church which has twelve apostles, seventy evangelists, elders, teachers, deacons and deaconesses. We take bread and wine for communion and have the washing of feet."

He asked, "Who organized this church? Henry, why did you leave the Catholic Church?"

I answered, "I did not leave the church. I met Jesus Christ and I began to follow Him to save my soul."

"But many in the Catholic Church save their souls," he answered. I told him, "I did not come here to discuss the different doctrines. We are not against the Catholics; we are not against the Protestants, nor against the Jews. I came here so that we may understand one another."

Then his face became pale and white, and for about two and a half minutes he appeared not to be breathing. He looked like a dead man who was drowned and pulled out of the water after many days. When I saw that, I prayed in my heart to the Lord not to let him die here and now. If that should happen and I was found there, I might be blamed. After a few minutes, he pushed his head up with his hand and began to breathe. Regaining his composure, he said, "Why do you not believe in the Constitution of the United States?" I replied, "We do believe in it." He said, "I thought you were some 'ISM'."

I told him, "I am a new Henry, and I came here in the name of God and of His Son, Jesus Christ." He told me, "You are a little bit educated; tell those folks to come back to the Catholic Church."

I stood on my feet, pointing my finger to the sky. I answered, "You have no power to change my mind, as I cannot change yours, but God who is in heaven changes the minds of the people." He mumbled, "This is a waste of time." He got up from his chair, turned to my left, took one step back and scornfully spit on the floor and said, "You do not understand the Scriptures."

I quickly answered, "I kneel down before I read the Bible and pray for the Lord God to guide me; then I read it." Immediately a voice from heaven said, "Henry, God bless you."

The priest came towards me to shake my hand. He spoke for twenty minutes, telling me all the things he had said reviling The Church of Jesus Christ, adding, "But I did not know about this Church." I replied, "Had you kept quiet or silent, I would have never come here." We shook hands again, and I went home.

Months later, I learned many women of his parish visited him, requesting him to try to stop this Church. He told them to return to their respective homes, because those people cannot be stopped.



## 67th Anniversary

By Margaret Abbott, Branch Editor

Brother Albert and Sister Carmella Ventura of the Cleveland, Ohio Branch celebrated 67 years of married life on July 29, 1982. We of the Cleveland Branch wish them many more years of happiness.

Both have been with us many years and are pillars of the Gospel. They both will soon celebrate 87 years of life.

God bless them both for just being with us. Our love and prayers for them will never cease. They have been a loving mother and father in the Gospel.

## Are You Moving?

To guarantee uninterrupted delivery of your *Gospel News*, please forward your new address to us two months in advance.

Print House



By Mark Kovacic  
General Board of Missions Editor

In our last article we examined some of the work that is being done among the Seed of Joseph, the Native Americans. The goal of working for them and with them is being reached throughout the Church in varied ways, and the Church is truly pursuing the great latter day commission (and our number one priority) with loving zeal.

The Church is also seeking to establish the standard of Jesus wherever there is opportunity to do so. Most recently that meant the Restored Gospel being established in the land of India. In this article we wish to share with you some excerpts of letters written by Brother Livingston, one of our ministers in India, to Brother Joseph Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio.

March 28, 1982

By the strength of your and my prayers, I am progressing in the Ministry of the Restored Gospel. We had our first feetwashing ordinance on March 21, 1982, with all except Solomon present. We had a glorious experience of humility and we enjoyed the ordinance as I had done while I witnessed it for the first time in the fellowship of Modesto, California, U.S.A., to whom I am very much indebted. All the reminiscences of my experience with the Church helped me a lot in progressing with my work here.

My work is progressing slowly but steadily. Some are getting ready for baptisms. But I am only taking care to screen them properly before they take baptism in the Church. There is a lot of opposition for believing in the inspired Book of Mormon. But unless there is strong opposition, the Church will not be established on strong groups. So, I am praising the Lord for the same.

There are many healing experiences due to anointment with olive oil and prayer. Wherever I go, I keep the blessed oil with me and I anoint those that come to the hospital also.

I thank you very much for the medicine packet that you have handed over to Brother Don Ross to pass it on to me. I can use any amount of such medicines and even the drug companies can send them directly for use in and through Baer Memorial Hospital. I leave up to you to act as directed by His Spirit.

June 1, 1982

Received your letter dated 5-19-82. I am happy to inform you that I received the gift from the Lorain Ladies Circle. I sent a thank-you note to them.

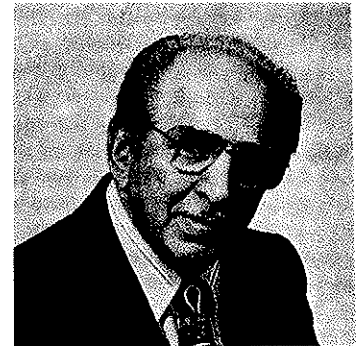
I received Restoration literature from Brother Ross and I am going through them very diligently. Due to the heat of the summer (109 degrees F, 43 degrees C), I could not go to the villages as demanded. Now since the Monsoon had set in, I will be busily engaged in village evangelization. As I have intimated to you, I am very strict with the baptisms. I am screening them very well before I baptize them. I am answerable to God for all I do. It is a great privilege confirmed on me by the Church to do the work of angels. With a good bit of time spent in prayer, I am progressing in the propagation of the Restored Gospel.

July 28, 1982

The Church work is going on slowly but steadily. There is still a lot of opposition at Tadepalligudem to the Book of Mormon. The response in the village is better. We had our second feet washing service on June 20, 1982. During the service, I had a vision. There was a church built on our hospital campus in which there were saints from all over the world. The Church was lifted up into the air and all the saints got out of the building and the church building descended down without a single saint in it. I praised the Lord for that vision. Kindly do pray with great burden for the supply of medicines for free distribution in the villages while we go there for preaching the Gospel Restored.

Ever praying for all; and expecting you all to pray for our spiritual and also for our natural needs.

## "It Is Written"



By V. J. Lovalvo, Apostle

SUBJECT: Hope

In the hearts of the human family, there are many kinds of hopes. There is the abstract type of hope, conceived apart from its true or concrete nature. This is the kind which is unrealistic; a desire that something would happen of itself, such as those who rely on chance, that luck will be in their favor. Or, when adversities happen, one would think, "I hope I will be able to stand up to it, etc." There are those who put their hopes on accidents of fortune, as playing the horses, or that smoking will not produce emphysema or cancer.

To accept the above kinds of hope is no hope at all. It is like playing Russian Roulette. In a sense, to believe in such a hope is truly a form of idolatry; it has no substance whatever. It is like unto a man who dreams he has feasted at a sumptuous party, and when he awakens he is still hungry. Or, like a man who dreams he has become a millionaire, and when he wakes up he is still poor.

There is also the unrealistic hope of some Christians, to wit; as the boxer who, before he starts to fight, will pray in his heart so that he can be victorious, hopefully, over his opponent. And then, he begins to pummel his adversary, hoping to knock him out. Or the Christian, who sets his sights on material things, hoping to become a millionaire. And so it goes on and on, the uncertainty of a vague and empty hope.

The Scriptures teach the believers in Christ to place their hopes upon realistic things that have substance. Paul the Apostle said, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of

all men most miserable." (I Cor. 15:19) The Word of God constantly exhorts the saints to hope in the glorious expectations that await fulfillment on earth and, eventually, in Heaven above. Thusly, it is written, "Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth; my flesh also shall rest in hope." (Job 14:9) The Scriptures declare that the "substance of things hoped for" is faith. Hope is one of the three greatest blessings bestowed upon a saint. The three are **faith, hope and charity**. The prophet of God (in the Book of Mormon) said, "...and if there must be faith, there must also be hope; and if there must be hope, there must also be charity. And except ye have charity, ye can in no wise be saved in the Kingdom of God; neither can ye be saved in the Kingdom of God if ye have not faith; neither can ye if ye have no hope." (Moroni 10:20, 21)

Nations hope for an utopian type of condition to exist on the earth, but their hope for peace will never bear fruit while they are building arms of war; and only when they acknowledge the existence of a higher divine power will peace be achieved. But, as long as

there are atheistic countries involved in any assembly, there will always be contention and strife. Hope is an elusive thing when nations are always girding themselves for warfare. Neither is the hope for an individual of any substance unless he hopes in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Human beings have a saying, "Where there is life, there is hope." The sincere Christian, however, has a more realistic saying, which is, "Where there is hope, there is life."

The hope of the saints springs from the cross (His death for the sins of the world) and is ratified on the day of the Resurrection of Christ (His victory over death and the grave). By resurrecting, Christ proved Himself to be truly the Son of God, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. The hope of the saints is strengthened because He has promised that "where I am, there ye may be also." Therefore, hope is a tangible thing, a substantial vision of no small dimension, but one of glory and wonder.

The hope of the saints is not in the cross per se, but in Him who died on it. So, it is not on the cross of Christ that

hope is pinned on, but on the Christ of the cross, who is able to save to the uttermost. The cross is the way to the Resurrection; without one, we cannot attain the other. Our crosses shall be productive of good, to wit; as He suffered and yet arose, so shall we arise from the dead, seeing that we have borne the cross also. For it is written, "And He said unto them all, if any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." (Luke 9:23)

The world will know true peace and happiness only when it embraces the Gospel of Jesus Christ and realizes that it must place its hope on the Saviour, and not on materialistic things and/or political fantasies which dissolve very quickly to leave a residue of grief and disappointments. So must the saints of the Most High place their hope and confidence in the Lord Jesus who is mighty to save. The inspired poet penned a beautiful hymn whose refrain is, "It is the hope, the blissful hope, which Jesus' grace hath given; The hope, when days and years are passed, that we shall meet in heaven."

## 52nd Anniversary



We are very happy to have this opportunity to pay tribute to our mother, Sister Nancy Azzinaro Ensana, in her 52nd year serving our Lord Jesus Christ. Sister Nancy has been a staunch member of the Gospel wherever she was, at home, at work and in the different localities where she lived. She has always been a strict but loving mother at all times with us. Whatever we may have asked of her, the question always arose "was it good in the eyes of the Lord?"

Sister Nancy was born on June 15,

1901 in Italy, Provincia De Cosenza and came to America when she was 19 years of age. She then met and married Brother Vincent Azzinaro (now deceased) in 1921. She was baptized into the Gospel on November 23, 1930 in Brooklyn, New York by Brother Salvatore Valenti. Sister Nancy was a dedicated member for 20 years in Brooklyn and the Bronx, New York; then she moved to New Jersey and had her membership for 31 years in both New Brunswick and Edison New Jersey. Recently Sister Nancy was transferred to Lake Worth, Florida in January, 1982. We hope to have Sister Nancy as a Florida member for many years to come, as long as the Lord will permit.

Sister Nancy was ordained a deaconess in 1936 by Brother Bill Mazzeo. She has had many beautiful experiences during the past 52 years which space prohibits us from telling. The Lord truly has blessed her, and she is a living testimony with us today. She has raised four children to the best of her ability in the Gospel; namely, Brother Salvatore Azzinaro (now deceased), Brother John Azzinaro, San Fernando Valley, CA; Sister Marie McGuire, Lake Worth, Florida; and Josephine Jasmin, Lake Worth, Florida. We are very happy to still be blessed with the presence of our mother in our midst.

Our prayer is that the Lord will continue to bless her in whatever time the Lord has allotted to her on this earth.

With deep devotion and love from  
her children,

Marie, John and Josephine

\*\*\*\*\*

We would also, at this time, care to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Sister Nancy. We knew her all our lives, and sometime after the death of our mother, our father, Brother Rocco Ensana, married Sister Nancy.

She was a wonderful wife and companion to him, and we are grateful for the loving devotion she showed as his wife until the day of his passing away. They were married for more than 15 years.

We can say of Sister Nancy as we read in Proverbs, "A woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised."

Anthony and Elsie Ensana  
Mamie Funkhouser  
Betty D'Orazio

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
Kenneth L. Staley  
301 Pine Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

ASSISTANT  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
Thomas Ross  
260 Division St. Ext.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

MANAGING EDITOR  
Joseph Ross

ASSISTANT  
MANAGING EDITOR  
Richard Scaglione

EDITORIALISTS AND  
CONSULTANTS  
Paul Palmieri  
John Ross  
John Manes

OFFICE MANAGER  
Cathy Gentile

TYPISTS  
Janet Gibson  
Sharon Staley

CIRCULATION MANAGER  
Janet Buffa

GMBA EDITOR  
Ryan G. Ross  
305 Pine Dr.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

GENERAL CIRCLE  
EDITOR  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15005

DISTRICT EDITORS

ARIZONA  
Dick Ackman  
8403 E. Piccadilly Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

ATLANTIC COAST  
Joseph Perri  
3 Elizabeth Ct.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

CALIFORNIA  
Kenneth R. Jones  
4682 El Rancho Verde Dr.  
LaPalma, Calif. 90620

FLORIDA  
Elsie M. Ensana  
1921 S. E. Erwin Road  
Port St. Lucie, FL 33452

OHIO  
Joel Calabrese  
4280 Knickerbocker  
Sheffield Lake, Ohio 44054

MICHIGAN-ONTARIO  
Louis Pietrangelo  
5522 Bluehill  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

PENNSYLVANIA  
Malcolm Paxon  
5304 Adobe Drive  
Baldwin, PA 15236

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BUSINESS OFFICE  
8423 Boettner Rd.  
Bridgewater, MI 48115  
313 429-5080

## Let Us Give Thanks

We are awed by the swift passing of our summer season! How quickly the harvest season is with us again! We want to welcome it with joyfulness and thanksgiving.

*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

### PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION

Now that the harvest and autumnal season is ushered in, shortly and appropriately, President Ronald Reagan, in keeping with our time-honored American tradition, will issue a proclamation designating the last Thursday of November as a national day of Thanksgiving. How fitting and proper for our nation to pause and give thanks to the Hand of Providence for another bountiful harvest and manifold blessings throughout the year of our Lord, 1982, that is so rapidly drawing to a close.

It behooves us to respond with heartfelt gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His continuing providence, for the generous bounties of our fruitful fields. Happily, many countries throughout the world also observe a national thanksgiving and harvest festival, and rightly so. How fitting and proper, too, that people everywhere also respond with thanksgiving to the same Heavenly Parent.

### TIMELY REMINDER

The season of harvest and in-gathering serves as a timely reminder of how much we depend upon God for our everyday needs. We are also stirred to renew our gratitude to the God and Father of us all, who provides so bountifully and liberally to the human family.

May we not be prone to forget the source of our bounties, much less forget the precious blessing of liberty which we are divinely privileged to enjoy. May we respond to the message of the Psalmist: "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

By Jan Steinrock



## The Jaredites Choose a King

Dear Girls and Boys,

The Jaredite's long journey was over. God had taught them how to build barges and touched sixteen stones so they would shine in the dark little barges for them. They had crossed terrible seas and felt the wonderful presence of God. The people were humble before God and taught their children what God had done for them. Many years had passed; the brother of Jared and Jared's children were grown men and women with children of their own.

The brother of Jared and Jared called all the people together to count them. They asked the people if there was anything they could do for them before they died.

You can imagine how troubled everyone was to think that these two great spiritual leaders were going to leave them. The people told them that they wanted the brother of Jared and Jared to choose one of their sons to guide them and be their king. The men were grieved that the people asked this. They did not want to do this because they knew how power affects men. The brother of Jared warned the people that having kings leads to being captives.

However, the people would not listen to his warning. Jared advised his brother to give them what they wanted, and they wanted the brother of Jared's oldest son, Pagag, to be their king. When he refused, they told his father to force him to say yes.

The brother of Jared would not do this. He commanded the people to never force a man to be king. One by one, the people asked each of the other sons of the brother of Jared to be their king. One by one, they each refused. Then the people asked the four sons of

Jared to be their king. Finally, Orihah agreed to serve as their king.

It must not be easy to be a king, trying to keep a humble spirit when everyone around you naturally treats you with so much importance. Orihah was a righteous king. The people began to prosper and became exceedingly rich in this land of plenty.

All the years of his life, Orihah served the one true God. He lived to be an old, old man, and in his old age had a son named Kib. Out of Orihah's twenty-three sons, Kib was chosen to be the second king of the Jaredite people.

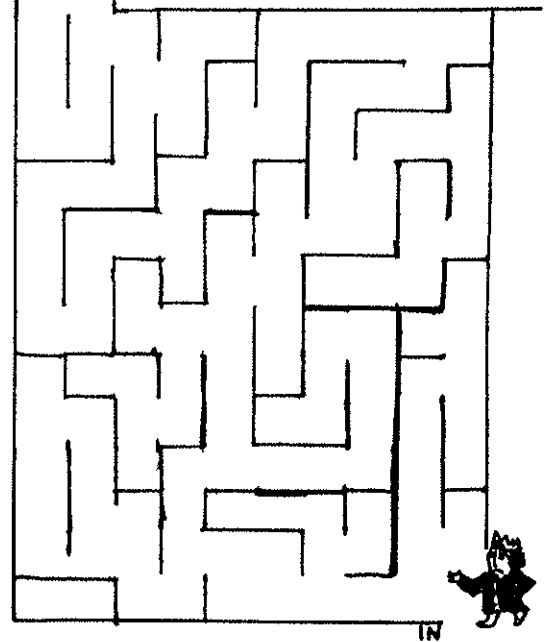
Kib also had many children. One of these children was a son named Corihor. Corihor was a man who craved power. When Corihor turned thirty-two years old, he turned against his father. He left his father's part of the land and went to the land of Nehor. There he raised his own family, and his sons and daughters grew up very beautiful. Many people chose to follow Corihor, the man with the attractive family.

Soon Corihor had gathered a great number of followers. He took this army of followers and went to attack his father, Kib's kingdom. King Kib was captured by his own son and no longer was allowed to rule. The power-hungry Corihor ruled the people of the Promised Land. In just four generations, the brother of Jared's words were fulfilled: having a king led to captivity.

Sincerely,  
Sister Jan

HELP KING KIB  
ESCAPE FROM  
CORIHOR'S ARMY

OUT FREE



## MBA Highlights Fredonia, PA MBA News

By Eleanor Sproul, MBA Editor

Sixteen members and children from the Fredonia, PA Branch left on Friday, August 6, for our annual MBA trip. This year we traveled to Lancaster, PA, a distance of nearly 300 miles, to view a replica of the Hebrew Tabernacle and furnishings reproduced from Biblical descriptions. The lecture, given by a competent guide, explained the purpose of each article of furniture. A wax figure, representing the Hebrew High Priest, helped to recreate the ancient ritual at the altar of incense. We viewed the film, "A Morning Song", that featured a Menonite family on their farm in Lancaster County. It was all very interesting and enlightening.

We also had the opportunity and privilege to visit and fellowship with Brother Bruce and Sister Darlene Large and family. Surely such love and hospitality can only be displayed by those who love and serve God. We learned more of Sister Darlene's humanitarian work in India among the

lepers in the Bethany Colony and Hoina's newly opened orphanage. Also joining our group was Sister Carmella Mazzeo from Florida, Sister Mary DiFede and Cheryl Gehly from New Jersey.

The Sunday Service was held in a pavilion in the Manheim Township Community Park and was opened by Brother Russell Cadman, who read several verses from the third chapter of St. John's Gospel. He numerated the many blessings and gifts from God, the most important being, His Son, Jesus Christ. Brother Arthur Gehly followed and based his remarks on the 16th verse, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." A short testimony meeting followed and Communion was served. Brother Alvin Gehly closed with prayer.

On returning home from seeing this beautiful part of Pennsylvania with its prosperous farms and abundant harvest, we more fully realized how fortunate we are to be living in this great country, a land of promise, a land which is choice above all other lands, a chosen land of the Lord, a land of the Restored Gospel.

## 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

## Editor's Note

*The Gospel News* is pleased to note in this issue that Sister Darlene Large of the Levittown, Pennsylvania Branch was one of several recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Awards of The Pennsylvania State University at University Park, Pennsylvania on June 5, 1982.

Following is the presentation and citation as taken from the Distinguished Alumni Awards 1982 booklet:

### Darlene D. Large '59

"In 1971, Darlene Large, an art teacher and mother from Leola, Pennsylvania, had a vision while reading the *Bible* that she would someday establish a home for orphans in India. Seven years later she did just that when she traveled to India to adopt a child, took seven orphaned boys under her wing, and founded what she calls "a work of love" to ease the suffering and starvation endured by millions.

"Today that organization, HOINA (Home of the Indian Nations), includes a new orphanage, a home for handicapped children, a leprosy colony, and a leprosy clinic serving 1,500 patients a month. The home for handicapped is for victims of polio, club feet, blindness, and missing hands who are learning trades and attending schools as normal children. The leprosy colony houses 600 former beggars who are now noncontagious and working as goat keepers, weavers, poultry and rabbit farmers, and soap and candle-makers. All of this Mrs. Large and her husband Bruce, a 1956 Penn State graduate, administer from their Lancaster County home.

"All of her work, too, is voluntary and privately funded through her substitute teaching and by contributions from such enthusiastic local supporters as the Lancaster County Lions Clubs and the Soroptimist Club, which, in 1979, presented her with its Woman of Achievement Award.

"A native of Glassport, Mrs. Large enrolled at Penn State in 1953 but interrupted her college work for two years of art training and teaching in Venezuela before returning to earn a B.S. in art education in 1959. She later studied at Moody Bible Institute, Lancaster Bible College, and Millers-

ville State College while working as an art teacher for various school districts in Pennsylvania, New York, and Illinois.

"As a volunteer—her favorite occupation—she has worked with Boy Scouts, the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, hospitals, homes for the aged, churches, nursery and Amish schools, the Spanish Center, and the Right to Read program.

"In January 1982, on her annual trip to India, she set up a mobile medical program to serve the needs of two villages and planned a second HOINA clinic to serve a dozen villages. Mrs. Large now hopes to extend her good works to American Indians in Arizona."



### CITATION

*To Darlene D. Large, social worker, for her love, efforts, and generosity in behalf of her fellow man, and for the dramatic improvements she has made in the lives of those less fortunate than herself.*

Additionally, it was Sister Large who introduced the Gospel to Brother Dev during her visit to India in 1975. May the Lord continue to bless and prosper her labors, as well as her husband, Bruce, and family for their support and encouragement.

"Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble." Psalms 41:1

## 50th Anniversary

*By Dora Rossi and Joan Gibson*

On Sunday, July 25, 1982, the Aliquippa Branch honored nine members for their fifty years in the Gospel.

They are as follows: Brother Anthony Palmieri, Sister Carmella Palmieri, Brother Luigi DeLuca, Sister Philomena DeLuca, Sister Antoinette Giannetti, Brother John Ross, Sister Mary Ross, Sister Sabina D'Antonio, Sister Domenica Tamburrino.

The morning service was introduced by Brother Paul Palmieri. He used Proverbs 22:1 for his text, "A good name is better than riches." He brought out many good thoughts concerning a good name. The nine members left a good name in the sight of man and God. We were reminded that Sister Domenica Tamburrino had visited the Aliquippa Branch one time, was touched by the Holy Spirit, and became a member the second time she attended church. Sister Tamburrino is a former member of the Aliquippa Branch, but now lives in Detroit and attends Branch 3.

Brother Paul touched on Acts 4, concerning the man that was healed at the gate beautiful. The people prayed that God would manifest His power among them, and this was fulfilled. Brother Paul asked the congregation, "Have you been with Jesus?" We must reflect Jesus Christ in our lives.

Brother Joe Ross followed with the following remarks: "We serve the same God that gave power to Peter and John, and we will be rewarded for our works here on earth and in the life to come." The morning service was brought to a close with prayer by Brother Anthony Ross.

We met again that evening at the church to honor our nine members. There were visitors from McKees Rocks, Fredonia, Imperial, Detroit and Monongahela. Brother Paul Palmieri offered the opening prayer. Brother Thomas Ross read a resume of all nine members and each of them bore a testimony of their years in the Gospel.

Brother Russell Cadman expressed himself and commented on the years of service the honorees had in the Gospel. Brother Fred Olexa followed by stating that they all planted a good seed and brought forth good works. Brother John Griffith expressed how that these faithful members were our spiritual parents. The service was brought to a close with prayer by Brother Anthony Ross.

Refreshments were served following the meeting. The blessings of God were felt during the day and in the evening as well. May God richly bless our members for their consistency and dedication to Him. They have set a good example before us and we pray that God's holy Spirit will continue to be with them and all the saints that have committed their lives to God.

## Branch and Mission News

### Anaheim, CA

*By Shirley Pershin*

Anaheim had a day of spiritual rejoicing on May 16, 1982 as two new members were baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ, Sisters Geri and Sara Garofolo. Brother Frank Ciotti baptized Sister Sarah, and Brother Rusty Heaps baptized Sister Geri.

Sister Sarah was confirmed by Brother Walt Jankowski, and Sister Geri was confirmed by Brother Ken Jones.

Also, the mother of the two new sisters, Sister Sophia, celebrated 61 years in The Church of Jesus Christ. What a rewarding spiritual birthday. We celebrated by having a large cake for the happy occasion.

We sure had a day filled with blessings and before the day was over, young Johnny Capone arose and asked for his baptism. John was baptized by Brother Ken Jones, and he had hands laid on him for the reception of the Holy Ghost by his uncle, Brother Rusty Heaps.

May God bless our new sisters and brother with strength in all they strive for in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

### Mexico

*By Brother and Sister Perdue*

I am writing just a few lines to let you know that the Lord has been very good to us, and His work is going forth.

We had a wonderful conference for five days in Tijuana in the month of June. On Wednesday and Sunday we were filled to capacity. We had two ministers from Michoacan, two from Mexico City, two from Sinaloa and several people from Mexicali. We had one baptism from Tijuana, two from Mexicali and, and a sister was ordained a deaconess for Mexicali.

Yesterday we had five baptisms



(August 15), and about a month ago we had eight baptisms. We have had a total of 29 baptisms so far this year. We now have three more to baptize on August 22. They are mostly young people and quite a few young men.

Also at the conference we had three young men ordained ministers and each one by an apostle, namely Brother Joe Lovalvo, Brother Frank Calabrese, and Brother Jim Lovalvo. There were many beautiful visions and experiences. One sister saw a cloud in front on the rostrum and the Lord was in the midst of it. Another had a vision where she saw Joseph Smith. The presence of the Lord was great, and there was great rejoicing among the saints.

One brother who was ordained is an Oaxacan Indian. He desires to return to Oaxaca to carry the Gospel there. He not only speaks and writes the Spanish language very well, but he speaks his dialect perfectly, which is certainly needed not only in Tijuana but in Oaxaca, as most of the people there use their dialect. One of the other two ordained came from the state of Nyarit, and he also desires one day to carry the Gospel to his place of birth. He had been living there, and we know the Lord brought him to Tijuana in a very miraculous way. Our third brother ordained was raised in the Church from the time he was three or four years old, and Tijuana is his home. At the present time we have nine ministers in Tijuana.

On Wednesdays around one o'clock we have our Oaxacan Indians, which number between sixty or seventy adults, who are being taught in Spanish and in their dialect when our Oaxacan minister is free to attend the service. We usually have around fifty to sixty children or more who are being taught by an Oaxacan teacher and a sister who speaks in Spanish so that all the children can understand.

On Wednesday afternoon we have an entirely different group, and only the Spanish language is used. The reason we have our Oaxacan people in a different service is because they need a different type of teaching, and also the building would not hold all of our people.

On Fridays we have another service at Mission #2. On Saturday our sister Ramona Rodriguez teaches children in the morning at Mission #2.

On Sundays we have a full house

and about fifty children at least. We also have two sisters who have two separate classes for the children.

We are thankful that the Anaheim Branch has helped us many years for which we are grateful, and I know that God is blessing this branch much.

We are very thankful for some of the wonderful brothers who have been a great help to us. Brother Sam Randy and Brother Joe Ciarolla worked on church buildings in Mexico City, Sinaloa and with our third building in Tijuana. They gave much time and did most of the work themselves. We are also thankful for Brother Joe Lovalvo, who has helped us in many ways and is always ready to go wherever we need him. May God bless him and give him many days of life. Our people are very much loved by the people in Mexico.

Remember us in your prayers that God's work may go forth into many places in Mexico. It amazes us many times to see how God is working to bring in the Seed of Joseph, and we marvel at His greatness. We have a God who lives and is real. What a joy it brings to our souls when we see people repent and come to the Lord. Surely there is nothing in the world that could compare to this joy, nor is there any amount of money in this world that we would exchange it for.

Pray that God will give us the health and strength to continue until the day He will call us home.

## McKees Rocks, PA

On June 20, 1982, Carl Edward Amato of the McKees Rocks, PA Branch was baptized. Brother Carl was baptized by Brother John Manes and confirmed by Brother Dan Casasanta.

May God bless Brother Carl in his new way of life and also the McKees Rocks Branch for another soul added to their fold.

## Muncey, Ontario

*By Ilene Coppa*

We have just returned home from the Muncey Mission, tired, but happily satisfied with the 1982 Vacation Bible School results. It was just beautiful to

see the students, teachers and helpers in the various areas working together. When you begin organizing the lessons, craft materials, food and workers, you tend to worry and become concerned as to how the whole function will finally work out. We as humans tend to do that instead of allowing the Lord to work it all out.

Sister Mary Coppa, who has taken care of the purchase and preparing of the food for years at the Muncey V.B.S., was regretfully unable to do so this year. When speaking to her, I said, "Please don't worry, as the Lord will provide". He surely did, as Sister Judy Dyer of the Muncey Mission filled that vacancy beautifully.

There were helpers from all over the United States and Canada. Such a wonderful family we have in the Lord. There was representation from San Diego, California; Davie, Florida; Chicago, Illinois; Cleveland, Ohio; and of course Detroit, Michigan and Muncey, Canada.

We had an average of 60 children a day of various ages from 2 years to 19 years. There were 4 babies and 24 adults.

Classes were held Monday thru Thursday for all age groups with a teacher to expound the lesson and a teacher to conduct the associated crafts. Friday was devoted to a picnic.

Thursday evening we held our usual evening meeting. We had a full church building and were blessed with a piano player, Brother Jerry Morle. We sang songs which appealed to all age groups, and the building vibrated with the enthusiastic vigor and strength of the youth. Such a beautiful spirit of singing came into our midst.

One child in the intermediate class was seen working every spare moment on his lesson book. Such interest and effort was put forth. On the final day he was given a gift as a small reward. When asked where he had gotten the gift, he proudly stated, "I have completed every part of my book".

Each day after lessons, we served lunch to those present, consisting of sandwiches, a beverage, and cookies, all prepared by the Muncey sisters. Even some non-members of the reservation helped. When the Lord provides He goes all the way.

Some of those involved in the

V.B.S. had never taught a class of children and spoke of it as a rewarding experience. One child, after the second day, came in and just walked up and sat on his teacher's lap, threw his arm's around him, loving every minute. The love of these children is so evident that it makes you want to just hug them all.

There was a bit of sadness on Thursday morning when Brother Tim Scolaro said goodbye to those of the Mission. Tim is moving west to live. He has been such a support in the Muncey work; driving the station wagon, teaching the children, directing the singing. We have come to love him and will miss him very much. Our prayers go with him.

Our hearts are full of gratitude and love for all those who gave of their time and for a job well done. This week there were no Gentiles and Indians at the Muncey Mission Vacation Bible School, just brothers and sisters in Christ and friends. I say thank you for your help, and the Lord who bestows His blessings cannot but be pleased. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Praise ye the Lord!

## Detroit, Branch 1

*By Joseph Ignagni*

On Sunday, June 13, 1982, a mini-district conference was held at Detroit, Branch 1. This assembly included Branch 1, Branch 3, and the Sterling Heights Branch. Brother Dominic Moraca, our District President, took charge of the meeting.

The service was opened by Brother Paul Vitto, and he spoke of the importance of faith. Brother Paul pointed out the great faith of such men as Abraham and Noah. When God told Abraham to sacrifice his son and Noah to build an ark, both men obeyed unquestioningly. They simply went forward on faith, trusting and believing that God knew best and would take care of everything.

Brother Carl Frammolino and Brother Peter H. Capone followed Brother Paul, and they expressed the importance of implementing this type of faith into everyday life. One must exercise his faith from day to day, and this is done by serving God. Brother Carl also quoted the 20th century author, William Saroyan, who stated, "Every-

one must die, but I always believed an exception would be made in my case." Brother Carl warned that this just wasn't possible, and therefore we all must have faith in our Lord and serve Him daily.

Everybody from the Sterling Heights Branch was asked to sing a selection, and a large group came forward to sing *Till the Storm Passes By*.

Brother Dominic then asked Brother Frank DiDonato, Sister Laura Mangiapane, and Brother Gary Champagne to give their testimony. Brother Frank said that if time would permit, he could go on for hours praising the Lord because he has so much to be thankful for. He wanted to thank God for the faith of his mother, who believed that one day Frank would render obedience to the Lord. For this event, she purchased a gold coin which she planned on giving her son on the day of his baptism. Even though she did not live to see that day, Brother Frank did receive the coin given by his faithful mother.

Sister Laura wanted to thank God for protecting her from harm in the recent tragedy in downtown Detroit's Buhl Building. She was on the building's 20th floor when the shooting and fire broke out on the 8th floor, which left one person dead and 37 others injured. She was ushered out of the building, unaware of what was occurring and didn't discover the seriousness of the situation until she was safely in her car driving home.

Brother Gary was also very grateful for our merciful Lord. He thanked God for taking him out of the world and leading him to the Church.

Brother Dominic made a few closing remarks, and then the young people were asked to come forward and sing the closing hymn. It was the perfect ending to a beautiful morning.

## Detroit, Inner-City

There was much joy at the Detroit River on July 17 when the Inner-City Branch met Branch 1 and three souls were baptized into the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The early morning water meeting resembled a mini-conference from which many individuals did not want to part.

The new members had asked for their baptisms during the previous week. William Moelke and Keith Mangiapane were the converts from Branch 1, and their conversions have been covered in a companion story.

The new Inner-City sister, Virginia Kay Cripps, asked for her baptism the previous Wednesday evening. She was taken into the waters by Brother Carl Frammolino and confirmed back at the mid-city branch building by Brother Joseph Milantoni.

Sister Cripps had been introduced to the Church by her daughter, Melissa, who had been attending Sunday School regularly. Melissa's urgings to her mother that she should come to the Church were finally heeded. Sister Virginia's testimony is that she wanted to come into the Gospel because of the love showed first to her daughter and then to her.

## Imperial, PA

*By Eva Moore, Branch Editor*

On June 13 we were honored to have in our midst Brother Dick Christman from Phoenix, Arizona and all of his family, Brother Russel Martorana and his wife, Brother Joe Genaro from Niles, Ohio and Brother Ralph Berardino from Youngstown, Ohio. We also had Sister Shirley Pershin, Louann Pershin and Sister Terri Lyn Duvall and her two daughters from Anaheim, California.

Our meeting was opened by singing *Sing Hallelujah*. Brother Dick Christman used the scripture of the woman at the well, John 4:14. Jesus said, "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him, he shall never thirst, but the water (spirit) that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." Man is empty and void until he cries out to God for help. As the woman at the well said, "Sir, give me this water that I thirst not." Brother Dick stressed the need of God's Holy Spirit to dwell in us as a people of God.

Brother Ralph followed saying the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation and Jesus was the bread sent down from heaven and His death on the cross brought salvation to all who would obey Him. He also spoke of the Latter Day glory, which is yet to come

which was taught by our deceased Brother Alma Cadman.

Brother Joe brought forth the greatness of God; He holds the whole world in His hands, yet He abides in the hearts of those who serve Him. He also spoke of the difference of the wisdom of God and man and Jesus' commission to go out to all the world to preach the Gospel and he who believes shall be saved and he who does not believe shall be damned.

Brother Russ Martorana then spoke of the living waters, that if we miss drinking of that living water, it would be better if we had never been born. He also stressed the importance of our complete dedication to God, so that we would be filled with the beautiful Spirit of Christ and be a light unto the world. Such a peaceful united spirit was enjoyed by all who attended.

## Sterling, MI

By Hazel Zoltek, Branch Editor

On Sunday, June 27, Brother Louis Vitto and family were ready to leave to spend the day in Windsor when their telephone rang. Angela Soave, who has been under the direction of the Spirit for some time, told Brother Louis that this was her day to be baptized. He told her to go on to church, ask for her baptism, and one of the other elders would attend to the baptism, and he would be back for her confirmation. Angela has had a very rough life and has always turned to Brother Lou when she was troubled, so she was very disappointed. She went into her room and knelt and prayed, asking God to cause Brother Lou to change his plans. Brother Lou called back, telling her he had called Windsor and cancelled his visit there. An answer to prayer.

Once again we sang as one of our opening hymns, *Something Beautiful*, and the presence of the Holy Spirit began to descend. There is that phrase, "So I wrapped it all in the rags of my life, and laid it at the cross," which meant so much to Angela today. As the Lord's table was being set, we sang *Zion's Border Line*, and everything became very quiet and serene.

Brother Jack Pontillo was our guest speaker, and he chose as his text the 23rd Psalm. This was in God's plans for the day, since Sister Mary Jane,

Angela's mother, had purchased a booklet at a garage sale while up North this past week written by an evangelist in which he interpreted the meaning of each of the Psalms. As they were driving home after dark, Angela said the only Psalm she knew anything about was the 23rd. With the help of a pen light, she read aloud from her mother's *Bible* the 23rd Psalm, and upon arriving home, she read what the evangelist had to say about it. The words, "I shall not want", seemed to stand out to her.

Brother Jack said how wonderful to dwell in the house of the Lord forever. He stated that we are all living on borrowed time, and we should be prepared to meet the Lord. The Lord is a great counselor. We fail by ourselves but God never fails. We are all looking forward to that day when we will meet to part no more and we will rejoice with the saints at the feet of Jesus and we will praise Him and give Him all the honor and glory.

Brother Louis said the time comes when everyone must make a choice. He read Deuteronomy 30:15-20. There were many instances in the *Bible* where man had to make a choice and Joshua said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." The rich man refused to give up his wealth and follow Jesus and the Prodigal Son chose to return to his father. We are serving a wonderful God, and we must confess to Him if we expect to have eternal life. He will make our sins as white as snow; all we have to do is tell the Lord we have sinned and ask Him for forgiveness. There is room at the cross for one more. He is reaching out His hand. Let us reconsider what we want in our lives.

At this point, Angela stood and asked for her baptism. She made her decision to "taste the grass on the summit". She was baptized by Brother Louis at Stoney Creek at 6:00 p.m., and we then returned to the church.

Brother Lou and Brother Carl Frammolino sang *God's Way*, and Brother Tony Lovalvo offered prayer. Brother Dominic Moraca spoke to us, reminding us that many years ago, two of the very first members of this Church in Detroit, were the grandparents of Sister Angela, Brother and Sister Johnson. How they must be rejoicing in heaven as their granddaughter anchored her soul to that Rock. Brother Moraca said that all the elders on the rostrum tonight, with the

exception of one, saw their parents in this Gospel. He said that as a little child, he looked forward to saying those five words, "I want to be baptized". There is nothing that can surpass the beauty of that day. God blesses us in all things, both naturally and spiritually, if we remain faithful. Every time a new soul comes into the Church, God gains one and the devil loses one. Let us not think of ourself as being small in the Church; it is the little wheels that make the big wheels turn. We all have to do our part.

Sister Angela told the writer that as she was dressing to go into the water, she said to herself, "I am going to be washed in the blood." Before Brother Moraca spoke to us tonight, he asked that we sing, *Are You Washed in the Blood*, and to substitute "I am" for "Are you".

We sang *Ready to Go*, and Sister Angela went forward to receive her confirmation. Brother John Buffa offered prayer as the elders held hands in a circle around the candidate, and she was then confirmed by Brother Sam DiFalco. She gave her testimony, telling of the booklet on the 23rd Psalm and how Brother Jack was inspired to choose this as his text today. She thanked God for the gift He gave her today.

Brother Dick Christman said the gift that God gives us is a rare and precious gift. It was only through God's love for us that He gave His only Son that we might receive this gift. Through His death on the cross, He made it possible for us to have salvation.

We sang *Standing on the Solid Rock*, and were dismissed by Brother Spencer Everett. We then adjourned to the basement for refreshments and fellowship.

## GMBA Conference

The November, 1982 GMBA Conference will convene on Saturday, November 13 at 10:00 a.m. at the General Church Auditorium. All are welcome to attend.

**\*      WEDDINGS      \***

**MOSER—CONNELLY**

Mr. Ray Moser and Miss Ellen Joy Connelly were married on May 29, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania by Brother James L. King.

Sister Suzanna King presented musical selections.

The newlyweds are making their home in Colorado.

**GILL—SMITH**

Mr. Allen W. Gill and Miss Judith Ann Smith were united in marriage at The Church of Jesus Christ in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania on June 12, 1982.

Brother Lawrence E. King officiated at the ceremony, and musical selections were presented by Sister Suzanna King.

Clovis, New Mexico is the residence of the newlyweds.

**STONE—DiNARDO**

Brother Keith Stone and Sister Angela DiNardo were united in marriage on June 26, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Lake Worth, Florida.

Brother Bert Sheffler officiated at the ceremony and was assisted by Brother Joseph Catone, Sr.

Sister Barbara Fleming, soloist, was accompanied by the pianist, Brother Michael DiFede.

The Stones are residing in Lauderhill, Florida and attend the Hollywood Mission.

**COROLLA—GOODWIN**

Mr. Anthony Corolla and Miss Barbara Goodwin were married on July 3, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania by Brother Lawrence E. King.

The newlyweds are residing in Uniontown, PA.

**BUFFINGTON—CHRISTMAN**

Brother Ervin Buffington and Sister Martha Christman were united in marriage on June 12, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ, Imperial, PA.

The ceremony was performed by Brothers Dick Christman and Robert Buffington. Musical selections were sung by Sisters Nancy Botwright and Pat Christman. Pianist was Sister Dorothy Gilbert.

The newlyweds will reside in Imperial.

**BATOVSKY—THOMAS**

Mr. Edward Batovsky and Miss Cynthia Renee Thomas were joined in marriage on June 26, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania by Brother James L. King.

Mr. Paul Cramer rendered musical selections.

The Batovsky's will reside in Grindstone, PA.

**KOETH—SACZKO**

Brother David Koeth and Sister Diana Saczko were joined in marriage on Saturday, August 21, 1982 in San Diego, California.

Brother Louis Ciccati officiated at the ceremony.

The Koeths are residing in Bakersfield, California.

**SGRO—HANSON**

Brother Jim Sgro and Sister Lynda Hanson were united in marriage on July 3, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Brother Sam Sgro officiated at the ceremony.

The newlyweds are residing at South Bound Brook, New Jersey.

## New Arrivals

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the indicated new members of their families:

Garrett Edward to James and Vicky Wirbicki Morningstar of Glassport, Pennsylvania.

## OBITUARIES

*We wish to express our sympathy to those that mourn over the loss of loved ones. May God bless and comfort you.*

**GERALD JAMERINO**

Mr. Gerald Jamerino, born on November 15, 1949, passed away from this life on July 3, 1982. He is survived by his wife, two children, his mother, one brother and three sisters.

The funeral service was conducted by Brothers Louis Vitto and Spencer Everett.

# The Gospel News

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

(USPS 223-480)

November, 1982

Volume 38, No. 11

## The Bread of Life

By Reno Bologna

"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." (John 6:35)

In these days of abundance of food of all kinds and in all seasons at a very reasonable price, and water available in all temperatures just by turning a faucet, the statement, "You will never be hungry or thirsty by coming to Me and believing in Me", may not sound so necessary or imperative. But in those days of scarcity of food and water, when a stale crust of bread or a sip of any kind of water may have meant the difference between life and death, the above mentioned statement by Jesus must have sounded very provocative, to say the least.

In the Gospel according to St. Luke 22:19, Jesus again likens His body to the "bread of Life," "And He took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, this is My body which is given for you: This do in remembrance of Me." Verse twenty reads, "Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you."

The third important matter after the bread and the wine, was remembrance. By this means we reactivate within ourselves a deep appreciation for the sacrifice which Jesus did in giving of Himself totally that all may have a better opportunity to live.

As twentieth century citizens of the

western world, I believe that it would be good for us to speculate as to what the world would be like today had it not been tempered by Christian teachings these past two thousand years. Can you imagine a world where "loving thy neighbor as thyself" was not known? This alone could tell us volumes.

By that remembrance, we also consider the qualities that emanated from Jesus in His activities of daily life: the courage to withstand questionable and evil matters that were presented to him, no matter what the source, and the candor to be and act what He was, proclaiming that all should be as they were without pretense. As a matter of fact, this is the only way that we can seek to improve anything, by seeing it first as it really is.

The compassion to act lovingly and with purest charity towards the poorest and lowliest as well as the rich and mighty of His day is significant. As humans, we can only entertain feelings of compliance and compassion when our own needs and security are satisfied abundantly. Only then does our instinct of the competition of life allow us to be compassionate to our equals. As our feeling of security grows, we may extend that compassion to those whom we may esteem as less fortunate than ourselves. We then begin to fit into that category which Jesus mentioned, those who would give. The Gospel of St. Luke 6:38 puts it this way, "Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Remembrance gives one the appreciation necessary to reconfirm and rededicate oneself to higher goals and

standards rather than those that are commonly considered par in every day life.

Everyone acts out these same principles in whatsoever direction he wishes to go. Only to the extent that we use these principles can we hope to be successful.

Jesus is pointing us to the ultimate direction, the direction of everlasting life. He would be our "bread of life", and His blood would keep us from ever being thirsty again, if we travel in the direction which He has pointed out. Jesus has offered here the means for the ultimate fulfillment of this dimension of life.

## Recipe for Living

By Alfred Grant Walton

*Some things a man must surely know  
If he is going to live and grow . . .  
He needs to know that life is more  
Than what a man lays by in store;  
That more than all he may obtain,  
Contentment offers greater gain.*

*He needs to feel the thrill of earth,  
The strength of rest, the joy of mirth;  
To know the pleasure kindness brings  
And all the worth of little things.  
He needs to have an open mind,  
A friendly heart for all mankind,  
A trust in self without conceit,  
And strength to rise above defeat.*

*He needs to have a zeal to share,  
A mind to dream, a soul to dare;  
A purpose firm, a will to plod,  
A faith in man, a trust in God.*

## "It Is Written"



*By V. J. Lovato, Apostle*

"Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." (Hebrews 12:1)

Paul, the Apostle, is exhorting the saints to "run" the race that is set before them with patience. But, before he tells them this, he gives a multitude of individual examples in the prior chapter; names of illustrious persons who through faith overcame the trials and temptations that were heaped upon them, and became victors over the evil power of Satan.

For those who know somewhat of sports, especially of race events, it is imperative that in becoming a competitor in that field, one must pursue preparation, self-discipline, self-denial, proper diet, proper uniform, and an ultimate goal. Let us take these one by one.

1. Preparation—An athlete must prepare himself by exercising daily. He cannot exercise one day and miss two, etc. Otherwise, when the day of competition comes, he will not be ready because his body is not properly attuned to the task at hand.

So it is with the true follower of Jesus Christ. When one accepts Christ, one is now entered into a spiritual race whose ultimate goal is the Kingdom of God up in heaven. Therefore, preparation is of the essence. One must prepare by a daily spiritual exercise of faith, hope, and charity, never letting up by a nonchalant attitude of putting off for another day that which must be done today. Each day must be a happy challenge for the follower of Jesus; not a sad one, filled with misgivings as to whether one will succeed in overcoming whatever obstacles present themselves.

Each morning, upon arising, one should prepare oneself by prayer and/or fasting against the onslaughts of the evil one. So, spiritual preparation is very necessary in order to keep one's life in an ever-ready condition for the race one has entered.

2. Self-discipline—An athlete must preserve an attitude of "I must run daily, I cannot allow myself to indulge myself in anything that would interfere with building up stamina, endurance, etc." He cannot say or think, "tomorrow I will practice, I'll take it easy today." He must constantly discipline himself to observe all the rigors of training. Otherwise, he will never finish the race he is training for.

Likewise, the follower of Christ must have and use self-discipline. One can never let up, not even for a moment, his determination to spiritually train every day. One cannot say, or think, "I'll take it easy today. I don't think it's truly necessary to pray today." Or, "I'll let someone else work for the Church. I have done so for many years, etc." There is no one can do your work, nor can anyone else run the race for you. You must do it yourself.

3. Self-denial—An athlete who wishes to compete in a race must deny himself many things that would interfere with his objective. He cannot over-eat, he cannot smoke, he cannot drink alcoholic beverages, he cannot keep late hours, and he cannot keep company with anyone who would deter him from his training.

So, the follower of Christ must also have self-denial. Jesus once said, "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me." (Matthew 16:24) The disciple of Christ must deny himself many pleasures of this life that would have a tendency to deter him from the race he has begun. The pleasures that are counted as harmless to the world can bring disaster to the saints of God. Keeping oneself aloof from the glamour and enticements of sinful pleasures is a requisite and a form of self-denial to the one that loves the Lord. Keeping away from so-called good friends that want to entice one to indulge in smoking, drinking, or the use of drugs is a "MUST" for the follower of Christ, and an absolute self-denial. No matter what the so-called good friends may think of you, because you do not want to participate in their indulgences, remember the words of Jesus, "In this world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good

cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33) Self-denial is also a matter of saying to oneself, "I will not yield to anything that would deter me from running this wonderful race that is set before me, for with Christ in me, I can do anything."

4. Proper Diet—An athlete must always eat the food that will nourish his body with the elements which will strengthen it in order that it may perform at its highest peak. He cannot eat indiscriminately. He must be very careful as to what goes into his system. He must not eat "junk food", nor can he eat too much so that he becomes over-weight. He must intake the proper amount of vitamins and nutrients to maintain good physical health.

Spiritually, a follower of Christ must ingest the proper spiritual food in order to maintain an excellent equilibrium in his life also. He must eat the bread of life daily, which is the Word of God. For Jesus said, "I am the bread of life: he that cometh to Me shall never hunger...I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." (John 6) Saints must never indulge in "junk food" spiritually. That is, accepting other doctrine than that of Jesus Christ, no matter if its garnished with the most appetizing ingredients. The devil knows how to embellish the food he serves as to make it desirous to the palate. But Christ warns us to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees; and, a little leaven, leaveneth the whole. Therefore, the saints of God must always read the Word of God (Bible and Book of Mormon) and always meditate upon it. For, in studying the Word, one becomes stronger, his spiritual body takes on a glow of righteousness that can be seen by everyone. And, in the race that is set before us, we will be properly nourished to compete against the dark athletes of Satan to emerge victorious. Prayer, a most excellent food for the saints, will enable us to increase in spiritual vitality and give us the determination to keep "on course." Not prayers written by someone else to be read by others, but prayers that come from within the very recesses of the heart which will ascend to the Throne of God as a sweet-smelling offering on the altar of faith.

5. Proper uniform—An athlete who participates in a foot race does not wear a uniform worn by a hockey player, for it would be too heavy and cumbersome.

He would not wear ballet shoes on the track, for he would slip and fall. But, he wears the proper shorts, a shirt, and the proper shoes. He wouldn't wear a football uniform, as he could never compete adequately. So, he dons the uniform that is proper to the event.

So, too, the saints must have on the proper uniform (clothing) to "run" in the great race where the prize is eternal life. Paul, the Apostle, exhorts the saints to "put on the whole armour of God;...your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breast-plate of righteousness: And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace. Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God:..." (Ephesians 6:13-17) The garments that the saints must wear shall be pure and holy. They cannot wear garments that are tainted with worldly designs. They must be white as snow, just as the bride of the Saviour wears when He comes to wed her. In the parable of the wedding feast, when the King came into the chamber to see the guests, He saw there a man that didn't have on a wedding garment. He said unto him, "Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness..." (Matthew 22:11-13) Therefore, the saints must be clothed with the proper uniform (garment) or else they are out of the race.

6. Ultimate goal—The athlete who competes in a race has only one thought in mind; to reach the finish line first, ahead of everyone else. His goal is the winner's prize, the gold medal in the Olympics. Then, in order to achieve that goal, he must prepare himself: deny himself, discipline himself, diet properly, and have the right uniform on.

Likewise, the saints of God must have a goal. And that principal goal is the kingdom of God and eternal life with Christ. Even though there are other notable goals for us to achieve, the ultimate one is Eternal Life. Other goals are to "become as little children, be meek and lowly as He is, to be humble, not glory seekers; to reach a goal of perfect love, which casts out all fear; to be truthful and honest, above reproach, with our brothers and sisters, and with the world that they might see the light of God within us and praise the Almighty God for it." In conclusion, the

race is not to the swiftest, but to him that will endure to the end. Remember the story of the race between the turtle and the hare. Because he thought he was swifter than the turtle, the hare would stop often and relax his vigil, until the turtle passed him up and won the race.

So, it is written.

## In Remembrance

To the readers of *The Gospel News*,

May I share some memories with you? September marks the anniversary of two sad dates on our family calendar. The first is the death of my only brother, who was born to my mother later in her life and was taken at an early age in a tragic accident. The second is the passing of my uncle, Herman Kennedy, who was a faithful, life-long member of the Church, belonging to the Roscoe Branch.

There were two things Uncle Herman loved to do! The first was to sing hymns of praise to our Heavenly Father. His deep bass voice would fill the room. My mother told me of the times that she and her sisters and Uncle Herman would gather on a summer evening, and with Aunt Jane chording on the organ, they would harmonize together. The other thing my uncle loved to do was laugh! He had such a hearty, booming laugh when he was amused by something.

The last time I saw him alive, we were on our way to visit our oldest daughter who lived in Washington, D.C. Infirmities of old age had dimmed his merry blue eyes and slowed him down. As we tearfully embraced to say goodbye, I got into the car, silently weeping.

My husband, who also loved my uncle, glanced over at me and quietly said, "He's lived a long and good life, and besides, where else can you unexpectedly stop to visit an elderly man and find him wearing a clean white shirt and freshly polished shoes?"

Goodbye again, dear Uncle Herman. You're gone, but certainly not forgotten.

Betty Lou Mote, Plymouth, Indiana  
(Sister Flossie Molinatto's Daughter)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Brother Herman Kennedy served as a member of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles for a number of years.

## ORDINATIONS

### Detroit, Branch 1

By Rosanne Sclaro

Sunday, August 8, was a special day for Detroit, Branch 1. Brothers, sisters, and friends from throughout the Church joined us in witnessing the ordination of Brother John Impastato into the office of deacon.

The service was introduced by Brother Tullio LaCivita, visiting from Detroit, Branch 4. Our brother chose Mark 10:46 to parallel the blind man's restored sight to the spiritual vision Christ bestows when we accept Him in faith. As the beggar was naturally blind, we wandered in a spiritual darkness until the Lord came and opened our eyes to a better way.

Brother Tullio shared many beautiful experiences and caused each of us to reflect upon the change Christ has made in our lives. Most important, he stressed that this miracle should not be hidden, but should be published to the world that more may come to see and know the goodness of God.

The meeting continued as Brother Peter Sclaro remarked on the office of deacon. He referred to Acts 6 wherein the twelve apostles sought men of "honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom" to attend to the needs of the Church and its members. He further expressed the spirit of unity felt among the priesthood in Brother John's calling.

Brother Louis Vitto, visiting from Sterling Heights Branch, followed the theme of spiritual sight and stressed the choice we each must make. What a blessing to choose the Lord and to see and feel His spirit working in our lives! Brother Lou asked us to look each day for an opportunity to serve the Lord and open our eyes to what He has in store.

We went home thankful for the message our brothers brought forth and especially grateful for the calling of our Brother John. May God richly bless him in this service.

### Aliquippa, PA

By Sister Dora Rossi

Sunday, August 29, 1982, was a day of gladness that brought joy to our

hearts and the blessings of God in our midst, as we witnessed the ordination of seven brothers into the offices of elders, teachers and deacons. Visiting with us were saints from various branches in the Pennsylvania District, Ohio and Florida.

Apostle Frank Calabrese opened the morning service by using the hymn *All Hail the Great Day* and offering prayer. Apostle Russell Cadman then spoke to us from Ephesians 4 and Titus 1 concerning God giving gifts to men that His Church might be edified. In Paul's epistle to Titus, he tells him to "set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee." Brother Russell stated that the authority will never be taken from the children of men and that God foreknew who would be called into His ministry.

Brother Calabrese followed by saying that scripture teaches us that we are a peculiar people and that this is the Royal Priesthood. We know that the brothers are called into the ministry by God and not by man.

Brother Thomas Ross made a few closing remarks. The service was brought to a close with the hymn, *The King's Business*, and prayer by Brother Fred Olexa.

The afternoon service was opened by singing *Follow Me* and prayer by Brother George Johnson. Apostle Anthony Corrado spoke to us, saying that the Lord will bless our work in the Gospel. We must rely on God's Holy Spirit to direct us. The Aliquippa Trio then sang *You Gave Me Love*.

The elders, teachers and deacons were then ordained separately by first having their feet washed and then being anointed with oil:

Brother James Gibson had his feet washed by Brother Anthony Ross and was ordained an elder by Brother Anthony Corrado; Brother Charles Jumper had his feet washed by Brother Russell Cadman and was ordained an elder by Brother Frank Calabrese; Brother Pete Gianetti, Sr. had his feet washed by Brother Paul Palmieri and was ordained a teacher by Brother Arthur Gehley; Brother Kenneth Staley had his feet washed by Brother Thomas Staley and was ordained a teacher by Brother John Griffith; Brother Sela Palmieri had his feet washed by Brother Anthony Palmieri and was ordained a deacon by Brother Paul Palmieri; Brother Pete Gianetti,

Jr. had his feet washed by Brother Pete Gianetti, Sr. and was ordained a deacon by Brother Fred Olexa; Brother John Mark D'Antonio had his feet washed by Brother John Ross, Sr. and was ordained a deacon by Brother Dan Casasanta.

Communion was then administered by Brothers Charles Jumper, James Gibson, Paul Palmieri and Anthony Ross. The newly ordained brothers expressed themselves as to how God had blessed them and given them experiences of their callings. Brothers Arthur Gehley and John Manes made some brief comments. Brother Thomas Ross, the Presiding Elder, encouraged the wives of all the newly ordained brothers to be supportive of all the endeavors of their husbands for the Church.

It was a beautiful day filled with the blessings of God. We sang *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*, and Brother Robert Nicklow, Sr. closed with prayer. May God bless the brothers who were ordained, and may they carry the Gospel to all who are seeking to do His will.

*By John R. Fleming*

On August 29, 1982 at the ordination of Brother Sela Palmieri to the office of deacon, I had this experience:

While sitting in my seat, I was watching Brother Anthony Palmieri washing his son, Sela's, feet. He was pleading with God to direct his son's feet in the path of the Church.

With my eyes closed, the building became very bright. I thought something had happened to the lights. I opened my eyes and looked to the front of the building. Around Brother Palmieri and his son was a very bright light.

I feel that God was very pleased for He let me witness this. This was the first time after being in the Church for 31 years that God has let me witness anything like this. I praise God's name for this and hope and pray that God will bless Brother Sela in his new office as deacon.

## Lake Worth, FL

*By Terri Benyola*

Sunday, July 25, 1982, was a beautiful day to be remembered—a day filled with God's wonderful blessings. The saints gathered to-

gether to witness the ordination of two deaconesses and four deacons.

Sister Margaret (Peggy) Benyola's feet were washed by Sister Santina D'Orazio, and she was ordained by Brother John D'Orazio. Sister Linda D'Orazio's feet were washed by Sister Nancy Ensana, and she was ordained by Brother Mike Radd. Brother Ron Carradi's feet were washed by and he was ordained by Brother August D'Orazio, Sr. Brother Joe Naples' feet were washed by Brother Sal Maccio, and he was ordained by Brother August D'Orazio, Sr. Brother Harold (Stan) Davis' feet were washed by and he was ordained by Brother John D'Orazio. Brother Jerry Difiede's feet were washed by and he was ordained by Brother Eugene Perri, Sr.

Missing from the pulpit was Brother Gene Perri, Jr., our Presiding Elder. Brother Gene was afflicted with pneumonia and in the hospital. We truly felt saddened with our brother missing from our midst.

During our afternoon testimony service, our newly ordained brothers and sisters testified of how God has truly blessed them. They felt the desire to ask each and everyone to please remember them in prayer that they may fulfil their callings and always put God first in their lives.

Sister Louise Lloyd then testified of God's wonderful goodness in her life and felt inspired that we should offer a prayer in the behalf of Brother Gene, that God would restore his health and comfort him in his affliction.

Afterwards the saints commenced with the beautiful ordinance of feet washing, and what a blessing we felt. What an opportunity to humble ourselves before our brothers and sisters and offer a prayer that God would surely guide and bless them. Truly there is no greater blessing in this life than serving God and to keep that covenant and promise that we made at the waters edge. Through God's wonderful mercy and grace we have been afforded that opportunity of a lifetime, to be members of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Remember us in this part of the vineyard, along with our newly ordained brothers and sisters, that each and every one of us may become more united in one accord to serve a Living God.

(Continued on Page 7)

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Kenneth L. Staley  
301 Pine Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**ASSISTANT  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Thomas Ross  
260 Division St. Ext.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
Joseph Ross

**ASSISTANT  
MANAGING EDITOR**  
Richard Scaglione

**EDITORIALISTS AND  
CONSULTANTS**  
Paul Palmieri  
John Ross  
John Manes

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Cathy Gentile

**TYPISTS**  
Janet Gibson  
Sharon Staley

**CIRCULATION MANAGER**  
Janet Buffa

**GMBA EDITOR**  
Ryan G. Ross  
305 Pine Dr.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**GENERAL CIRCLE  
EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15005

#### DISTRICT EDITORS

**ARIZONA**  
Dick Ackman  
8403 E. Piccadilly Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Joseph Perri  
3 Elizabeth Ct.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

**CALIFORNIA**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
4682 El Rancho Verde Dr.  
LaPalma, Calif. 90620

**FLORIDA**  
Elsie M. Ensana  
1921 S. E. Erwin Road  
Port St. Lucie, Fl. 33452

**OHIO**  
Joel Calabrese  
4280 Knickerbocker  
Sheffield Lake, Ohio 44054

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Louis Pietrangelo  
5522 Bluehill  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Malcolm Paxson  
5304 Adobe Drive  
Baldwin, PA 15236

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**BUSINESS OFFICE**  
8423 Boettner Rd.  
Bridgewater, MI 48115  
313 429-5080

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

### The Troubled Middle East

After years of unrest and four wars, beginning with the 1948 Israeli war of independence, again in 1956, in 1967, in 1973 and intermittent tension and hostility since, Israel and her neighboring Arab states are still at odds.

This is regrettable, and peace-loving people everywhere surely will hopefully trust and pray that current initiatives and proposals will eventually be fruitful in bringing peace and security to Israel and her Arab neighbors.

#### THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM

The Balfour Declaration of 1917 was a noble starting point for a solution to the "Palestinian problem." On November 2, 1917, British Foreign Minister Arthur James Balfour wrote: "His majesty's government views with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people. And (they) will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine..."

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

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

#### HOPE FOR PEACE

Egyptian President Sadat's dramatic visit to Jerusalem in November, 1977 raised hopes for peace. In September, 1978, President Carter convened the Camp David conference at which Egypt and Israel agreed on frameworks for peace in the Middle East, with treaties to be negotiated between Israel and her neighbors. Negotiations began in the USA between Egypt and Israel in October, 1978, and a peace treaty was signed in Washington on March 26, 1979, ending 30 years of war and establishing diplomatic relations. However, the untimely assassination of President Sadat retarded further negotiation with other Arab neighbors.

Happily, on September 1, President Reagan unveiled a declaration of Middle East principles which he hopes will lead to a peace formula acceptable to Israelis as well as Arabs. It behooves peace-loving people to pray that God's will might prevail and that peace will put an end to Arab-Israeli bloodshed.

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock



## The Good King, Shule

Dear Girls and Boys,

Four generations had passed since the brother of Jared had left the Tower of Babel and come to the Promised Land. The great-grandson of Jared, Corihor, was the son of King Kib. Corihor gathered a large army and captured his father so that he could be the king of the Promised Land.

Many years Kib lived as a captive. He had a son named Shule while he was Corihor's prisoner. Shule was angry with his older brother, Corihor, for taking their father's kingdom and keeping them prisoners. As Shule grew from a boy to a man, he began to be very strong. He also was a wise young man, strong in making good decisions.

Shule went secretly to the Hill Ephraim, and worked there to melt ore and make steel. He took the steel and made many swords to arm his friends and win the kingdom back from Corihor. They were successful; now Corihor was a prisoner. King Kib, who was now a very old man, asked Shule to be king over the Promised Land.

Shule was a righteous king. It must be a difficult thing to be a king and know that there are always others around you who would like to kill you and take your power, but Shule relied on God.

When Corihor repented of the many evils which he had done, Shule forgave him and gave him power in his kingdom. Corihor had a son, though, that never repented. This son, Noah, went against Shule and raised an army to fight against King Shule. Noah won the battle and planned to put King Shule to death. In the night, King Shule's sons sneaked into Noah's house instead, killed the wicked Noah and rescued their father.

Yet the people of Noah followed

Noah's son, Cohor, who also wanted to destroy King Shule and be the one ruler. Cohor caused his people to do battle with the people of King Shule's land. God had blessed the people of Shule and they had also grown in numbers as the years passed. King Shule's armies beat the army of Cohor and Cohor was killed. Cohor's son, Nimrod, gave up the fight, and the kingdom of Cohor to Shule. Peace followed. Again, Shule forgave his enemy, and relative. King Shule trusted Nimrod and allowed him to rule. Nimrod ruled his kingdom according to the desires of King Shule.

Now during this time when Shule was king and the people were prospered by the Lord, they began to love their possessions and embraced many wicked ways. The Lord sent prophets among them to warn them that if they never changed their ways, the land would be cursed because of them and they would be destroyed.

The people did not like someone telling them about the wrong things they were doing, and they mocked the prophets and treated them terribly. King Shule made a law throughout all the land, giving power to the prophets that they could go wherever they wanted. After this, the people began to hear and believe the men of God.

They chose to serve God, and God spared them from destruction and prospered them greatly in the land. King Shule lived and ruled many years in righteousness, and there were no more wars in the days of Shule. He, too, was a king who remembered what the Lord had done for his fathers in bringing them across the great deep into the promised land.

Sincerely,  
Sister Jan

THE GOOD KING SHULE: Find the words listed.

S R E N O S I R P	the
T K I W I S E N T	promise
E N O A H S O N S	land
H O I U I E S L R	God
P W L M A N W A O	sent
O E O E R E O N H	melt
R R I L E O R D O	ore
P E H T G O D O C	sword
	man
	Shule
	he
	know
	prisoners
	sons
	are
	Nimrod
	Cohor
	Noah
	prophets
	wise

## OUR WOMEN TODAY

### Area Ladies Circle Seminar

The Area Ladies Circle presented a special fall seminar on managing money at Branch 1 in Roseville, Michigan on Monday evening, September 13.

Brother Anthony Scolaro, Chairman of the Investment Committee of The Church of Jesus Christ, was assisted in the presentation by Mr. Irving Herman, Assistant Vice President of the Trust and Business Development Department of the Detroit Bank and Trust.

Brother Scolaro told us an amusing story of an old man who had made no will in his life. He frequented the corner bar and he met a man by the name of Mike, with whom he became very friendly. One day he told Mike that in case of his death, he would like for him to take care of his affairs, paying all bills, expenses, taxes and etc., and to purchase a stone. A few weeks after his death, Mike came into the bar, sporting a five-carat diamond stick pin in his tie. He was asked where he got it, and he replied, "Well, the old man told me to get a suitable stone."

While we awaited the principal

speaker for the evening, Sister Mary Criscuolo told us of the blessings they were receiving in their new Mission.

Mr. Herman told us the wise thing to do is to make a will in order that your holdings will be dispersed as you wish upon your death. He advised us of what our rights are and how to go about our financial planning.

In order to provide for the future, we should try to have a savings account and ample life insurance, and of course, to make a will. To provide for minor children, he suggested a Trust Fund. The difference between a will and a trust document is that a will provides for payment of taxes and expenses and designates who is to receive the residue of the estate. A trust document is desired for the benefit of children; this keeps the assets in suspense, and in the future, the money becomes available for them as they need it. A Life Insurance Trust is a way to give your family the benefits, without the burdens. This can be a long-range security instead of receiving the benefits in one lump sum.

The question, "If you make no will, who will receive your property?", was answered in detail by Mr. Herman. It was an enlightening evening, and it was

recommended that another meeting be held in the future for the husbands.

The meeting was dismissed in prayer by Brother Tony Lovalvo. Refreshments were served and enjoyed by all.

#### ORDINATIONS continued . . .

### Monongahela, PA

*By LuAnn Scaglione, Branch Editor*

On Sunday, August 1, the Monongahela Branch gathered anticipating a special blessing. Sister Carolyn Griffith was to be ordained into the office of deaconess.

Our preaching service was opened by Brother Isaac Smith of Lakeside, Arizona, who read from Isaiah 30, "Woe to the rebellious children" who do not take counsel from the Lord. At times we all are rebellious children, and we must learn that God's way is stated.

Brother Lou Pietrangelo followed, speaking about the armour of God, which must be worn by God's saints at all times.

Brother Bob Nicklow opened the afternoon meeting, asking our purpose for being there. We come for sacrament, which gives us our spiritual strength, and also for testimony. But today we have a special reason for being there: the ordaining of another of God's servants.

The duties of a deaconess were read by Brother Richard Scaglione. Being willing helpers, deaconesses should assist in both the spiritual and temporal needs of the Church. From Romans 16, Brother Rich read about Phebe, the first female servant of the Lord mentioned in the New Testament. A deaconess' greatest duty is to serve. Brother Rich then referred to King Benjamin's address in which he stated that when we serve our fellow man we are only serving God.

Sister Carolyn's feet were washed by Sister Mabel Bickerton. Brother Pietrangelo, Carolyn's father, ordained her as many silent prayers were offered in her behalf.

Our meeting was then left open for testimony, and God's Spirit was felt by all. Our prayer is that the Lord will bless Sister Carolyn in her service.

## Branch and Mission News

### Bell, CA

*By Rosemary Scalise*

On July 25, 1982, Bell Branch had the honor of having Brother Paul D'Amico and his family, Brother Paul Francione and his wife, Brother John Azzinaro and wife and a few members from the Valley Branch.

Our Presiding Elder, Brother Thomas Jones, called us to sing *Showers of Blessings*. We felt that this would indeed be our theme for the day. Brother Jones offered a brief word of introduction of our visiting elders and then turned the meeting over to them. Brother John Azzinaro opened our service in prayer.

Brother Santos Zamora and Sister Cheryl Lavalla of Bell Branch sang a hymn. Then Brother Santos was moved by the spirit to sing *It's Not An Easy Road*. A blessing was felt by all.

Brother Paul Francione opened our meeting by reading Acts 9, focusing on

the 13th verse, the boldness and authority that the apostles showed, having been with Jesus. Having seen many great things with Him they were now ready to go out and tell the world of what they had been a part of. Brother Francione told us it is our responsibility to tell the world of the power of Jesus. We are to be the Peters and Johns of today and speak the Word with boldness. We must be a Church of prayer.

Brother Paul D'Amico followed adding many inspiring words, urging us to go forward in Christ. Brother Paul related many experiences from the past. They were great things that showed the simple faith of the saints in years past. Brother Paul's words were those of encouragement and a testimony to God's great goodness.

Brother John Azzinaro spoke a few words, adding his feelings to those of the other brothers about our strength in the army of God and how it should give us the boldness to tell others of Christ.

Our Presiding Elder, Brother Tom Jones, extended an opportunity to all our visitors to express themselves in a word of testimony.

As our meeting was closed, we could go back to the beginning of our meeting and truly say, "There will be showers of blessings".

### Dallas, TX

The Dallas Mission enjoyed a marvelous time Sunday, August 1, when one soul asked for baptism and another asked for renewal in The Church of Jesus Christ.

Sister Bonnie McLellan, who had long expressed interest in the Church, asked for her baptism during the testimony service.

But Sister Bonnie's baptism provided a double blessing. It opened the door for her mother, Sister Pat McLellan, to come back to the fold after a long absence from active fellowship.

The Spirit of God began working almost immediately Sunday morning as the Mission greeted six visitors: Brother Tom and Sister Elizabeth Staley of Glassport, Pennsylvania; Brother Bob and Sister Esther Dyer from Gastonia, North Carolina; and Brothers Tim Scolaro and Roy Verstraete from Detroit, Michigan.

During Sunday School, Sister Esther testified how God helped her compose hymns. We were especially blessed by her testimony about Hymn #66 in the white book, "Hallelujah, The Gospel Is Restored." Sister Esther's song about the Restoration is the unofficial theme song of the Dallas Mission, and we sing it almost every week.

The Spirit of God continued throughout the morning service. Brother Ralph Frammolino opened the service and asked everyone to sing Hymn #291, "God Be With You."

Brother Ralph then used that song to launch into the theme for the day: Separation. He read Romans 8:35-39, reminding the group that life is filled with different kinds of separations—the separation by distance, by estrangement, and by death. But none of these things can ever separate us from the love of God if we just keep right.

Brother George Benyola followed, also using the theme of separation. Brother George reminded the group, however, there is a separation that God desires—our separation from sin. When we join the Church, we must separate ourselves from the cares of the world.

Brothers Staley and Dyer then expressed themselves. Both teachers in the Church, they said they were happy to fellowship with the saints in Dallas. Brother Staley recounted his many times in Church when he would resist the Spirit of God until, one day, it finally left him for a season.

These words sunk deep into the heart of our Sister Bonnie. During the testimony period, she stood on her feet and with beautiful simplicity stated: "I've decided to request baptism today."

Naturally, we honored her request. Brother George Benyola baptized Sister Bonnie in a nearby lake, and Brother Ralph confirmed her into the Church.

God moved again during the confirmation service. Sister Bonnie's mother, Sister Pat, was persuaded to witness the baptism that afternoon. Standing on the lake shore, she felt the overwhelming drawing power of God. After her daughter was confirmed at church, Sister Pat stood up, asked for forgiveness and requested to be reinstated. Brother George reinstated Sister Pat through the laying on of hands.

It seemed too good to be true. In one afternoon, God had answered the years of prayers by the saints in Dallas, and especially Brother Doug McLellan. Brother Doug, a steadfast and consistent teacher in the Church, has offered many tearful prayers on behalf of his daughter and wife over the years, asking God to touch their hearts. In addition, the Mission had dedicated its Wednesday night services for almost a year to fasting and prayer for those who were seeking or had gone astray.

As a final touch to the day, we realized that the circumstances surrounding Sister Pat's renewal confirmed a dream given to Janice Benyola, Brother George's teen-aged daughter. More than a year ago, Janice dreamed that Sister Pat had asked to be renewed and that she was sitting on a chair up front. Janice also saw that Brother Doug was sitting in the front row, facing his wife, during the prayer.

When Sister Pat did ask for prayer August 1, Brother Doug was seated in the back row, unable to move because he was overcome with joy. But as the brothers and sisters sang a song and Sister Pat took her place up front, the Spirit moved upon Brother Ralph. He motioned Brother Doug to sit in the front row, facing his wife, just like Janice dreamed it would be. It should be noted that Brother Ralph had never heard about the dream, and Brother George did not remember it at the time.

We thank God for His Goodness. Since their baptism and renewal into the Church, Sisters Bonnie and Pat have experienced changes in their lives. They now come to Church, united with Brother Doug as a family in Christ. Their home is now a place of spiritual peace and unity.

And we thank God for our visitors. Their contributions August 1 were immeasurable. We know that no matter how many miles separate us,

nothing can dim the feeling of love and fellowship we enjoyed this special Sunday.

## Erie, PA

The Spirit of God was very evident in the Erie, Pennsylvania Branch on July 11, 1982, as four souls rendered obedience to the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The morning service was opened by Brother Mark Kovacic, who used I Corinthians 9:24-26 and spoke on striving for the incorruptible crown, the "Crown of Righteousness". He also exhorted all to lay up their treasures in heaven and then related the visions from the GMBA Campout, where a crown was placed on Brother Dominic Thomas' head while he was speaking to the saints. Brother Mark then added his own personal testimony of how God's presence was felt at the camp all week.

Brother Delbert Lockwood followed, reading from Matthew 6 and how we can serve only one master and that we must first seek the Kingdom of God before all else.

At this point, Mary Jo Jones arose and asked for her baptism. After a few testimonies, Fred Dias asked for his baptism, and when the service was closed, but before we left, Clair and Ethel Morey asked for their baptisms.

Brother Lockwood baptized Fred and Ethel, and Brother Kovacic baptized Mary Jo and Clair.

During the first baptism, a sister saw in a vision Jesus standing on the water and an angel of such whiteness and beauty appeared next to him. The angel spoke the words—looking to the shore first, then at Jesus—"Jesus is well pleased in you."

Upon returning to the church building, Brother Fred and Sister Ethel were confirmed members of The Church of Jesus Christ by Brother Lockwood, and Sister Mary Jo and Brother Clair were confirmed by Brother Kovacic.

It was truly a glorious day, which will be remembered for many years to come, and we look forward to greater blessings as we wait upon the Lord.

## Meaford, Canada

By Bertha Ford

On July 30, 1982, the Meaford MBA hosted the Kinsman, Ohio MBA. We started our weekend off with fasting and prayer. I am sure we each felt a blessing for the effort we put forth to fast for the things we require of the Lord. There was a beautiful spirit in our building.

On Sunday morning, Brother Richard Elzby opened our service with a few remarks, then left the meeting open to our visiting elders. Brother Jack Ford was our first speaker, and he spoke on "What's in a name?" and how we follow after the name of Jesus. He noted it is so often used and not always in reverence and of how we take on His name in His Church. Brother Philip Jackson followed our brother on the same theme as to how Christ named His Church. Brother Howard Jackson spoke a few closing remarks, and I am sure these brothers left us food for thought.

On August 15, we again gathered in our building for a penny roll and social evening. Our penny roll money went for food for our food baskets for the needy in our area.

May God truly bless each one of His people.

## Sterling, MI

By Hazel Zoltek, Branch Editor

Sunday, September 12, was another memorable day for the Sterling Heights Branch. We had visitors from Florida, relatives of the Champine family, from California and New Jersey, and various branches in the area. Our elders had a special prayer meeting for the welfare of the branch on Tuesday night, and on Thursday and Friday morning, we had fast and prayer services for the unbaptized and for a spiritual movement within our branch. As Brother Louis Vitto surveyed the congregation this morning, he said he could see the results of these prayer meetings.

Brother Joe Perri and wife, who had just celebrated their 27th wedding anniversary, were with us, along with Brother Pete Capone and family. Sister Perri set the Lord's Table. The Champine brothers sang *He Touched Me*, and

Brother Spencer Everett offered prayer.

Brother Perri spoke to us, giving credit to his father, Brother Eugene, for his conversion. He stated that we are all preparing ourselves for that day when all the saints will meet on that distant shore, never to part any more, that where Jesus is, we will be also. His theme for the day was proving God. He related how, in the old testament, Gideon proved God when God chose him to deliver the Israelites from the Midianites. He read Malachi 3:10.

Brother Perri told of an African woman who was very ill. She went to the doctor and he told her to go home. There was nothing he could do for her. She felt that if God would just give her strength to reach the Mission, she could ask Him to heal her. She arrived at the Mission, knelt in prayer, then arose and went home and ministered to her family. God heard her prayer; He touched her and delivered her from her illness. Through her faith, she proved God.

Sister Diane Hawkins and Brother Steve Champine sang *The Lord's Prayer*.

Brother Pete Capone continued on the same subject as Brother Perri, saying there is much in the *Bible* concerning proving the Lord. When young David challenged Goliath, he had faith in God; he knew He would protect him. Blessed are those who hunger and search after righteousness. We cannot call upon God only when we need Him; we must be ready and willing to serve Him at all times. God will do His work in His own due time. We must trust Him as Noah did when he built the ark on dry land, believing what God had told him. Sometimes, we wonder, where will we be if the righteous are scarcely saved. It is up to us to make our choice; let us not be luke warm.

Brother Louis Vitto said God has truly blessed this nation. He said preparedness precedes blessings, but there also must be obedience. There is no vision without obedience. It is the power of God that brings forth blessings and healings. All God wants to do is open our eyes, see Him, hear Him and follow Him.

When one gives their life to Christ, it is an experience much too beautiful to explain. No man will know the day or the hour when God will come for him.

At this point, Dennis Colpitts, a friend

of Angela Soave, rose and asked for his baptism. Brother Dragonetti then told us that God had revealed to him last night that we would meet at the river's edge today.

We sang *Just As I Am* and were dismissed by Brother Spencer Everett.

We met at Belle Isle at 6:00 p.m., and Dennis was baptized by Brother Sam DiFalco. Branch 3 joined with us for the baptisms of Pamela and Robert Thomas. They were baptized by Brother Paul Whitton.

Both branches met at Sterling for the confirmations. Brother Louis said that even non-members who visited with us today told him of how they had felt the spirit here this morning.

Brother Gary Coppa offered prayer. Brother Moraca then spoke, saying the world cannot understand why we feel as we do when another soul comes into the Gospel. When we receive the Holy Ghost, we sing hymns of praise; we forget all about the rock and roll of the world.

There were fourteen elders gathered around the new converts as they awaited to be confirmed. Brother Moraca led in prayer. Brother Robert Thomas was confirmed by Brother Louis Pietrangelo. Sister Pamela was confirmed by Brother Carl Frammolino. Brother Dennis was confirmed by Brother Louis Vitto.

The Champine brothers sang *Forever With Jesus*, and Brother John Buffa was assisted in serving Sacrament by Brothers Jerry Benyola, Carl Frammolino and Silver Coppa. Brothers Louis and Carl then sang *Sheltered in the Arms of God*. We were dismissed by Brother Joe Perri. We then adjourned to the basement for fellowship and refreshments.

This writer talked to our new Brother Dennis, and he told me of how he had been searching for a church. He was originally Catholic, and lived across the street from the church, but quit going when the church began to make changes. He then became an alcoholic; he was looking for happiness but it always escaped him. He said he had never received a blessing in all the years he went to the Catholic church. He began to feel that his life was being wasted and wanted to stop the drinking and started to pray for God's help. Then he met Angela, and she told him of her church. After Angela was baptiz-

ed, she then told him, "Now you can go to church with me."

He also had been praying for God to give him a sign if this was the church to which he should belong. Then one Sunday, we sang *Zion's Border Line*, and at the top of the page, there is a picture of a lion lying down with a lamb. Then he knew God had answered his prayer, and he had a burning desire to be baptized. He reached that goal today when he accepted Christ into his heart.

## Imperial, PA

*By Eva Moore, Branch Editor*

A beautiful Sunday service was experienced on July 4, 1982, here in Imperial Branch, when we had two deaconesses ordained.

Sister Margaret Roscart washed Sister Jean Moore's feet, and she was ordained by Brother James Moore, Sr. Sister Eva Moore washed Sister Anna Ciotti's feet, and she was ordained by Brother Frank Calabrese.

We had several visiting elders and members from other branches who came to fellowship with us on this special occasion. We can say as the hymn says, "Men long in battle a lifetime of fighting, but years creep upon them and time starts to show, holding positions while calling replacements, where are there some brave ones, some willing to go?" Yes, we can say we have two more brave ones who are willing to carry on the work of the Lord.

Even though we be women, there is much work we can do in the Church as helpers and witnesses to our friends and neighbors in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ and helping in these the latter days.

## Roscoe, PA

*By Bertha Jean Bilsley*

We would like to share with you the blessing we have received recently at the Roscoe Branch. We are thankful to see the Lord working among us and to know as we sing in Sister Buffington's hymn, *God's Still on His Throne*.

On August 8, we rejoiced during our afternoon meeting when Brother Paul and Sister June Shriner stated that they would like to become reinstated as members in the Church. There was a wonderful spirit felt and many testimonies given. They have been attending meetings for the past several months with their son, Richard.

Two weeks later, on August 22, Richard was taken down into the waters of baptism by Brother B. J. Martin at Elco, PA. After returning to the church, he was confirmed by laying on of hands by Brother Fred Olexa. We all happily greeted him and welcomed him into the fold as we sang, *A New Name Written Down in Glory*. Brother James Abbott testified how he saw the river which was rough before the baptism become calm as Brother Richard was taken into the water to be baptized. Many testimonies were given in praise to God's goodness, and His spirit prevailed with us.

Please remember Brother Paul and Sister June and their son, Brother Richard, that the Lord may continue to bless them and use them in the work of the Lord. Brother Paul has been ill for quite some time and needs our prayers. Also, Brother Richard is young in age and attending college. We know God is able to provide all of their needs as they put Him first in their lives.

## Six Nations, Ont.

*By Norman Campitelle*

On Sunday, August 15, 1982, we had a beautiful service at the Six Nations Reservation. We were blessed with a baptism of a very beautiful young woman, Sister Irma Smoke. Brother Norman Campitelle performed the baptism, and she was confirmed by Brother Jack Pontillo.

Our Sister Smoke is the granddaughter of Sister Charlotte Hill. This young sister has been going through many trials in her life, but she is determined and has faith that the Lord will be with her in her life and what is before her. She wants to devote every effort to help the Church and her people.

The turning point in her life, was when she gave birth to her last child, Keith. He was born with a cleft and no palate. When this child was born, her family and the church she was attending deserted her. She went to her grand-

mother, Sister Charlotte Hill, and told her what happened. Sister Hill told her to come to her Church and that the brothers would help her. Brothers Mike LaSala and Frank Morle made a visit to her home and talked to her and anointed the baby.

The next visit Brother Gerald Benyola visited her and found out that Keith was to undergo surgery to correct the cleft only. He returned home and asked the brothers and sisters to remember this young baby in their prayers. He went under surgery, which came out very successful. The doctors informed Sister Smoke that the hole on the roof of his mouth was closing up, and they didn't have to see him for five years. This miracle with the baby changed her heart. We all rejoiced with this news, and Keith is a beautiful looking baby.

As we took our young Sister down to the waters to be baptized, we were concerned about our Sister Hill, who wanted to go down by the river shore. The river shore could only be reached by climbing down a very steep embankment, but two of our younger brothers helped her down the embankment so she could view the baptism and greet our young sister as she came from the waters.

It was a beautiful day, and all our brothers and sisters enjoyed the Lord's blessings.

## Aliquippa, PA

*By Dora Rossi*

On Sunday, September 5, 1982, Sister Judy Ondrasik was reinstated into the fold of God during our afternoon service. She expressed herself, stating that she was glad to be able to partake of the Lord's Supper once again. Brother Paul Palmieri reinstated our sister into the Church. We are happy to see our sister's desire to be a part of this wonderful Gospel. May God continue to bless her is our prayer.

## Lorain, OH

*By Renee' Alessio*

A baccalaureate service was held in Lorain, Ohio for the high school seniors

on Sunday, May 30, 1982. Brother Dominic Thomas addressed all who attended. He used two verses of scripture which expressed that an education is good if those who are educated trust in the Lord and seek His direction. Brother Dominic related how prayer, faith, and God's direction played an integral part in his educational pursuits. Putting the Lord first is the key to being successful spiritually and naturally. He addressed the young as to their role in the Church, to be active in taking care of the elderly, the sick, and the widows, and to seek for harmony among the membership so that unity, peace and love will prevail.

Brother Nick Pietrangelo followed on the importance of combining an education with the Will of God. He related how he was pursuing a career of his own choice in broadcasting without the counsel of God for his direction. Without his knowledge, his mother was praying that he would discontinue these pursuits. One day he came to a decision that he no longer wanted to continue in broadcasting, and he began to work as a laborer for a corporation. Brother Nick was given opportunities for promotion which were gifts from the Lord. Not having the experience that was needed for the new position, he fasted and prayed for competency, and the Lord provided. His final promotion was to the position of chief estimator.

Both brothers attested that the Lord has blessed them most abundantly

ly in their spiritual life as well as the natural.

Brothers Richard Portnick and Frank Palacios presented the graduates with a *Bible* and *Book of Mormon*.

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During the week of June 21, 1982, we held our annual Vacation Bible School. Thirty-one children attended, two thirds of which consisted of children whose parents are not formally affiliated with the Church.

The theme for the week was "God Keeps His Promises" and "Some of God's Miracles Are Small". Each day was opened with prayer and singing. Then the lessons were taught and crafts were undertaken. The neighborhood doughnut shop donated two dozen doughnuts every day.

Sister Carla Dziak coordinated the activities for the week, having great participation from many in preparing the crafts and teaching the lessons and songs.

Friday night the children demonstrated their newly-acquired skills by performing many songs, responding to questions about the lessons, and displaying their crafts. We thoroughly enjoyed the enthusiasm that was displayed by the children, their parents, and the Church members.

## So Pure and Bright a Light

We had a remarkable sunset one day last November. I was walking in a meadow, the source of a small brook, when the sun at last, just before setting, after a cold gray day, reached a clear stratum in the horizon, and the softest, brightest morning sunlight fell on the dry grass and on the stems of the trees in the opposite horizon and on the leaves of the shrub oaks on the hillside, while our shadows stretched long over the meadow eastward, as if we were the only notes in its beams. It was such a light as we could not have imagined a moment before, and the air also was so warm and serene that nothing was wanting to make a paradise of that meadow. When we reflected that this was not a solitary phenomenon, never to happen again, but that it would happen forever and ever an infinite number of evenings, and cheer and reassure the latest child that walked there, it was more glorious still...

So we saunter toward the Holy Land, till one day the sun shall shine more brightly than ever he has done, shall perchance shine into our minds and hearts, and light up our whole lives with a great awakening light, as warm and serene and golden as on a bankside in autumn.

Henry David Thoreau

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The Editor

## New Arrivals

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the indicated new members of their families:

Kerra Lynn to Rodney and Peggy Siefering of Bedford, Iowa;

Margarita to Alfonso and Maria Luna of Phoenix, Arizona.

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### *LUNA - HUGEL*

On July 23, 1982, Brother Alfred Luna and Sister Jean Hugel, both members of the Phoenix Branch, were united in holy matrimony in a private ceremony held at the home of Brother Ether and Sister Ella Furnier.

Brother Furnier officiated at the ceremony. May God bless this union with His richest blessings.

### *SCHAEFFER - GANDLEY*

Mr. John Schaeffer and Sister Dorothy Gandley were united in marriage at The Church of Jesus Christ in Monongahela, PA on July 24, 1982.

Officiating at the ceremony was Brother George Johnson, who was assisted by Brother Richard Scaglione. Organist was Sister Mabel Bickerton. Musical selections

were presented by Lois Schaeffer, the groom's daughter, Melissa Bright and Marni Joy Bassichio.

The newlyweds are residing in Monongahela. Our prayers will be with them in their new life together.

### *TAYLOR - SEIGHMAN*

Mr. Bob Taylor and Miss LuAnn Seighman were united in marriage on June 26, 1982, at The Church of Jesus Christ in Monongahela, PA.

Brother Herb Hemmings, the bride's uncle, officiated at the ceremony, and he was assisted by Brother John Griffith.

Debbie Buberniak was the soloist and was accompanied at the organ by Valorie Marynychak.

We pray that God will bless the newlyweds in their new life together.

### *SMITH - SCAGLIONE*

Brother Brian Smith and Sister Kathy Scaglione exchanged marriage vows on August 7, 1982, at The Church of Jesus Christ in Monongahela, PA. Brother Isaac Smith, the groom's father, officiated and was assisted by Brother James Grazan.

Brother Joel Calabrese and Sister Carla Dziak presented musical selections and were accompanied by Brother Thomas Smith, brother of the groom.

The Smiths are making their home in Elizabeth, PA.

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# The Gospel News

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

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December, 1982

Volume 38, No. 12

## When Christ Was Born

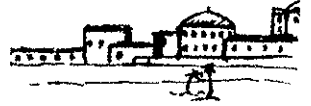
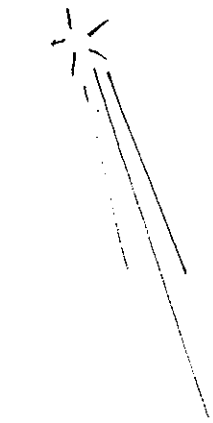
*There was no vision in Israel when Christ was born,  
Jerusalem, holy city, with strife was torn.  
The nation was in bondage, the king paid tribute,  
To a kingdom far away, their prophets were mute.*

*Yet a few waited for the promise we are told,  
That God would deliver them as prophets foretold.  
The High Priest in the temple and Mary in the field,  
Were told by the angel, the promise is fulfilled.*

*Elizabeth and Mary together did meet,  
They gave glory to God as each other did greet.  
How merciful our Lord, His love ever the same,  
Jesus, Son of God how glorious is that name.*

*Born in Bethlehem, but to us in our heart,  
From His love and mercy how can we ever part.  
Glory to God in the highest our praises sing,  
Till earth and the heavens with harmony ring.*

Mark Randy



## Why Did Jesus Wash His Disciples' Feet?

By Reno Bologna, Saline, Michigan

This account is recorded in the Gospel of St. John, chapter 13. The strange thing about this account is that John, being the youngest of the disciples and so apt to be the most idealistic, was not as impressed with the institution of the sacrament of the bread and wine as the other Gospel writers were. However, he was greatly impressed with the intimacy that was generated by the act as Jesus laid His garments aside and girded himself with a towel, poured water into a basin and began to wash His disciples' feet.

Peter, responding to his human feelings was not about to let this strange person, Jesus, wash his feet. Jesus, a being powerful enough to raise the dead, calm a raging storm, walk upon water, multiply food abundantly, and yet filled with compassion such as he had never seen in any other.

Jesus explained to Peter and all present, "What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter. Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me. Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head. Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all." (referring to Judas Iscariot) St. John 13:7-11

"So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.

For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." St. John 13:12-17

So the promise is that happiness will follow those that practice this ordinance because Jesus said that we ought to do so. The Church of Jesus Christ believes that we should, and does so, at least four times a year.

In ancient Biblical times, a host demonstrated his love and care for his guests by providing water to wash their feet. At one time in the New Testament, Jesus berated Simon the Pharisee, who had invited Jesus to come and eat at his house, for failing to show a spirit of hospitality by neglecting to provide water to wash His feet. According to custom, this should have been done before sitting down to eat.

When Jesus washed His disciples' feet, they had already supped and He had instituted the sacrament of the bread as His body and the wine as His blood of the New Testament.

The Church of Jesus Christ follows the same sequence as Jesus taught. If you do not practice this ordinance in your church, and you would like to see how it is done, come and visit The Church of Jesus Christ on Sunday, May 23, at 11:00 a.m. We are temporarily holding meetings at the York Township Hall on Stony Creek Road. ALL ARE WELCOME.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article appeared in *The Saline Reporter* as advertisement for the Saline, Michigan Mission.

ding their jet, Brother Tom Ross of Aliquippa offered a prayer for their safe travel and success while in Italy. We knew God would grant them safe travel. This was confirmed by the following vision of Sister Carmella D'Amico of Rochester, New York:

"At the General Church Conference in October, I was informed of the trip to Italy our brothers and sisters were planning. Brother Dan Casasanta requested we remember them in prayer, which I faithfully did. Then about a week before their departure, I saw a vision of the Casasantas and Colangelos boarding a jet. As they got on the plane, they were followed by two heavenly personages dressed in white. This confirmed my prayers for their safe trip."

While in Italy, our brothers and sisters planned to attend the Second Italian Conference scheduled for October 28, 29 and 30th in San Giovanni, Sicily. The brothers will assist Brother Joseph LoRico in conducting the Conference. Brother LoRico is in charge of The Church of Jesus Christ in Italy.

Following the Conference, the Casasantas and Colangelos will visit every Branch and Mission in Italy, as well as some saints scattered in those areas. They will be accompanied by Brother LoRico. Places they plan to visit are: Patti, Reggio, San Demetrio, Buccino, Pietorenzo, Ponza, Sulmona, Bugnara, Popoli, Pescara, Rome and Sardegna.

They will hold services there and visit the Italian saints in their homes in both instructing and strengthening them all.

The Casasantas and Colangelos will return home on December 17, 1982. A detailed report in future issues of *The Gospel News* will follow their return home. May God bless them in their endeavors to spread the Restored Gospel.

## Foreign Missions Committee News



By Joseph Ross, Secretary,  
Foreign Missions Committee

On Monday, October 25, 1982, Brother Dan and Sister Fannie Casasanta, and Brother William and Sister Chris Colangelo departed for Italy on a two month Missionary trip as representatives of the Parent Church.

They left on TWA Flight 714 at 2:35 p.m. At the Greater Pitt Airport to see them off, was a number of brothers and sisters from McKees Rocks, Aliquippa and Brother Jack Laverie from Youngstown, Ohio. Just before board-

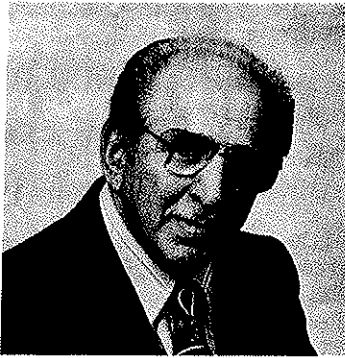
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## I Like Christmas!

The holiness of the season  
When the wonder of that night in  
faraway Bethlehem  
Seems to spread a warm glow  
over the troubled world,  
And man and child humbly kneel before  
the Babe in the Manger.

Author Unknown

## "It Is Written"



By V. J. Lovalvo, Apostle

**QUESTION:** Was the Gospel preached before the Advent of Jesus Christ?

**ANSWER:** The answer is yes. Now let us see what the Scriptures have to say about it. It is recorded in Hebrews: "Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into His rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the Gospel preached, as well as unto them (meaning Israel. Read the preceding chapter.): but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith by them that heard it...Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief." (Hebrews 4:1-6)

It is also written: "And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed." (Galatians 3:8)

The word, Gospel, means: Good news; the announcement of salvation of mankind by Jesus Christ; the history and the life of Christ and His doctrines contained in the four canonical books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

It is beyond a question of a doubt, that the ancient Patriarchs and other holy men of God knew, by divine revelation, concerning the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and of His subsequent death and resurrection. There is no question but that our first father, Adam, was given knowledge of the Son of God. We read where his son, Abel, offered the "firstling of the flocks" as a sacrifice to God (Genesis 4:4); that Cain also offered of the fruit of the ground to the Lord (Ibid). Why would Abel offer an animal to God except it be as a type of

Christ's sacrifice on the cross? Certainly they knew about Jesus coming to the earth beyond their day. There were no holy men of God who were ignorant of the Son of God and His mission of salvation for mankind. Men like Enoch, Job, Noah, and many others recorded in the Bible knew of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is said that Enoch walked with God for three hundred years until the Lord translated him. This period is, what I believe is referred to in the Scriptures as the "first Dominion" (Micah 4:8).

Beginning with Adam, God has given commandments to men and given also a knowledge of the future concerning Christ and His Gospel. For there was a distinction between those who worshipped God and those who did not. The Scriptures refer to those who believed on the Lord as the "sons of God" (Genesis 6:2); also, "When the sons of God shouted for joy..." (Job 38:7). This period of time, not long after the Creation must have been a beautiful experience. It is, in my opinion, a type and shadow of the future "Peaceful Reign" when the Kingdom of God will be established in righteousness on the earth; when once again the "sons of God" (the Church) will shout for joy. It is also the fulfillment of Micah's prophecy concerning the restoration of the "First Dominion" (Micah 4).

The *Book of Mormon* tells of many men of God who knew by divine revelation concerning Jesus Christ and His Gospel; men like Lehi, Nephi, Jacob, Benjamin, and a host of others. Alma, and others baptized and believed in the coming of Christ although they kept the law of Moses until He made His appearance in person. They saw the day of Christ and rejoiced in it; and they lived their lives as though He had already come. Now we, the restored Church, have also been given knowledge of the establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth in the flesh; the Kingdom which Daniel, the prophet, saw and which Isaiah called "the mountain of the Lord's House" which would fill the earth in the last days. Although that day is in the future, the saints should be living in the spirit of that Kingdom; living an exemplary life as though the Peaceful Reign was already here; as though Zion has already been established. This should not be considered a fantasy because Zion is not fully established or that the New Jerusalem is not already built. But the saints should live and enjoy the blessings that are promised will be in Zion as though it was already here. This is reality, not fantasy.

May the Lord bless The Church of Jesus Christ to realize these blessings now and enjoy the glory of His Spirit and all of the gifts that He promised would follow "them that believe". God bless you. Thus it is written.

## Visions

By Marilyn Carradi

The weekend of August 14 and 15 was spent in Ft. Pierce at our Brother Al Coney's home; and today (August 15) also marked our ninth month since Ron and I were baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ. What better way of celebrating than being with two hundred of my brothers and sisters in God's house.

We had such a wonderful spirit of God with us both Saturday and today. I saw that beautiful white light of the Holy Spirit shining as bright as could be, and I knew God was present. The church was full of angels, three (3) rows deep, and as each group came up to sing, everyone had a beautiful white glow around their head. Each elder that got up to speak was encased in that same white glow trimmed in gold, and an angel of God was by their side. Behind them, a gold cloud covered all the elders sitting there.

Our Brother John Griffith from Monongahela, Pennsylvania, spoke beautiful words about Jesus asking Peter if he really loved Him. And when Peter answered, "Yes Lord", Jesus told Peter, "Feed my lambs." When Jesus asked Peter a second and third time, and he answered "Yes" again, Jesus said, "Feed my sheep." We are the sheep of our Lord, and He is our Shepherd. Brother John also spoke about getting closer to God and ridding ourselves of worldly things that will certainly keep us from keeping the promise that we made to God at the waters edge. He said that we can't have one foot in the Church and one out of it; both had to be in and planted firmly, and if we don't start getting closer to God, then we won't be prepared to do the work that the Lord has planned for us to do. It was a beautiful meeting as was our meeting the night before.

Brother Cleve Baldwin and several of our members from the Quincy Branch came to visit, and their children put on a beautiful play about the history of how the Restored Gospel came to be and of

Joseph Smith and the *Book of Mormon*. As I watched in utter amazement at these beautiful young children, I saw that every seat on the rostrum was filled with a heavenly being. I thought to myself how much these kids must love Jesus and how pleased Jesus must be watching these children do this and knowing of their love and desire to serve Him. All of a sudden I saw a beautiful white glow around each child as they spoke, and there was an angel standing behind each one of them. And as the young boy knelt down, praying as Joseph Smith, I saw a vision of Jesus standing behind the children and He was holding a staff in His left hand, and His right hand was stretched out towards them as if He were saying, "These are my children and my sheep." On each side of our Lord stood about seven (7) angels, and they were magnificent. The light was so bright that my eyes felt like they were on fire; my entire body felt on fire, and I cried so hard that I couldn't even talk. It was breathtaking. I saw this same vision when the children sang, *An Angel Came Down*, and a third time when their group sang *The Songs of Zion*.

These children are truly blessed, and they not only performed for the saints of God, but for God Himself and His host of heavenly angels. What a true blessing for all of us. God is so good, and I love Him so very much.

\*\*\*\*\*

By Terri Benyola

Sister Louise Lloyd from the Lake Worth Branch was unable to attend the District Conference in Fort Pierce. Our sister felt inspired to fast and pray for the saints who were able to attend, that God would truly bless them.

During Sister Louise's fast, she saw a vision where Jesus was standing with a staff in one hand and His other hand stretched towards heaven.

\*\*\*\*\*

By Howard Noble

This is the first GMBA Campout (July, 1982) that I have attended. I came into The Church of Jesus Christ in March of 1981. This has been a most inspiring experience for me. God has blessed us so much. Never before have I been exposed to so many people from all over the nation that have so much brotherly love for each other; like one big happy family in unison and united

together. No one is a stranger and no one is above another. This is truly God's people.

Not only have I been blessed with the knowledge from God's word and from the teachers and from the brothers and sisters and their input from the seminars, I am blessed with the testimonies, the word from the pulpit and the visions that were seen by the brothers and sisters.

Wednesday night at the Campout, I had a great experience from God. I've had a problem in the services when brothers and sisters would get up and testify and describe visions that have been shown to them by God. I have thought to myself, "Can this be really true?" So I made it a matter of prayer. I know that many times throughout the *Bible* and the *Book of Mormon* it is told where people of God had visions. I do not know why I've had doubts; God only knows. Wednesday night the doubt was taken from me by God through a vision.

My wife and I had gone to bed, and we both had fallen asleep. All of a sudden a very big, bright light appeared before me. It was the brightest, most brilliant, and whitest light that I ever had seen. It sparkled and glowed all at the same time. There seemed to be something of some shape or form in the center. Then all of a sudden it rose up and went out of sight. I was so startled that I woke up at once.

God had answered my prayers.

## Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Once again I have to count my many blessings on behalf of myself and my family. Having just suffered a heart attack in July, I thank God that He spared my life, and all the brothers and sisters for all their prayers, cards, visits, phone calls, and other ways of concern.

It is a comfort to know that so many care for each other such as we have in The Church of Jesus Christ. Once again, THANK YOU ALL, and may God bless each and every one of you with His richest blessings.

Your Brother in Christ,  
John Ali

## OUR WOMEN TODAY

### Conference at New Jersey Area

By Mary Tamburrino, Editor

The General Ladies Uplift Circle Conference was held at New Jersey on October 2, 1982. A bus was chartered from Pennsylvania. Other sisters present were from Florida, Michigan, New Jersey and Ohio.

The Scripture was read from Enos in the *Book of Mormon*. Sister Mabel Bickerton, the President, said she was reminded of the hymn, *To the Work, To the Work*, which is a challenge to us. We have been working with the American Indians, Africa, and now India. She encouraged us to study the word of God and search for the word that is assigned each week; this should create an interest. There were two new Circles organized: Bronx, New York, and Mesa, Arizona.

Most of the officers were present and the minutes of the last Conference held at Glassport, Pennsylvania were read and accepted. The reports of the home Circles and District Circles were read also. Layettes were given and money was donated towards the needs of the Mission house in Africa. The questions and answers assigned last General Conference were, "What will point you to the straight course and eternal bliss?", found in the *Book of Mormon*, Alma 37:44, and "How many judges were on the land of America?", found in the *Book of Mormon* . . . (11).

Contributions were made to the Memorial Fund in memory of: Sister Martha Stevenson Harris, Mrs. Jessie Stevenson Hueston, Sister Anna Stevenson Greysinger, Mrs. Irene Stevenson Nelson, Sister Ruth Stevenson Yates, Brother Sam Cuomo, Sister Rose Randazzo, Sister Josephine Tomasello, Mr. Dominic Tomasello, Sister Josephine D'Amico, Brother Frank Scolaro, Brother Giulio Cola, Sister Evelyn Dale, and Mr. and Mrs. Louie Capots. A form was made up by Sister Dora Rossi that can be used in contributing to the Memorial Fund. A vote of thanks was given her.

(Continued on Page 8)

*Editorial Viewpoint . . .***For God So Loved the World**

The Christmas season is a time when we are stirringly reminded of the great love of God for the human family. Our *Holy Bible* and *Book of Mormon* offer interested readers and lovers of truth many accounts of the various workings of God down through the ages by which He richly and generously manifested His love for His people. However, the most outstanding example of the outpouring of God's love is His gift to the world of His only begotten Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

We are greatly indebted to the beloved Apostle John for including in his gospel narrative the interesting and informative account of the question and answer exchange between Nicodemus and the Lord. At this time, the Lord uttered those memorable words:

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (John 3:16, 17)*

The great Apostle Paul, in writing to the saints in Rome, included an eloquent commentary on the love of God:

*For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:6, 7)*

The Apostle Paul acknowledged that there are people who would dare to die for a righteous or good man. However, he hastened to add that the love of God toward all mankind was wonderfully demonstrated without respect of persons, whether good or bad, "in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

**THE CONDESCENSION OF GOD**

The *Book of Mormon* also contains a beautiful illustration of the greatness of God's love as highlighted in Nephi's remarkable vision of the Virgin Mary, whom he describes as "most beautiful and fair above all other virgins." In the vision, the angel asked Nephi, "Knowest thou the condescension of God?" Nephi replied, "I know that he LOVETH his children, nevertheless, I do not know the meaning of all things." The angel said to Nephi, "Behold, the virgin whom thou seest is the mother of the Son of God after the manner of the flesh."

Later in the vision, Nephi beheld the virgin again, bearing a child in her arms. At this point, the angel declared to Nephi, "Behold the Lamb of God, yea, even the Son of the Eternal Father!" Thus, we learn from Nephi's account of his vision that the love of God for mankind is so great that He condescended to bring forth His Son as the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish but have everlasting life."

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Kenneth L. Staley  
301 Pine Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**ASSISTANT  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Thomas Ross  
260 Division St. Ext.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
Joseph Ross

**ASSISTANT  
MANAGING EDITOR**  
Richard Scaglione

**EDITORIALISTS AND  
CONSULTANTS**  
Paul Palmieri  
John Ross  
John Manes

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Cathy Gentile

**TYPISTS**  
Janet Gibson  
Sharon Staley

**CIRCULATION MANAGER**  
Janet Buffa

**GMBA EDITOR**  
Ryan G. Ross  
305 Pine Dr.  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

**GENERAL CIRCLE  
EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15005

**DISTRICT EDITORS**

**ARIZONA**  
Dick Ackman  
8403 E. Pecosdilly Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Joseph Perri  
3 Elizabeth Ct.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

**CALIFORNIA**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
4682 El Rancho Verde Dr.  
LaPalma, Calif. 90620

**FLORIDA**  
Elsie M. Ensana  
1921 S. E. Erwin Road  
Port St. Lucie, Fl. 33452

**OHIO**  
Joel Calabrese  
4280 Knickerbocker  
Sheffield Lake, Ohio 44054

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Louis Pietrangelo  
5522 Bluehill  
Detroit, Michigan 48224

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Malcolm Paxson  
5304 Adobe Drive  
Baldwin, PA 15236

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**BUSINESS OFFICE**  
8423 Boettner Rd.  
Bridgewater, MI 48115  
313 429-5080

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock

## A New Star

Dear Girls and Boys,

Have you ever wondered what was happening around the world when Christ, the King, was born?

We know what was happening in Jerusalem because of the Bible records. We are told that not only were certain Jews waiting for the birth of this child, but that the Lord had also directed three wise men from some country far in the east to the stable where Jesus was born. No doubt they were men who studied the ancient prophecies and things of the Lord, but they found the babe, Jesus, by following a new star.

They were not the only people in the world who saw and wondered about this star. Five years before Christ, a preacher far away in the land of the Americas was warning the people to repent of their unGodly ways and prepare because the Son of God, Jesus Christ, would soon be born. This powerful preacher was named Samuel.

Samuel was a Lamanite. Years before, the Lamanite people refused to believe in the coming of Christ and tried to destroy their relatives, the Nephites, who did try to serve God. Now things had changed. There were more good people among the Lamanite nation than the Nephites.

An angel of God told Samuel to return to the great city of Zarahemla and continue to preach, even though the people had thrust him out. He stood on a high wall and told the people to repent of their evil ways. A few people believed him and were sorry for the bad things they had done. Others in the crowd started to shoot arrows and throw stones at him, but God protected Samuel from them and this caused a few more people to believe in the power of God. Those who believed went to a man



named Nephi and asked to be baptized, yet the bad people far outnumbered the good.

Samuel told the people to look for these signs: "There will be great lights in heaven, so bright that the night before Jesus comes there will be no darkness. It will look like it is the day, yet the sun will rise the next morning, and that will be the day that Jesus will be born." Samuel also told them that then "there will be a new star in the heavens".

After he delivered this message, the soldiers tried to climb up and capture Samuel, but he jumped down and returned to his own people to prophesy and preach.

Nephi continued to work with those that believed Samuel's words. Time passed with those believers eagerly awaiting the signs from God. Nephi worked miracles among them, baptizing, preaching, and showing signs and miracles. Angels appeared unto men, wise men, and also declared unto them that Christ would soon be born.

Four years passed in this manner, while Satan began to stir up the hearts of those unbelievers against the people of God. Some people began to say that the time was past for the prophet Samuel's words to be fulfilled.

These evil people began to rejoice and tell the servants of God that their faith and belief had been for nothing. All across the land there was a great uproar, and the people who believed began to be very sorrowful that maybe something had happened and those things hoped for would not come to pass.

The trouble increased until those wicked people had actually set a date to murder all those who believed unless the signs came to pass.

The people cried out to God. Nephi bowed himself down upon the earth and cried mightily unto the Lord for the lives of those who believed in Him. The voice of the Lord came to him, "Lift up your head and be of good cheer: for the time is at hand and tomorrow I will come into the world. I will fulfill all that which I have caused the holy prophets to speak of."

That night at sunset, there was not darkness when night came. The people began to be astonished across the land. Many who had not believed the prophets fell to the earth as if they were dead; others began to fear because of their sin and unbelief.

There was no darkness that night, and the next morning the sun rose. The people in the Americas knew that this was the day the Lord should be born. (It was night in Bethlehem.)

## Young People Ask

By John Griffith

Dear Brother John,

*Life surely has many decisions in it to make. If it isn't school related, then it's job related. If I am trying to serve God to the best of my ability, is He interested to help me even in these decisions?*

In life, we all find many decisions that must be made. It seems so very difficult at the time to make the correct choice in classes to take at school, or deciding what field of employment to pursue, or deciding which company will provide the most lasting future for us. Our decision making processes even take us into choosing a companion, starting a family, and on and on. Where does it stop?

Well, if you remember, we all complained when our dear parents made all our decisions for us, and it was blowing our minds of some of the choices that they made for us. We just couldn't wait to get out on our own. Oh for the security of home again! Or is it really that difficult?

No doubt, at times these decision making processes are tough, but with the help of God, we can make the right choices for us.

You qualified yourself in the very

opening of your letter. You told of your heart's desire to serve God to the best of your ability. Through this choice to serve God, which by the way is the most difficult to many, you have allowed God to work for you. You, by this most important choice, have opened the door whereby God might do a mighty work for you.

I must first state that in my heart and mind that the choice to serve God or not is the most important decision that each person is faced with and will make. To serve God is to not only take us through this natural realm of living, but will project us into an eternal life of joy and happiness with Him and many of His creation. Thank God you made the correct decision.

Don't even doubt that God will allow you to be alone in the decisions of life. "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way." Psalms 37:23

Just as you trusted in Christ to save you, trust in Him for your daily problems and concerns. "As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power." Col. 2:6-10

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Matthew 6:33-34

If we can put our complete trust in the Lord, He will work for us. Even as He told Moses to take no thought in what should be said to the Pharaoh (Exodus 4:15) so shall He give us understandings in dealing with our individual needs. It was a gigantic responsibility Moses was given. He would stand before the greatest empire of its time to say to the Pharaoh, "Let my people go." Small words. But coupled with the power of God, they became effective. So shall your life be effective through the power of God.

We know that to those who love God, who are called according to his plan, everything will happen for our good. The Lord will fulfill his purpose in us if we allow Him to do so.

"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee." Psalms 32:8-9

Have patience, trust in the Lord, use common sense, talk with those you can trust, and as the days unfold, you will see the Glory of God come forth in your daily living.

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If you have a question or comment, please write. Also, share your thoughts with others. God bless you.

Write: Young People Ask  
Sixth & Lincoln Sts.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

## MBA Highlights

### PA Area MBA Conference

*By Joyceann Jumper, Area Editor*

The Pennsylvania Area MBA held its annual business and organization meeting in Imperial on Saturday, September 25, 1982. President, Brother Bob Nicklow, Jr., conducted the meeting, and Brothers Jonathan Olexa and Richard Scaglione took their places as Vice President and Chaplain, respectively.

Local and officers' reports of the Area were taken care of, and various activities were discussed.

Election of officers was taken up, and the following were elected for a one year term:

President	- David DeLuca
Vice President	- Jonathan Olexa
Chaplain	- Richard Scaglione
Secretary	- Denise Fleming
Ass't. Secretary	- Carol Jumper
Treasurer	- Ed Donkin

Auditors	- James Abbot
	- Ryan Ross
Historian	- Kathy Smith
Editor	- Joyceann Jumper

A special note of thanks was extended to Brother Bob Nicklow, Jr. for having served as President for the past three years.

Following the business, we met outside for a wiener roast. The remainder of the evening was spent in socializing. We thank God for a day well spent.

## Michigan-Ontario Area MBA

*By Rosanne Scolaro, Area Editor*

On Saturday, September 11, the Michigan-Ontario Area MBA sponsored a Corn Roast in Saline, Michigan. Saints from Detroit, Windsor, Pennsylvania, and Ohio joined the brothers, sisters and friends of Saline for a day of fellowship and recreation.

Cars began arriving around noon as everyone wanted to enjoy all the day had to offer. Some set up picnics right away anxiously awaiting the time when the corn would be ready. Some took a horse-drawn carriage ride while others walked through the country lanes to admire the beautiful scenery. Hayrides were offered for all ages and the more ambitious played baseball and football. Everyone made sure to sample the roasted corn, hot off the fire!

As evening set, we were treated to a display of fireworks and then gathered around the campfire to sing hymns from the campout songbook. We ended the day with one last hayride under the stars and headed home satisfied that our time together had been well spent.

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*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.*

*And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.*

*And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,*

*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*

CONFERENCE continued . . .

## Branch and Mission News

Money was donated from the General Fund towards the Greenock Christian Nursery School in Modesto, California, and the Memorial, Africa, Church Budget, and Printing Funds. The Indian Missionary Fund was donated to the General Church. The free-will offering taken was donated to India for their needs.

The next project will be to donate money towards the Nursery School.

All of the officers were re-elected. A vote of thanks was given to the New Jersey Area for their hospitality. The next General Conference will be held at the Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania on March 26, 1983, and Youngstown, Ohio on October 3, 1983.

The brothers that were present spoke to the sisters, referring to them as spiritual mothers of The Church of Jesus Christ—doing many good things.

The New Jersey Area Circle held the program in the evening entitled, "There's Something That's Different About Him". They sang songs, read Scripture, and gave testimonies.

\*\*\*\*\*

## The Straight and Narrow Way

*I wish, dear God  
That all could trod  
Upon this narrow way.*

*Its precepts are grounded,  
By faith it is founded,  
This straight and narrow way.*

*God's love doth abound it,  
By grace we have found it,  
The straight and narrow way.*

*Its beauty is hidden,  
But to those who are bidden,  
Let's walk it together today.*

Olive Elzby  
Windsor, Ontario

\*\*\*\*\*

## Herndon, VA

*By Esther Andrews, Branch Editor*

Our young people at Herndon, Virginia Branch are really maturing spiritually. For the first time, they are going up front to sing *The Songs of Zion*. It is really a joy to hear them.

On March 4, 1982, a real blessing was felt by all when our Sister Keturah Crews made her request to be reunited with the Church. Her request was granted through God's Holy Spirit being present.

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We were going home from a Sunday meeting. Out of a clear blue sky John, Jr., my grandson, being only five years old, said, "Brian better be careful at work tomorrow or he will be made blind." On arriving home, my son John called Brian (my other grandson) and told him what John, Jr. had said and told him to be careful.

We made it a matter of prayer. At his work the next day, he and some others were piling up some trash and a bottle hit him right above the eye, cutting it slightly.

We thank God for answering our prayers and for putting words into the mouths of babes. We also thank God for protecting Brian.

## Bronx, NY

*By Linda Benyola*

On Sunday, April 4, 1982, the Bronx Branch decided to follow their Sabbath Day service with lunch and a social time. So, after being filled with the spiritual food we have all come to need and enjoy, our group of brothers, sisters, friends and visitors moved the gathering to the rear of the building, which just happens to include the kitchen! Actually, after several weeks of planning and organizing, each of the sisters pledged a contribution to provide a complete spaghetti dinner, including homemade goodies for dessert. There was almost perfect attendance, and speaking for everyone, young and older, it was an appetizing meal! To be able to share our talents, both spiritually and

naturally, is a privilege not to be taken for granted.

It has also been a pattern in our Branch to begin our feet washing services with a fast and prayer meeting, as it was most recently on June 27, 1982. The humble and holy spirit which always permeates these meetings was evident then, as well. In keeping with our efforts toward unity, we broke our fast simultaneously with refreshments at the close of the service.

We can truthfully say that God has blessed us with nourishment in abundance.

## Detroit, Branch 4

*By Josephine Pepper, Branch Editor*

It was a joy to welcome into the fold two new brothers who listened to the call of our Lord and surrendered their lives to Him.

Brother Robert Ashenhurst, who was introduced to The Church of Jesus Christ by Sister Betty Denton, asked for his baptism Sunday, May 25, 1982. He has attended our Branch since January of 1982.

It was a beautiful day as we gathered at Edison Lake to share in God's blessing. Great joy filled our hearts to witness the beautiful sight as Brother Tullio LaCivita took Brother Bob into the waters and baptized him. How beautiful it was as we embraced our new babe in Christ.

Later that evening, Brother Bob was confirmed by Brother Dominic Moraca. Those in attendance observed the Lord's Supper with our new brother. We all joined hands to sing, *Willing to Take the Cross Was He*. Surely our cups were filled with the blessing of God this day.

July 5, 1982, was another day of rejoicing at the GMBA Campout as Brother Dennis Bruno expressed his desire to be baptized. His wife, Sister Debbie, obeyed the Gospel two years ago, August 17, 1980, and she had expressed many times her desire to see her husband in the fold. We all share in her happiness and our prayer is that the Lord will bless and guide them and that

they will always remember to put the Lord number one in their lives. We welcome Brother Dennis to our Gospel Family and pray the Lord will bestow upon him blessings abundant and be his constant guide. Brother Don Ross baptized Brother Dennis and Brother Anthony Lovalvo confirmed him.

On July 25, 1982, we were privileged to have Brother Mario DiGaetano from Naples, Italy along with Brother Michael LaSala and Brother Frank and Sister Patrino Lombardi. The weather outside was beautiful along with the Spirit we felt inside. We were blessed as we listened to the testimonies of our brothers and sisters.

Brother Mario related in his testimony that he was thankful for his brief visit here in America which he referred to as "Paradise". He said he felt the love of God in abundance for the first time and was so thankful for all the hospitality extended to him. There were a few of us that could not communicate with him nor he with us, but it was uplifting to have him in our presence. Regardless of the language barrier for some of us, we were all in one accord as we sang God's praises in our brother's native language.

Brother Mario has obeyed the Gospel for five years, and his desire is to serve the Lord and do His will. He asked us to remember him in our prayers that God would find a way for someone to come and establish a Church in that part of Naples. Let us all pray that God would move His hand in that part of the vineyard. Our anticipation is that the Lord will commence His work for all those that hunger for His word and the true and pure Gospel.

## Hopelawn, NJ

*By Mary Perri, Branch Editor*

Sunday, June 20, proved to be a joyous day (among many) for the members of our Branch. God has blessed us so abundantly with His love.

Brother Joseph Perri introduced our service, reading from the *Book of Mormon*, II Nephi 31, "the straight and narrow way".

Brother Joe emphasized the importance of baptism that we might fulfill the commandments of God. The 5th verse states, "If the Lamb of God (Jesus Christ) he being holy should have need

to be baptized by water to fulfill all righteousness, O then how much more need have we, being unholy to be baptized, yea, even by water."

Jesus proved to be an example for us to follow, showing His humbleness and willingness in being obedient to God His Father. If then we are to follow Jesus, it should be with full purpose of heart, acting no hypocrisy and no deception before God, with real intent, repenting of our sins, witnessing unto God the Father that we are willing to take upon us the name of Christ by baptism by going down into the water according to His word and entering through the gate into the straight and narrow path which leads to eternal life.

Then, by the laying on of hands by the priesthood of the Church, the gift of the Holy Ghost is bestowed upon us to be the guiding force in our lives. We must obey the words of Christ with unshaken faith; we must press forward with steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope and a love of God and of all men.

Brother Joe then gave an invitation to those in our congregation who had not made a covenant with God if it would be their desire to follow Christ and be rewarded eternal life to stand and make their wishes known. Brothers Wellington Graham and Scott Wolff stood up and declared that they wanted to follow Christ and become members of the family of God.

We have a good number of young people in our Branch who are at the crossroads of life and are requesting our prayers in their behalf. Brothers Wellington and Scott were baptized by Brother Joe the following Sunday, June 27, and we welcome them as members of our Branch. We are sure that they will be an asset and a blessing as well. (As a note of information, Brother Scott is the nephew of Sister Elsie Miller Ensana.)

Also visiting with us on Sunday, June 27, was Brother Jerry Hopkins from the San Carlos, Arizona Mission. Brother Jerry was invited to spend a few weeks to meet other brothers and sisters and young people of our District and also to attend the GMBA Campout in Massanetta Springs, VA. We enjoyed his testimony and his singing in Apache. We extend to all our brothers and sisters throughout the Church and to all other Gospel News readers our love.

## Levittown, PA

*By Dottie Benyola, Branch Editor*

On Sunday, July 11, 1982, Levittown Branch had the following visitors worship with us: Brothers Russ Martorana, Wayne Martorana, Harold Burge, James Crudup and their families.

Brother Wayne opened the service and spoke on the Apostasy and Restoration and what The Church of Jesus Christ means. We are ambassadors for the Gospel and we are to preserve the Church as Gentiles until the time comes for others to come into the fold. God's word will be spread to the House of Israel and the Indian Nation, and we will be used in promulgating His word to them.

Brother Russ continued on the same theme. He stated that we should take inventory of our lives regarding our dedication and conviction pertaining to the Church. Brother Russ considers it a great privilege to be able to go to campouts and branches in different areas of the Church and still be able to share the same desire towards serving God.

We then went into the ordination of Brother Jim Speck, Sr. into the office of Deacon. His son, Jim who is also a deacon, had the honor of washing his father's feet and offered a humble prayer that God would give his father direction and a desire to do His will. Brother Jerry Valenti ordained Brother Jim into this office. May God bless our brother with a dedication and conviction to serve Him.

Brother Harold Burge opened our testimony meeting and stated that the saints of the Church should let God be their guide and ruler so that He might give them direction in their lives. Our brothers and sisters blended their testimonies into the meeting giving praises and glory unto God.

We closed this most beautiful meeting by the partaking of Holy Communion. Prayer was offered by Brother Paul Benyola, and we concluded this wonderful day by singing *God's Still on His Throne*.

## Detroit, Branch 1

*By Anthony J. Scolaro,*

At 9:00 on Sunday morning, July 18,

1982, many of the saints in our District gathered at the Detroit River to witness the baptisms of three new members. After we sang *Shall We Gather at the River*, Brother Tony Gerace called upon the Lord to bless us on this special morning. Sister Virginia Tripps, from the Inner City Branch, was then baptized by Brother Carl Frammolino. Brother Nick Pietrangelo baptized his grandson, Brother Keith Mangiapane, and Brother Peter Scolaro took our new Brother Bill Moelke into the water to be baptized.

Those of us from Branch 1 then drove to church for the morning meeting. As we began our service with community singing, the building filled up with many friends and visitors from near and far. Before any preaching began, the Holy Ghost was bestowed upon our two new members. Brother Keith was confirmed by Brother Lou Pietrangelo, and Brother Tony Scolaro confirmed Brother Bill Moelke.

Our preaching service was opened by our visiting Brother John Griffith, who spoke on the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for all mankind. Brother Alex Gentile followed, elaborating on the words of Brother Griffith and stressed the importance of our commitment to the Lord.

Our Presiding Elder, Brother Peter Scolaro, continued in the same vein, pointing out how short this life really is when compared to eternity. The most important thing to us should be preparing for the life to come, and this is achieved through serving the Lord all the days of our life.

After we had the Lord's Supper, we heard the testimony of our Brother Mario DiGaetano, who was visiting from Italy. Through interpreters, he told us of his experience in a terrible earthquake in Naples two years ago. It appeared to him, he said, that it was the end of the world. Everywhere he looked, he saw people running to and fro - trying to escape the disaster, but not knowing where to go. As he prayed to God for help, the Lord granted to him a deep feeling of peace, and he felt directed to stay still, right where he was, in the doorway of his own house, until the earthquake passed. Indeed, the Lord was to Brother Mario what He is to us today, a shelter in the time of storm.

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On July 24, 1982, a group of members

and friends from Detroit, Branch 1 boarded a chartered bus bound for Palmyra, New York. Forty-five of us made the trip east to see the famous pageant presented by the Mormon Church on the *Book of Mormon*.

After a lunchtime stop at Niagara Falls, we continued on and arrived at our motel in time for dinner, after which our bus took us onward to Hill Cumorah and the nearby area where Joseph Smith spent the earlier part of his life.

Of course, the highlight of our trip was the pageant itself, and I must say that it far exceeded any of our expectations. The costumes, the lights, and the music all combined to recount to us the events that took place on this land long before the Gentiles ever claimed it as their own. Sitting there under the glorious starlit sky, we each felt the Spirit of God quickened within us as we effectively saw a small portion of God's marvelous plan unfolded before our very eyes. We came away from the Hill Cumorah feeling very much uplifted, with the knowledge of the Restoration freshly stirred up in our hearts.

On Sunday morning, our bus took us to the Lockport, New York Branch of the Church to spend a morning of fellowship with the saints there. The meeting was opened by Brother Lou Pietrangelo, who gave a word of testimony and spoke concerning the love of God that we find nowhere else but in His Church. He related to us an incident that happened to him during World War II. While he was overseas in the service, a sister at Branch 1 was shown by the Lord that Brother Lou was near an exploding plane on an airstrip. As the saints prayed for him on that fateful day, our merciful Savior did indeed spare him, while everyone else in the area of the explosion lost their lives.

Brother Paul Vitto followed, filled with enthusiasm from having seen the pageant the night before. He spoke on the importance of this Restored Gospel, how it shows us a better way of life, and enables us to understand more clearly the will of God.

Brother Richard Santilli, visiting from Ohio, followed, pointing out that the true way to worship God was absent from this earth for 1260 years. How thankful we should be to God for His goodness to each and every one of us who have the knowledge of the Restored Gospel!

We heard from Brother Peter Scolaro

about the marvelous way that God used men like Ammon and Moroni, who submitted themselves entirely to the will of God. There is no reason, Brother Peter continued, why any of us couldn't reach the heights that these men did, except that we tend to limit ourselves. But truly, we who have found the truth can go forth in power, having the Holy Spirit with us.

After hearing the testimonies of Brother Bill Moelke and Sister Vanna Ignagni, both of whom were filled with thanksgiving to God for leading them to His Church, Brother Nick Pietrangelo offered the meeting's closing remarks, commenting on the many different ways the Lord works in people's lives to bring them to His service.

The brothers and sisters of Lockport provided a beautiful luncheon for us, and we were able to enjoy a little time in fellowship with them before we were on our way.

We arrived safely home early Sunday evening, once again thankful for the blessings afforded us by the entire weekend.

## Rochester, NY

On Sunday, August 1, 1982, the Rochester Mission welcomed a group of saints who came by charter bus from McKees Rocks and a carload from Erie. They had attended the Hill Cumorah Pageant the day before.

Following community singing, Brother John Manes chose for his text, II Nephi 1. He enlarged upon God's promise that this land would be a land of liberty. He also referred to the 2000 stripling soldiers who defended their land and liberty.

We sang, *When the Angel Moroni*, after which Brother Dan Casasanta spoke, noting that the Gospel was restored by the Angel Moroni and how it has brought a wonderful change in our hearts.

Brother Dick Lawson spoke next, referring to our freedom of choice, and that being baptized enables us to enjoy greater freedom in the Gospel. Brother Harold Burge said that we serve God because we love Him, and it is the love of God that drew us to the Church.

In his concluding remarks, Brother Ansel D'Amico said that it was good to

be in the house of the Lord. He also referred to Moroni, how he rent his coat and wrote on a piece of it, "In memory of our God, our religion, and freedom, our peace, our wives, and our children." Fastening it to a pole, he called it "The Title of Liberty".

After dismissal, lunch was served and enjoyed along with socializing.

## Windsor, Ontario

Geoffrey Eric Matthew, son of Brother Charles and Sister Melissa Mat-

thew, was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on September 12, 1982 by Brother Bob Stanek. He was confirmed by Brother Dominic Moraco.

May God richly bless Brother Geoffrey as he begins this new walk in life with the Lord.

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### LARMORE—ZAMORA

Mr. Greg Larmore and Miss Lorraine Zamora were united in marriage on Saturday, July 31, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Bell, California.

Brother Harry Marshall performed the ceremony, and Brother Ken Jones presented musical selections.

The Larmore's are making their home in South Gate, California.

### COLPITTS—SOAVE

Sister Angela Soave and Brother Dennis Colpitts were united in holy matrimony on Friday, October 1, at the Sterling Heights Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Sam DiFalco officiated at the ceremony.

### ASHENHURST—DENTON

Brother Robert Ashenhurst and Sister Betty Denton were united in marriage on Saturday, June 5, 1982 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Redford, Michigan.

Brother Anthony Lovalvo officiated and Brother Frank Vitto assisted in the ceremony. Music was selected by the bride. The organist for the occasion was Sister Santina LaCivita.

The newlyweds are residing in Redford, Michigan. May our Lord bless and enrich their lives together.

### IGNAGNI—WALDRON

Brother Joseph Anthony Ignagni and Sister Darlene Francis Waldron were united in holy matrimony on Saturday, August 21, 1982.

Brother Anthony Scolaro, assisted by Brother Spencer Everett, performed the ceremony. Musical selections were presented by Brother Eugene Amormino, who accompanied the soloist, Sister Patti Machnik, the groom's sister.

The couple is now residing in West Lafayette, Indiana. Our prayer is that the Lord will be their continuing source

of strength.

### GRAHAM—BENYOLA

Brother Wellington Carl Graham and Sister Mary Ann Benyola were married at The Church of Jesus Christ in Hopelawn, New Jersey on August 20, 1982.

Brother Joseph Perri officiated at the ceremony and was assisted by Brother Richard Scaglione. Brother Richard Benyola was the organist.

The Grahams are making their home in Hopelawn, New Jersey. May God bless them in their new life together.

### DAVELLA—SPECK

Mr. Nicklos Davella, Jr. and Sister Susan Speck were joined in marriage on June 19, 1982 by Brother Joseph Faragasso at The Church of Jesus Christ in Hopelawn, New Jersey. Brother Paul Benyola assisted in the wedding ceremony.

Musical selections were presented by Brother Philip and Sister Linda Benyola, Brother Ken Lombardo and Sister JoAnn Arcuri.

The newlyweds are residing in Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

## New Arrivals

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the indicated new members of their families:

Rachel Elizabeth to Frank and Janice Rossi of Aliquippa, PA;

Lydia Lee to James and Diana Link of Herndon, Virginia;

Angeline Marie to Dennis and Lorie Wright Gosselin of Windsor, Ontario;

Katie Lynn to Matthew and Patricia Collison of Windsor, Ontario;

Cara Jean to Gary and Michelle Peltier of Windsor, Ontario;

Angela Michelle Jane to Joseph and Carol Damore of Youngstown, Ohio;

Christopher Michael to Ronald and Connie Berardino of Youngstown, Ohio;

Kristen Marie to John and Dorothy Fortunato Graban of Youngstown, Ohio;

Craig Dominic to Jared and Carol Ann Thomas of Branch 2, Detroit, Michigan;

Stephen Christopher to John and Leona Buffa of Branch 2, Detroit, Michigan;

Jennie Ann to Joseph and Joyce Vargo of Branch 2, Detroit, Michigan.

## OBITUARIES

*We wish to express our sympathy to those that mourn over the loss of loved ones. May God bless and comfort you.*

### ROSINA ONORATI

Sister Rosina Onorati passed on to her eternal reward on August 22, 1982. She was born on February 9, 1901. Baptized in Lima, Ohio in 1958 by Brother Joseph Calabrese, she soon afterward moved to Detroit, Michigan where she was a member of the Church in Branch 1.

The funeral service was conducted by Brothers Carl Frammolino and John Romano.

Sister Rose is survived by a son and daughter, as well as a host of brothers and sisters in Christ.

### LOUIS R. CAPOTS ANNE M. CAPOTS

Mr. Louis R. Capots passed away on August 21, 1982, and his wife, Mrs. Anne M. Capots, passed away on August 22, 1982. Louis was born on August 18, 1908, and Anne was born on January 29, 1914.

Combined funeral services were held on August 24, 1982 by Brothers Anthony Corrado and Ralph Berardino at the Fabrizio Funeral Home in Youngstown, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Capots are survived by two sons, one daughter, three grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Mr. Capots is also survived by one sister, and Mrs. Capots by one brother and two sisters.

May God console their family at the double loss they feel at this time.

### ANTHONY MANES

Brother Anthony Manes of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed away on September 19, 1982. Born on August 31, 1904, he was baptized into the Church by Brother A. A. Corrado on June 15, 1930.

He was a faithful member and will be missed by all who knew him.

Brother Manes is survived by his wife, Sister Josephine, two sons and four grandchildren.

Brother Travis Perry, assisted by Brothers A. A. Corrado and John Manes, conducted the funeral services which were held at the Youngstown Branch.

### ALICE REBECCA GILLILAND

Sister Alice Rebecca Gilliland passed away from this life on September 23, 1982. She was born on April 19, 1908 and baptized into the Church by Brother Russell Cadman in 1958.

Brothers Ralph Berardino and A. A. Corrado officiated at the funeral services and were assisted by Brother Mitchell Edwards.

Sister Gilliland is survived by her husband, Brother Clarence, one sister, eight grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. Even though she was quite afflicted and could not attend services, she remained steadfast in her faith.

### MABEL McKAY

Sister Mabel McKay, a member of The Church of Jesus Christ, living in Meaford, Ontario, passed away on October 3, 1982 at the age of 78. She had been a faithful soldier for Christ for 25 years.

She is survived by her husband, two daughters, one brother, five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Her wonderful testimony and her cheery smile will be greatly missed by the saints in Meaford.

Brothers Bob Stanek and Ken Wright of the Windsor Branch conducted the funeral service.

### ROSE VALZANIA

Sister Rose Valzania passed away from this life on July 3, 1982. A member of Branch 4, Redford, Michigan, Sister Rose was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ May 29, 1938. She was 91 years old.

She had been in ill health for many years during which time she resided with her daughter, Sister Margaret Cappatocia.

Sister Rose is survived by one daughter, one son, four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was officiated by Brothers Tullio LaCivita and Dominic Moraca.

For those who mourn their loved one, may the Lord comfort them.