

# The Gospel News

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

January, 1992

Volume 48, No. 1

## Maine Mission Dedication

*By Cindy Onorato*

A beautiful, long awaited day, well spent, in honor and glorification to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

On July 21, 1991, in Brunswick, Maine, our hearts rejoiced in welcoming to our Dedication many brothers, sisters, family, and friends from near and far to our newly-renovated church building, built in the year 1799.

Sixteen elders were present. Also visiting was a busload from New Jersey. We were grateful for all those who came and shared in our joy and blessings.

We gathered in singing hymns. Brother Dominick Rose addressed our meeting and remarked on the transformation that has taken place from the first time he saw the building until now.

Brother Richard Onorato Jr., Maine Mission Presiding Elder, then welcomed everyone. He gave the following brief history of the Maine Mission:

### BRIEF HISTORY

Approximately 25 years ago my grandparents, Brother John and Sister Elizabeth Onorato and children moved to North Edgecomb, Maine from Brooklyn, New York.

They longed for fellowship and

fasted and prayed that the Lord would send someone to teach the word of God to them. The Lord heard their prayers and sent Brother Frank Zaher, Brooklyn Branch elder, to come up regularly. Brother Frank labored very hard for the spiritual welfare of the brothers and sisters in Maine. This was the start of the mission.

They gathered in Brother John and Sister Elizabeth's garage, converted into a little church, for many years.

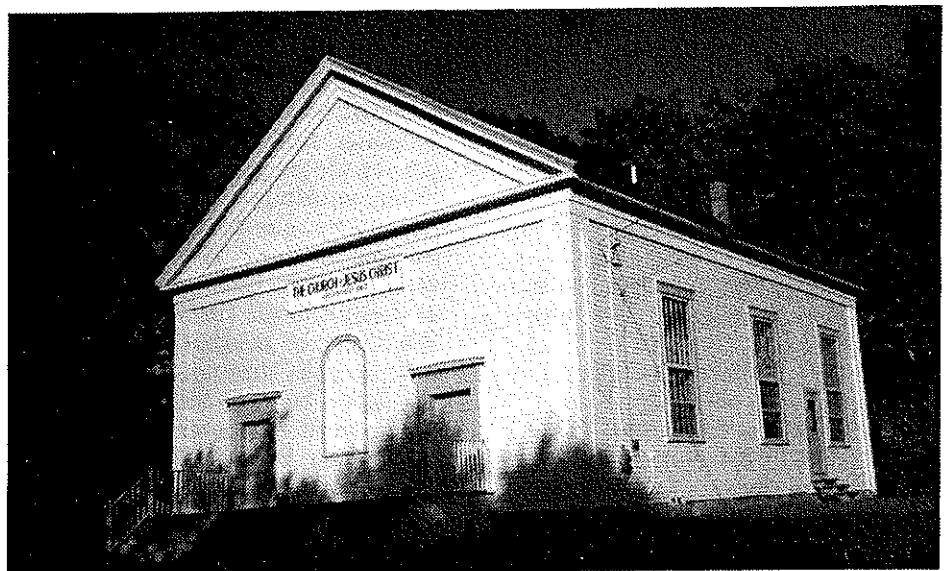
In that period of time, the Lord called Brother Richard Onorato Sr. into the ministry. He also called teachers, deacons, and deaconesses.

The mission began to grow with many blessings, experiences, gift of tongues, and baptisms. There was no doubt, the Lord was performing a work here in Maine.

After the death of our dearly beloved Sister Elizabeth Onorato in 1981, we moved on to meeting in Brother Richard Sr. and Sister Mary Onorato's home.

Brother Richard Onorato Jr. was then called into the ministry.

**(Continued on Page 2)**



Maine Mission, newly renovated, was built in 1799.

## DEDICATION continued . . .

We gathered for meetings in their home for eight years. We began to pray earnestly to the Lord for a building to meet in, not just for comfort, but a place where we could put the title: "The Church of Jesus Christ."

The Lord heard our prayers and he directed us to an old church building in Brunswick, Maine. It needed total renovation.

At the time, it looked as if it were an impossible task for thirteen members to undertake a work so great. But, we soon learned, there is nothing impossible with God. He directed us one step at a time. He gave us the know-how for each task, direction, help, support, confidence, strength to labor, and even funding made possible from the General Church. Five years of laboring went into the building.

Brother Richard Jr. related one of the many experiences had while working at the building:

One day my husband, Brother Richard Jr., and I were trying to put up an A-Frame of the wall. We had to raise it up above the existing wall frame that was standing. As Brother Richard got on one end and I on the other, we began to lift, while standing on a ladder. As we lifted the wall, which was very heavy and awkward, it began to fall forward. We immediately turned to the Lord in prayer, and as we did, Bro. Richard saw the hand of the Lord push the wall back and he was able to secure it. We thanked and praised the Lord, for He was always there.

Many more wonderful experiences were had. While we also had many setbacks and discouragements, the end result was worth it all. It was as if the Lord were saying, "Do you really want a church building? You must work for it!"

Brother Richard then gave thanks, with all sincerity of his heart, to all who have contributed to the work of the church building. Everyone in the mission took part, as well as other brothers and sisters, family, and friends.

Acknowledgements were given to Brother Dominick and Sister

Belle Rose for all of their support and for always being there for us, and to Brother Sam Dell, who came with other brothers and sisters to give us a physical and spiritual boost. He thanked the General Church Trustees for their support and financial aid, the children of the mission who worked hard, his wife, and most of all, thanks and honor were given to God.

A prayer of dedication was offered by Brother Paul Benyola, Apostle to the Atlantic Coast District.

The Atlantic Coast Area MBA President spoke on behalf of all MBA members and rejoiced in being able to bring a whole busload to share in our dedication.

The MBA then sang, *Sing Hallelujah!*

Brother Dominic Thomas, General Church President, stated, "There has already been a dedication exhibited here." By his looking and listening, he sensed that we had a deep trust in God, a deep dependency on each other. He then requested that everyone stand in appreciation to the Maine Mission. He stated how the Lord wants us to build in Brunswick, Maine, and how we should put our lives into the Church, how we should love our mission (The Maine Mission should be the Main Mission to us!), maintain our focus, and not hold anything back from the Church. Peter said, "It's My Church." This day is historic! Now that the building is prepared to gather in, we should focus on the spiritual structure. Dedication has to be done day in and day out. He asked us to think of what will take place in our building: singing hymns, fast and prayer meetings, ordinations, baptisms, weddings, "What sustains our hearts, our souls, our minds and our bodies." There is no rest for those who embrace the Gospel of Jesus Christ! He also spoke of the desire of Brother Sam Dell, how he goes throughout the Church and helps build buildings.

A word of prayer was offered by Brother Dominic Thomas.

We sang hymn #41 in the MBA songbook. Brother Paul Benyola spoke, commenting on how we once met in Brother Richard Sr.'s dining room for church and now we have

this beautiful building.

Brothers Dick Lawson and Joseph Ross, General Church Trustees, stressed maintaining our focus and our enthusiasm. Remember our beginnings. Our building has been transformed into a place where the Spirit of God dwells.

The trustees then presented the mission with an American flag as a gift. Before the meeting a lovely clock was also presented to the mission by the Brooklyn Branch.

Brother Len Benyola, Atlantic Coast District President, spoke, giving thanks that he was able to take part in our dedication.

During the course of the meeting, Sister Mary Onorato had an experience. A hymn, *Rose of Sharon*, was called earlier from the MBA songbook, with the words, "The rose was transported to heaven," in it. This made her think of Sister Elizabeth Onorato. This verse was in an experience that was had about Sister Elizabeth when she passed away, that "she was transported to heaven." Sister Mary desired greatly, how wonderful it would be if Sister Elizabeth could see the mission now and be here among us. Sister Mary then felt her presence strongly, and saw her face smiling down among us.

Brother Richard Onorato Sr. spoke briefly on how Sister Elizabeth, his mother, through her example, was the reason he was here today. He related how he came back to church and how the Lord has blessed us tremendously.

We continued with Communion, passed by Brothers Jim Link, Sam Dell, and Richard Onorato Sr. and Jr.

Brother Dominick Rose noted how our brothers and sisters came from Dedham, Massachusetts to be with us. Please remember them in your prayers as they strive to serve the Lord. We were dismissed in prayer.

A luncheon was served after the meeting, prepared by the Maine Mission Ladies' Uplift Circle.

We were sorry to see our beautiful meeting come to an end. We had to say good-bye to all our brothers, sisters, and friends.

We thank all of you for visiting, and for your prayers and support.

## A closer look at the Word of God

By David Majoros

As you read the Book of Mormon, have you ever wondered why some expressions or phrases seem to read so oddly or awkwardly? For example, why does it use phrases like "and it came to pass" and the words like "behold" so much? Or how about in 1 Nephi 1:3, where it says, "**And** I know that the record which I make is true; **and** I make it with my own hand; **and** I make it according to my knowledge." Why did Nephi (and so many other writers in the Book of Mormon) use the word "and" so much? And why couldn't Nephi have said something like this: "I know that what I have written is true because I did it myself; and I did it the best I knew how!"? A person could rightly ask, "Why does this book read like this?"

The answer to this honest question is that the Book of Mormon is an ancient *Hebrew* record engraved on metal plates, which means that it was written in the common way that the ancient Hebrews had of expressing themselves. In fact, modern biblical Hebrew language scholars call the unique expressions and phraseology they used "Hebraisms."

When God translated the Book of Mormon for us, He could have "edited" the text to make it easier for us to accept, but instead He translated it *literally*; that is, He dictated it to Joseph Smith just as if the ancient writers were writing for us today—Hebraisms and all!

In order to get a better understanding of this, let us imagine that archeologists in the years 3150 A.D. were digging around somewhere in the area that we call the United States today, and they found a piece of paper with a picture of a strange mammal-like creature, standing upright on two legs, munching a carrot, and saying, "What's up, Doc?" A 32nd Century translator may try to "help" the readers of his day by rendering that phrase, "What is in the sky, Physician?"

In doing this, is the translator really doing the text or the reader

justice by trying to make it "easier" to comprehend? Or should the translator be *true* to what is actually there and simply put into his own language "What's up, Doc?" and expect the reader or other scholars of his day to get busy, do some research, and find out just what that phrase meant in 20th century America?

Bringing this analogy to our day and time, we could call "What's up, Doc?" an Americanism. So are other phrases such as "time on my hands," "head over heels in love," and "Roaring Twenties." These phrases are commonly used in American society today. Virtually every American understands, without question, what these words mean. No one blinks an eye when one of these phrases is used. (Did you catch the Americanism in that last sentence?)

The Zarahemla Research Foundation, a non-profit corporation dedicated to Book of Mormon research, has provided us with some interesting information on three particular Hebraisms:

### "AND"

One prominent peculiarity of biblical Hebrew is the frequent use of the conjunction "and," both in beginning a sentence and in the listing of a series of objects or persons in a sentence. In A. B. Davidson's *An Introductory Hebrew Grammar*, the author states: "Hebrew syntax, though it has many subtleties of its own, is, broadly speaking, extremely simple, as a glance at any literal translation of the Old Testament, with its ever recurring "and" will show. The Hebrew habit to express thoughts is to coordinate clauses rather than to subordinate them, with one principal verb following another with a regularity that reminds one of the simple speech of children."

There seems to have been an attitude among ancient Hebrew writers of disliking the idea of beginning a sentence without "and." In the 22nd chapter of Genesis, "and" begins the verse in 21 of the 24 verses. Similar patterns are found throughout the Old Testament and throughout the Book of Mormon. In the 15th chapter of

Alma, "and" begins 15 of the 19 verses.

In Gesenius' *Hebrew Grammar* the author states: "Contrary to English usage, which in lengthy enumerations uses the "and" to connect only the last member of the series, in Hebrew polysyndeton is customary." (i.e., "and" stands before each word or phrase in a series.)

A perfect example is found in Genesis 24:35: "**And** the Lord hath blessed my master greatly; **and** he is become great: **and** he hath given him flocks, **and** herds, **and** silver, **and** gold, **and** menservants, **and** maidservants, **and** camels, **and** asses."

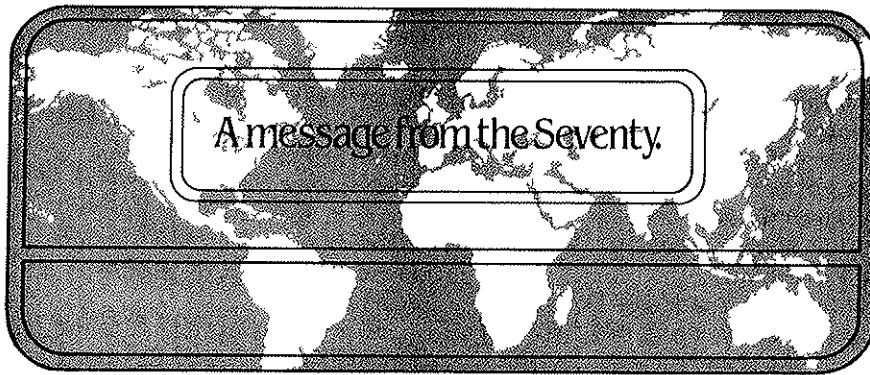
Notice the structure of Enos 1:21 from the Book of Mormon: "**And** it came to pass that the people of Nephi did till the land, **and** raise all manner of grain, **and** of fruit, **and** flocks of herds, **and** flocks of all manner of cattle of every kind, **and** goats, **and** wild goats, **and** also many horses."

### "AND IT CAME TO PASS"

"And it came to pass" is probably the most frequently used phrase in the Book of Mormon. This phrase in the idiom of King James English is a rendering of the Hebrew word "vayehee." Its frequent use in the Book of Mormon is consistent with the frequent use of "vayehee" in the Old Testament Hebrew text. In J. Weingreen's *A Practical Grammar for Classical Hebrew*, the author comments concerning the meaning of this phrase: "This, rather than implying a continuation with what has preceded, has little more force (when translated) than 'now it happened.' " This phrase, "and it came to pass," and the frequent use of "and" are two of the most important proofs of Hebrew language structure found in the Book of Mormon.

Two reports of Mayan glyphs translated to read "... it came to pass ..." have come to our attention. The first report is from the 1985 Maya Hieroglyphic Workshop at the University of Texas conducted by Linda Schele, a leading glyph expert. The workbook from

(Continued on Page 10)



## Southeast District Missionary Report

*By Eugene Perri, Chairman, Southeast DMOC*

*Following is a report by Evangelist Eugene Perri of the missionary activities being performed in the Southeast District in Florida.—Evangelist Editor*

### HOLLYWOOD RESERVATION

Although there are three other well-staffed churches servicing and subsidizing the Reservation, Brother Dennis Moraco reports that a cordial relationship has been cultivated with a social worker, allowing our Church to deliver food and clothing periodically.

Preparation was made for the Hollywood Branch to work together with Brother Bert Sheffler and a few other brothers from the Cape Coral Branch on a joint project with the Big Cypress Reservation. The brothers were involved in set-up and general manual labor, helping both the Hollywood and Big Cypress Reservations to get ready for a week-long tribal conference which was scheduled for early January.

### BIG CYPRESS

Brother Sheffler, along with several brothers from Cape Coral, is traveling to the Big Cypress Reservation twice a week. There are approximately 20 families who have opened their homes for our brothers to visit.

The death of Joseph Jumper, our original contact, was somewhat of a setback, but other friendships are being developed gradually. One Saturday a month is set aside for

helping with house painting, plumbing, and all types of home repair.

Preparations were also made here for the joint Tribal Conference at the aforementioned Hollywood Reservation.

Brother Bert stated that they are also visiting several Indian families in Imokolee, Florida.

### BRIGHTON

This endeavor has become a joint effort of the Fort Pierce and Lake Worth Branches. One of our brothers from Fort Pierce has taken a job on the Reservation with Dan Bowers, who is in charge of all construction on the South Florida Reservations. This has allowed for very close contact on a daily basis, and has encouraged some people from the Brighton Reservation to attend our Fort Pierce Branch more often than before. It has also given greater opportunity to present and discuss the Book of Mormon on the Reservation.

Brother John D'Orazio and a group from Lake Worth have gone occasionally for a Wednesday evening service and have been given the opportunity to speak. Brother Frank Rogolino reports visiting every other Sunday night, when the Church is given the privilege of addressing the congregation at their services.

### FELLSMERE

Over the last six months, the brothers from Fort Pierce have been visiting the homes of migrant

workers in Fellsmere. The families, who have come here from Texas to work, have called upon our Church to pray for them and have experienced healings under the hands of the ministry. We have also aided these families naturally to the best of our ability. When the work is slow, many of these people return to their Mission, Texas homes. Brother Rogolino is planning a trip there to visit some of them.

### HOMESTEAD

The work in Homestead is well under way, and meetings are now being held in the small mission house which was prepared for this use. Meetings are held every Wednesday and Sunday evening.

Brothers George Kovacic and Joseph Catone Sr. are heading the work, with the assistance of other brothers and sisters, including Brother Miguel Bicelis, who is the interpreter. The meetings are conducted in English, and Brother Bicelis translates into Spanish for the benefit of the mainly Spanish-speaking congregation.

There have been three baptisms to date, and many experiences have come forth through these new members. Much effort is being spent in the teaching of children in Sunday School classes.

Recently, Brothers Catone and George Katsaris traveled to Tse Bonito, New Mexico, to pick up a small bus which was donated to Homestead. This was a very important and appreciated gift, because the brothers must drive the people to the mission house and back for the services.

The Church provides food, clothing, and furniture, as well as layettes for the babies as needed. The Hollywood and Miami Branches have also prepared and served annual Thanksgiving dinners.

### ORLANDO

Brother Moraco reports that the Civic Center in Sanford, Florida was rented to hold meetings, the first of which took place this past November 17th.

Currently, there are five

**(Continued on Page 10)**



# The Gospel News

## EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Anthony J. Scolaro  
32C Donald St.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

## ASSISTANT EDITOR

Leonard A. Lovalvo  
8085 Schneider  
Manchester, MI 48158

## CONSULTANTS

Nephi DeMercurio  
Peter A. Scolaro

## OFFICE MANAGER

Cathy Gentile

## GMBA EDITOR

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

## GENERAL CIRCLE EDITOR

Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

## DISTRICT EDITORS

### ATLANTIC COAST

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

### MICHIGAN-ONTARIO

Lisa Champine  
47025 Hennings Dr.  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48045

### OHIO

Mark Naro  
4425 Broadway  
Lorain, OH 44055

### PACIFIC COAST

Kenneth R. Jones  
24268 Roble Ct.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

### PENNSYLVANIA

Lucetta Seaglione  
303 Union St.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

### SOUTHEAST

Douglas S. Obradovich  
8620 NW 45th St.  
Lauderhill, FL 33351

### SOUTHWEST

Frances J. Capone  
8725 E. Hubbell  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

THE GOSPEL NEWS (USPS #223-480) is published monthly for \$6.00 per year by The Church of Jesus Christ PRINT HOUSE, 8282 Boettner Rd., Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030, 313-429-5080. Second class postage paid at Saline, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE GOSPEL NEWS BUSINESS OFFICE, P.O. BOX 30, BRIDGEWATER, MI 48115-0030.

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

James, toward the end of his epistle, enjoins his readers, "*Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed*" (James 5:16). Is he suggesting that we recount all our past mistakes to our brothers and sisters in Christ? Is the prayer of another person somehow necessary for us to obtain full forgiveness?

Of course we know that we each deal with God directly, individually, and privately in repenting of our sins and seeking His forgiveness. With Jesus as our intercessor, the need to go to any kind of earthly "middleman" to have our transgressions forgiven no longer exists. The ultimate sacrifice has been made; our salvation is bought and paid for by the blood of Jesus Christ.

The words of James, however, are not without merit. They suggest that there is a blessing in sharing, not our sins, but rather our faults, our weaknesses, and our imperfections with our fellow servants. Truly the Lord has forgiven—and forgotten—all the wrong that we've done; His word says that He's put our sins as far away from Him as the east is from the west. But as long as we're made of flesh and blood, we are imperfect creatures, serving a Maker who can and will make us perfect in Him. In order for Him to do so, however, we must be willing to face the fact that there is room for improvement in our lives.

Having an objective awareness of our faults—admitting that we're flawed—is, in itself, contrary to our carnal nature. Only the Spirit of God and its attending fruit—humility, meekness, etc.—can enable us to deal with the unpleasant task of discovering and working to reduce the areas of deficiency in our lives. Human pride will blur our perception of ourselves with self-delusion and denial—we won't even consider the *possibility* that shortcomings exist.

Without humility, if someone, including the Lord, should try to make a person aware of his faults, however gently and lovingly, his immediate reaction will be one of defensive rage—he'll be incensed that another should see so deeply and clearly in him what he himself has never dared look at—and what he's worked so hard at preventing anyone from seeing. Until he humbles himself (or is *humbled*), God cannot even begin the work of perfecting this proud, "airtight" individual. And chances are, if a brother or sister should make the mistake of humbly coming to this person and, seeking help and encouragement, admit to having a particular weakness, fault, or struggle, the proud man—far from feeling compassion—is likely to raise his eyebrows in judgment, gasp in horror, and exclaim, aloud or to himself, "*That's terrible!*" convinced that he is somehow less a sinner than the man or woman speaking to him.

If, on the other hand, we can all work at recognizing and coming to terms with our own faults—both those we can change and those only the Lord can—we will be strong enough and brave enough to risk reaching out and sharing ourselves—strengths, weaknesses, and all—with one another. By bearing our mutual burdens, we strengthen and support each other. And as we pray for strength against and deliverance from our weaknesses, we find great encouragement when someone else is praying alongside us for the same cause. But the greatest blessing of all is the unsurpassed liberty and joy we feel when we've risked to conquer, and then, having found Christ-like love and acceptance, we continue to share our victories—and defeats—as we press on to the mark of eternal perfection.

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock



## The Trials of Moses' Family

Dear Boys and Girls,

Did you ever think how hard it must have been to be the brother, Aaron, or the sister, Miriam, of Moses? We all know the story of how Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, decided to kill all male Hebrew babies. He was afraid these Hebrew boys would grow up to be strong enemies of the Egyptians and take over his country.

Moses' mother made a waterproof basket to hide her healthy, beautiful baby in. Moses' older sister, Miriam, hid in the plants along the river to watch the baby in his basket. Can you imagine how lonely and scared Miriam felt, hiding in the weeds there, hour after hour, protecting her baby brother?

But the day came when Miriam heard voices! The daughter of the Pharaoh had come with her servants to wash in the river. She discovered the basket and as she opened it, the baby Moses cried. Her heart was touched, and she said, "This is one of the Hebrew children!"

Miriam's heart must have pounded as she thought what would happen to Moses and her family for hiding him. Bravely, she spoke to the Egyptian princess and told her she knew a Hebrew woman (her mother) who could feed and care for the baby. The princess agreed and sent for Miriam's mother. Her command was for the mother to raise the baby and bring him to her when he was older, to be her son! She declared she would pay for the baby's care. We can imagine the family was filled with joy!

But how did they feel as the months passed and they realized they would have to give their baby away? They were Hebrews, who knew God. The Egyptians worshipped ugly statues that had the heads of dogs, birds, and crocodiles. The Egyptians hated and feared Moses' people. The Pharaoh used the Hebrew people as slaves. But not baby Moses.

Moses was taken by the princess of Egypt and taught the rich ways of the rulers. I wonder how Aaron, and Miriam, and Moses' mother and father felt when they saw Moses start acting like and dressing like an Egyptian prince.

As he grew, Moses no doubt spent less and less time with them but was sent to classes in how to govern, to drive chariots, how to lead a nation. Many times his family must have prayed to the Lord and wondered why—why was their beautiful son being raised in such a strange way? No one knew that Moses would become the leader of the future Hebrew nation.

Moses' family must have feared for his soul as he learned pagan, ungodly ways. They must have given him special attention and tried to teach him as much as they could when he was very tiny about loving and believing in the one true God, and Hebrew ways.

Probably, many people were jealous about Moses' family's connection with Pharaoh's daughter. Miriam and Aaron had a baby brother protected from death by Pharaoh's soldiers; no one else did. Their family was getting special treatment.

The Hebrew people were forced

to work hard under the hot sun, in the fields, in building, and in making bricks. They were beaten and treated like slaves. But not Moses. Moses was dressed in costly clothes and lived among the wealthiest, most powerful people in the country.

Did Moses ever feel embarrassed by his true background? Did the other wealthy children ever persecute him? We don't know. We only know that he suffered from a severe stuttering problem, and even as a man dreaded speaking in front of people.

His family must have felt different, too. At first they prospered when Pharaoh's daughter paid Moses' mother to stay at home and raise the baby. Then their hearts must have ached as the little brother was taken away to the palace. People probably said many terrible things to them about Moses

(Continued on Page 10)

### WORD SEARCH

GOD'S  
WONDERFUL  
PLAN  
DAUGHTER  
SAVED  
AND  
EDUCATED  
MOSES  
AS  
A

LEADER  
FOR  
HEBREW  
NATION  
MIRIAM  
AARON  
SLAVE  
MAKE  
BRICKS

D	W	O	N	D	E	R	F	U	L
L	A	G	O	D	S	M	O	S	E
E	H	U	F	O	R	O	A	N	D
A	E	A	G	P	B	S	M	E	N
D	B	A	R	H	L	E	V	M	A
E	R	R	I	A	T	A	W	I	T
R	E	O	C	R	S	E	N	R	I
D	W	N	K	O	A	S	R	I	O
E	D	U	C	A	T	E	D	A	N
M	O	T	H	H	S	S	M	M	E
E	V	A	L	S	M	O	K	S	S
S	K	C	I	R	B	M	A	K	E

## Our Women Today

### Michigan-Ontario Area Ladies' Uplift Circle Retreat

By Sister Brenda Capone

On November 2 and 3, 1991, the Michigan-Ontario Area Ladies' Uplift Circle held a weekend retreat at the Ramada Heritage Center in Southgate, MI. The weekend began at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, when we were given numbered name tags. Later, when we attended our luncheon, we sat at the table that matched the number on our tags. The purpose of this was to make us sit with someone whom we wouldn't normally sit with, and get acquainted with someone new.

The theme of our afternoon seminar was "Unity—Understanding Enough to Care and Caring Enough to Understand." We talked about many things that we sometimes do or say, without thinking, which may offend or hurt others. The conclusion we arrived at was that sometimes the best thing to do is just give a hug and say I love you, rather than make a remark that may not be understood as intended. Many of the women at the seminar shared their feelings, experiences, and thoughts on this and all agreed that each of us must try harder to give comfort and help to one another while being guided by the hand of God. A poem was read by one of our seminar leaders that spoke of having a positive attitude

instead of a negative one, and how very important it is to think before we speak. Becoming sensitive and compassionate to others is certainly one of the major ingredients in achieving love and unity among ourselves.

Following the seminar, we went to our hotel rooms for a few hours. During this time, we visited with each other and discussed many things from our seminar. In the evening, we gathered in the dining room for a wonderful dinner. After we enjoyed the delicious meal, the evening activities began. Games were played using the *Songs of Zion* and scripture stories about people's lives. There was much laughter, and it felt wonderful to laugh and see others laugh along with you. A small pink paper bag called a "Care Kit" was given to each person present. This idea came from a sister in Ohio. The kit contained many small commonplace items, like a tissue to wipe away a tear—our own or someone else's—that would serve as a way to remind us to stop and care for others and for ourselves. Our evening of dining and entertainment ended around 9:00 p.m., but some of the women chose to extend the evening by meeting in a small conference room reserved for our Circle group.

We awoke on Sunday morning with our spirits refreshed. Everyone was looking forward to feeling more of the Lord's Love. Brothers Alex Gentile and Kerry Carlini were invited to hold a Sunday morning service with us. Both brothers spoke on the importance of taking time for the Lord, whether it be in prayer, reading the Scriptures, or visiting with the brothers

and sisters. We must also take time to feed the Spirit that has been given to us by our Lord.

Everything that we experienced this weekend blended together so beautifully that all who attended truly felt God's wonderful blessings. The sisters who organized and conducted this weekend retreat did a wonderful job. Everyone who took part in the retreat left with beautiful memories of the weekend, and with a spirit of determination to be more understanding and compassionate towards others.

### Note of Thanks

Josh and Donna Small, grandchildren of Sister Hettie Benyola of the Elkins, WV Mission, would like to thank all the brothers and sisters for their prayers and cards received while in the hospital.

"A special thanks to Brother Rich Scaglione, Brother Dick Lawson, Brother Bill and Sister Chris Colangelo, and Brother Matt and Sister Joan Rogolino for coming to anoint me. Most of all, I thank God for bringing me through my accident and for a speedy recovery. On December 2 I had a dream and I saw the word 'Jesus' carved in a rock."

Josh had a tree fall on him this past July. He received many broken bones and internal injuries. Though the doctors didn't have much hope for his recovery, Josh is up and about with only the aid of a cane. Thanks be to God! He still wears a back brace, so we ask that you continue to pray for him, both for his physical recovery and for his spiritual needs.



Michigan-Ontario Circle Retreat attendees pose for a picture.

## MBA Highlights

### Campout? In November?

Let's see, young people getting acquainted and establishing strong bonds in the Spirit, enjoying one another's company, sleeping in dorm rooms, eating in a cafeteria, singing praises together, preaching, testimony, prayer, staying up late laughing and annoying Brother Nick Francione at 3 a.m., rural scenery, happy reunions with beloved friends and family from all over the country whom you haven't seen in a long time—sure sounds like Campout to me.

But wait, it's November, so it can't be! No, it wasn't Campout, but pretty close. It was the GMBA November Conference, held at the Ciotti Manor in Butler, PA, on November 8 and 9, 1991, where hopes of increased participation sparked the idea of changing the site of conference from the auditorium, and turned into a smash success.

From Friday night, as saints arrived and were assigned rooms, through Saturday's smooth-as-the-Spirit business meetings, (where the

body voted to donate a total of \$6,000 to four specific and very worthy missionary needs,) into the night service, we felt something special happening. Each song offered was filled with tender and heartfelt praise and many tears flowed. Each testimony was seasoned with God's sweet Spirit, and we were moved by Brother Ken Staley's account of God's hand moving in his life during the recent passing of his brother, Jim. Brother Ken's ultimate invitation to come to Jesus, I believe, found its mark in some heart that night. Time will tell.

After the service, there was pizza in the cafeteria and great-fun-activities planned for whoever had the spunk. Scavenger hunts took place. Volleyball—even bowling in the four old lanes in the basement of the building. Other saints and friends sat in circles around tables and shared testimonies. To our delight, there were many surprise attendees from Florida, California, and Arizona.

There was an electricity and energy in the air all weekend that was so reminiscent of Campout, that one couldn't help but come into Sunday's meeting with great anticipation. Many saints came from neighboring areas of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and those attending con-

ference but staying off-camp filled the auditorium of the Manor. Brother Mike LaSala read from Matthew, the invitation of Christ to "Come unto me all ye who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest." He told of his recent visit to Jerusalem and encouraged the young people to grab hold of the truth of the Gospel Restored. Brother Ken Staley, our GMBA Chaplain for the past four years, Brother John DiBattista, our new GMBA Chaplain, and Brother Ken Lombardo all followed with words of invitation, encouragement, and the future of the Church, with songs and words of testimony from the young people interspersed throughout.

Saying good-bye reminded us of Campout, too, because it was as sad as it always is at Camp, but we all felt a great sense of accomplishment and satisfaction from this experimental conference. We look forward to next conference working out as beautifully and memorably as this one. But I doubt that it will remind us of Campout, since we'll actually be at Campout. You see, the GMBA voted on Saturday to hold May's GMBA Conference at the GMBA Campout in Leesburg, Florida—another experiment. What will they think of next?

## 50th Anniversary

By Linda Reynolds

Mary Genaro Krasnasky of the Simi Valley, CA Branch celebrated 50 years of service to the Lord on August 17. The brothers and sisters from Simi Valley helped her to celebrate on Sunday, August 18.

The congregation sang a few selections of Mary's favorite songs beginning with *Keeping Step*.

Mary's daughter, Sue Wasko, sang *Amazing Grace* in honor of her mother. In Mary's testimony she tells how thankful she is to the brothers and sisters for all their support throughout the years and for her husband, Pete, for his love and devotion. Mary said throughout the years with the different illnesses and surgeries she has had,

she always knew God was watching over her and she is thankful. On this Sunday Mary took a few moments to honor her mother and father, who were such good people their entire lives and who brought her to the Church at a young age. She told how they came from Italy to America. Mary related different experiences that happened to her family while she was growing up in Warren, Ohio.

On the day of our sister's baptism, there were seven others who were also baptized.

The congregation sang one more hymn, *Blessed Be the Tie That Binds*, and presented Mary with a beautiful corsage and plaque. In the testimony service that Sunday, several brothers and sisters told stories about Mary during her 50 years in the Gospel.

We in Simi wish Sis. Mary Krasnasky many, many more beautiful years in the service of the Lord.



Sis. Mary Krasnasky

## Branch and Mission News

### Youngstown, OH

By Betty Gennaro

On Sunday, November 17, 1991, the saints of Youngstown and Ohio District Branches enjoyed the visit of our General Church President, Brother Dominic Thomas.

The words of our brother flowed in sincerity and humility as he asked if we feel today the way we felt on the day of our baptism. How very spiritual, how profound! It leaves an indelible mark on our heart. Many forces try to make us lose the sacredness of that moment. From time to time we need to be renewed, to make sure we do not deviate from that mark. The Lord tailors our experiences to our particular need. Let's keep them in the forefront of our mind to keep us strong in time of adversity. "Don't be afraid, I am with you." Bring all things to the presence of God.

Brother Thomas then referred to III Nephi 11:15, of the multitude who did see and hear Christ. So great was their joy that they were overcome and fell to the earth. They thrust their hands into His side. This multitude of 2500 remembered the prophecy that Christ would show himself unto them after his ascension into heaven.

The conflict between good and evil is always there. There are more ways to sin today. We should be ever ready and vigilant to win this battle. The victory is ours if we don't give in. Let your hearts be full, drawn out in prayer. The Lord has promised us His protection if we keep our faith in Him. We have the Holy Ghost to help us. Jesus, having suffered in this life, knows what it is to be human. We can bring the Lord into any meeting. Come with a broken heart, mind, body—He will be there!

"In my Father's house are many mansions." It is really worth serving God, to be with Him forever! Love His Church, Serve His Church. He gave this Church with

His life. All meetings are to be conducted by the Holy Spirit. We need to replenish the Church. We have seen the power of God. May God bless you all.

A luncheon was served to all present and we left thanking God for a beautiful day.

### Baptism in Aliquippa

*"Oh! for the wonderful love*

*He has promised,*

*Promised for you and for me;*

*Though we have sinned,*

*He has mercy and pardon,*

*Pardon for you and for me."*

These beautifully sung words began our service on July 7, 1991. What blessings we had in store as we gathered that Sunday morning in anticipation of the baptism to take place later that day! Michael Tamburrino had expressed his wishes to be baptized at the GMBA Campout several weeks before, but decided to wait until a longtime friend and teacher, Brother Pete Giannetti Sr., could baptize him. Brother Jim Gibson, our opening speaker, rehearsed how none of us knows how long we will remain in these mortal bodies. By being baptized, even as the Lord showed us by example, when our call comes, we will be welcomed into His kingdom.

After the morning service, we gathered at Imperial, where Michael became our brother in Christ. We were glad that along with his grandparents, Brother Dan and Sister Mary Tamburrino, his father, Gary Tamburrino, his mother, Maryann Lendle, as well as several of his friends were with us to witness Michael's baptism.

Brother Tony Ross, opening the afternoon service, spoke on the reason and method of baptism, and of the reception of the Holy Ghost, after which Brother Ken Staley of Tampa, Florida, confirmed Michael. Several wonderful testimonies were heard, including Michael's, concern-

ing how he was converted at the GMBA Campout.

*Since Jesus Came Into My Heart* was aptly chosen as the closing hymn, and Brother Chuck Jumper offered the prayer which ended a truly blessed day at the Aliquippa Branch.

### Greensburg Branch News

As our Sunday, October 27, 1991 meeting began with fasting and prayer, we were saddened and concerned as Presiding Elder Paul Gehly began to name those of our branch who were in desperate need of prayer. He petitioned us to unite together so that we might be able to better fight the battles that Satan was waging against us.

Although, following our fasting and prayer meeting, we were still disheartened with the tribulations of our loved ones, we knew that we now had to focus our attention upon our regular Sunday services. Once again God revealed His love and mercy to us as He lifted the dark clouds we had been feeling all around us, and instead, let the sun shine through. For as our meeting began, Josephine A. Kish asked to be baptized. We proceeded immediately to the baptismal site, where Bro. Dan Todaro baptized our new sister. Sister Josephine was then confirmed by Bro. Paul Gehly. Sis. Josephine testified that even though she has been away from the Church for many years, she had never forgotten the teachings that she received in the Church, nor the teachings of her mother; she always remembered her mother's words that this was surely the true Church of God. We welcome Sis. Josephine to the fold, and pray that God will bless her in her desires to serve Him.

And the sun continued to shine down upon us as we witnessed the beautiful blessing of Christopher Scott Beam. Bro. Jesse Carr blessed Christopher; Bro. Jesse said it was a special blessing for him as he had the privilege of also officiating at the marriage ceremony

(Continued on Page 10)



**GREENSBURG continued . . .**

of Christopher's parents, Brian and Shelley Beam.

We want to thank the Lord for showing us that even as we experience the trials of this world, He is always near and He cares for His people. And may we also remember the words of the song, "Back of the clouds, the sun is always shining."

**Testimony**

I wish to thank God for the opportunity and great blessing I received by being called into The Church of Jesus Christ on July 14, 1991.

I thank God for The Church of Jesus Christ and all its members near and far, but I'm especially thankful for the Lorain, Ohio Branch; I know it was their prayers that helped me make that decision. I particularly want to thank my sisters in the Ladies' Uplift Circle, because I first came to know the Church through them. I have always felt the love in this Church, and am very privileged to finally become a part of it.

I used to think that I would have this bolt of lightning go through me when I got baptized—that there would be this great surge of power coursing through me, but the Lord chose to send a cool, gentle breeze to caress me as I came out of the water. He knows how happy it makes me feel when I hang my clothes on the line after they are washed and there is a gentle breeze blowing. That's how I felt, clean and fresh and new and **loved**—just the way He wanted me to feel.

I had that same feeling return to me when I was able to participate in my first feet washing service—that same cool, gentle breeze caressed my feet that day. I also feel privileged that I can now partake of the Lord's Supper. Before, I was just a visitor, a friend, and could not participate in the sacrament; I am thankful now that I can fully partake of this great gift.

I continue to ask an interest in your prayers; you can be sure I

thank God each and every day for His Church! Its members will be in my prayers as God gives me strength.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Judi Kincer  
Lorain, Ohio Branch

**WORD OF GOD continued . . .**

the workshop lists several combinations of "it came to pass." The second report, "The Lost Language of Coba" by Virginia Morell, in the March issue of *Science 86* magazine shows the drawing of a glyph on a Palenque tablet that David Stuart, another glyph expert, has translated to mean "it came to pass."

**"BEHOLD"**

"Hinneh" is the Hebrew word for "lo," "behold," or "see." It is used for pointing out persons, things, places, and actions. A second type of meaning is either "here" or "there." "Hinneh" occurs over a thousand times in the Old Testament Hebrew text. In English usage we consider it unnecessary. "Behold" is used frequently in the Book of Mormon and can be found on almost any page. Its common use gives evidence of a literal rendering of Hebrew into English.

Examples from the Old Testament are:

"Thou, o King, sawest, and **behold** a great image" (Daniel 2:31).

" . . . and, **behold**, a watcher and an holy one came down from heaven;" (Daniel 14:13).

In the Book of Mormon there are over 79 references in III Nephi alone. For example: **Behold**, I am Jesus Christ the Son of God" (III Nephi 9:15). **Behold**, I have come unto the world to bring redemption unto the world, to save the world from sin" (III Nephi 9:21).

These are only a few elementary examples of Hebraisms and how the ancient Hebrews expressed themselves in a manner that is different from the way we speak today.

*(Continued in next month's issue.)*

**CHILDREN'S CORNER continued...**

being raised in a life of luxury and education.

But they prayed and trusted in the Lord. Aaron became a priest among his people and God continued to work in the life of Moses. You'll read next month about how Moses' faithfulness and meekness continued to touch the lives of his brother, his sister, and the Hebrew people who often turned against him.

Through the times of fear, of wondering what would happen, God touched the lives of His servant Moses and all those who believed in Him. Just like Moses, we must put all of our love in the one, true God and trust Him. Each hurting experience can be eventually turned into a learning experience. Every bad thing can be accepted and used to help others. Years may pass, but we can trust and learn, and love ourselves and others.

With care,  
Sister Jan

**MESSAGE continued . . .**

members in Orlando, and there are others, including relatives and friends of the members in the area, who are interested in attending services.

**PALM HARBOR**

This location is a new branch of The Church of Jesus Christ in Florida under the Southeast District, and it was formally established last September 15. Brother John Griffith is the Presiding Elder. There are 20 members, and the congregation usually numbers between 25 and 30. A very nice building has been secured.

Besides the Sunday School and Worship Services, the MBA meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month and plans are being made for establishing and organizing a Ladies' Uplift Circle there in the near future.

# General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference

In preparation for our April 1992 General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference, the Pacific Coast Area sisters are busy at work planning to make your weekend most enjoyable.

We will be having a "Strawberry Social" welcome at the San Diego Branch at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 24th.

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference will convene on Saturday April 25. The conference will last throughout the day with a pay as you go dinner, evening program, and Evangelistic service on Saturday night. The Evangelistic service will continue on Sunday in San Diego.

In order for us to adequately prepare for you, everyone who is attending any part of this weekend must complete the attached form and mail to Sister Carolyn Light by February 1, 1992. We need an accurate attendance count.

We are looking forward to a blessed weekend!

Yours in Christ,

*Sister Carrie Jankowski*

Sister Carrie Jankowski

Pacific Coast Area President

Sister Lucy DeCaro and Sister Diane McDonnell

Pacific Coast Area Vice-Presidents

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

April 1992  
General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference  
The Church of Jesus Christ  
San Diego, California  
April 24 — 26, 1992

## Schedule

### April 24

7:00 pm ..... Strawberry Social  
Welcome

### April 25

9:00 am ..... Continental Breakfast

9:30 am ..... CONFERENCE

12:00 ..... Lunch

1:30 ..... CONFERENCE

5:00 ..... Dinner

6:30 ..... Evangelistic Services

### April 26

10:00 am ..... Sunday Service

## 1992 General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code/Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Names of those travelling with you: \_\_\_\_\_

Check the appropriate box

☐ I need accommodations.

I would like to stay with (special request) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I have made my own accommodations. I will be staying with \_\_\_\_\_

If travelling by car, when will you be arriving and departing?

Arrival \_\_\_\_\_

Departure \_\_\_\_\_

If we are making accommodations for you, we will need the following airport information.  
(We are asking that the sisters fly into the San Diego Airport.)

Date, Time, Airline, and Flight Number (Arrival) \_\_\_\_\_

Date, Time, Airline & Flight Number (Departure) \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and mail by February 15, 1992 to:

Carolyn Martorana Light  
6036 Ponca Court  
San Diego, California 92120  
619/582-8217

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### GIANNETTI—WALDRON

Brother Jeffrey Giannetti and Sister Kathleen Marie Waldron were joined in holy matrimony at Branch #1 in Roseville, Michigan on Saturday, June 29, 1991.

Brother Pete Giannetti, father of the groom, officiated at the ceremony. Musical selections were provided by the groom, Bro. Jeff, and Sis. Tracey Francione.

The couple resides in Sewell, New Jersey, and attends the Levittown, PA Branch. May God richly bless their new life together.

### ZACCAGNINI—MORA

Brother Mario G. Zaccagnini and Sister Sara Mora-Trejo were married on August 30, 1991, at Branch #1 in Roseville, Michigan.

Bro. Kerry Carlini officiated at the ceremony. Musical selections were provided by Sis. Marilyn Scolaro, Bro. Larry and Sis. Rosanne Champine, and a flute selection by Sis. Lisa Champine, all accompanied by Bro. Eugene Amormino.

The newlyweds are residing in Mt. Clemens, Michigan. May the Lord be with them in their new life together.

### SCHMADER—CIMINERO

Mr. Frederick R. Schmader and Sister Felicia R. Ciminero were united in marriage on December 27, 1991 at the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Bro. Ralph Berardino officiated at the ceremony, with musical selections by Sis. Betty Gennaro.

The couple are residing in Youngstown, Ohio. Sis. Felicia is the stepdaughter of the late Elliott Berardino of the Youngstown Branch. May God's blessing and Spirit direct their lives as they start out together.

# **\$AVE A FEW FOR 92**

## **1992 GMBA Campout**

**June 20-26 \* Leesburg, Florida**

### **PAYMENT PLAN**

**For more information WRITE or CALL:**

**David Catalano  
194 Jonathon Place  
Somerset, NJ 08873  
(908) 560-0289**

### **Children Blessed**

Meagan Lynn DiBattista, daughter of Joe and Lisa, was blessed by Bro. Louis Vitto on November 3, 1991 at the Sterling Heights, Michigan Branch.

Kristina Gail Massie, foster daughter of Michael and Grace Bashaw, was blessed the same day by Bro. Sam DiFalco.

On November 10, 1991, Craig William Fox, son of Jacklyn and Rolland, was blessed by Bro. Gary Champagne at Sterling Heights. Bro. Gary also blessed his grandson, Jared Michael, on the same day.

### **OBITUARY**

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

#### ASSUNTA MASELI

Sister Assunta Maseli passed on to her eternal reward on November 19, 1991. She was born June 22, 1901 in Borbona, Province Abruzzi, Italy, and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on May 26, 1935. She was a member of the Lorain, Ohio Branch.

Our sister is survived by her husband of 63 years, Bro. Joseph Maseli, four sons, three daughters, 18 grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. She was a wonderful example as a sister in the Church, and served as a nursing mother to many. She'll be dearly missed.

### Address Change

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# The Gospel News

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

February, 1992

Volume 48, No. 2

## Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet

A weekend of sitting around the Lord's table feasting on His Word is how many spent November 16 and 17, 1991 in Tucson, Arizona. Our thanks to God for the organizer, the seminar leaders, day care providers, the many wonderful children of God who traveled many miles, some through snow storms and icy roads, and all the saints of Tucson who attended the Word of God Seminar. Even after several weeks, we are still digesting and meditating on what we learned from His Word.

There were four seminars presented on Saturday all centered on God's Word: reading daily, studying, preparing lessons and sermons, and a woman's role in God's Word. Each seminar was led by a "surprise" guest teacher.

### WHY AND HOW TO READ GOD'S WORD

In this seminar we read that God's Word **is truth**.

"... if ye **continue in my word**, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall **know the truth**, and the truth shall make you free."

God's Word contains many **promises** to us. One of these is: "And this is the promise that he hath promised us, **even eternal life**."

God's Word teaches us what is **sin**. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it

not, to him it is sin."

God's Word teaches us **how to keep from sin**. "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

God's Word teaches us the **purpose** of the Word. "Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition. . . ."

God's Word teaches we need it to **grow**. "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby."

A personal testimony was given of a sister's journey into God's Word daily. Her testimony was that even though she had read both the Bible and Book of Mormon sporadically for many years, she was **convicted** of her own need to know Jesus better. Yes, she knew He was Lord and Savior and that He loved her, but she was not satisfied. When she acknowledged her need for a deeper relationship with Jesus and believed she could **know** Him through His Word, a **commitment** was made to God at that very moment to begin reading His Word and spending time with Him daily. A **plan** for daily reading was developed and her heart and life **changed** dramatically as God's Word revealed many truths and answers to her questions. Her love for Jesus grew deeper and deeper as she learned of His unfailing, un-

conditional, and forgiving love for many of His children as recorded in His Word. "Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee." That is how He loves every one of His children. This same joy, love, and excitement is yours by spending time daily with God in His Word.

So, how do you begin your reading God's Word daily?

First, make a commitment to God while you are reading this article to read His Word daily.

Second, find a quiet, comfortable, well lighted place where you can be alone with God and His Word every day. It could be at home at a table or in a favorite chair, at your school library, in your car, or at a park.

Third, select the best and most practical time for you; morning, noon, or evening. You may choose to read privately in the morning and then read with your family at dinner or bedtime depending on your family's schedules. Fathers, we urge you to take time to read and talk with your family about God and His Word even as God instructed His people in Deuteronomy.

Now that you have made your commitment, selected the best time and place, begin your daily time with God and His Word:

(Continued on Page 2)

# THY WORD continued . . .

- Singing or reading a hymn of praise and adoration of God.
- Talk to God in prayer and ask Him to teach you what He wants you to know, to help you understand and retain what His Word says.
- Read the Bible and Book of Mormon. A One Year Bible is an excellent way to read the entire Bible in one year from beginning to end, a recommended way to begin consistent daily reading. An Old Testament, New Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs scripture is set out for every day in the One Year Bible and is available in several translations. Reading different translations (for comparison purposes) is helpful in understanding more difficult scriptures. By reading 1½ page of the Book of Mormon every day, you will read it completely in one year. The Book of Mormon Committee plans to include a daily reading plan when the Book of Mormon is reprinted.
- Incorporate other helps into your daily reading, such as Daily Walk, Closer Walk, Daily Guideposts, Table Talk, or Quiet Times for Couples, a daily reading designed for married couples. Reading these may add a few extra minutes to your time, but the overviews, insights, daily applications, memory verses, and testimonies will contribute greatly to your understanding.
- Close your daily time with God and His Word by keeping a journal and record what God says to you through the hymn, prayer, or His Word that day. He will speak to you!
- **DO IT.**

"To spend time alone in God's Word every day is not a duty. It's a choice . . . the choice of a disciplined life. And the choice of a heart that desires to know God, to love Him, to hear His heartbeat. Spend some time in His Word today, and feel your love for Him grow" (Author Unknown).

## WHY AND HOW TO STUDY GOD'S WORD

Many scriptural reasons for studying God's Word are the same as  
(Continued on Page 9)

## A Closer Look at the Word of God

By David Majoros

(Continued from last month.)

There is another important point that we must consider as we examine the reasons for why the Book of Mormon reads as it does. We know that much of the New Testament was written by Hebrew writers and translated into the "universal" language of that day, Greek, so that more people could be exposed to the written word of the Gospel.

Let's use an illustration to understand how difficult this process must have been. If you were a college student taking Russian language classes and your teacher asked you to write a letter to a Russian student living in the Soviet Union, what would your process be? First of all, you would write what you wanted to say in English. Then you would use your textbooks and try to translate what you had written into Russian. Let's say that you wrote a letter every week for five years. Do you think that over those five years you would have some difficulties with certain word choices in your translating process? Of course you would! Our ancient Hebrew brothers had their problems in their day just as we would today.

Let's look at a few examples in the New Testament. Mark 11:18 reads, in part, ". . . because all the people **was** astonished at his doctrine." Mark 6:33 reads, "And the people saw them departing, and many knew him, and ran afoot thither out of all cities, and **out-went** them, and . . ." Acts 13:36 reads, "For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, **fell on sleep**, and was laid unto his fathers, . . ."

Writers in the Book of Mormon also had their difficulties. Jacob 4:1-3 reads, "Now, behold, it came to pass that I, Jacob, having ministered much unto my people in word, (and I cannot write but little of my words, because of **the difficulty of engraving our words upon plates**) and we know that **the**

**things which we write upon plates must remain; But whatsoever things we write upon anything save it be upon plates much perish and vanish away; but we can write a few words upon plates**, which will give our children, and also our beloved brethren, a small degree of knowledge concerning us, or concerning their fathers—Now in this thing we do rejoice; and we labor diligently to engraven these words upon plates, hoping that our beloved brethren and our children will receive them with thankful hearts, and look upon them that they may learn with joy and not with sorrow, neither with contempt, concerning their first parents."

In other words, because they wanted their words to last for thousands of years and not turn to dust, as papyrus or animal skin would, these ancient Hebrew writers engraved their words on metal plates. Hand engraving was a long, difficult task, but these men of God wanted their words to endure through countless generations. Because producing metal plates was so difficult, these plates were very valuable, so the writers tried to make optimum use of their writing space.

Mormon 9:32-34 reads, "And now, behold, we have written this record according to our knowledge, in the characters which are called among us the reformed Egyptian, being handed down and altered by us, according to our manner of speech. And **if our plates had been sufficiently large we should have written in Hebrew**; but the Hebrew hath been altered by us also; and **if we could have written in Hebrew, ye would have had no imperfection in our record**. But the Lord knoweth the things which we have written, and also that none other people knoweth our language; therefore he hath prepared means for the interpretation thereof."

In other words, Hebrew letters were too big and took too much writing space on a plate. These ancient writers found that by using "reformed Egyptian"—a form of short-hand they had devised—more text could be committed per plate. Please notice that Moroni readily admits that the record will contain some imperfections because of the



translating process. If they could have written in Hebrew, there would have been no mistakes; but because these men had to translate into another language (reformed Egyptian) they knew that their record *must* contain some "imperfections."

What kind of "imperfections" are we talking about? The following are some examples: "But, behold, the Lord God poured in his Spirit into my soul, . . ." (Jacob 7:8) "And it came to pass that by thus exercising the law upon them, every man suffering according to that which he had done, **they became more still**, and durst not commit any wickedness if it were known . . ." (Alma 1:33) ". . . for they had taken an oath that they **never would shed blood more**; . . ." (Alma 53:11) "And their armies were so numerous that the remainder of the people of Nephihah were obliged to flee before them; and **they came even** and joined the army of Moroni" (Alma 59:8). "And now, O Lord, wilt thou turn away thine anger, and **try again if they will serve thee**?" (Hel. 11:16) "**For this, the waters of Noah unto me**, for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth, so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee" (III Nephi 22:9). "And now it came to pass that when Jesus had said these words he said unto them again, after he had expounded all the scriptures unto them which they had received, he said unto them: Behold, other scriptures I would that ye should write, that ye have not" (III Nephi 23:6).

The question for us today is, "Should modern man try to edit or correct these 'imperfections'?" Ether 12:23, 25-27 answers, "And I said unto him: Lord, the Gentiles will mock at these things, because of our weakness in writing; for Lord thou hast made us mighty in word by faith, but thou hast not made us mighty in writing; . . . Thou hast also made our words powerful and great, even that we cannot write them; wherefore, when we write we behold our weakness, and stumble **because of the placing of our words**; and I fear lest the Gentiles shall mock at our words. And when I had said

this, the Lord spake unto me, saying: Fools mock, but they shall mourn; and my grace is sufficient for the meek, that they shall take no advantage of your weakness. And if men come unto me I will show unto them their weakness. I will give unto men weakness that they may be humble; and my grace is sufficient for all men that humble themselves before me; for if they humble themselves before me, and have faith in me, **then will I make weak things become strong unto them.**"

So, when you read what seems to be awkward phraseology or incorrect English in the Book of Mormon, BE ENCOURAGED! Those words are there for a reason. You are reading the words of ancient Hebrews that have been translated literally (that is, without editing or corrections) into English. It *should* read a little awkwardly! Some of the phrases or words that strike us as odd or funny sounding are Hebraisms—common word usage with ancient Hebrews but new to us today. In fact, at a recent Book of Mormon New Edition Committee meeting, we had a scholar of ancient biblical Hebrew speak to us. This expert told us, "Good Hebrew can be bad English."

Remember that those ancient writers had difficulty in translating from Hebrew into reformed Egyptian. Those little "imperfections" we find from time to time in the Book of Mormon are actually little divine proofs that the book is what it says it is—an ancient Hebrew record engraved on metal plates.

Finally, Mormon 8:12 leaves us with a warning and a promise: "And whoso receiveth this record, and shall not condemn it because of the imperfections which are in it, the same shall know of greater things than these."

## In His Hands

A short time after I was baptized in the Church (August 1, 1937), I was puzzled on the thinking of many church members regarding seeing a doctor after one was anointed for illness. The general

consensus was that you did one or the other but never both.

I took the issue to the Lord in prayer. I asked Him if it was wrong to see a doctor after one was anointed for illness. That same night I dreamed that I was standing before a throne where a king was dressed in royal robes. I recognized Him; He was the Lord. He said, "I will answer the question about which you prayed last night. I have no objection to My people seeing a physician after being anointed, but I want My people to remember that the power of life and death lie in My hands *only*."

I accepted that dream as an answer to prayer. For me it is as valid today as it was then.

Frances J. Capone,  
Phoenix Branch Editor

## The Johnsons: Brother George and Sister Peg

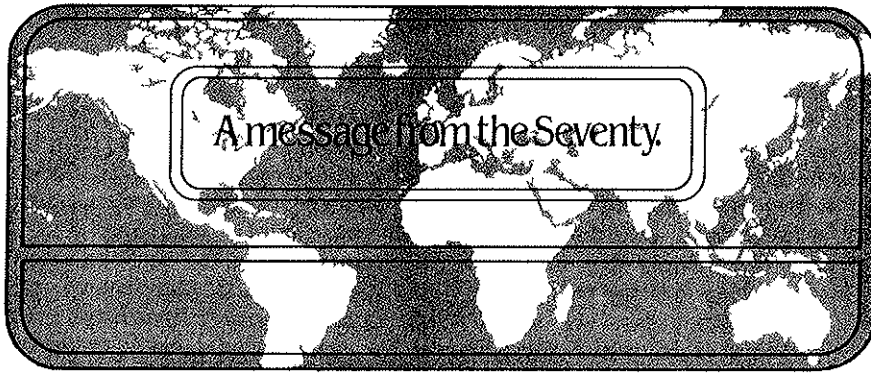
By Frances Capone

In Monongahela, PA, Brother George was an evangelist and Sister Peg, a deaconess. Their roots were in Pennsylvania, but when they visited their niece (Ann) in Arizona, they liked the sunshine state. In June of 1981 they moved to Arizona.

Brother George was baptized in 1930 and Sister Peg in 1943. Many of the Phoenix members remembered Sister Peg as she taught them in Sunday School in Mon City—and the Johnsons were greeted with open arms.

The Phoenix members enjoyed Brother George's homespun sermons, which were based on his earlier years in the Church. Each sermon conveyed a lesson to be mulled over and digested.

In 1991, the Johnsons were led to return to their roots. They put their house up for sale and practically sold it overnight. Definitely a beautiful and supportive asset wherever they go, our prayers are with them all the way.



## Missionary Video Ready for Presentation

*By Carl J. Frammolino, Evangelist Editor*

A video tape about some of the missionary locations of The Church of Jesus Christ has been completed and will soon be ready for viewing in the Districts. Although not all places could be shown, ample material is presented to show the kinds of intense labor being performed.

The Missionary Foundation Committee and the Missionary Operating Committee of the General Church have combined to produce the video so viewers may become more informed. Also reviewed is how the missions were started and sustained in different parts of the world.

As segments from various lands are shown, it is pointed out that the words of Our Savior in Matthew 28:19 & 20 are most important. He said, "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."

### PIONEERS

In following Jesus' commandment, many workers were determined to start work in new fields. Others followed with the same kind of dedication, and the bases became permanent.

A good illustration was in Africa. Apostles William H. Cadman and Joseph Bittinger traveled there in 1954 at the onset. The late Brother Cadman, then in his mid-70's and the General Church

President, was directed by God to go and start the work. Brother Bittinger, now 89 years old himself and still as active as possible, recalled the trip.

"We really felt the direction of God in going to Africa. Unfortunately, after I had the honor of baptizing the first 16 candidates in Nigeria, I was afflicted. I ended up in the hospital about 90 miles away for a few days with a virus. Nevertheless, Brother Cadman was able to continue organizing the Church even while I was ill. God surely gave him strength far beyond expectations for a man of his age, and He protected me and healed me, as well."

After the Cadman-Bittinger trip, the late Evangelist Alvin Swanson served an 18-month tour of duty there. He too became somewhat afflicted because of the different climate and conditions, but he was able to carry out his mission.

The late Evangelist John Ross became the liaison to Africa after Brother Cadman. He made many trips there, and he also served a tour of duty with his wife, Sister Mary.

Others have spent longer periods of time. Evangelist Nephi DeMercurio was a resident missionary in Nigeria for six years. His wife, Sister Lorraine, and their two children accompanied him. Brother Paul Carr, now an evangelist, succeeded Brother DeMercurio and spent about seven years there, along with his wife, Sister Thressa, and members of their family.

The chronology of events

documents how God has brought many souls into the Gospel of Christ and how the early labors were expanded. Now the Church has many branches and missions in Nigeria, and has since spread west to neighboring Ghana and east to Kenya; future growth is anticipated.

### SAME DETERMINATION

The same kind of determination was displayed in starting the Church in other areas of the world. The video identifies some of them.

As in Africa, correspondence from India started the sequence which enabled the Church to reach there. A medical professional, B. David Livingston, had written to then-Evangelist Joseph Calabrese, who was the General Church Correspondent, inquiring about our Faith and Doctrine. In 1981, Brothers Calabrese and Swanson went to India to establish the Church, which has now spread to three main areas in that country.

The Lord worked upon the hearts of Brother Edward and Sister Evelyn Perdue to bring the Gospel to Mexico. Brother Perdue conducted the first meeting in Tijuana on October 17, 1959. In 1960, the Perdues were directed by God to move from California, giving up their comfortable living, to a mountainous region in Tijuana where they lived in a shack for two years under very primitive conditions. There were no roads over which to travel and no facilities available.

Because of the early efforts of the Perdues, there are many Church locations in Mexico today. Also, word has spread among the Mexican communities in California and in other states as far away as New Jersey, Michigan, and Florida; several Spanish-speaking and bilingual Church congregations have formed. Sister Perdue has passed on to her reward, but the influence Brother Eddie and she had will long be remembered.

### FOUND THE GOSPEL

Two young men, Luis Marroquin and Isidro Dominguez, came to California from Guatemala a little

**(Continued on Page 10)**

## The Gospel News

### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Anthony J. Scolaro  
32C Donald St.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

### ASSISTANT EDITOR

Leonard A. Lovaivo  
8085 Schneider  
Manchester, MI 48158

### CONSULTANTS

Nephi DeMercurio  
Peter A. Scolaro

### OFFICE MANAGER

Cathy Gentile

### GMBA EDITOR

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

### GENERAL CIRCLE EDITOR

Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

### DISTRICT EDITORS

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

### MICHIGAN-ONTARIO

Lisa Champine  
47025 Hensings Dr.  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48045

### OHIO

Mark Naro  
4425 Broadway  
Lorain, OH 44055

### PACIFIC COAST

Kenneth R. Jones  
24268 Robie Ct.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

### PENNSYLVANIA

Lucetta Scaglione  
303 Union St.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

### SOUTHEAST

Douglas S. Obradovich  
8620 NW 45th St.  
Lauderhill, FL 33351

### SOUTHWEST

Frances J. Capone  
8725 E. Hubbell  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

THE GOSPEL NEWS (USPS #223-480) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by The Church of Jesus Christ PRINT HOUSE, 8282 Boettner Rd., Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030, 313-429-5080. Second class postage paid at Saline, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE GOSPEL NEWS BUSINESS OFFICE, P.O. BOX 30, BRIDGEWATER, MI 48115-0030.

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

As partakers of the Restored Gospel, we place great worth on the ability to remain firm and unshaken in our beliefs. Standing firm on the Word of God increases our faith and makes us more effective in witnessing for the Lord. Truly the Word of God is a solid rock, a foundation upon which we can rely, and upon which we can confidently direct others to likewise trust. In a day and age where not all of what we see and hear can be believed, we can consistently draw strength, power, and wisdom from no other source but God's Holy Word.

This month's issue contains several articles about the Word of God, and how we have both the opportunity and the responsibility to know it thoroughly. While it is important for us not to waver in our belief on the Word, we must not make the mistake of being rigid and inflexible in our beliefs and opinions about other things—natural or spiritual.

We all must learn to see things from someone else's point of view. Children develop this sense as they learn that, for other people's sake, they can't have everything they want. Unfortunately, it is our carnal nature to see our beliefs and opinions as a very significant part of who we are. Any questioning or challenging of our thoughts—regardless of how calmly or rationally it's done—is perceived as a direct assault on our physical being; to change our thinking or admit we're wrong is seen as being beaten and surrendering in defeat.

This worldly perception of ourselves can severely hinder growth. Both naturally and spiritually, it prevents us from accepting ways of doing things other than the way we ourselves do them—even if the new way is faster or better. It keeps us from discussing problems with others and coming up with a solution, because any exchange of ideas would place us in danger of having to acknowledge the value of someone else's opinion.

When the leaders of the early Church had a dispute regarding what to name the Church, they went to God in prayer and had the answer revealed unto them. One of the prerequisites for that to have happened is that *all* of them were open to having their thinking changed. None was so adamant in his opinion that he could only accept the revelation reluctantly and with difficulty.

While we may pride ourselves in our stubbornness, thinking that it indicates spiritual strength and maturity, our unchanging views will ultimately inhibit our own spiritual growth and, if we're called to lead others, the spiritual growth of our flocks. One day, we'll be held accountable for both.

So, if we start feeling a little warm during a discussion, let's ask ourselves where it is our convictions originate that we must react emotionally to their being challenged. Do we find ourselves defending men, rather than God, in upholding what we believe? If our thinking, our reasoning, and our beliefs are based on the Word of God, we have nothing to fear. If otherwise, we've built on sinking sand, and it's time to do some serious rebuilding.

# The Children's Corner

By Janet Steinrock



## The Four Parts of Moses' Life

Dear Boys and Girls and Friends,

Have you ever had a big change in your life and from then on thought of your life as "the time before" and "the time after"? Maybe it was the time before someone you loved passed on, or before you moved, or before something happened to you, or you lost your best friend. Sometimes the changes that life brings us are very painful. Sometimes it feels like we'll never wake up happy again, or that no one will ever understand the pain we feel in our life. But God understands, and has a plan how to use our heartaches.

Moses, the great Hebrew leader, suffered through many changes in his life. As a small child he was taken from his family to live in splendor and luxury with his adopted mother, a princess of Egypt. The Egyptians hated and feared their Hebrew slaves. No doubt they knew Moses was not one of them and persecuted him. Many times he must have felt isolated and different from those around him. Yet Moses studied, and learned all that a Pharaoh's grandson would learn about leadership and people. He also had to accustom himself to their lavish ways and pagan religion.

His Hebrew brother, Aaron, was three years older than Moses, and Miriam was older than them both. Aaron and Miriam were raised in a traditional Hebrew fashion. They must have distrusted and disliked the worldly ways of Pharaoh's kingdom and worried about their brother's lifestyle and beliefs.

In the midst of all this conflict, Moses grew up alone. He was far from his family in lifestyle and far from his adopted Egyptian cousins by birth and beliefs. But God had a plan for this young man. He would return in later years to the religion that he was taken from. And he would use all the wisdom and knowledge he learned at Pharaoh's court to help form a new nation of the Hebrew (also called Israelite)

people. But first he had to leave the family he was born into. And then he had to leave his adopted Egyptian family after he lost his temper and killed a guard who was beating a Hebrew slave. Moses ran for his life, and lived the third part of his life in a tent, far from the palaces and cities of Egypt, in a country called Midian.

Moses lived this part of his life in the desert and wilderness married to a shepherd's daughter whose father, Jethro, was a priest. There, Moses learned about desert living and the simpler things of life. And in the stillness of the mountains, he met God and prepared for the fourth phase of his life.

God's plan was for Moses to free the Hebrew people who were suffering from bondage in Egypt and calling on the Lord to save them. Can you imagine how Moses felt when God told him to return to Egypt? Moses did not want to face the Pharaoh alone. He told God,

(Continued on Page 11)

### WORD SEARCH

NEW  
TESTAMENT  
THESSALONIANS  
EIGHTEEN  
IN  
EVERYTHING  
GIVE  
THANKS  
FOR  
THIS  
IS

THE  
WILL  
OF  
GOD  
CHRIST  
JESUS  
CONCERNING  
YOU  
TRUST  
AND  
PRAY

CONTINUALLY  
OBEY  
DO  
GOOD  
UNTO  
OTHERS  
LOVE  
ENEMY  
FOLLOW  
GOLDEN  
RULE

Y	N	E	D	L	O	G	Y	T	E	N	Y	G	W	L	V
L	E	G	Y	S	R	E	H	T	O	D	O	O	G	O	E
L	L	N	I	J	E	S	U	S	W	U	O	T	N	U	T
A	U	I	E	V	O	L	N	E	E	T	H	G	I	E	N
U	R	N	N	W	E	C	H	R	I	S	T	L	H	G	E
N	Y	R	E	O	T	H	A	N	K	S	R	L	T	O	M
I	A	E	M	L	H	T	G	O	D	Y	U	I	Y	U	A
T	R	C	Y	L	I	Y	E	B	O	H	S	W	R	O	T
N	P	N	Y	O	S	T	T	S	U	R	T	D	E	Y	S
O	F	O	R	F	G	O	Y	A	R	P	N	T	V	N	E
C	D	C	S	N	A	I	N	O	L	A	S	S	E	H	T

## Our Women Today

*(From a letter to the Lorain, Ohio Circle.)*

Dear Sis. Katherine [Cocco],

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank God for the blessings we have received to this day. Sisters, I have received a letter with a check for \$25.00 from Bro. Calabrese; also he informed me it is from the Lorain Ladies' Circle.

Thank you for the gift of \$25.00. For the last two months I prayed for money to buy one new tyre for my motor bike. Due to the bad roads of the village, the tyres wear out soon and often have need of repair. When this occurs, I need to walk more than 10 miles. Now the Lord answered my prayer and met my needs in time through the Lorain Ladies' Circle. Praise God. The cost of one tyre is 500 Rupees (\$25.00).

Sisters, we know that you come forward to meet our needs often and support the development of the Church in India by your liberal help. "For God loveth a cheerful giver." "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Jesus Christ." Give our love to all the sisters of the Lorain Ladies' Circle. May God bless them abundantly.

Brother Calabrese started a Ladies' Uplift Circle here in his visit to India. They love the Church and are willing to come forward to help for the progress of our Church work in so many ways. Now every family is having daily prayer, and the Prince of Peace fills their hearts with peace and joy. Before that, there were many problems in their families and they had no peace or unity. Now the Spirit of God fills

## Circle Active in India

their hearts with heavenly love and the spirit of prayer. Now they are happy in the Lord. Glory to His name.

Once a month they all gather together in our church and conduct a Ladies' Circle meeting, singing and praising God and praying. They share their burdens with each other, give their testimonies, and tell of their wonderful dreams and visions. At one of our fast and prayer meetings, one sister had a vision and told us how she saw one ladder set up on the earth, whose top reached to heaven. She saw the angels of God descending and holding the hands of our brothers and sisters one by one as they ascended back to heaven. As each one mounted the ladder, they were transfigured as white as snow, like an angel, singing and praising and shouting Alleluia. As she related this, we felt the presence of God in our midst, and for this beautiful vision we praise and thank God.

After the Ladies' Circle meeting, our sisters go to meet with the sick and the poor. They pray with them and tell them the love of God often. They go to the hospital to visit and pray for the sick, and to distribute pamphlets about the healing power of Jesus. They tell them about the love of God and our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We have had so many experiences of miraculous healing by prayer. Praise the Lord.

In all these ways, our Ladies' Circle here is functioning properly for the Glory of God. Pray for us.

Give our love to all there, especially to your beautiful family. Thank you for your love, prayers, and support. God Bless You.

Bro. Dev

## ATTENTION! WOMEN OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST GENERAL LADIES' UPLIFT CIRCLE UPCOMING EVENTS

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle will present a Spiritual Gathering in conjunction with the April General Church Spiritual Conference. On Friday, April 10, 1992, the women will meet at the Greensburg Branch building for a full day of fellowship and praise.

### AGENDA

10:00 a.m.—12:00 Seminar  
entitled "A SPIRITUAL  
CHECK-UP."

12:00 p.m.—2:00 p.m. Lunch

2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Spiritual  
involvement, sharing and  
musical praise.

We welcome and invite all women to attend. Your being there will make the difference. We're looking forward to a blessed day.

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference will convene in San Diego the weekend of April 24, 1992. Be sure your registration forms are mailed to:

Carolyn Martorana Light  
6036 Ponca Court  
San Diego, CA 92120  
Tel. (619) 582-8217

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle is looking forward with much anticipation to an exciting year.

Sister Nancy DiFede,  
Chairperson  
General Ladies' Uplift Circle  
Special Projects Committee



## Branch and Mission News

### Sterling Hts., MI

*By Hazel Zoltek*

On Sunday, November 10, 1991, we had a most wonderful, beautiful meeting. We began by singing *Happy Birthday* to our dear Brother Joseph Castelli, who celebrated his 99th birthday on November 12. Bro. Sam DiFalco asked him to stand, and he gave his testimony, saying that he had spent 69 years in the Gospel.

We sang *You Must Be Born Again*, and Bro. Sam asked Sister Grace Buffa to come forward. Sister Shirley Vitto pinned a corsage on her as she was honored for her fifty years in the Gospel. Sis. Grace was only 17 years of age when she was baptized, and she has remained faithful all these years. She and Bro. John have been married for 44 years.

We were happy to have the four Champine brothers and their families with us. They came to witness the blessing of Jared Michael, a newborn son of Gary Jr. and Kimberly. The father of the Champines, Marvin, had passed away this week, and Bro. Gary read his father's favorite scripture.

Brother Gary went on to say that there was something special about this branch—it was here that he and his brothers, along with their families, began their life with



**Sister Grace Buffa**

the Lord. We in the congregation were misty-eyed as we remembered all the beautiful meetings we'd shared with them through the years. The brothers all gave their testimonies after singing *I'm Not Alone Anymore*. After their testimonies, Bro. Sam asked all those who had been introduced to the Church by the Champine family to stand, and it was surprising how many stood up.

Even though there was no preaching today, our service extended well into the afternoon. All went home filled with joy, feeling the presence of the Holy Spirit.

### Baptism at Detroit Branch 1

*By Johnna Lesperance*

Sunday, October 20, 1991 was a very special day for us at Branch 1. Rose Ann (Impastato) Skupny's name was written down in glory. She was baptized by Bro. Louis Vitto, and confirmed by Bro. Peter Scolaro. She had talked with Bro. Vitto earlier in the week and made her decision, and now she couldn't wait for Sunday morning to come.

After her baptism, Sis. Rose Ann gave a heartfelt testimony about how happy she was now that she finally made a commitment to serve the Lord and ended the struggle with Satan. She mentioned the cards and loving words that have been sent to her through her illness, how touched and encouraged she was by the thought of people who didn't even know her, sending their prayers and love across many miles. Sister Rose Ann keeps those cards and reads them again when she feels discouraged. She feels uplifted knowing there is a network of prayer working in her behalf.

Please continue to pray for our new sister, that she may be healed from this affliction, and that her testimony of a miracle would touch the hearts of all who hear it.

### Ordinations in Maine Mission

On October 27, 1991, Brother Donald Perello was ordained a deacon in the Church. His feet were washed by Bro. Bruce Churchill, and Bro. Leonard Benyola offered a prayer of ordination over him.

Sister Cynthia Onorato was ordained a deaconess on the same day. Sister Marie Perello washed her feet, and Bro. Dominick Rose offered the prayer of ordination over her.

Visiting with us that day were Atlantic Coast District President Bro. Leonard Benyola and his wife, Sis. Jean, as well as Bro. Dominick and Sis. Belle Rose of the Brooklyn, NY Branch. A wonderful spirit was felt in our worship, and we enjoyed the fellowship of our visitors.

### Brother, Step Out on Faith Now!

On October 27, 1991, many saints gathered in the Niles, Ohio Branch anxious to see what the Lord would do that day. We were gathered to fulfill the calling of Brother Wayne Martorana as an evangelist. A majority of the Quorum members of the Ohio District were present.

The meeting was conducted by Bro. Russell Martorana, chairman of the District Quorum. Bro. Bob Batson and Sis. Barbara Nuzzi sang *The Standard of Liberty*, after which we heard from Bro. Paul Palmieri, who established his message by asking the congregation to sing *If You Would Labor in Zion*. He told Bro. Wayne, "I want to send the words of this song directly to you." He said he felt blessed in seeing another young man grow up under the sound of the Restored Gospel and make his commitment to God, and then rise and accept the responsibilities of various duties in the Church. Bro. Paul read from Luke 10:2-16, a very familiar scripture where Christ spoke of the greatness of the harvest and the shortage of laborers. He recounted several ex-

amples in the scriptures where certain men were used to do the work of the Lord in their day, and today the Lord has called Bro. Wayne to be an instrument in His hand to do His work.

Brother Joe Calabrese followed, saying that as we look into the Old Testament, we see many great prophets and men of God, but we now know they were really evangelists. He named Jesus Christ the greatest evangelist of all time. He went on to say that when Christ looked for men to build His Church, He chose men who were pure in heart and filled with the Spirit of God. These are the same requirements for the Lord's calling of men today.

Our Bro. Joe then read from Ephesians 4:11, where the officers of the church are named, and spoke of the great responsibility that comes with an ordained office. The same authority that called men long ago still calls men today. He added that some of the greatest evangelistic work ever done was done right here in the Americas before and after the life of Christ. In conclusion he quoted Christ's great commission, from Matthew 28:19-20. Sister Kathy Natoli sang *Via Dolorosa*, and we dismissed for lunch.

After a short break, we reconvened in the afternoon. Brother Jim and Sister Jean Moore sang *Vessels of Gold* to their son-in-law, Bro. Wayne. Brother Phil Jackson then read the duties of an evangelist from the Church's Law and Order, but began by saying that he was reading in the Gospel of Luke the night before about the seventy whom the Lord sent out. They returned unto Christ and reported that "even the devils are subject unto us through thy name." Our brother related an experience he received shortly after his ordination into the seventies. A small group of brothers and sisters traveled to Evergreen, Alabama on an evangelistic endeavor. Upon arriving they were met with great opposition; they recognized the powers of darkness disrupting their work. Bro. Phil said he could feel the darkness as they began visiting individuals. While riding in the van, our brother said he heard a voice speak to him, saying, "I beheld

Satan as lightning fall from heaven." After much prayer and persistent, unwavering behavior from the saints, the darkness was dispelled. This fulfilled the writings of Luke concerning the power possessed by the evangelists.

Brother Phil continued through the chapter where Christ says, "I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions . . . and nothing shall by any means hurt you." He told Bro. Wayne that he has more power now, and to use it wisely, and go forth in faith, trusting in God that He would prepare the way before him and that he would accomplish the work He has called him to do. He concluded by assuring our brother of God's protection upon his family when he would from time to time have to leave them behind.

At this time Brother Wayne was brought forward for his ordination and Bro. Bob Batson sang *Speak, My Lord*, further enhancing the beautiful spirit that had been warming our souls since the opening prayer that morning. His feet were washed by Bro. Joe Genaro, and while he was praying the gift of tongues was manifested. We could feel the Spirit of God burning brightly. I would like to interject here that the brother who was editing the cassette tapes of the meeting (he was not in attendance that day), received the interpretation of the tongues two weeks later while listening. The interpretation was, "May he go with the power of the Holy One of Israel."

Brother Richard Santilli ordained Bro. Wayne, offering a beautifully humble supplication to the Lord. Sister Tina, Wayne's wife, was then brought forward and Bro. Jim Moore asked a blessing upon her, that God would give her the strength to support her husband in his calling.

Bro. Wayne was then given the opportunity to testify, at which time he thanked God for the blessings and goodness that was bestowed upon him, and of his love for God and the work of His Church. While he was speaking, Sis. Annabelle Santilli arose under the prompting of the Spirit and said, "Thus saith the Lord, Go and you shall have My power." Several

brothers and sisters then testified how the Spirit had revealed to them ahead of time who was going to offer the different prayers, and expressed their thankfulness for these confirmations.

A blessed day was spent with the Lord, and as we look at the message He gave us today, we understand that He is reaffirming His promise to us as recorded in the 10th chapter of Luke. Has God changed? Have His promises ever failed? I think not! Let us all, not just the evangelists, take fresh courage and **step out on faith now**, knowing His **power** will be with us.

Sis. Barbara Nuzzi

P.S.: Need more encouragement? Look up *A Prophecy by Bro. Benjamin Meadowcroft*, dated November 9, 1862, on page 36 of the *History of The Church of Jesus Christ*.

---

#### THY WORD continued . . .

we had read for reading God's Word. In addition to the personal benefits we each receive from reading, God's Word instructs us to "study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

We learned there are many approaches or ways to study. Some of these are:

1. Geographical. Where is the Red Sea? How many miles was it from shore to shore? What is the weather like in Egypt?

2. Cultural. Just as America practices many traditions and different peoples have different lifestyles, so it was in biblical times. For instance, how did the people of Jesus' time earn a living; what were some of their customs?

3. Historical. During the time of Paul, who were the rulers, what period of time did he live, etc.

4. Biographical. Take a specific man or woman from God's Word and study their life; when they were born, who were their parents, what was their education?

(Continued on Page 10)

## **THY WORD continued . . .**

5. Topical. Select a specific word or subject, go throughout your Bible and Book of Mormon, and analyze what each scripture is saying. You may be interested in learning what the original Hebrew or Greek word was, etc.

There are many excellent study helps available to assist you, including maps, concordances, dictionaries and more. Most of these can be found in your Bible, and others may be found in books written by men of God who have devoted their entire lives to studying God's Word.

**COMMIT** to studying as you choose at least 30-60 minutes every week and learn more about rightly dividing the Word of Truth.

### **WHY AND HOW TO PREPARE LESSONS AND SERMONS ACCORDING TO GOD'S WORD**

We learned there are many scriptural instructions for teaching and preaching God's Word. One of these is where Paul instructs Timothy to "*preach the word . . .*" Teaching and preaching God's Word allows God to speak, not man; it increases biblical knowledge; it proclaims the revelation and ultimate authority of God and the Word transforms lives. Transformed teachers/preachers lead to transformed congregations.

Peter writes, ". . . be ready always to give an answer . . ." Can teachers and preachers be ready without studying? Is preparation necessary? Was redemption by chance or accident? Did God have a plan? God's Word tells us of several of His great plans; His plan for man's redemption, His very specific plan for the tabernacle, His detailed instructions to Moses for His plan to deliver the children of Israel. If God planned, then how much more should we?

All teachers and preachers of God's Word are responsible to feed and lead the congregation, and are accountable to them and to God. Much of a member's spiritual growth is related to the effectiveness of the teaching and preaching they have heard. Will spontaneity be acceptable? No! Only

as we read, study and pray will the Holy Spirit lead and teach us, enabling us to know our congregation and minister to their needs.

A sermon or lesson may be used to lead people to Christ, will teach them how to follow God's will on earth, motivate the listener to a closer walk with Jesus, and encourage the saints. An effective sermon will be simple to understand, but have a definite message. The congregation should be encouraged to follow the text in their own Bible and Book of Mormon.

All good sermons will have an introduction, a body and a conclusion, be creative, stimulating, and deliver an important message to the listeners. Let's tell the world what God says, not what we have to say, as Paul instructs; "my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power."

### **WHY AND HOW TO BE WOMEN OF GOD'S WORD**

Today, perhaps more than in any other period of time, the woman and her role is vital to the survival of our society. A woman's life touches many lives and consists of many roles; mother, daughter, sister, wife, friend. Sometimes she even inherits responsibilities she had not chosen and feels inadequate to fill. The needs of these relationships demand time, understanding, love, and intimacy. Her ability to fulfill her responsibilities and meet the intimate needs of her many roles is directly related to her intimacy with Jesus, who meets her needs.

Women will develop this spiritual intimacy with Jesus as they take time to listen to God through His Word, Christian music, meditating, praying, and/or ministering to others.

It is important that women develop ways of **telling** and **showing** their husband, children, family, and friends that they are loved. This can be accomplished by taking time to understand each other, praying with and for them persistently, planning special times and events to share with them consistently, including God's Word daily.

During our seminars, our young children were cared for by loving, professional workers while the older children and young adults spent the day touring Sabino Canyon and hiking Bear Canyon. So that all of us could attend and participate in every seminar, all meals on Saturday were eaten at local restaurants at each individual's expense.

When we concluded our seminars, we didn't know how our hearts, minds and souls could contain any more, but we did when Sunday continued right where Saturday ended—more of God's Word. Many scriptures were read, we praised and worshipped the "Lamb who is worthy to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory and blessing." The gift and interpretation of tongues was given, "Oh, how I would bless you."

Did you know that God has magnified His Word above all His name? If His Word is that important, will you make a commitment right now to read it daily? You will be transformed, your mind will be renewed, you will be comforted, strengthened and so much more. A new year would be a perfect time to begin your journey into God's Word.

## **MESSAGE continued . . .**

over a decade ago. They found the Gospel of Jesus Christ and were converted at the Santa Ana Mission.

Although only in their early 20's, the Lord began to work with them. Their love for God, Christ, and the Gospel soon became very apparent. They became examples to all who observed them and heard their testimonies.

They were ordained into the ministry and in November of 1988, they returned to Guatemala with their families to spread the Gospel. Assisted by Evangelists Frank Cioti and Dwayne Jordan and others, they have been able to establish a solid nucleus of new members. The Lord has been blessing them immensely.

Missions on Indian Reservations, such as San Carlos and White River, Arizona and Muncey and Six Nations in Ontario, Canada and in

other places and to other people were begun with the same kinds of love and determination. Each required the courage and stamina of pioneers and resident missionaries, wherever possible, to solidify the Church.

From what has been cited, it becomes obvious that sacrifices, risks, and hardships are encountered sometimes when working in the fields. The video shows us some of these also. Hopefully, everyone will be able to see it.

It is essential that all missionary work be remembered in prayers and be supported wholeheartedly. It is up to each one of us. We can only go as far as our support will allow!

#### CHILDREN'S CORNER continued...

"I'm slow of speech, and of a slow tongue." God told him He would send his older brother, Aaron, to meet him. God would tell Moses what to say to the Pharaoh, and Moses would tell Aaron.

Then Moses obeyed God and, taking his family with him, returned

to Egypt. They met with the twelve leaders of the Hebrew nation and told them God would deliver them from their slavery in Egypt. Then they met with Pharaoh to tell him to let the people go.

God hardened Pharaoh's heart. It took ten terrible plagues before Pharaoh would give in to God's command to let the people go. Loaded with food, herds, gold, and silver, the Hebrew nation left Egypt. But the grown-ups—the people over the age of twenty—were not ready to be God's people. They could never forget the idolatry or the pagan ways and habits of their former masters, the Egyptians.

God worked with their children to raise up a nation of believers. The children remembered many miracles. They saw the Red Sea part to let them escape from Pharaoh's armies. They saw the pillar of fire each night and the cloud sent each day to lead and guide them. They ate manna sent from heaven to feed them, and they learned to worship the One True God, following His Ten Commandments.

This was the last phase of Moses' life, watching the children

trample the hard wilderness while learning to trust and serve God. They grew up to be the armies that settled the Promised Land. They were the ancestors of every Jewish person alive today, and all the American Indian people—also called Nephites and Lamanites—from the tribe of Joseph.

When Moses was 120 years old he died, and the Children of Israel, the Hebrew nation, wept and mourned for him for thirty days in the wilderness. It took all four phases (or parts) of Moses' life to give birth to a new nation. People his own age complained bitterly and tried to turn against him, but their children saw the truth and loved Moses. So, sometimes when you are going through a very hard time, it may be *your* time to learn, like the children in the desert. And your Promised Land may be right over the next mountain. Trust in God and don't give up. Remember I Thessalonians 5:18, "*In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*"

With care,  
Sister Jan

## OBITUARIES

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

#### LENA BOLOGNA

Sister Lena Antonina Bologna passed on to her eternal reward on December 20, 1991. She was born to Giuseppi and Rosa Piacentino on May 11, 1914, and was baptized on May 26, 1929 by Bro. Wade Riggen in Detroit, Michigan. Sis. Lena married Peter A. Dulisse in 1933 and bore him two sons before he died suddenly in 1939. In 1948 she married Joseph Bologna.

Our sister was ordained a deaconess in Modesto, California in 1958. She served as Secretary-Treasurer of the Branch in Modesto for many years, as she had previously in Detroit. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Joseph Bologna; a brother, Bro. Mike Piacentino of Michigan Branch #3; two sons, Peter E. and James J. Dulisse; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

The passing away of Sister Lena left us with a great loss. An outstanding sister, there was not one

family in Modesto whose life was not touched by her, especially those who were sick.

#### MARTHA CALABRESE

Martha Calabrese passed from this life on January 15, 1992. She was born on June 18, 1930.

Brothers Mark Naro and Frank Altomare of the Lorain, Ohio Branch officiated at the funeral.

Martha is survived by her husband John, three sons, two daughters, 15 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. She was the sister-in-law of Sister Vera Naro of the Lorain Branch.

#### DOROTHY SPARKS

Sister Dorothy Sparks of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch passed away on January 17, 1992 after a long illness. She was born in Youngstown on December 30, 1921 and was baptized April 28, 1968 by Bro. Donald Pandone.

Our sister is survived by one brother, George Donnan. Sister Dorothy was the daughter of our late Sister Ruth Donnan.



## Marriage Enrichment/Singles Weekend Retreat

More information will follow-**STAY TUNED!**  
SPONSORED BY GMBA AND LADIES UPLIFT CIRCLE

### Children Blessed

Tyler James Heaps, baby son of Bro. Rusty, Jr. and Sis. Caryn Heaps, was blessed by his grandfather, Brother Rusty Heaps, on May 5, 1991.

On October 27, 1991, Leah Alexa Churchill, daughter of Bro. Bruce and Sis. Cindy Churchill, was blessed by Bro. Richard Onorato Jr. at the Maine Mission.

### \* WEDDING \*

#### CALABRO—MEADE

On Saturday, December 7, 1991, Brother Gary Calabro and Sister Maureen Meade were united in holy matrimony at the Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brothers Jim Crudup and Paul Benyola officiated at the ceremony. Musical selections were played by Sis. Suzette Ross and sung by Sisters April Murray and Janice Huttenberger. While *God's Touch* was being sung, sunlight beamed through the window onto the bride and groom, which Bro. Gary and others saw turn into stars around them. The Spirit of God was felt by all present.

The couple attends the Freehold, NJ Branch and are residing in Fords, New Jersey. May God continue to bless this couple as they make life's journey together in God's service.

### Address Change

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# The Gospel News

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

March, 1992

Volume 48, No. 3

## Expect a Miracle

*"For thou, Lord, wilt bless the righteous; with favor wilt thou compass him as with a shield" (Psalm 5:12).*

On December 16, 1991, about one week before we celebrated the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we were reminded of the many miracles He performed throughout His life and the promise He left us that He would never leave us or forsake us.

Brother Patrick Monaghan, 19 years old, was a recipient of that promise when on this particular Monday he heard a loud noise outside his home and decided to look out the sliding glass doors. At that moment a bullet was fired from a deer hunter's gun and grazed the right side of his head. He was home alone so he called our neighbor, Sister Arlene Ciotti, who in her best judgment called an ambulance to take Patrick to the hospital.

A short while later Patrick's brother, Jason, came home from school and saw the blood splattered around and the bullet lying on the floor. There was also a note on the board from Patrick stating that he was at the hospital. Jason immediately started calling family members and the brothers and sisters, requesting that they pray for Patrick.

When I came home and was about to enter the house, I glanced

at a sticker that was on a card in the mail that day and it read, "EXPECT A MIRACLE." The Lord had already been with Patrick. Jason told me what had happened and that Patrick was all right.

When I arrived at the hospital and Patrick was relating this unbelievable story, a nurse remarked that he had more than a guardian angel on his shoulder. The doctor told us that if Patrick's head had been turned a fraction of an inch, he would have been killed. After being treated he walked out of the hospital without even a bandage on his head. We had truly witnessed the mercy and grace of God.

(Continued on Page 6)

## Dedication scheduled for Simi Valley Branch

*By Linda Reynolds*

The Simi Valley Branch is happy to announce the dedication of our new church building, scheduled for Memorial Day weekend of this year. The dates are Saturday and Sunday, May 23 and 24, 1992.

We had been alternately leasing a building and meetings in people's homes for just about ten years. Now we would like everyone to join us as we dedicate our brand new building.

Some of our visitors already

(Continued on Page 6)



New home of the Simi Valley, CA Branch.



## Greetings in Christ



*By Mark Randy*

### LEST WE FORGET GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Have you ever seen a stormy day  
That was not followed  
by a clearing ray?  
Every life's threat or great despair  
Holds still a promise  
of hope somewhere.

The great problems that cause depression carry in themselves the seeds of the solutions. When life seems threatening, even hopeless, there's still some hope in God's faithfulness.

Hold on, God's children, Jesus is still Lord.

During the early 1940's, when World War II was raging, automobile tires were made of synthetic rubber. It was no match to the real thing. On one of our trips to Muncey, Ontario, Canada, with Bro. Joseph Lovalvo, we had several blowouts.

This trip had been a blessed one. We had one baptism, Emerson Deleary. But on the way home, we spent all the money we had, and we had not eaten. We threw away our spare tire, as it could no longer be fixed.

We drove into the early hours of Monday morning, riding on three good tires and one flat tire. Most garages were closed; we could only drive at a speed of ten to fifteen miles per hour.

We kept on singing to keep our spirits on an even keel. We saw the light on in a filling station. Here we hoped help would come, but without money, how could we hope to gain

favor from a good Canadian who had stayed up all night in hopes of making a living?

I had never seen Joseph Lovalvo so humble as we stopped. We had preached Jesus Christ, and sung songs of redeeming grace. We had sung all night until our voices were tired, "If we can't do anything else, we can smile."

We stopped, Joseph met this fine Canadian, then said, "We are missionaries. We have had several blowouts; each cost us until we spent our last dollar. Could you help us?" I took my wristwatch, which my father had given me. It was not worth much, but it kept good time.

The Canadian found a tire that would fit. It was old, but it worked. I gave him my watch. "No, I do not want your watch," he said. "But you have helped us," I said.

We thanked and blessed the young man. We were on our way once again, but as we crossed the Detroit-Windsor tunnel, that tire blew up. Slowly, we were able to make our way through the streets of Detroit. We still managed to continue singing the same song: "If we can't do anything else, we can smile."

We got home, changed our clothes, and went to work. What a glorious trip; our patience was at its best, and a deep sense of appreciation prevailed in our hearts.

Yes indeed, when life seems threatening, even hopeless, there's still some hope in God's faithfulness.

Reader, no matter what problems you are having, remember, when you can't do anything else you can look up and smile. Try it, it works.

## Note of Thanks

We want to thank all the brothers, sisters and friends who remembered us in prayer during the illness and death of our son and brother, James R. Staley. Our hope is that God will richly reward all of you for your many kind expressions of love, concern and sympathy.

Sister Elizabeth Staley and Family

## MBA Highlights

### Pacific Coast Area Ski Trip

*By Linda Reynolds*

In January, 1992, the Pacific Coast Area MBA sponsored a snow skiing trip in Mammoth Lakes, California. This year we had plenty of snow, and while some of us skied and others snow-boarded, there were some who just relaxed around the big mountain cabin we have been renting each winter for four years. Bro. Elias Richardson from Modesto was in charge of the trip, which was attended by 22 people from different branches in our district and other districts.

Bro. Brian Miller from Cincinnati, Ohio, along with Sis. Tava Jones from Atlanta, Georgia flew all the way out here to join us. The Bell, Modesto, and Simi Valley Branches were represented as well.

We were fortunate to have Simi Valley Presiding Elder Bro. Ed Buccellato skiing with us, along with Bro. John V. Azzinaro, a teacher in the Church. On Sunday, Bro. Ed held a little service for us. In his talk, our brother related some experiences he had as a young person being raised in the Church. We were all glad to have had this chance to spend four days together with so many young people in The Church of Jesus Christ.

## Pacific Coast Area MBA Campout

The Pacific Coast Area MBA is holding its annual Campout this year from June 30 to July 5, 1992. For further information and registration forms contact:

Paul Vinsick  
1905 Aloha Way  
Modesto, CA 95350  
Tel. (209) 523-8211

# Everything in the Book of Mormon Is There for a Purpose

By David Majoros

Do you think that we sometimes take the Word of God for granted?

I heard a story recently where, during the Vietnam War, a minister visited a young wife whose husband was fighting in Southeast Asia. The minister asked the young woman how she was doing. The woman replied that she was looking forward to her husband coming home soon, that she missed him, that she loved him, that he was the jewel of her life, and that she prayed for his return. She showed the minister her husband's picture, showed him the ring her husband gave her before he was shipped out overseas, and also showed the minister many items that reminded her of her husband. She went to great lengths telling how much she loved her husband and how she longed for his return. The minister asked her if she had heard from her husband lately, and the young woman replied that her husband faithfully wrote her at least one letter a week. She showed the minister a pile of unopened letters sitting on her coffee table. The minister was surprised that the letters were there, neatly stacked, and prominently shown in the living room, but that they all were unopened and unread. The young woman explained that she had been so busy with her home and family responsibilities, church meetings, tennis lessons, and other activities that she simply did not have the time to read them. She assured the minister that she would "get around to it someday," because, after all, she loved her husband. He was, as she put it, "the jewel of her life."

Are we sometimes like this in our attitudes toward God's "love letters" to us, His bride and children? Do we have so many things cluttering up our days and nights that we just can't seem to find time to read what He longingly and lovingly wants to say to us through the Bible and Book of Mormon?

Jesus said, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word

that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Notice that Jesus said, "every word." He did *not* say that man lives by "a few words" or "some words" or even "most words" that proceedeth out of the mouth of God"; but He clearly said, "*every* word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Jesus is evidently trying to impress on us the fact that each word is there for a purpose. Each word is divinely ordained to be there. Each word is there for our benefit. We *need* each one. Not one word that is found between the covers of the Bible or Book of Mormon is to be taken for granted. There are no "extra" or unnecessary words; nor is there room for any man to add to the God-given text.

Moses warned his readers that no word should be added to or taken away from his divinely inspired writings. Deuteronomy 4:2 reads, "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it. . . ." Again in Deuteronomy 12:32 it is written, "What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it."

The Apostle John wrote basically the same thing regarding his writings when he wrote in Revelation 22:18-19, "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

We know that the Bible has been tampered with. I Nephi 13:26 reads, ". . . thou seest the foundation of a great and abominable church, which is most abominable above all other churches; for behold, they have taken away from the gospel of the Lamb many parts which are plain and most precious; and also many covenants of the

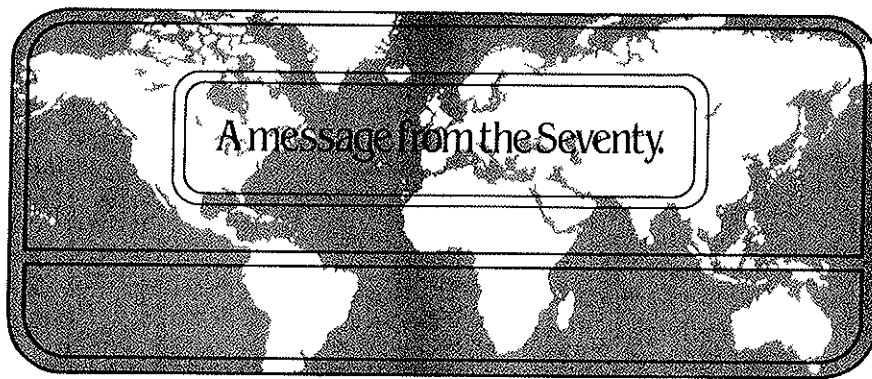
Lord have they taken away."

We know that the Book of Mormon has "sprung out of the earth" to provide us with the "fullness" that was taken out of the Bible by the great and abominable church. I Nephi 13:35, 36 & 40 read, "For, behold, saith the Lamb: I will manifest myself unto thy seed [the Nephites], that they shall write many things which I shall minister unto them, which shall be plain and precious; and after thy seed shall be destroyed, and dwindle in unbelief, and also the seed of thy brethren [the Lamanites], behold, these things shall be hid up, to come forth unto the Gentiles, by the gift and power of the Lamb. And in them shall be written my gospel, saith the Lamb, and my rock and my salvation. And the angel spake unto me, saying: These last records [the Book of Mormon], which thou hast seen among the Gentiles, shall establish the truth of the first [the Bible], which are of the twelve apostles of the Lamb, and shall make known the plain and precious things which have been taken away from them. . . ."

In addition, Mormon 7:8-9 reads, "Therefore repent, and be baptized in the name of Jesus, and lay hold upon the gospel of Christ, which shall be set before you, not only in this record [the Book of Mormon] but also in the record which shall come unto the Gentiles from the Jews [the Bible], which record shall come from the Gentiles unto you. For behold, this [the Book of Mormon] is written for the intent that ye may believe that [the Bible]; and if ye believe that [the Bible] ye will believe this [the Book of Mormon] also; and if ye believe this [the Book of Mormon] ye will know concerning your fathers; and also the marvelous works which were wrought by the power of God among them."

The Bible was tampered with, but we know that what we have of the Book of Mormon was divinely ordained to be given to us. Three

(Continued on Page 9)



## Successful Trip Made to India

*By Carl J. Frammolino, Evangelist Editor*

A very successful trip was made to India by Brothers Joseph Calabrese, Paul Palmieri, Phil Jackson, and Brian Martorana around the beginning of the year. From when they departed on December 28 from the Greater Pittsburgh International Airport to their return on January 19, they said the Lord was with them. This was in fulfillment of some experiences which had revealed that His Messengers would be accompanying them throughout the long journey.

They visited all areas of the Church in India. Among the many blessings they received, there were 89 baptisms and 18 ordinations. Three elders, five teachers, five deacons, and five deaconesses were ordained. There are now about 800 members in India. Throughout their entire visit, many sought the brothers, seeking prayer, guidance, and scriptural teaching.

Before leaving on the trip, they had received news that Brother David Livingston, in charge in Tadepalligaden and vicinity, had suffered a heart attack and was hospitalized. Almost immediately upon arriving they visited him, and he told them he would be leaving the hospital in three days and would be able to spend time with them later in their stay. The brothers, uplifted by his faith and determination, anointed him and rescheduled their itinerary accordingly.

### FIRST CHURCH SERVICE

The first church service they at-

tended was a Watch Meeting on New Year's Eve in Madras, where Brother Babu presides. About 70 people had come for the spirit-filled service, which began at 11 p.m. and lasted until 3:30 a.m. All four spoke, and Brother Palmieri was asked to give the New Year's prayer. Many other prayers were offered, as three children were blessed and 25 people anointed. Services there are held on the rooftop of a rented store, and the setting was described as being very picturesque.

During the week, the brothers traveled with Brother Dev to the church building in Adyalar and to see our new school at Kilbboan. The school has a total of 75 students in four classes and a sewing class. There are five sewing machines.

The Church compound contains our old school. It is now used for a nursery and for educating people to read and write Tamil during the week, and for children's church classes on Sunday. The new school is one and a half miles away.

The first Sunday there was a joint conference at Adyalar with Church members, candidates for baptism, friends, and children from Bangalore, Madras, and Adyalar. Approximately 150 adults and many children assembled.

After a few hymns, Brother Phil read a scripture about baptism. The trek was then made to the waters, where 21 converts were baptized. Returning to the building, Brother Brian spoke about the gift of the Holy Ghost, after which the new members were confirmed.

Next, six members from the

areas mentioned were ordained: One elder, one teacher, two deacons, and two deaconesses. A good spirit prevailed throughout the day, and the Lord's Supper was administered prior to closing.

### MIRACLE EXPERIENCED

The following Wednesday night, the brothers were in a service attended by Hindu families in Brother Stephen's home. Brother Joe opened the meeting with John 3:5, on being born of the water and the Spirit. The other three followed on baptism and on the reception of the Holy Ghost. Several people were anointed, including one man with a nervous condition who had been unable to sleep at night for six years. The next morning, the man reported that he had slept straight

*(Continued on Page 10)*

## Long-Time Evangelist Passes on to His Reward

A long-time Evangelist, Allen Henderson, passed on to his eternal reward on January 26, 1992, after many years of faithful service. He was 93 years old.

Brother Henderson had been an evangelist for 49 years, having been ordained into that office on January 12, 1943. He had been a member of the Windsor, Ontario, Canada Branch practically from its beginnings in the 1930's and had labored diligently there.

An untiring worker, Brother Henderson traveled many miles on missionary work in Ontario. He had been active in Meaford, the Muncey and Six Nations Indian Reservations, Cedar Springs, and Mt. Brydges. His enthusiastic testimony, warmth, and determination to bring the story of salvation to others are unforgettable.

He leaves three sons, Brothers Douglas, Otto, and Lloyd; their wives; and families who certainly will miss him, as will the entire Quorum of Seventy Evangelists and brothers and sisters throughout The Church of Jesus Christ.

## The Gospel News

### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Anthony J. Scolaro  
32C Donald St.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

### ASSISTANT EDITOR

Leonard A. Lovaivo  
8085 Schneider  
Manchester, MI 48158

### CONSULTANTS

Nephi DeMercurio  
Peter A. Scolaro

### OFFICE MANAGER

Cathy Gentile

### GMBA EDITOR

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

### GENERAL CIRCLE EDITOR

Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

### DISTRICT EDITORS

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

### MICHIGAN-ONTARIO

Lisa Champine  
47025 Hennings Dr.  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48045

### OHIO

Mark Naro  
4425 Broadway  
Lorain, OH 44055

### PACIFIC COAST

Kenneth R. Jones  
24268 Robie Ct.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

### PENNSYLVANIA

Lucetta Scaglione  
303 Union St.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

### SOUTHEAST

Douglas S. Obradovich  
8620 NW 45th St.  
Lauderhill, FL 33351

### SOUTHWEST

Frances J. Capone  
8725 E. Hubbell  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

THE GOSPEL NEWS (USPS #223-480) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by The Church of Jesus Christ PRINT HOUSE, 8282 Boettner Rd., Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030, 313-429-5080. Second class postage paid at Salline, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE GOSPEL NEWS BUSINESS OFFICE, P.O. BOX 30, BRIDGEWATER, MI 48115-0030.

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

By Douglas S. Obradovich

" . . . [A]ccording to the responsibility which I am under to God, to magnify mine office . . . " (Jacob 2:2). Isn't that a glorious way to express one's acceptance of God's will? As you reread Jacob's statement, see if you can make it your own affirmation:

- According to the responsibility which I am under
- To God
- To magnify mine office

I hope that none of us would be tempted to deny the responsibility that we've been charged with. Such a temptation might arise through an awareness of our own inabilities or weaknesses, leading us to doubt our usefulness to God and shelter our deep fears beneath a smiling facade of confidence.

I believe that each of us has struggled with accepting our own inabilities and/or abilities, giving our struggle the mistaken title of "humility." For as our struggle with self-acceptance often violates our self-confidence, a weakened opinion of ourselves is easily confused with humbleness.

We are a people who boldly state that God is due all credit and thanks for any and all accomplishments. If this is the case (which it most certainly is), why should we allow self-doubt to rear its ugly head? Since all glory belongs to God, it isn't a belief in our own abilities that needs to be strengthened and affirmed. Rather, it's the confidence that we have in God to magnify our abilities and talents that we look to with enthusiasm.

We have been raised to guard against pride boring its way into our hearts. While we acknowledge this as a great lesson, we also see that it's just as important not to allow a lack of confidence to creep into our minds. *Both* can hinder the Lord's will in our lives. And if His will is that all of mankind find salvation, then each of us must share in the responsibility to tell others the good news—with confidence.

Reflecting upon my own baptism and the promise I made at the water, I wonder now if I had fully considered the responsibility that I was placing myself under. I believe that each of us took this step in faith, or, if you will, with a true and pure confidence in God and His ability to work with our inabilities. "To the best of my ability" could easily be restated as, "to magnify mine office." Although Jacob had been called to preach the Gospel, one does not have to occupy the office of an elder to relate to him. Each of us has been called to occupy the office of a member of The Church of Jesus Christ. Each of us was handpicked by the Father. Each of us is loved and blessed by the Father, in and through the Son. And so, are we not to have confidence in ourselves, or at the very least in God working with us?

Paul, the New Testament apostle, said it as well as anyone, stripping us of any self-glory, yet asserting the power we have in our possession, when he said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Isn't *that* a glorious way to express one's acceptance of God's will?

These inspirational words call us to rise up as The Church of Jesus Christ and maintain a standard. And the standard has been established:

- Love the Lord thy God
- Love thy neighbor as thyself

Love God! Love humankind, regardless of race, color, past life, or background. The responsibility that Jacob felt to magnify his office falls likewise upon the membership of The Church of Jesus Christ. And we place our confidence in God—having confidence that He has called each one of us to do His will and this work. If not you, then who? So, my dear brothers and sisters, have confidence in yourself. Have confidence in each other. We are The Church of Jesus Christ! Let's go forward, moving as one unit in accepting this responsibility to magnify our offices—and let's share this responsibility with our family, all of humankind!

# The Children's Corner

By Janet Steinrock



## Just Keep Praising God

Dear Boys and Girls and Friends,

When I was at the library this week I checked out several newer books in the young people's section that had won awards. I was very surprised to see how much they each talked about magic and fake religions based on superstition. Some of them were very convincing to people who don't know God. The main characters talked about praying to weird statues or rubbing a rock for luck or power.

We are so well-blessed to have a gospel, a religion, that teaches us the way to real peace and power. We don't need to make up poems or chants or jump around in the moonlight. We can pray in our hearts to a God that hears us. We can go to church and learn from elders in our priesthood who speak inspired words from the scripture. We don't pay them, so they *can* tell us the truth and not be worried they'll get fired if they tell us to stop sinning and live right.

The Book of Mormon tells us about churches set up to get gain—where people only cared about money. Simon the magician was a man who pretended to love God but secretly offered the disciples money to give him the power of God.

Since the beginning of time, there have been people who tried to make up their own religion. Usually they do this to have power and control over others to make money.

These are things to look for in the true Church of Jesus Christ: The Gospel set up by Christ did not pay their ministers. Jesus was a carpenter, Paul a tentmaker. While they were doing missionary

work, others helped them and fed them, but no one got rich. The Bible says, "Do not use vain repetitions [saying things over and over again] like the heathen do." The Book of Mormon tells us that God's true church does not do things secretly. No tricks, no magic spells are used to become a follower; all we need is a clean heart and sorrow for our sins, with a belief that Jesus will forgive us and love us.

There is also true power in serving Christ. He'll help you forgive your enemies, overcome your fears, and be better and stronger with Him than without Him.

Your job is to keep your hearts clean. Turn off trashy MTV. Don't ever watch programs about evil things. Don't listen to the songs on the radio with swearing or terrible advice in them. Don't buy the CD's that tell you lies like it's fine to take drugs.

The scripture tells us, "Obedience is better than sacrifice." That means once you've learned something is sin, don't keep doing it and tell yourself, "Oh, I'll fast [not eat or drink for a period of time] and pray and God will forgive me again." We're supposed to learn from our mistakes! Keep trying to do better!

Also, remember that God created this world we live in and Christ has *all* power. God is stronger than the ugly devil. When something very very sad or bad happens to you and you wake up at night wondering "Why," take time to remember all the other times when God has brought you through pain. Trust Him again, as a little

baby trusts parents. Hope and pray for better days.

God can and will turn bad things into good. Jesus will bring you through every dangerous place in your path. He will give you gifts of dreams, prophecy, faith, speaking in tongues and love if you'll just seek them patiently. You'll take His love and power and shine it all over. It's never boring to serve our Lord! Just keep praising Him.

## MIRACLE continued . . .

The next day this verse was on my daily calendar:

Until our Master summons us,  
Not a hair of our head can perish,  
Not a moment of our life be  
snatched from us.  
When He sends for us,  
It should seem but a message  
That the child is wanted at home.

The following Sunday we spent much of our service in thanksgiving and praise for this miracle. Brother Paul Ciotti felt to have special prayer to thank God for sparing Brother Patrick's life and sparing us, the family of God, much sorrow. Before our testimony meeting Patrick sang a song he had practiced the very afternoon of the accident. It contained the words, "When you are a soldier, I will be your shield." We can only say, "Blessed be the name of the Lord!"

Sister Carol Monaghan  
Editor and Mother

## DEDICATION continued . . .

have been: Bro. Paul and Sis. Orletta Liberto and their families, Bro. Tom and Sis. Marcia Liberto and their families, all from San Diego; and Bro. Dwayne Jordan from Tse Bonito, New Mexico. From Greensburg, Pennsylvania, Sis. Bambi Dulkis visited with her two sons and daughter, who live in our area. And from Northern California, Bro. Joe and Sis. Jean Ciarolla, who were visiting family, Sis. Mary and Pete Krasnasky, here in Southern California.

## Branch and Mission News

### Baptism in Phoenix

On April 28, 1991, Sister Donetta Walker was baptized by Bro. Barry Mazzeo and confirmed by Bro. Robert Watson. She had traveled from California to visit her parents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Brigetta DiTomaso, who are members of the Phoenix, AZ Branch. Donetta is now a member of the Anaheim, CA Branch.

### Rochester, NY

*By Carmella D'Amico*

On August 4, 1991, we were blessed to have Brother Patsy and Sister Connie Marinetti visiting us from Tucson, AZ. They were attending the wedding of their nephew, Brother Andre Francione, in Niles, Ohio.

Brother Patsy chose for his text Ephesians 1:12-13, "That we should be to the praise of His glory who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted after ye heard the word of truth, the Gospel of your salvation, in whom after ye believed ye were sealed with that holy spirit of promise." He spoke on the conversion of the Apostle Paul en route to Damascus and the coming of the Gentiles in the last dispensation.

Brother Frank Natoli confirmed the words of our brother. We are grafted into the Gospel. Jesus is the Rock and Foundation. God does not change.

On September 1, 1991, Brother Julius and Sister Helen Kovacs came to fellowship with us from New Jersey. Brother Julius chose for his text Isaiah 40, an exhortation to obedience and trust in Christ. "They who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary and they shall walk and not faint."

Brother Frank Natoli confirmed the words of our brother. We should meditate on the word of God and take time to pray.

On September 8, 1991, we had Brother Bob and Sister Ruth Batson and children.

Brother Bob chose for his text Mosiah 2, where King Benjamin built a tower from which he addressed his people. He spoke on the righteous reign of a God-fearing king, who prophesied of Christ and the atonement. Our joy and happiness will be unsurpassed when we go before God.

Brother Frank confirmed the words of our brother that we must be ready to do the Master's will and be ready to face tomorrow.

On September 29, 1991, Brother Richard and Sister Annabel

## REMINDER!

Plan to attend the General Ladies' Uplift Circle Spiritual Gathering Friday April 10, 1992, at the Greensburg building, held in conjunction with the April General Church Spiritual Conference.

Time: 10:00 p.m.—12:00 p.m.  
Seminar  
2:00 p.m.— 4:00 p.m.  
Spiritual Sharing/Musical Praise

Women, come and share and be a part of an inspiring day!

Sis. Arline J. Whitton, President  
General Ladies' Uplift Circle

Santilli visited. Brother Richard chose for his text I Nephi 13, which is about the nations of the Gentiles. Nephi saw Christopher Columbus crossing the great waters, and he saw the foundation of the great and abominable church. In October it will be 500 years since Columbus discovered America. Our parents came from Europe to find something better; they found prosperity and the Gospel.

Brother Frank confirmed the words of our brother. It was the love of God that attracted him to the Church.

That Sunday morning I had a dream. I dreamed that I received a card which said, "The perfect love of God passeth understanding." Brother Richard preached today about the love of God.

We then had testimony. The Spirit spoke to Sister Annabel and said, "When My people will ripen, My Spirit will be upon them!" A wonderful spirit prevailed during the service.

On October 20, 1991, Brother Jim, Sister Sally, and Sarah Hufnagle came to visit our branch. Brother Jim chose for his text II Nephi:4.

On November 3, 1991, Brother Larry and Sister Rosanne Cham-



Saints and their families in Rochester, NY celebrate the Church's 60th year there.

(Continued on Page 8)



**ROCHESTER continued . . .**

pine visited. Brother Larry chose for his text Alma 26. Ammon glories in the Lord, boasting in righteousness. He recounts blessings to his brethren. We should have joy in being instruments in the hands of God. We sang the hymn *Keeping Step*.

Brother Frank stated that we should be like an orchestra by each playing his own instrument to make beautiful music, and we should pray that God would use us.

On November 10, 1991, Brother Bob and Sister Ruth Batson and children, along with Brother Flip and Sister Alma Palacios and their daughter visited. Brother Bob chose Acts 3. When Peter and John went to the temple, a lame man was asking for alms. Peter said, "Silver and gold we have none. . . . in the name of Jesus Christ rise up and walk." Jesus will reward us with spiritual things. Cast your bread upon the waters and after many days it will return unto you.

We then sang *Send Hunters and Fishers*. Brother Flip continued to speak about the same subject. Our Church cannot compete with the world. We don't have to be ashamed of the Gospel. When we were baptized, Jesus came and supped with us. We must open the door of our hearts.

Brother Frank confirmed the words of the brothers to come and taste of the joy in serving the Lord.

On November 17, 1991, our branch celebrated our 60th anniversary. That Sunday morning I dreamed that we were in church. I saw Brothers Ismael D'Amico, Frank Rosati, and Ansel D'Amico sitting on the rostrum. Brother Ismael spoke and said, "This is the day which the Lord hath made, let us rejoice and be glad." The heavens opened, and Jesus came down in a cloud and blessed us.

Brother Frank chose for his text the 46th chapter of Alma, which speaks about Moroni who, seeing the wickedness of King Amalickiah, rent his coat and wrote, "In memory of our God, our religion, freedom, our peace, our wives, and our children" and fastened it upon a pole. He read the history of the Church in Rochester.

The meeting was opened for testimony and many wonderful testimonies were given. We had a delicious meal and cake which said "Happy 60th Anniversary/The Church of Jesus Christ."

Even though we didn't have visitors on that particular Sunday, the Spirit and blessings of God were greatly felt in our midst.

On December 28, 1991, I dreamed that I was in church. I saw Brothers Joe Calabrese, Paul Palmieri, Brian Martorana, and Philip Jackson. I also saw three men dressed in white. I asked Brother Joe Calabrese who these men were. He said, "They are going to escort us on our journey!" I saw them boarding the plane and getting off the plane. I shook hands with one of the Nephites, and it felt like electricity went through my body. I awoke feeling very happy and blessed.

**Freehold, NJ**

*By Carl Huttenberger*

On Sunday, December 8, 1991, Bro. Carl Huttenberger, Jr. was ordained a teacher in the Church. Visiting Bro. Anthony J. Scolaro washed Bro. Carl's feet, and Bro. Jim Crudup performed the ordination. Visitors were present from Hopelawn, Metuchen, and New Brunswick, NJ as well as other visitors not from the Church.

Bro. Willy Brown preached a sermon from Romans Chapter 8. Interestingly, a sister had told Bro. Carl previous to his ordination to read that chapter upon learning of his calling. A vision was had in which a light getting brighter and brighter emanated from Bro. Carl's face as he was being ordained. Other experiences were brought forth confirming Bro. Carl's calling, including a dream Sis. Chris Perri had nearly two years ago. In this dream, Bro. Carl came to Sis. Chris and told her he had another work which he had to do. She never revealed this experience until this day. Everyone felt the Spirit of God throughout the day. Sis. Renee Benyola, visiting from Metuchen, testified of her concerns about complications with her health. While

she was testifying, a sister had a vision of Sis. Renee walking up to be anointed. Later in the meeting, Sis. Renee did step forward to be anointed, at which time the sister related her vision, showing that Sis. Renee followed God's desire that she call upon the elders for prayer.

We continue to have afternoon services in Spanish for the Seed of Joseph. It's exciting to see the baptized members of their group teaching and admonishing their own people in their own language. Some are on the verge of baptism, and for this we praise God. We are excited as well about the many energetic, able young people in the branch whom God is using. We know there will be others who will be called shortly.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

**50th Anniversary**

*By Sandy Sullivan*

Sister Elizabeth Heaps Simpson was born of goodly parents, Sister Margaret and Brother Jim Heaps, at Monongahela, Pennsylvania on October 12, 1917. She was blessed in The Church of Jesus Christ by Bro. Joe Tucker.

Not quite 24, Sis. Elizabeth was baptized on October 4, 1941 at Windsor, Ontario by Bro. Frank Ford. After being close to the Church all her life, God reminded



**Sis. Elizabeth Simpson**

her at a prayer meeting the night before, October 3, at the home of Sister Nancy and Bro. Robert Watson, "How many times He had blessed her, and how many times He had answered her prayers." She knew then that she had to be more than a part of this Church. She had to serve her Lord *in* this Church.

Sister Elizabeth has been very active as a Sunday School and Ladies' Circle teacher. She has also played the piano and directed the

choir for many years. She instituted the Ladies' Retreats in the Pacific Coast District, which have been such blessings for all those who have attended. And last, but not least, she has been the editor of the *Anaheim Newsletter* for many years.

For 50 years Sister Elizabeth has tried to serve God in and through all the things that have come into her life. She has been a wonderful blessing to the Anaheim

Branch, and to all the lives that she has touched.

She requested that her son-in-law, Bro. Bob Sullivan, sing, *May All Who Come Behind Us Find Us Faithful* at the observance of her 50th Spiritual Birthday. This is her desire.

## 1991 Financial Results

Dear Readers:

Help! That's right. This is clearly a call for help. The Church needs your support. The final 1991 receipts make it very plain why the Church, The Church of Jesus Christ, our Church, needs your help. It is too late now to do anything for 1991, but it is time to begin thinking and doing our best financially as well as spiritually for 1992!

The Finance Committee wants to provide you the results for 1991 so we can strive to do much better this year. Here are the results for 1991, and a comparison column showing 1990 figures.

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1990</u>
Atlantic Coast	\$ 61,459	\$ 62,536
Michigan/Ontario	102,653	105,619
Ohio	46,042	47,858
Pacific Coast	48,597	68,684
Pennsylvania	118,717	115,448
Southeast	39,239	43,252
Southwest	23,728	24,732
 Totals	 \$440,435	 \$468,129

As you can readily see, \$27,694 less was received in 1991 as compared to 1990. The committees of the Church had to reduce their spending for 1991, which meant that some missionary work and projects had to be curtailed or scaled back considerably.

Based on this disappointing forecast, the General Church committees have received notice to review their plans for 1992 in the event that our receipts again fall short of our goal of \$545,595.

The Spending Plan goal is clearly within our reach. If 1000 saints donate only \$50 per month, the Church will receive \$600,000. Imagine what can be accomplished if 2000 saints do that. Or if the brothers and sisters, young people, and friends of the Church really begin to support the Free Will Giving percentage program that was established a few years ago.

In order for the Church to fulfil our commission of spreading the Gospel, the necessary finances must be supplied. We must all do our part! We are thrilled when we hear of those accepting the Gospel in other lands and in the United States. It takes all of our collective efforts to accomplish the goal of spreading the "news" to the four quarters of the world. Together, we can do it! The way is established. We need to work on the will!

General Church Finance Committee

## BOOK OF MORMON continued . . .

major Book of Mormon writers tell us that they were directed by God as to what to put in the Book of Mormon and what to leave out.

For all practical purposes two of these three writers, Mormon and Moroni, controlled the contents of the entire Book of Mormon. Mormon was commanded to add the entire contents of the small plates of Nephi to the Book of Mormon. The small plates of Nephi make up the books of First and Second Nephi, Jacob, Enos, Jarom, and Omni. The book, Words of Mormon, was written by Mormon. The books of Mosiah, Alma, Helaman, and Third and Fourth Nephi were abridged by Mormon. The first seven chapters of the book, Book of Mormon, were written by Mormon. Moroni wrote the last two chapters. Moroni also abridged the book of Ether and wrote the book of Moroni. This accounts for all of the fifteen books in the Book of Mormon.

Many times when we are reading certain passages in the Book of Mormon, we may ask ourselves, "Why is this information in the Book of Mormon?" When we understand that the contents of the Book of Mormon were divinely controlled, this question becomes one of the most important questions we can ask as we study the Book of Mormon. Because the Lord has more to teach us, the knowledge of which questions to ask is an important key to further spiritual growth.

In fact, the writers of the Book of Mormon very clearly specify to us what God wanted them to write and when He wanted them to stop writing. 1 Nephi 19:3 shows us that Nephi was divinely directed what to put in: "And after I had made these plates by way of commandment, I, Nephi, received a commandment that the ministry and

(Continued on Page 10)

**BOOK OF MORMON continued . . .**

the prophecies, the more plain and precious parts of them, should be written upon these plates." Nephi was also divinely directed what to leave out: "And behold, I, Nephi, am forbidden that I should write the remainder of the things which I saw and heard; wherefore the things which I have written suffice me; and I have written but a small part of the things which I saw" (I Nephi 14:28).

Mormon was directed what to put in: "But behold, I shall take these plates, which contain these prophesyings and revelations, and put them with the remainder of my record, for they are choice unto me; and I know they will be choice unto my brethren. And I do this for a wise purpose; for thus I whispereth me, according to the workings of the Spirit of the Lord which is in me. And now, I do not know all things; but the Lord knoweth all things which are to come; wherefore, He worketh in me to do according to His will" (Words of Mormon 1:6-7). In addition III Nephi 26:12 reads, "Therefore I, Mormon, do write the things which have been commanded me of the Lord." He was also directed what to leave out of his writings: "Behold, I was about to write them, all which were engraven upon the plates of Nephi, but the Lord forbade it . . ." (III Nephi 26:11).

Moroni was directed what to include in his writings: "Behold, I have written upon these plates the very things which the brother of Jared saw; . . . Wherefore the Lord hath commanded me to write them" (Ether 4:4-5). Ether 5:1 reads, "And now I, Moroni, have written the words which were commanded me." Ether 8:26 reads, "Wherefore, I, Moroni, am commanded to write these things . . ." He was also directed what to leave out: "And I was about to write more, but I am forbidden" (Ether 13:13).

Brothers and sisters, let us not take the Word of God for granted. Every precious syllable has been spoken by His mouth and faithfully written and carefully preserved by His chosen servants for our spiritual benefit. The material

things we pursue go in and out of style and change unpredictably in their value. The worldly activities with which we are so preoccupied will *all* ultimately fail or fade away. Only His Word is eternal and uncompromising in its truth.

If I call Him "the Lover of my soul" and if He is indeed "the Jewel of my life," then I will earnestly search for opportunities to spend time with Him. It will be my joy to linger a little longer at His feet and listen to His sweet voice.

**MESSAGE continued . . .**

through the night, and he was praising God for this miracle in his life. Brother Stephen also related how he had rebuked the devil in a dream so that he (Brother Stephen) could not be touched. A few days later, a man who had attended services in Brother Stephen's home asked for his baptism, the first one to come forth from these meetings.

On Friday and early Saturday, the brothers traveled to Coimbatore, via Bangalore. They were joined by Brother and Sister Babu, and they all journeyed to the first village thereabouts, Perity Thiru Mangalam. Brothers Calabrese and Babu spoke on Saturday morning about baptism and the Holy Ghost, and 21 souls were baptized.

Brother Brian opened the afternoon service with a prayer to dedicate the meeting-place. After the confirmations, feet-washing basins and towels, communion articles, and oil for anointing the sick were blessed for use. Brother Babu spoke about the reception of the Holy Ghost and Brother Paul talked about the responsibilities of ordained officers, after which one elder, three teachers, one deacon and one deaconess were ordained.

**NEXT VILLAGE**

On Sunday, the brothers proceeded to the next village, Nattar Mangalam, where baptism and reception of the Holy Ghost were discussed by Brothers Palmieri, Babu, and Dev. Everyone then adjourned to the same baptismal site where they were met by the con-

verts of Mulanur (the new work). The elders baptized 47 candidates amid a beautiful spirit.

On the way back to the afternoon service, the large group stopped at one of the villages where about 20 members live. A circle was formed and Brother Phil offered a prayer over the village. A young boy possessed with evil spirits was brought forth, and Brother Joe anointed him, rebuking these spirits. The boy arose immediately from the prayer and the power of God gave witness that he had been healed.

About 120 people were in attendance at the third village, Mulanur, as the 47 new members were confirmed; one teacher, two deacons, and two deaconesses were ordained; and the Lord's Supper was administered to the newly-baptized brothers and sisters.

As the wonderful spirit prevailed, many people were anointed. One young man was presented by his mother, who said he had never talked, but his hearing was normal. Brother Phil was inspired to pray on him, after which the young man stood up and miraculously began to speak to Brother Dev.

**JOINED BROTHER LIVINGSTON**

The following Wednesday, the brothers traveled to Vitayawaa, where they met Brother Livingston. They said he looked so much better than when they had seen him in the hospital two weeks before, and they were grateful that God had answered their prayers for him. After visiting briefly with Brother and Sister Livingston at their home at Tadepalliguaden where they also saw the hospital and orphanage, they drove to Jajaldruta to dedicate our new church building and ordain a new elder. About 400 brothers and sisters from nine villages had gathered for the memorable occasion.

Standing at the front door, Brother Livingston read from Hebrews, 3rd Chapter, and Brother Joe cut the ribbon as they entered our fifth building in this area of India. Brother Joe opened the meeting in prayer and dedicated the new building to the Lord. Brother Paul spoke on the temple Solomon

built to God. Brothers Joe, Phil, and Brian continued with the theme of dedication and missionary work. Brother Paul read the responsibilities of an elder, after which a young brother was ordained into that office. Anointings concluded the meeting.

After the church service, the brothers met with the Ladies' Circle officers and the teachers and elders in attendance. In their time with the sisters, the Ladies' Circle was officially organized in India.

Later, they departed by train

for an all-night trip back to Madras, from whence they returned to the United States two days later. During the remaining time, many brothers and sisters and friends came to express their thanks to the brothers for their coming. They also heard how Brother Dev's sister was able to speak again after having been stricken with a stroke three days prior and after they had prayed for her the night before. Their departure was very sad, because of the great love for God which had been mutually felt; as is

true wherever the Church is located, it was hard to part from them.

Brother Jackson is succeeding Brother Calabrese as coordinator to India. Brother Joe had served as the liaison since the work was started there in 1981. The gratitude of people there and of the rest of the Church for his labors must be expressed. The rapport, dedication, and love developed by him and others who have gone there must be sincerely acknowledged, and we wish Brother Jackson well.

## New Arrivals

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the indicated new members of their families.

Marissa to Paul and Sis. Linda Zane of McKees Rocks, PA.

Sarah Marie to Jim and Sis. Renee Zeh of McKees Rocks, PA.

Julia Victoria to Jay and Sis. Terry Snyder of McKees Rocks, PA.

Jennifer Lynn to Bro. David and Sis. JoAnn Catalano of Metuchen, NJ.

Jack Edward to Edward and Rebecca Stephens of Vanderbilt, PA.

Charity Rose to Bro. Ken and Sis. Florence Lombardo of Metuchen, NJ.

Caleb James to Bro. Paul and Sis. Susan Ciotti of McKees Rocks, PA.

Bro. John Dulisse while Bro. Eddie and Sis. Mary were living in California. Bro. Eddie was a devoted worker in the Church, using his talents in various branches. On April 19, 1953, he was ordained a teacher. He transferred to the Levittown, PA Branch from New Brunswick, NJ in May of 1988.

The funeral service was held on December 19, 1991, officiated by Bro. Samuel Dell. He was assisted by Brothers Paul Benyola, Joseph Perri, and Frank Mazzeo. His grandchildren sang his favorite hymn, *Amazing Grace*, during the service.

Bro. Eddie is survived by his wife, Sis. Mary; a brother, Joseph; a sister, Katherine; two daughters, Edwina and Sis. Carol Biagi; five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Brother Eddie will be missed by all.

## CANDIDA DiBERNARDO

Sister Candida DiBernardo passed away on December 26, 1991. She was born December 1, 1897, and baptized on December 29, 1940. She was a member of the Lockport, NY Mission.

Brothers Wayne Martorana and Paul D'Amico officiated at the funeral.

Our sister is survived by two daughters, one son, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

## OBITUARIES

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

### MARGHERITA MENNA

Sister Margherita Menna of the Lockport, NY Mission, passed on to her eternal reward on November 29, 1991. She was born on June 17, 1897 and baptized August 18, 1940.

The funeral was conducted by Bro. Harold Burge, assisted by Bro. Paul D'Amico.

### EDWARD PASTORE

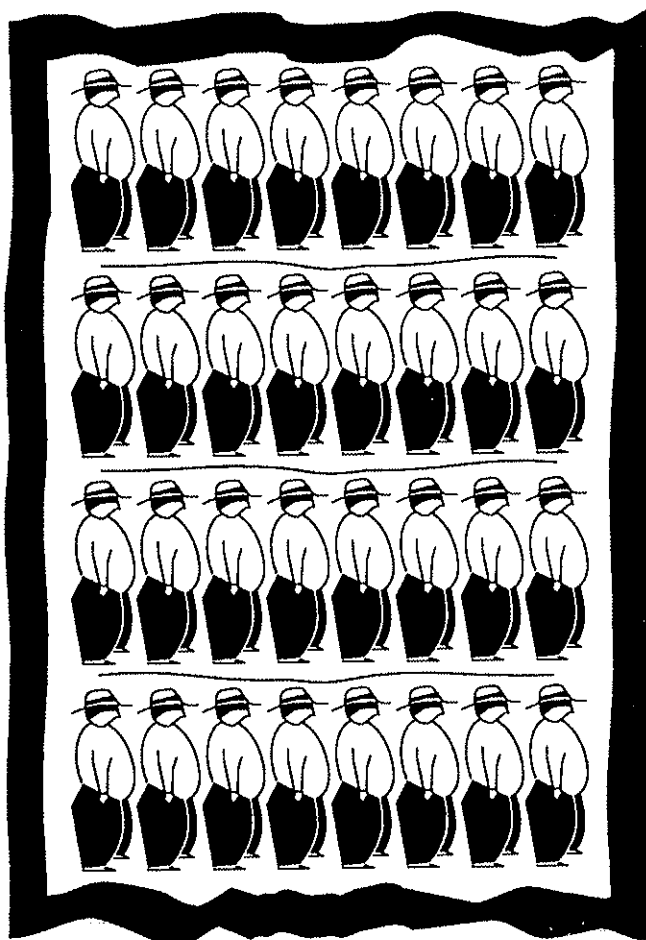
Brother Edward Pastore passed from this life on December 16, 1991. Brother Eddie was born on June 27, 1915. He met the Church through his wife of 54 years, Sister Mary. He was baptized on February 27, 1949, by Brother Pasquale DiBattista and confirmed by

### ROSINA SCALISE

Sister Rosina Scalise passed on to her reward on January 20, 1992. She was born on March 11, 1895, and was baptized in April of 1933. She was a faithful member of the Church for 59 years, serving in Detroit and later in Bell, California.

Brothers Tom Jones and Bob McDonnell officiated at the funeral.

Our sister is survived by a daughter, Connie Meo, a son, Vincent Scalise, nine grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, and 22 great-great-grandchildren. She was loved by all, and left a great example for all to follow. Her presence will be sorely missed.



# PLAN AHEAD & BEAT THE *RUSH!*

to attend the  
Marriage  
Enrichment/  
Singles' Weekend  
Retreat

*More information to follow*

SPONSORED BY GMBA AND  
LADIES' UPLIFT CIRCLE

## Children Blessed

Katilyn Alta Verardo, daughter of John and Debbie Verardo, was blessed in December of 1991 by her grandfather, Bro. Frank Verardo.

On January 26, 1992, Michelle Renee and Crystal Marie Prall were blessed at the Perry, Ohio Branch by Bro. Elmer Santilli.

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### TAYLOR—SCALISE

Mr. Channing H. Taylor and Sister Rosemary Scalise were united in marriage on November 9, 1991.

Brother Vincent Scalise, father of the bride, performed the ceremony, assisted by Brother Robert McDonnell. Musical selections were provided by Brother Tony DeCaro and Sister Lori Capone.

The couple will be residing in Redondo Beach, California. May God bless them both in their new life together.

### CURTIN—LAESSIG

Brother Thomas P. Curtin and Sister Sally A. Laessig were united in holy matrimony on Saturday, December 7, 1991 in Bear Mountain, New York.

Brothers James Suska and Jerry Valenti, both cousins of the bride, officiated at the ceremony.

Vocal selections were offered by Sister Iva Fedorka and Brother Kenneth Lombardo, accompanied by Sister Florence Lombardo on the harp, and Sister Alice Suska on the flute.

The couple are residing in River Vale, New Jersey. We pray that God may continue to guide Tom and Sally through their lives and that the Lord's peaceful presence will always be by their side.

## Address Change

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# The Gospel News

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

April, 1992

Volume 48, No. 4

## A Parable of Motherhood

A young mother set her foot on the path of life. "Is the way long?" she asked. God said, "Yes, and the way is hard. And you will be old before you reach the end of it. But the end is better than the beginning." But the young mother was happy, and she could not believe that anything could be better than these years. So she played with her children and gathered flowers for them along the way and bathed with them in clear streams; and the sun shone on them and life was good, and the young mother cried, "Nothing will ever be lovelier than this."

Then night came, and the path was dark and the children shook with fear and cold, and the mother drew them close and covered them with her mantle, and the children said, "O Mother, we are not afraid, for you are near; no harm can come." And the mother said, "This is better than the brightness of day, for I have taught my children courage."

Then the morning came, and there was a hill ahead. The children climbed and grew weary, and the mother was weary. But always she said to the children, "A little patience, and we'll be there." So the children climbed and when they reached the top, they said, "We could not have done it without you, Mother." And when she lay down

that night, she looked up at the stars and said, "This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned fortitude in the face of hardness. Yesterday I gave them courage; today I have given them strength."

With the next day came strange clouds which darkened the earth—clouds of war and hate and evil—and the children groped and stumbled about, and the mother said, "Look up. Lift your eyes to the light." And the children looked and saw above the clouds an everlasting Glory, and It guided them and brought them beyond the darkness. And that night the mother said, **"This is the best day of all, for I have shown my children God."**

And the days went on, and the weeks and months, and the mother grew old, and she became little and bent. But her children were strong and tall, and walked through life with courage. And when the way was rough, they lifted her, for she was light as a feather. At last they came to a hill, and beyond the hill they could see a shining road and golden gates flung wide. And the mother said, "I have reached the end of my journey. And now I know that the end is better than the beginning. For my children can walk alone, and their children after them."

(Continued on Page 9)

## Greetings from Guatemala

*By Darlene Marroquin*

The brothers and sisters from Guatemala wish to send their love to all the saints. As this year has begun we have been reflecting on the many blessings and experiences the Lord has given us and we would like to share some of these with you.

One of the ways that the Lord has blessed the Church here is He has brought many married couples to the Church. Many of these couples were at the point of separation when they first encountered the Church, but God touched their hearts and changed their lives. How beautiful it is to witness a husband and wife begin a new life being baptized together. We can truly testify that their children and homes have been blessed.

A visitor who has just asked for her baptism has a beautiful

(Continued on Page 3)

## Editor's New Address

Anthony J. Scolaro  
20 Byrd Ave.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003  
Tel. (201) 893-8070



## Greetings in Christ



By Mark Randy

*"We have sinned, and have committed iniquity and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments; neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land" (Daniel 9:5).*

Is it possible to pray so honestly and true today? Daniel, one of the greatest men that ever lived, showed his greatness by his straightforward honesty. He included himself with the terrible neglect of Israel. He could have used the word "they," but inasmuch as he was part of the Church of the Old Testament, he included himself in the terrible behavior of Israel, who had forgotten the Lord, their God. Ezekiel wrote of Daniel as one of the three greatest men that ever lived to his time:

*"Son of man, when the land sinneth against me by trespassing grievously, then will I stretch out mine hand upon it and will break the staff of the bread thereof, and will send famine upon it, and will cut off man and beast from it."*

*"Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord God" (Ezekiel 14:13-14).*

Writing of the greatness of Daniel and his inclusion of himself in the sin of Israel makes me feel very small.

When we speak of our Church

today, we need to speak in terms of *we*, due to the fact that we are part of the whole, as the whole is part of us.

Jesus, on admonishing the twelve disciples, said, *"You know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them. But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister [servant]: and whosoever of you will be the chiefest shall be servant of all."*

I pray that the reader can feel the joy that Jesus had in sharing with his beloved disciples, and now to us who read these immortal words of life.

Our joy is in the service we render to others in the same love and service Jesus demonstrated to followers, and now to us.

Inasmuch as wisdom is the core of understanding, humility is the core of greatness. As the old saying goes, "Even a fool can feel proud, but it takes a wise person to be humble." *"Behold, a hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palm of my hands. And he said unto me, 'O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I sent.' And when he had spoken these words unto me, I stood trembling"* (Daniel 10:10-11).

A great challenge is before those of us who read these great words. We can be obedient to the same God, for it is written, *"I am the Lord, I change not"* (Malachi 3:6).

Are not these immortal words challenging? Indeed they are; we can be God's beloved, by simply looking to those who are more obedient, more submissive than we.

They lived in trying times and were subjected to slavery, but the faithful prevailed above all their oppressions.

We are serving the same God; the Holy Spirit will guide, lead, and show us things to come.

May grace be unto you, the readers. God bless you.

Mark Randy

## Sis. Maria Dichiera

On May 1, 1992, Sister Maria Dichiera of Lindsay, California will observe 64 years as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ. Sister Maria was born November 22, 1900, in Reggio Calabria, Italy. In 1920 she married and moved to Glassport, Pennsylvania. She was baptized there in 1925 by Brother Antonio DiBattista and confirmed by Brother Dominico Dintino.

Since that time, Sister Maria has traveled back to Italy and as far away as Australia, giving her testimony to many people. In America, her testimony has brought many people to the Church. Sis. Maria was blessed of God. She and her late husband, Cosimo, were the first Church members to move to the Lindsay, California area and were instrumental in establishing the Lindsay Branch.

Sister Maria had five children, all born in Glassport, PA, and now has six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She thanks God from the depths of her heart for everything that He did for her, and expresses her love for her brothers and sisters in Christ. She has had six major operations, and God healed her completely from them. On several occasions, the gift of interpretation of tongues was manifested through Sis. Maria. Our sister's address and phone number are as follows:

Maria Dichiera  
105 N. Cambridge  
Lindsay, CA 93247  
Telephone (209) 562-2247

## Hill Cumorah Pageant

The dates for this summer's Hill Cumorah Pageant are July 10-18, 1992. Detailed information can be obtained by calling (315) 597-6808.

## Our Women Today

### Atlantic Coast Area Circle Retreat

By Betty D'Orazio

The Atlantic Coast Area Circle met for their Third Annual Retreat on September 14 & 15, 1991, at the Scanticon Hotel in Princeton, New Jersey. As they greeted one another with much excitement and anticipation, they could feel the Lord's presence. The first hour of the morning was spent in a season of prayer. "Valuing Differences" was the title of the seminar. While reading the Bible, Romans 12:14, I was inspired to use this topic for the seminar this year.

The topics that were presented were: Divorce, Cancer, Dating in the Church, Midlife Crisis, Music in our Life, Listening to Our Children, and Valuing Differences.

Each one that spoke had gone through the experience of their topic. There were tears, laughter, and a bonding of spirits to be more sensitive to the needs and nature of each problem. Everyone handles a situation differently, and what works for one does not necessarily work for another. The need to value someone else's opinion and culture is very important.

Before dinner the women were shown different pictures and were asked to write down what they saw. It was amazing how each saw different things, yet everyone was correct. It was fun as well as a learning experience.

After a scrumptious dinner they met again to make fireplace brooms for their crafts. No two brooms were the same. Everyone's individuality came through. Every one was a classic. The Scanticon afforded them a lot of different activities so they continued to meet; some to sing, and others to socialize.

*Good Morning God!* is how all the sisters felt on Sunday. His Spirit was still going strong, and the love for each other was prevalent. Brothers Len Benyola and Phil Arcuri were invited to con-

duct the Sunday morning service. God truly inspired their minds as their sermon was a reflection of Saturday's seminars. (A portion of the Scripture that was read had been given to me before the start of our Seminar Day.) After Sacrament was passed and the meeting ended, leaving one another was very difficult. Each took with them a better understanding of Valuing Differences.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, that the Third Annual Retreat was a success.

### GUATEMALA continued . . .

testimony of how she found The Church of Jesus Christ. She had visited other churches, but never felt the love of God. One day, while passing our church building, the Lord spoke to her and told her that this is where she belongs. The following Sunday she began attending, and has testified that in The Church of Jesus Christ there exists the pure love of God.

Following are some of the experiences that have occurred in Guatemala:

#### THE LIGHT OF A NEW DAY

This is a new era in the Church regarding the work among the Seed of Joseph. *The Gospel News* recently featured an article on the many glorious experiences that transpired in July at the 1991 conference of the Americas in Tijuana. One significant experience was that of Bro. Isidro Dominguez regarding the recent eclipse of the sun and God's timing for a great work among the Seed of Joseph. Since that time, there have been numerous experiences confirming this.

On October 3, 1991, Bro. Isidro was listening to a radio program in Guatemala telling of a gathering of chiefs and representatives from different tribes of North, South, and Central America in Guatemala. They chose Guatemala because more than any of the other countries it has the highest percentage of its population that is pure Indian blood. They said that the year 1992

marks 500 years in bondage, and it is time for their people to stand up for their rights. To Bro. Isidro's surprise they stated they wanted to see "THE LIGHT OF A NEW DAY."

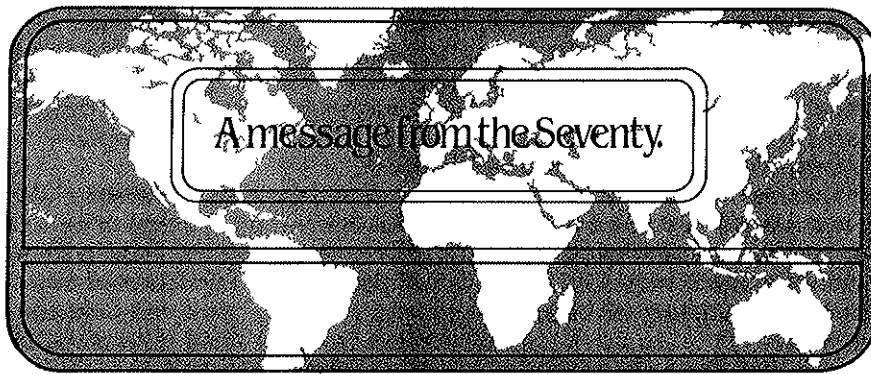
The following Saturday night Bro. Isidro had a dream where he saw a large building filled with a lot of people. The rostrum had two long rows of chairs, but only the back row was filled with ministers. He noticed Bros. Joe Lovalvo and Frank Ciotti sitting in the center of this row. They were talking to each other but he could not hear what they were discussing. He also recognized many ministers from the Seed of Joseph. As he was wondering why the front row was vacant, many men that he did not recognize began to enter the building. They had dark skin, were dressed in suits, and were carrying Bibles and Books of Mormon in their hands. As they began to walk up to the rostrum and sit in the chairs in the front row, Bro. Isidro said to himself, "God is raising up many ministers from the Seed of Joseph, and it is time for them to take their place in front."

The next day, Sunday, October 6, we had a glorious service filled with the Power of God. After the preaching service, the congregation stood and sang *Oh, Cuan Bueno y Cuan Hermoso*. As we sang it the Spirit of God came down very strong. We sang it over and over and all the congregation was filled with the Spirit of God.

The Lord inspired Bro. Isidro to call all the men and young men up front to pray. He was not sure of what he was going to pray, but the Lord told him to pray and He would give him the words. All those present can testify of the power in his prayer and how beautiful the words were. He later stated that even he was amazed at the words that were flowing from his mouth. At one point in his prayer he felt the presence of the Three Nephites and knew that they were holding hands with the brothers. Everyone was crying and shaking with the power of God.

After the prayer all the congregation—even the children—

(Continued on Page 9)



## “Mission” and “Missionary”

*By Carl J. Frammolino, Evangelist Editor*

Missionary activities have been discussed by many writers in this column in the past, so possibly closer examination of the words “mission” and “missionary” and their application may help us to better understand what has been written. Focusing on these words is appropriate this month, as the General Missionary Operating Committee presents its report to the General Church Conference.

A “mission,” in our particular context, is defined in the dictionary as “a body of persons sent by a church to carry on religious work, especially evangelization in foreign lands.” In The Church of Jesus Christ, the meaning has been expanded to also mean a place where a group has been formed which does not hold a branch status and where there may or may not be a resident or a non-resident elder.

A “missionary” (also called a “missioner”) is “a person sent into a newly settled or foreign region to carry on religious, educational, or medical work,” “a person who attempts to persuade or convert others to his position or principles,” “a person who is sent on a mission.” By definition, it is obvious that the missionary intent is to reach out wherever possible with the message of salvation and to work for the betterment of humanity.

Our desire, of course, is to convert the world. Realistically, there are human limitations due to present shortages of workers and financial resources. It is agreed, though, that genuine opportunities

to spread the Gospel should be pursued, as feasible.

### HOW AND WHERE

How and where to go are the primary concerns. God’s will and direction are the most important considerations. As he has directed His people in the past, He continues to do so today and will in the future. It can be to new fields many miles or countries away, or it can be close to where we live. God can open doors anywhere.

In February, the article on the video presentation available for viewing in districts, branches and missions revealed how some foreign bases were established. First missionaries journeyed many miles after receiving correspondence expressing great interest in the Church. Other missionaries were directed by God to go to new areas to begin the work or to become resident missionaries after a mission was started. While these examples are most noteworthy, it is essential to remember that anyone and everyone can be a kind of “missionary.”

Our next-door neighbors, our friends or acquaintances, or members of our families may be receptive to hearing about God, Jesus, and the Gospel. Our telling them can make the real difference in their lives. Let us remember that each person is also precious to God. Many missions started through a testimony given by a member who affected the life of one person, one family, and—yes—even one com-

munity. From this beginning, as people continued to launch out, the number grew. This group and this growth could not have been possible if that first person had not given his or her testimony.

### EXAMPLES

There are also notable examples in the Scriptures about how effective the word-of-mouth method can be. The Samaritan woman who met Jesus at the well was so influenced by Him that she told everyone she could about Him; many people in her city became believers (John 4:39). The impact of her message about Christ could be felt by all.

Likewise, the man from whom Jesus cast out all the devils could not be quieted. He told how he had been healed, and all listeners marveled (Mark 5:20).

These two were compelled to spread the good news that Christ had come and what He meant to them. They certainly had the missionary spirit and influenced people profoundly. In talking to others, you and I can also affect them positively about the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

There may be a hesitancy to witness if the mission or branch where we attend is small in number. Surprisingly, this may not matter to visitors. They may feel more comfortable in smaller groups, so it is probably best for us not to anticipate a negative reaction to the size of our group. The Spirit of God is what will convince and convict them anyway. Getting them to attend is the task; and God gives us the words to invite them and follow through on their coming. He sees our desires and efforts and will work through us.

Speaking of small missions, some locations only have one elder. Each of their labors is appreciated, and they should be acknowledged for their determination in keeping the banner high and for the care they give their flock. It is so heart-warming in visiting these places to hear how highly the members speak of their shepherd, as he strives to maintain and add to the number.

Jesus encouraged us by saying

**(Continued on Page 9)**

## The Gospel News

### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Anthony J. Scolaro  
20 Byrd Ave.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

### ASSISTANT EDITOR

Leonard A. Lovalvo  
8085 Schneider  
Manchester, MI 48158

### CONSULTANTS

Nephi DeMercurio  
Peter A. Scolaro

### OFFICE MANAGER

Cathy Gentile

### GMBA EDITOR

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

### GENERAL CIRCLE EDITOR

Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Alliquippa, PA 15001

### DISTRICT EDITORS

#### ATLANTIC COAST

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

#### MICHIGAN-ONTARIO

Lisa Champine  
47025 Hennings Dr.  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48045

#### OHIO

Mark Naro  
4425 Broadway  
Lorain, OH 44055

#### PACIFIC COAST

Kenneth R. Jones  
24268 Robie Ct.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

#### PENNSYLVANIA

Lucetta Scaglione  
303 Union St.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

#### SOUTHEAST

James G. Speck  
3710 Player Dr.  
New Port Richey, FL 34655

#### SOUTHWEST

Frances J. Capone  
8725 E. Hubbell  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

THE GOSPEL NEWS (USPS #223-480) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by The Church of Jesus Christ PRINT HOUSE, 8252 Boettner Rd., Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030, 313-429-5060. Second class postage paid at Saline, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE GOSPEL NEWS BUSINESS OFFICE, P.O. BOX 30, BRIDGEWATER, MI 48115-0030.

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

When we think about the importance of the example we set in our service to God, a number of things come to mind. The first is the credibility that our example lends to our own testimony. The minute we declare to someone our faith in the Lord, we are opening our life to their scrutiny. And whether or not we have the opportunity to go into detail about our beliefs, the life we lead and the example we set will say more to people about the strength of our commitment than mere words could ever communicate. Certainly the brightness and the consistency of the light we shine to the world plays a major part in our effort to win souls for Christ.

Aside from our own testimony, however, we must realize the impact our example has on one another's testimony. The enemy of our souls is constantly seeking to place stumblingblocks in the paths of the sincere of heart, and while we depend upon the power of God to ultimately bring a soul to repentance, our poor example can be just what it takes to turn away the visitor that our brother or sister is bringing to church. The brightness—or the dimness—of our individual light either increases or diminishes the ability of the entire congregation to draw souls to Christ.

A third area of concern—one whose impact perhaps reaches further than the other two—is the example that our ministers and leaders set for their fold, for the Church of the present and the future. Just as the actions of the saints say more than their words to those in the world, the example set by our leaders plays a far greater part in feeding, nurturing, and leading the flock of God than we might realize. While we certainly benefit from having the Word of God preached and taught to us by those who are called to fulfill these roles, greater still is the benefit gained from having the Gospel modeled before us by men and women of God.

If we want the Church to attain greater spiritual heights in the future, we must *show* the coming generation, more than just tell them, what it is to be a saint of God. If we desire our sons and daughters to become strong, effective spiritual leaders and to experience the Spirit, the Love, and the Power of God in their lives, we must do as Christ did, and embody the Truth of the Gospel in every aspect of our own lives. Those whom Jesus left behind remembered both the exemplary life He led and the sacrifice He made, and they strove to follow in His footsteps. If they had merely told others what they had seen Jesus do, they would not have "turned the world upside down" (Acts 17:6). But their lives were changed; God's Spirit dwelt in them and emanated from them. By His example, Jesus had taught them to do the Father's work.

The example we set is not just a role that we carefully play when we see someone watching. Our true example springs forth from the very depths of the heart, and is either a product of who we are, or of who we have become as a result of knowing the Lord. Let our lives be transformed, that the people whose lives we touch might be affected, powerfully, to seek after the things of God.

# The Children's Corner

By Janet Steinrock



## Redemption: The Plan That Never Goes Out of Style

Dear Girls and Boys,

Did you ever look at a picture of your mom and dad when they were young and laugh at the funny way their hair, or sideburns, or the styles of their clothes looked? Has anyone ever given you a present that was "in style" or cool last year but not this year? Or have you ever really begged your family for a special new toy that was really in style and then a few months later felt like it was boring and you had wasted your time and money?

The "things of this world"—toys, cars, clothes, even houses—do go in and out of "style." The sad fact is that sometimes people spend years of their lives working and rushing around to earn money to buy those things. And then they go out of style. So people rush around more, working and wishing for newer things.

People sometimes forget that the most important thing to have, the one thing that never goes out of style, is the wonderful peace they can have from loving God. And they don't have to pay anything for this peace and love! Jesus paid for it already by sacrificing His body on the cross. The Bible tells us in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world (you and me) that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."

Whether you are or aren't the prettiest girl in your school, or the best or worst athlete, or the worst singer, or the shyest, scariest kid, or the richest with fancy clothes, or the poorest with plain clothes, Jesus

loves *you*. The Lord knows just what is special deep inside you. He doesn't look at just what's in style today in your country. The Lord looks at your heart and mind, not how you're dressed or where you live.

He cares whether you keep on trying. He cares when you make big mistakes and will help you learn from them and be forgiven.

The Lord teaches us in the Ten Commandments that He gave to Moses that we shall not covet. To covet means to be jealous, deep in our hearts, and to wish we had something somebody else has. The Lord said not to covet other people's things. He included not to covet their family, or their house, their property, their servants, or their animals. (They never had cars for transportation like we did; they often used animals.)

See how well God knows the way our human side gets confused?

What is real then, love and peace, cannot be paid for with your money. It is given to you through the love of God and His Son Jesus.

Just think how much happier you feel at your house when everyone there is happy. Think about how nice it is when the peace of God is there and no one is fighting, or arguing or being mean. Think about how safe and good you feel at church when people that love you tell you more about God's ways. These are the things that never go out of style.

When Jesus died for us, He paid for our sins by being the last living sacrifice. Our sacrifices now aren't doves or goats. The sacrifices

we make are the bad thoughts we have, the pride inside that puffs us up and makes us think and act like we're better than someone else.

Jesus doesn't agree that one is better than the other because of their things. He says that being loving and forgiving are the best things. It's not always easy to fight against our human side or the evil one. But Jesus, who really does know your heart and love you, will help.

He can help you get over wanting "things." He will help bring peace and love to your families. He died to redeem us, and He can give each of us a life without fear and sadness. Just pray, be thankful for all that you have, and ask Him how you can show His love to others . . . because love never goes out of style.

### WORD SEARCH

REDEMPTION	MADE
FROM	BY
OUR	GOD
SINS	SINCE
IS	THE
A	FOUNDATION
HOLY	WORLD
PLAN	ACCORDING
THAT	TO
CAN	ALMA
NEVER	CHAPTER
GO	THIRTEEN
OUT	
OF	
STYLE	

S	G	N	I	D	R	O	C	C	A	S
N	R	A	C	T	M	F	R	O	M	T
E	E	L	C	H	A	E	R	H	N	Y
E	T	P	S	E	D	L	T	O	O	L
T	P	R	E	N	E	Y	I	L	I	E
R	A	P	T	T	I	T	Y	Y	T	G
I	H	R	A	D	P	S	L	B	A	O
H	C	M	L	M	E	A	O	N	D	R
T	L	R	E	D	C	Y	T	A	N	E
A	O	D	O	T	N	L	A	C	U	V
W	E	G	U	H	I	O	H	S	O	E
R	U	O	T	E	S	H	T	I	F	N

## Branch and Mission News

### News from McKees Rocks, PA

*By Linda Zane*

On June 30, 1991, Shannon Sapko was baptized by Bro. Paul Ciotti and confirmed by Bro. Ralph Ciotti at the McKees Rocks, PA Branch. Sister Shannon is a member of the Greensburg Branch. Our prayers are that God will richly bless Sis. Shannon, as well as all our young people who have recently made a covenant to serve God.

We are sincerely grateful for God's continued blessings upon our branch. In the past few months, He has shown us many miracles, including the births of three babies, and a soul coming to the Lord. On September 9, 1991, Marissa Zane, daughter of Sis. Linda and Paul Zane, was born. She was blessed by her grandfather, Bro. John Manes, on September 29.

Two more blessings took place on November 3. Sarah Zeh, born on October 19, was blessed by her grandfather, Bro. Ralph Ciotti. She is the child of Sis. Renee and Jim Zeh. Also, Julia Snyder, daughter of Sis. Terry and Jay Snyder, was blessed by Bro. Bill Colangelo. On the same day, Amy Bonasso was baptized by her father, Bro. Richard Lawson, and was confirmed by Bro. Paul Ciotti. Great joy was experienced on this truly memorable day!

### Vanderbilt, PA

The Vanderbilt Branch enjoyed a special event on December 22, 1991, when Apostle Joseph Bittinger asked God's blessing on his great-great-grandson, Jack Edward Stephens. Five generations were represented by Brother Bittinger, Brother Edward and Sister Huldah Stroko, Brother Tom and Sister Peggy Stroko, Edward and Rebecca Stephens, and Jack Edward Stephens.

Another great blessing came

our way in the calling and ordination of Brother Tom Stroko as a teacher in our branch. A good number of visitors from branches throughout the Pennsylvania District shared in and contributed to the enjoyment of the day.

Brother Russell Cadman introduced our service, using Ephesians 4:1-16 as his text. He was followed by Brothers Richard Lawson and Joseph Ross. The scripture that was read tells of the proper offices of the Church, and how they work in unity.

Brother Stroko's feet were washed by Bro. Jesse King, and the elders gathered in a circle as Bro. Joseph Bittinger ordained his grandson a teacher.

Following our service, lunch was served by the branch sisters and a period of fellowship was enjoyed by all.

### Bell, CA Branch

*By Rosemary Scalise*

On Sunday, September 22, 1991, we had the honor of having visiting brothers and sisters from all parts of our country. An overflow crowd from the day before honoring Sis. Kim Jones and Bro. Ron Morle at their wedding remained for our Sunday service. Our building was filled to capacity, including a large group of elders. We are thankful for the beautiful spirit we shared.

The service was opened with congregational singing led by Bro. Ken Jones and Bro. Reno Bologna opened in prayer. Presiding Elder Bob McDonnell opened with a few remarks and introduced all the visiting elders. The service was led by Bro. Dominic Thomas. His opening comments were of our brothers and sisters of years gone by and making reference to Acts, second chapter. He told us how God blessed the saints in the early church.

Bro. Paul Palmieri followed along the same lines of the subject,

and Bro. Reno Bologna summed it all up. Later in the meeting we heard some solos sung by Bro. Jim Lovalvo and Sis. Lori Capone. After the meeting we had a wonderful lunch which was prepared by our sisters. The members were blessed with God's goodness and love. May God bless each and every one.

### Riverside, CA Branch

*By Ken Jones*

The year 1991 was a good year for the Riverside Mission. A few years ago our building was badly burned, but thanks to Bro. Harry Marshall and a few other brothers, we were able to move back into the building. God has blessed us with much unity. During the year many things happened to strengthen us even more. We have been busy with yard sales and other types of fundraisers. In August we had a very successful Luau, which brought many visitors from other branches in our district.

The following week our building was filled again to capacity as three brothers were ordained teachers. Bro. Rudy Carrillo, Bro. Roy Verstraete, and Bro. Randy Lee. These brothers had their feet washed by Bro. Paul Gray, Bro. David Areola, and Bro. Mark Coppa. They were ordained by Bro. Luis Pacheco, Bro. John DiBattista, and Bro. Anthony Cardinali. Bro. Luis Pacheco spoke about letting the Spirit of God work within us, and many songs were sung by our brothers and sisters from Mexico.

While the Lord's table was being set, a brother from Tijuana played *Because He Lives* on the violin. The meeting was opened for testimony. Bro. Randy Lee spoke about the miracles he has seen and God changing his life. Bro. Rudy spoke of the commitment in his life for The Church of Jesus Christ. He also praised God for the Spirit he received that day. Bro. Roy spoke to us about the blessings of God and told us how God has molded and changed him over the past eleven years in the gospel.

**(Continued on Page 8)**



**RIVERSIDE continued . . .**

Sis. Bennie Jones related a vision. She told us that as the brothers went forth for feet washing, she saw three personages come into the room. They were the Three Nephites. One knelt down before the first brother and began to wash his feet. As she looked up she saw Jesus Christ standing in front of the personage and beside the brother. He was holding a white towel and looked very pleased. The prayer was very powerful. This same sequence took place for all three brothers. While the three brothers were being anointed, each minister placed the oil upon each brother's head and began to pray. Sis. Bennie saw Jesus standing beside him with one hand under the minister's hand, with the other hand stretched toward heaven praying. The Spirit of God was so strong and the prayer so powerful, that at the end of each prayer each brother jumped to his feet and shouted, "Praise the Lord" as he embraced the minister who prayed for him.

Sis. Sue Coppa related a vision. "After the brothers were ordained and gathered together, I saw three angels standing behind the ministry and the three brothers. The angels appeared as warriors ready for battle."

A few weeks later we suffered a little sorrow as our beloved Bro. Raymond Zamora passed away suddenly. He was a mighty warrior for the Riverside Mission, and his teachings will always be with us.

At the men's retreat in the mountains, God's blessings were greatly upon us and touched many lives. Greg Larmore from our mission felt God calling him and answered the call. He was baptized the following Sunday in Riverside by Bro. Ken Jones. During the service the power of God continued to pour out blessings upon souls and three were reinstated into the church. They are Bro. Jose Sellez, Bro. David Metzger, and Sis. Cheryl Lavella. Sis. Cheryl has become very involved with the urban Indians in Riverside, and we are expecting great things to happen. May God's love continue to be with you is our prayer.

**Freehold, New Jersey**

*By Carl Huttenberger*

Once again, we have much to be thankful for in our branch. On January 5, 1992, we witnessed the ordinations of Bro. Mario Morales into the office of a deacon, and Sis. Olga Morales into the office of a deaconess. These are the first ordinations we've had among the Seed of Joseph in our branch, and a wonderful supportive spirit prevailed throughout the day. Visiting were Apostle Paul Benyola; District President, Bro. Leonard Benyola; and First Counselor, Bro. Philip Arcuri. We were blessed with visitors from Levittown, Pennsylvania; Metuchen, Edison, and Hopelawn, New Jersey.

Bro. Mario's feet were washed by Bro. John Huttenberger and he was ordained by Brother Paul Benyola. Sis. Olga Morales had her feet washed by Sis. Dottie Calabro and was ordained by Bro. Leonard Benyola. While they were being ordained, visions of a light surrounding and resting on Bro. Mario's and Sis. Olga's shoulders were seen by two sisters. The preaching and singing were seasoned by the Spirit of God. Many testified of experiences and good feelings they had about Bro. Mario and Sis. Olga. Many also mentioned how excited they were to see the Seed of Joseph begin to assume greater responsibilities in the Church and how someday soon, the Seed of Joseph will lead this Church in building the New Jerusalem on this land.

Sis. Olga Morales dreamed three days before her ordination that she was in a field. The Lord spoke to her and said, "There are only a few laborers but the soil is ready." The Lord also told her that she would plant, and in doing so, she would yield good fruit.

We were also thankful for yet another healing. The following day, Bro. Joseph Perri had undergone surgery to remove a tumor from his knee. The tumor was diagnosed in both the CT-scan and MRI tests, as well as inflamed and clogged veins in his leg. He was anointed on Sunday and many brothers and sisters said they had been praying for Bro. Joe because of this delicate opera-

tion. When the doctor performed surgery, he was amazed that there was no tumor present. The tumor had disappeared. Bro. Joe was healed. When Bro. Joe heard the good news, it brought tears of joy to his eyes and thankfulness to God in his heart, as well as to the hearts of many who heard the good news. God is so good! He is still the great physician and still performs miracles. Praise God for his love and power.

Pray for us as we continue to strive to do our best to work among the Seed of Joseph in our branch. ¡Dios los bendiga!

**A Special Sermon on Time**

*By Cathy Mulla*

A while back, on February 19, 1989, Bro. Reno Bologna and his wife Sis. Isabella visited the saints of Branch 3 in Sterling Heights, Michigan and presented a very special sermon that was extremely applicable to what we had been experiencing at that time. Though some time has passed, the words are quite applicable today.

Bro. Reno asked us to consider making the Gospel more meaningful in our lives. He cautioned us to be more aware of what was going on around us in relation to Christ. He mentioned that there is a timetable of the Lord. God operates by His system to inspire more vigor, self-assurance, and well-being in us.

Bro. Reno continued by reading from Luke 21. He indicated that the disciples underwent severe persecution. He explained the first and second dispensations of time. During the second dispensation, those who stood up for Christ would suffer persecutions. We have seen a demonstration of this during the time that the Emperor Nero reigned. We have already seen nations rise against other nations.

Bro. Reno cited several tragedies that have occurred throughout history. Attila the Hun raised up his sword, proclaiming that he was of the Lord. There were pestilence and tragedies during World Wars I and II. The sinking of the *Titanic* was a tragedy that did not have to happen. Bro.

Reno warned that the timetable is closing in on us, and we must be in there with the Lord. We must communicate effectively with God.

Bro. Reno mentioned that in this day, the time has come for the necessity of both husband and wife to work. This event has added a challenge to our existence. We now need to lay down a balance between our conscience and a knowledge of the world.

Bro. Reno noted that we have arrived at the prophesy of our Lord Jesus Christ. He referred to Revelation 16, wherein the seven last plagues are mentioned. Bro. Reno asked us to ponder how close we are to this on God's timetable. He asked us to consider the world around us today. We are now experiencing the dissipation of the ozone layer. This layer, generally 9 to 18 miles thick in the stratosphere, protects us from the ultraviolet rays of the sun. It essentially protects us against cancer and other diseases. Today, there are gases emitted from our air conditioning systems, corrosive materials from our automobiles, chlorinated pools, etc, that all act upon this ozone layer. Ultimately, in striving for the easy and comfortable life, there is a price to pay. The fires we build to keep ourselves warm in winter pollute the air we breathe. There is vast pollution of our oceans and Great Lakes. As it stands, the continuance of these practices paints a bleak picture.

Today, we need assurance, a closeness to God, and His guidance. Bro. Reno warned us to beware of our slackness in serving God. We need to grow closer to God and keep our eyes open to the disasters around us. He added that we need the assurance of God to walk on the water without doubting. He emphasized that the Lord is near if only we get near Him. We need to make time for fasting and prayer. We need to reach out to withstand the fervent elements of our lives.

Bro. Paul Whitton concluded that we cannot afford not to take time to pray, come to services, and support the various auxiliaries. If we put God first, all other things will come to us. If we start with God, He will provide and fulfill our needs for the day.

## MOTHERHOOD continued . . .

And her children said, "You will always walk with us, Mother, even when you have gone through the gates." And they stood and watched her as she went on alone, and the gates closed after her. And they said, "We can not see her, but she is still with us. A mother like ours is more than a memory. She is a living presence."

## GUATEMALA continued . . .

began embracing one another. For at least ten minutes everyone was walking around the room until they had greeted each person. There was such a strong spirit of unity and the pure love of God. All were touched including the children.

As we took our seats, Bro. Bernardo (Nayo) Ramirez related the following experience:

He had seen the Three Nephites enter the building and hold hands with the men just as Bro. Isidro had felt. Then he saw the sacrament cloth uncovered and the bread was broken and the wine was poured. Two angels descended and one had a crown in his hand. Bro. Nayo then saw a man standing in the corner. He was dressed in a tunic of many colors. One of the Nephites went to him and took him by the hand. He led him to the angel who was holding the crown. Then the angel placed the crown on the head of the man dressed in the tunic of many colors. As Bro. Nayo was relating this experience and first mentioned the angel descending with a crown, a voice spoke to Bro. Isidro saying, "This crown is for Joseph and today I will crown him."

The following week, on October 13, the *Prensa Libre*, a Guatemala newspaper, quoted the words of Rigoberta Menchu. She is the Guatemalan woman who organized the gathering of the Indian people in Guatemala. She said that she was recently in Mexico meeting with a few Indian Mayans. These are her words: "The recent eclipse of the sun constitutes a fortunate sign for

the Native Indians because our ancient writings speak of a period of darkness which is passing. The Mayan people are on a returning path."

We are holding strong to the promises of God and looking forward to many glorious things and a great work in the year 1992 for Joseph and for the Church. We are looking towards the LIGHT OF A NEW DAY.

## MESSAGE continued . . .

He would be with us, regardless of group size. He said, as recorded in Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." These words are heard many times in small congregations. It is the theme that keeps a few banded together.

### REACHING OUT

Reaching out to people in communities by going to nursing homes, hospitals, and other places obviously allows us to help people in need, while also giving living testimonies. Many times people are drawn to the Church by these efforts. We may not think of this as being missionary in nature, but it is.

In some instances, hospitality accorded by members, primarily by the sisters of the Church, has had positive drawing affects. Caring and sharing when families were in need or had problems have prompted others to get closer to God, and they were subsequently converted.

There are many practical illustrations which fall under the definitions, but what does it take to be a missionary? Desire and willingness to tell about Jesus are the basics. It may be difficult to express ourselves, but if we pray to God for assistance and liberty, He will supply them. The more we speak to others, the easier it becomes.

We can all be missionaries because, as we say in the Church, "We can all give our testimonies, with God's help."

## 1992 GMBA Campout Registration Form

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRIVAL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ # DAYS AT CAMP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ ORDAINED OFFICES: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN: \_\_\_\_\_ MEDICAL TRAINING: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR THOSE ARRIVING BY PLANE, LIST FLIGHT ARRIVAL DATE, TIME & FLIGHT NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name	Sex	Age	Dorm	Off Camp Motel	Will you be involved in (1)Sports (2)Crafts (3)Other

Will a crib be needed? \_\_\_\_\_ Interested in childcare? \_\_\_\_\_

List number of persons for each meal:

	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
BREAKFAST	NONE						
LUNCH	NONE						NONE
DINNER							NONE

List any dietary considerations: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Late Fee (if necessary) \$ 10.00

Total Registration \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration forms must be received on or before June 1, 1992 to avoid a \$10.00 late Fee.

Please make checks payable to GMBA Campout '92, and mail with completed form to:

Len & Mary Benyola  
8 Sheephill Circle  
Branchburg, NJ 08876

## Campout '92

The 25th Annual GMBA Campout will be held at the Life Enrichment Center in Leesburg, Florida from 1:00 p.m. Saturday, June 20 to 11:00 a.m. Friday, June 26, 1992. Camp fees (including meals and lodging) are \$32.50 per day for adults (\$195 for the week), \$16.00 per day (\$95.00 for the week) for children 10-14 years old staying in their parents' room (you provide the bedding), and \$8.50 per day for children aged 3-9 (\$50 for the week). Children 10-14 years old rooming separately from their parents pay the full adult fee of \$32.50 per day.

RV sites are available at the

camp. Hook-up fee is \$12.00 per day per vehicle.

For those lodging at nearby motels and taking meals at camp, fees are \$17 per day for people 10 years of age and older and \$10 per day for children aged 3-9 years.

There are no fees for children aged 2 and under.

All camp facilities are air conditioned.

Detailed information regarding camp location, accommodations, etc. is printed in Campout Registration Forms available in your branch or mission.

The theme for this year's Campout is "The Family of God." Come join us for our "Family Reunion." We anticipate an out-

pouring of the Spirit as we, the family of God, unite!

## DIRECTORY UPDATE

Tina Sechrist  
1120 East Balboa Blvd.  
Newport Beach, CA 92661  
Tel. (714) 675-5670

Oscar & Lisa Lopez  
1308 NW 125 Terrace  
Sunrise, FL 33323  
Tel. (305) 846-9638

Andrew & Tonya Parravano  
141 Manzana Ct. NW Apt. 3-A  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
Tel. (616) 453-1761

## OBITUARY

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

### NICOLETTA LOMBARDO

Sister Nicoletta Lombardo passed on to her eternal reward on January 20, 1992. A member of Detroit Branch 1, she was born on January 2, 1907, and was baptized June 18, 1933, by Bro. Patsy DiBattista. She was ordained a deaconess on January 9, 1938, and fulfilled that office with all her heart.

The funeral service was conducted by Brothers Anthony Scolaro and Carl Frammolino.

Sister Nicoletta was wife to the late Bro. Antonio Lombardo; and the mother of two sons, Roland and Alma Paleno; and two daughters who preceded her in death, Sis. Joanne Frammolino and Sis. Elsie Marinetti. Our sister also left 16 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Our sister was a faithful member who endured many trials and hardships, yet gave the honor and glory to God for all things. She was loved by all who knew her and will be truly missed.

Lovalvo. Bro. Eugene Amormino accompanied on piano and organ, and a reading was presented by Maura Placido.

It was truly a beautiful day for all those in attendance. We pray that God's presence and Spirit will always follow Gary and Sue throughout their life together.

### OSTRANDER—BATALUCCO

On Saturday, December 28, 1991, Renee Lee Batalucco and Craig David Ostrander, Jr. were united in marriage.

The ceremony was led by Bro. Leonard A. Lovalvo, uncle of the bride. Bro. Anthony R. Lovalvo, grandfather of the bride, read the vows.

Musical selections were presented by Bro. Eugene Amormino on the piano and organ. Vocalist was Sis. Loretta Lovalvo.

The newlyweds will reside in Carlsbad, California. May God bless them on their journey through life together.

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### CARLINI—EZIKIAN

Brother Gary L. Carlini and Susan M. Ezikian were united in holy matrimony on August 16, 1991.

Brother Jim Cotellesse, uncle of the groom, joined the couple in marriage with Bro. John Straccia assisting in the ceremony. Musical selections were provided by Margaret Goz, Edward Aluk, and Sis. Loretta

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the indicated new members of their families.

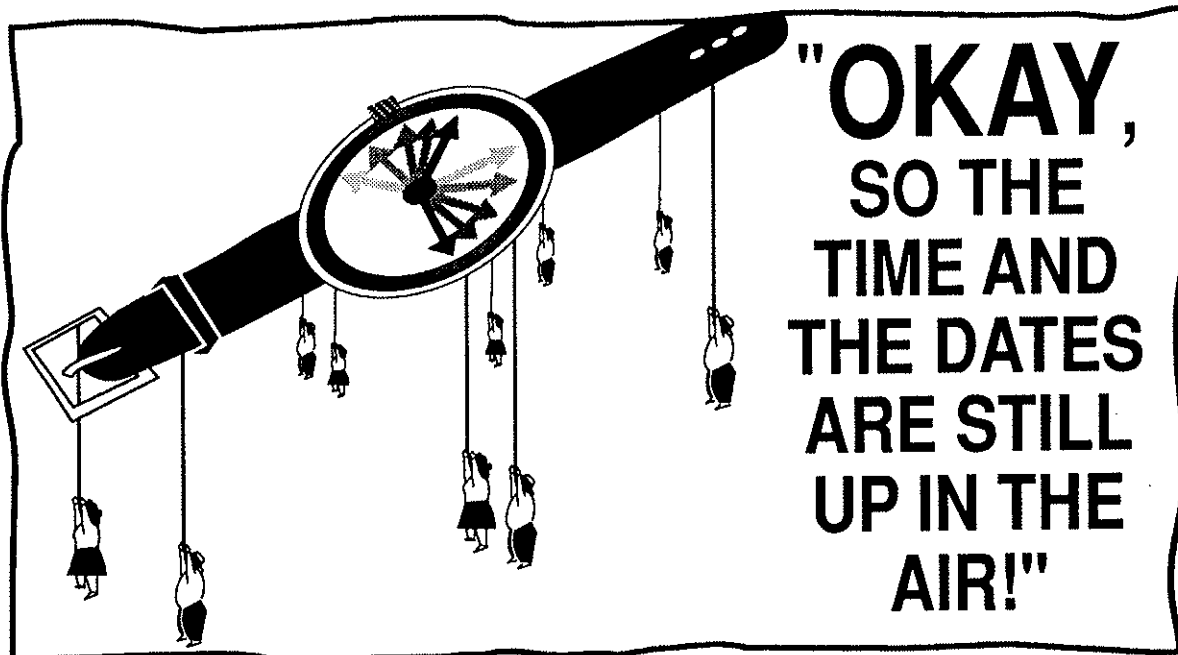
Andrea Michelle to Ted and Doreen Carrabia of Branch 3 in Sterling Heights, Michigan.

Anna Katya to Kirk and Sis. Terry Aichinger of Branch 3 in Sterling Heights, Michigan.

Giuseppe "Joey" Antonio to Bro. Kerry and Sis. Isolina Carlini of Branch 4 in Redford Township, Michigan.

Robert Davis to Bro. Bob and Sis. Patti Buffington of Imperial, Pennsylvania.

## New Arrivals



**-WE WANT YOU TO KNOW-**  
**We are sponsoring a Marriage**  
**Enrichment/Singles' Weekend Retreat**

GMBA AND GENERAL LADIES' UPLIFT CIRCLE

## Children Blessed

On November 25, 1990, Nicholas and Sarah Vitto were blessed by Bro. Frank Vitto.

On March 24, 1991, Jordan Lee Collison, Shelia Wesley, David Wesley, Valerie Wesley, Jacqueline

John, Marcia John, and Charlene John were blessed by Bro. Don Collison in Southampton, Ontario, Canada.

On March 31, 1991, Jordan Turley was blessed by Bro. Larry Henderson.

On May 12, 1991, Krystal Roy was blessed by Bro. Don Collison.

On October 13, 1991, Jamie Louise Clark was blessed by Bro. Bob Buffington in the Imperial, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Mary Rose Mancinelli was blessed on December 15, 1991 by Bro. Flip Palacios at the Detroit, Michigan Inner City Branch.

Meghan Elizabeth Coppa was blessed in Branch 3, Sterling Heights, Michigan at our annual Christmas program. Her parents are Dennis and Marie Coppa, and she is the granddaughter of Bro. Mario and Sis. Mary Coppa. The blessing upon her was asked by Bro. Gary Coppa.

On January 19, 1992, Derek Scott Everett, son of Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy Everett, was blessed at Branch 1 in Roseville, Michigan by his father, Bro. Tom.

LyDia Ivonne Cunningham was blessed by Bro. Sam DiFalco on February 2, 1992 at the Inner City Branch.

On March 1, 1992, Stephanie Lee Ann Mitchell was blessed by her grandfather, Bro. Ralph Ciotti, in the McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania Branch.

## Address Change

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# The Gospel News

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

May, 1992

Volume 48, No. 5

## Muncey Mission Vacation Bible School

By Gary Coppa

The Muncey Mission in Ontario, Canada held its annual Vacation Bible School (VBS) during the week July 1 to July 5, 1991.

Prior to the VBS at Muncey, a letter went out to all the branches and missions in the Michigan-Ontario Area in March asking for volunteer helpers. Several months in advance, the Muncey Mission members held several fund-raising activities to provide the money needed to finance the VBS. A week

before the VBS, the Muncey Mission members passed out flyers by hand around the Muncey reservation.

The helpers began to arrive at the mission on the evening of Sunday, June 30th. There were brothers and sisters from as far away as Florida and North Carolina, as well as many brothers and sisters from the various

(Continued on Page 10)

## Pacific Coast Married Couples' Cruise

Our "voyage" took place from January 31 through February 2, 1992, on the Queen Mary, in Long Beach Harbor, California. Twenty-six couples spent the weekend aboard the ocean liner-turned-hotel for the 1992 Area MBA Couples' Retreat. The passengers began to board Friday night, enjoying dinner and fellowship.

Saturday morning we all met together for a workshop. Sister Carolyn Light, our coordinator, welcomed everyone and encouraged all to spend the weekend *retreating* from life's demands, and *refocusing* on their spouses. She also stated that those in attendance should enjoy *relaxation* and *romance*, so that they might leave *refreshed* at the end of the weekend.

Bro. Emmett Hood then led a group exercise in which the couples exchanged ideas and generated "The Ten Commandments of Marriage." A videotape followed, highlighting ways to maximize your marriage relationship magnifying the positive, and caring for each other. A lively discussion ensued, as the theme of Courtship after Marriage began to develop. The couples were then instructed to take a personal look at their relationships by privately responding to and discuss-

(Continued on Page 10)



Students and teachers of Muncey Vacation Bible School.



## 50th Anniversary

By Cathy Mulla

On Sunday, March 3, 1991, numerous visitors from throughout the Michigan-Ontario District gathered at Branch 3—Plumbrook in Sterling Heights, Michigan, in honor of Sis. Theresa Piacentino's fifty years of service to the Lord.

The service was opened in prayer offered by Bro. Paul Whitton. Bro. Paul Vitto from Branch 1 was visiting with his wife, Sis. Mary. At his request, the congregation sang *Precious Memories*. After briefly commenting that it is written that "Men shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord," Bro. Paul introduced the service by acknowledging Sis. Theresa's 50th spiritual birthday. He reflected back to his youth, recalling precious memories of his past. He noted that Sis. Theresa had been baptized while she was young. He stated that it is wonderful to know the Lord in our youth. When accepting Christ in our youth, we have made a blessed decision, thereby resulting in a blessed life. Knowing Christ in our youth is a joy that cannot be purchased or explained.

Bro. Paul expounded on how Christ came to this earth and gave His life so that mankind might have Joy beyond the grave. He stressed that there is nothing to compare to serving the Lord, and there is no way to fully explain the importance of serving the Lord. There is no comparison of life with God vs. a worldly life. People caught up with worldly possessions are never satisfied. There is nothing in this world that is worth satisfying us like the things of the Lord. Bro. Paul emphasized the importance of making a decision to join the family of God. He then read from Luke 22:31, wherein Christ warns Simon Peter that "Satan hath desired to have [him] (and all of us) that he may sift [him] as wheat." But, the Lord was on his side just as He is on our side, and He indicates this with His words "I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not." Peter was converted and became com-

pletely devoted to Christ, even though he could not understand the Lord's death and resurrection at that time.

Bro. Paul expounded further on the character of Peter. He indicated that Peter was a hesitant man at times, but was often quick to say what he felt. He felt he had more strength than the other eleven disciples. Likewise, as human beings, we are prone to feel confident to the point of feeling that nothing can misdirect us. We tend to draw our strength from ourselves. Peter felt that strength within him. He was going to follow Christ unto death, but he denied Him three times. Bro. Paul posed the following question to us: "Was Peter entirely converted?" He witnessed the miracles and teachings of Christ, yet he still denied Him.

The Lord warned Peter in Luke, but Peter could not understand the importance of Christ's death and resurrection. Bro. Paul indicated that the Lord knew what Peter was made of, and He knows our make-up too. Peter underwent a test he had no understanding about. He was tested beyond his strength. Sometimes, we too, have to undergo tests we cannot understand or imagine and we wonder why.

Bro. Paul pointed out that if we truly love the Lord, we would be willing to suffer and bear the consequences in our service to Him. Many times we stand alone in this trial, just as Christ stood alone before His persecutors. He was the Son of God and knew the mission for which He had come.

Bro. Paul noted that after 3½ years, Peter was not quite converted. He was not the person that he could have been. He wanted to be just part of the crowd. As children of God, we must stand alone. Like Peter, we sometimes long to blend in with the crowd, however, we must be separate from the world. When we accept Christ and dedicate ourselves to Him, we often stand alone. In Luke we see that Christ prayed for Peter. And He intercedes for us also. Bro. Paul stressed that we have to be the kind of a brother and sister that serves God on a one-to-one basis. We stand alone before the presence

of God, but we must make sure that we are on His side. After all, we have a blessed assurance that God is always with us in good times and in bad. With God, we are winners, spiritually. Bro. Paul added that serving the Lord is a joy. Walking with Him, serving Him, and loving Him is a wonderful feeling in our lives.

Sis. Mary Vitto had the honor of pinning her natural sister, Sis. Theresa, with a corsage in honor of her fifty years of service to God. Bro. Pete Capone then commented on how achieving fifty years in the service of our Lord and Savior is a great accomplishment. It is a milestone to serve God this many years, and then to continue to serve Him beyond that time. He noted that there is a difference when we dedicate our lives to God. Many times we fall short, whereby we cannot do the things we would like to do, but we still have a desire to do the things that are right and pleasing to God.

Bro. Pete then presented a brief synopsis of Sis. Theresa's spiritual life. She was baptized on March 2, 1941 and was ordained a deaconess on April 4, 1982. Through God's strength, she has remained steadfast unto her calling. She has also been a good friend and helper to those in need. Our prayer is that God's Spirit will remain with Sis. Theresa the remainder of her days here on earth.

Bro. Pete added that we must remember that when we are in the service of our fellow man, we are in the service of God. Our reward is the same whether we come in at the eleventh hour or the first hour. Our responsibility is to serve God to the best of our ability.

The congregation then had the opportunity to witness the blessing of a little baby girl, so precious in the eyes of the Lord. Bro. Pete had the honor of blessing Andrea Michelle Carrabia alongside her parents, Ted and Doreen.

Afterward, Bro. Joe Furnari made a few closing remarks. He further expounded on the character of Peter. Peter was a man of faith who was quick to act and often impulsive. This was demonstrated by

(Continued on Page 10)

## Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers, Sisters, and Friends,

I have been procrastinating getting this note written; thinking perhaps it would be better to wait until my experience with cancer treatments is over. But then tonight, it occurred to me that there is no better time than the present, because that is all we have.

These words come to thank God for, acknowledge, and thank all of you for your prayers, calls, and cards. As most of you know, I was diagnosed as having breast cancer in April of 1991. Since then, I have undergone three surgeries and many emotionally debilitating doctor visits, faced mortality head-on, undergone months of intensive chemotherapy, and grown closer to God through all of this. I would never have been able to face my reality as peacefully were it not for your constant prayers and Jesus' loving hands upon me. He has certainly been my Physician, Psychologist, Mentor, Healer, and Friend. It was because of His prompting me in a personal experience that I knew something was wrong and went for the original check-up.

It was devastating to learn that I had cancer, and I was particularly sorrowful to have to put my wonderful husband, Marty, and equally wonderful family through such worry and concern. Along with myself, God blessed each one of them personally, and we are all closer to God in a meaningful, purposeful way.

Because of the severe risk factor involved with someone like me, I must continue on the path to total recovery, continuing in chemotherapy treatments for 33 to 66 weeks. One prayer of mine is that I will receive word that my treatments will end after 33 weeks. But then I change my thought completely and convincingly know that if it is 66 weeks, I will easily, happily, and peacefully accept that as God's will for me now.

I never imagined that a prognosis like mine could actually turn into the precious gift that it has been, but it is true. My experience

with cancer has changed my life. It has changed my way of thinking. It has enhanced my service to God. I am thankful that I am given the breath of life each day, so that somehow, I may attempt to shine the Light of Jesus on others.

Because I am still susceptible to many germs that little people carry, my doctor has prohibited me from working in any capacity with children (which is my love—afflicted or mentally or physically abused children) until my treatment is completed. This was disappointing, but I have accepted it as God's will. I am patiently waiting until there is something that I can do with Marty to affect the lives of the children.

Your prayers and love and support during our trial means more than words could ever adequately express. I would just want you to know that I remember each of you in my daily prayers and meditations with faith that God hears and answers these prayers on your behalf.

I sincerely, in Jesus' name, thank you for your prayers. May God continue to shine His Light upon each and every one of you is my constant prayer.

Sister Debra Persico Coyne  
Hollywood, Florida

## 50 Years in the Gospel

*By Becky Tarbuk*

Bro. Jim and Sis. Eva Moore were baptized on the eve of Christmas, 1941. Sis. Eva has always said they were not looking for Santa Claus that night; they were looking for peace in their home.

They met the Church through Sister Dorothy Ondrasik. Her testimony about this True Gospel aroused a curiosity within them and they began attending The Church of Jesus Christ. Sister Eva's mother, Katherine Ridosh, was baptized first, and always referred to this Church as the beautiful, beautiful Gospel. Soon afterward, Bro. Jim came home from work one night

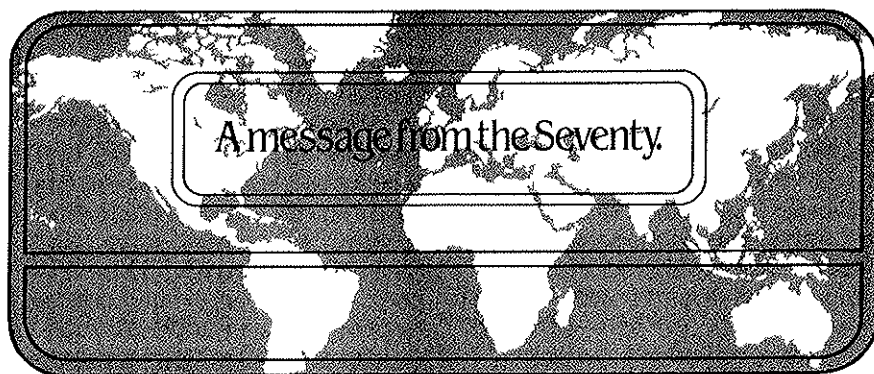
and said, "Hurry dinner, tonight I am going to ask for my baptism." They were baptized together that Christmas Eve.

Sister Eva was raised in another faith and testified that she seemed to know more about Mary than Christ. After coming into this Church, she desired to see her Savior and earnestly prayed that way. After a period of about six months, Jesus stood before her in a dream. She knew him immediately and was able to look into his eyes. She cried out, "Jesus!" Bro. Jim awakened her and she told him, "I just saw Jesus." She said she would never forget his eyes. In them was every good thing: Love, Peace, Mercy, Compassion. She fell asleep and again a man appeared before her, but she did not recognize him. He said, "I am Moroni." She exclaimed, "Yes, yes, Moroni!" Again Bro. Jim awakened her and she told him, "I just saw the Angel Moroni." (You see, Jesus showed Himself to her and granted that desire, but at the same time introduced to her this Restored Gospel, rooting and grounding them in this Church.)

As Bro. Jim lay there the same hour of the night, he thought, "How wonderful!" He lay there thinking as she went back to sleep, "I wish I could see something like that." Then, like a shadow under the sun that runs along the earth, he saw a man come before him. Bro. Jim does not believe he was asleep; he saw this so plainly. As this man stood there, Bro. Jim



Sis. Eva and Bro. Jim Moore.



## New Evangelist Recommended; Review, Reports Presented

*By Carl J. Frammolino, Evangelist Editor*

The General Quorum of Seventy Evangelists, which met at the World Conference Center in Greensburg, PA on April 9, recommended Brother Barry Mazzeo of Arizona for the office of an evangelist. He was then approved for this ordination by the General Church Conference.

Brother Mazzeo has been an elder for about 14 years. He has been very active in the Southwest District in home missionary work, and he has worked diligently with the Seed of Joseph.

As the brothers welcomed Brother Barry's calling, they were saddened by the recent passing of Evangelists Allen Henderson of Ontario, Canada and Giuseppe Buonofiglio of Italy, who went on to their eternal rewards this January 26 and March 3, respectively. Their labors in the Vineyard of the Lord were noted by Quorum President Isaac Smith.

### SIX MONTHS REVIEW

At the beginning, Brother Smith observed that the past six months had gone by quickly, and he reviewed some events which had occurred during this time. He pointed out that four brothers—Joseph Calabrese, Paul Palmieri, Phil Jackson, and Brian Martorana—had traveled to India around the beginning of the year, that Brothers Joseph Ross and Joseph Perri had just returned from Africa, and that

visits had been made to other mission fields.

He stated that many ongoing duties have been performed and will continue to be done. He also mentioned that, while in Ghana, Africa, Brothers Ross and Perri ordained Brother Ford K. Boadu an evangelist. This action had been approved by the last conference. Brother Wayne Martorana, who was ordained an evangelist last October 27, was in attendance at Greensburg and was greeted accordingly.

### MISSIONARY OPERATING COMMITTEE

The report from the Missionary Operating Committee detailed much work in the fields. Chairman Thomas Liberto described some of it, stipulating that it would be impossible to verbally cover all of the efforts in both the foreign and domestic areas. He acknowledged that the Seventies were responsible for the missionary activities of the Church, and explained that much of the content came from District evangelists, who are functioning with the District Missionary Operating Committees and on Foreign Committees. Many of the brothers gathered were in a position to supplement the information presented.

Brother Liberto stated that the two-year interface process which placed all missionary activities under the MOC is moving on

schedule, and should be completed this October, adding that procedures and organizational structures are being fine-tuned. Financial restrictions have been imposed by the reduction of the General Church Spending Plan, but Bro. Tom stated that the four subcommittees were creatively planning alternative methods to at least accomplish necessary tasks.

In going over the subcommittees' responsibilities, Brother Liberto highlighted their progress. These units are the Americas Missionary Operating Committee (AMOC), Foreign Missions Operating Committee (FMOC), Media Committee, and the General Development Committee. It was obvious from what was related that the Lord is with all those who labor for the Gospel. Many healings, experiences, and blessings are being received; and many inroads are being made. Sometimes the progress is immediately noticeable, while in other cases it takes more time.

There are resident elders in some places. In locations where no elder resides or lives nearby, either one elder or a team of brothers alternate going there to hold services. The team concept is prevalent in districts where some travel distance is involved and a rotation schedule must be maintained for continuity.

In foreign missions, it is impossible to go frequently, so

**(Continued on Page 11)**

## Evangelist Giuseppe Buonofiglio Passes On

Brother Giuseppe Buonofiglio passed from this life on March 3, 1992 in Italy. An evangelist in that country since October 30, 1960, he was the eighth ranking active Quorum member in years of service at the time of his death. He had been ordained an elder on November 20, 1949.

He was a loyal worker for the Gospel, and he will be missed. Brother Buonofiglio was extremely well known in his area of San Demetrio, Corona, Province of Cosenza, Calabria, Italy.

## The Gospel News

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Anthony J. Scolaro  
20 Byrd Ave.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

**ASSISTANT EDITOR**  
Leonard A. Lovaivo  
5085 Schneider  
Manchester, MI 48158

**CONSULTANTS**  
Nephi DeMercurio  
Peter A. Scolaro

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Cathy Gentile

**GMBA EDITOR**  
Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

**GENERAL CIRCLE EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

### DISTRICT EDITORS

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Lisa Champine  
47025 Hennings Dr.  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48045

**OHIO**  
Mark Naro  
4425 Broadway  
Lorain, OH 44055

**PACIFIC COAST**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
24268 Robie Ct.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Lucetta Scaglione  
303 Union St.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

**SOUTHEAST**  
James G. Speck  
3710 Player Dr.  
New Port Richey, FL 34655

**SOUTHWEST**  
Frances J. Capone  
8725 E. Hubbell  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

THE GOSPEL NEWS (USPS #223-480) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by The Church of Jesus Christ PRINT HOUSE, 8282 Boettner Rd., Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030, 313-429-5080. Second class postage paid at Saline, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE GOSPEL NEWS BUSINESS OFFICE, P.O. BOX 30, BRIDGEWATER, MI 48115-0030.

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

Branches and missions of The Church of Jesus Christ have been traditionally established and built wherever and whenever a group of brothers and sisters grew too large to meet in the home or storefront they had been gathering in. In many cases, most of the members lived within a few blocks of each other and the church building. They would gather there two or three times a week, and visit one another's homes frequently in between. Their desire to frequently gather was reinforced and strengthened by the fellowship they enjoyed and the blessings they experienced when they were together.

An article from North Carolina in this month's issue caused me to reflect upon how things have changed over the years. Unlike the branches that sprang up where a couple of missionaries had planted the seed in a new field, the saints of the Carolina Mission—along with numerous others scattered throughout the land—have many miles separating them from each other, and are far removed from those of us who live close enough to congregate in larger groups.

While they're unable to meet twice a week, the brothers and sisters of the Carolina Mission have found a way to meet together as often as possible, enjoying one another's fellowship and the Lord's blessings abundantly on the one weekend each month that they make the journey to meet together in the house of God.

We would like to see our existing buildings filled to capacity with worshippers, but the Book of Mormon teaches us otherwise about the Church in the last days: ". . . [I]ts numbers were few, . . . nevertheless, I beheld that 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).

This scripture paints a picture of many tiny lights scattered over the map, rather than a few large, solid patches of light on a blank field. If this prophecy comes to pass (and we know it will), we are sure to see more and more "outposts" of the Church—small handfuls of members dispersed throughout the land. Like the Carolina Mission, we will have to learn to deal creatively with problems like how and where to meet together when we live farther away from each other than we once did.

The enemy of our souls will go to great lengths to divide and conquer God's true followers. Denying ourselves of the fellowship and unity we experience as a group is a sure way to lose spiritual ground, yet the fact that fewer of us live close to church makes meeting together seem more difficult than it once was. As individuals, as missions and branches, as districts, and as a Church, our desire should be to meet as often as we can. Regardless of our ability to gather, however, we all need a steady diet of spiritual food. We must each set aside time in our daily lives to read and study God's word, to pray, to praise the Lord, and draw closer to Him.

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock

## Only Believe

Dear Boys and Girls,

Did you know that the way you think about yourself—those really down-deep things you tell yourself—is very important? The things you tell yourself are also very powerful.

Over and over in the New Testament, Jesus tells people, "Only believe." Believe He loves us so deeply and died for our sins. Believe that all things are possible if we only believe. Believe that we can give up our sins and bitterness and experience love and happiness.

Sometimes I hear people talking to themselves when they make a mistake. I'll hear them holler at themselves and even call themselves "stupid" or "dumb."

They aren't. They are only human. Humans make lots of mistakes as they learn. If a baby was afraid of looking stupid when he fell, and he quit trying, we'd have a world full of crawling people.

When babies see something they really want, they will reach for it, crawl for it, and pull themselves up and climb for it. When they fall, they still believe they can get it, and, full of hope, they keep trying.

They don't say, "No, I'll look stupid if I fall down; I'd better not try." They don't think, "I'm dumb, I'll just give up" and sit there all day. They believe, and they hope and they don't worry about how they look.

A famous American Indian athlete named Jim Thorpe was someone who knew about thinking good thoughts. Jim was picked to go to the Olympics in 1912. In

those days, people spent weeks traveling across the ocean in huge ships.

On Jim's ship, his coaches set up practice areas. That way the athlete could practice often. One afternoon the coach noticed this strong man sitting quietly on the deck with his eyes shut. There was a look of quiet concentration on his face.

The coach asked Jim over and over again why he wasn't up and practicing. Why was he sitting there?

Jim told him, "I am practicing. In my mind I see myself winning." He pictured himself in each sport moving and winning. And he did win. He won all sorts of medals, and was chosen as the greatest all-round athlete and football player of the first half of the 20th Century. He won because he was a great athlete who thought good things about himself—in his mind.

That's how the Lord wants us to be: full of hope like a trusting baby and willing, way down deep, to try and keep trying.

And when we make mistakes or sin, we can ask Jesus to help us and forgive us and make us clean and full of hope deep inside. "All things are possible, if we only believe."

### WORD SEARCH

ONLY	TRUST
BELIEVE	GOD
FEAR	DEMONSTRATE
NOT	HOPE
JESUS	THERE
CARES	IS



FOR	POWER
US	IN
EACH	OUR
THINK	BELIEFS
GOOD	POSSIBLE
THOUGHTS	MARK
EVERY	NINE
MOMENT	TWENTY—THREE

E	T	A	R	T	S	N	O	M	E	D	C	J
N	T	H	E	R	E	J	E	S	U	B	A	E
D	E	M	O	U	E	H	T	U	E	V	R	E
E	S	H	P	S	N	T	H	L	A	D	E	R
L	F	E	K	T	I	N	I	G	C	A	S	H
B	E	R	R	M	N	E	N	O	H	R	T	T
I	I	G	A	J	V	M	K	D	O	E	H	Y
S	L	O	M	E	F	O	R	Y	P	W	G	T
S	E	O	Y	S	F	M	R	B	E	O	U	N
O	B	L	H	U	I	E	R	U	O	P	O	E
P	N	O	T	S	V	N	W	D	W	T	H	W
O	N	L	Y	E	V	E	I	L	E	B	T	T

## Coat of Armor

Put your coat of armor on,  
Fasten it with prayer.  
Wear it daily, saints of God,  
Satan's always there.  
Prepare yourself for battle,  
Do not fear the fray,  
Jesus is our Leader,  
He will point the way.

Onward, ever onward  
To the Foe's defeat.  
Lay your cares on Jesus,  
Cast them at His feet.  
Faithful is the warrior  
Who fights and never stops  
Until he's taken every hill  
And reached the mountain top.

Weary souls are waiting  
To hear the blessed word.  
They need to know of Jesus,  
There are lessons to be learned.  
We must bring the message,  
The time is now at hand  
To bring the Gospel to them  
And claim the promised land.

By Sis. Terri Bravo

## Our Women Today

### Pennsylvania Area Circle Retreat

*By Mary Tamburrino*

The Pennsylvania Ladies' Circle Retreat was held at the Days Inn in Butler, Pennsylvania on March 28, 1992. Approximately sixty people registered. There were visitors from Florida, Levittown and Maryland. The Imperial Circle began the day with a program on "Following God." They read the Scriptures and sang songs on *Life* from the Baby stage to Mother and Father stage.

Sister Jan Cornell, chairperson, then welcomed everyone and the roll call of officers was taken. The minutes of the last Area business meeting was read, and the reports of the Circles were given. The Flea Market held in Vanderbilt was a huge success. Note pads were sold and a profit of \$214.00 was made. The new project will be to sell 1993 calendars and note pads. A Mother and Daughter Banquet was scheduled in Aliquippa for May 9, 1992. Funds were donated to the District

Missionary Board and to the Elkins, WV radio broadcasting. The next Area meeting will be held in Imperial on November 7, 1992.

Sister Martha Buffington was in charge of the seminar. The group was divided into fours: 1) Flowers—those over 60 years of age; 2) Fruit—mothers of teen-agers; 3) Lambs—single members; and 4) Bunnies—mothers of children. The consensus of all four groups was that there should be more prayer for guidance in our lives.

The evening meeting was spent in group singing and testimonies. Also a video on the missionary work in the Church was shown. Sisters Carolyn Jumper and Denise Gula had everyone's attention as they demonstrated a few beautiful crafts that can be made at minimum cost and sold for a profit to help the Church financially.

Brothers Carl Frammolino and Charles Jumper were the elders that officiated at the Sunday service. The Scripture was read from the Bible—Proverbs 31—about the virtuous woman. There was singing and testimonies and also a special prayer was had for Sister Lana Fallavolitti Anspacker. Sacramento was then served. The brothers that were present honored the sisters by singing *At the Cross*.

A standing vote of thanks was given to all those that worked so hard to make the weekend a success.

We must continue God's work in the Church. Never retire, never quit.

### Pacific Coast Area Conference

*By Linda Reynolds*

The Pacific Coast Area Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference was held on March 14, 1992 at the Simi Valley Branch. This was the first conference that was held in the new building.

Sweet rolls and coffee were served before Sister Carrie Jankowski, the area president, began the business. Sister Linda Reynolds opened in prayer and there was a season of singing the *Songs of Zion*. Sister Carrie made the business session very pleasant, and Sister Sharon Church played beautiful musical selections throughout the entire day.

The Simi Valley Sisters served finger sandwiches and salads for

(Continued on Page 11)

## MBA Highlights

### McKees Rocks, PA MBA

*By Carol Monaghan*

On October 22, 1991, our MBA meeting was turned over to Sis. Dorothy Schaeffer, who was visiting us with a few sisters from Monongahela, to give us a presentation on HOINA. It was a blessing to see the work and dedication of those who have given their time and love to help further the work of the Lord.

On two consecutive MBA nights we watched videos of various baptisms over the past few years. What a joy to relive these beautiful

memories, and to be reminded of the day the Lord touched our own hearts and made us a part of His beautiful Church.

On January 21, 1992, we saw a presentation by the Missionary Foundation Committee of the mission fields throughout the world. It was a joy to see the faces of our brothers and sisters and children from the Church established throughout the world and to know we share the same love, spirit and purpose in serving our Lord Jesus Christ.

On February 4, 1992, our MBA was privileged to have visiting Bro. Frank Ciotti and his wife, Sis. Shari, who is one of the founders of IMA. Bro. Frank related many beautiful experiences and revelations from God concerning the work and Power of God among the Seed

of Joseph in Guatemala. We are grateful to God for those who have been called and have dedicated their lives to bring the Gospel to all people.

### Pacific Coast Area MBA Campout

The Pacific Coast Area MBA is holding its annual Campout this year from June 30 to July 5, 1992. For further information and registration forms contact:

Paul Vinsick  
1905 Aloha Way  
Modesto, CA 95350  
Tel. (209) 523-8211



## Branch and Mission News

### News from Carolina

*By Margaret Iorio*

What a beautiful day we had in our Carolina mission on February 16, 1992. Our blessings began in our Bible class, where everyone took part in the discussion. Afterward, Presiding Elder Jon Molinat welcomed all. Our building was full this morning, and we had two visitors in our midst, Brother Sam Jackman's mother and Sister Suds Staley from Glassport, PA.

Brother Jon announced that not only would we have feet washing today, but there was also an ordination. After opening prayer, he read Matthew 12, a chapter on Faith. He then told a story of a young girl who brought home a stick and went to plant it in the ground. Her family told her that it wouldn't grow, but she went ahead and planted it anyway. She cultivated the soil around it, and never gave up on it. One day, she came running in to her mother, and said, "Oh, Mother, it has leaves!" The young tree had begun to grow.

The girl soon became ill, and the Lord took her home. She never got to see how beautiful the tree grew. Our Brother Jon said that we should be like that child, faithful and humble. The Lord will reward us.

Brother John Genaro followed, speaking on the same subject and exhorting us to become as small children in our faith. The meeting was then turned over to testimony. During this time, Brother Jon stated that at our business meeting, the Spirit of God came down and revealed to him that Brother Sam Jackman was called to the office of a deacon. He counseled with Bro. John Genaro about this, and he, too, felt the same way. Our Brother Sam is a very humble, kind, and caring brother.

Brother Bob Dyer, a teacher in our mission, washed Brother Sam's feet. Brother John spoke on the duties of a deacon, and then anointed Brother Sam into the of-

fice. It was a glorious time.

Everyone here loves our Bro. Sam.

We then all participated in feet washing. After the closing hymn, our meeting was brought to a close.

When we get together like this, it's like a small conference. About 10 or 12 of our brothers and sisters and their families live from one and a half to five hours away from the church building, all in different directions. We meet only once a month because of the distance we must travel. The rest, who live closer, meet every Sunday. Beginning in April, 1992, we've changed our monthly meetings to the first Sunday of the month, rather than the third Sunday. For meeting times and directions, you can call Bro. Jon Molinatto at 704-488-2661, or Bro. Bill LaRosa at 704-824-9358.

We do want to thank all who in some way helped make it possible for us to move from meeting in a home to a beautiful building of our own. Above all, we thank God.

### Baptism at Branch 3— Sterling Heights, MI

*By Cathy Mulla*

On Sunday, April 8, 1990, Sister Terry Aichinger of Branch 3 in Sterling Heights, Michigan asked for her baptism. All our hearts were filled with joy over Sis. Terry's decision to begin her life over in Christ.

On this day, which we had set aside for feet washing, the meeting commenced with a sermon presented by Bro. Peter H. Capone. He emphasized how God wants us to obey all of His commandments. He explained how Jesus set the example of feet washing by washing His disciples' feet. We, in turn, wash each other's feet to show our love and humility toward one another.

Bro. Pete related an experience had by some members of the Church in Phoenix, Arizona while on their way to church. Apparently,

their car had stalled and they prayed that God would start the car up again. It started again and the brothers and sisters began singing hymns. The louder they sang, the faster the car went. Bro. Pete stressed that our prayers are continuously answered.

Sis. Terry stood on her feet and asked for her baptism. All present this day could feel the Holy Spirit among us, even as we participated in feet washing. Sis. Terry was baptized later that afternoon by Bro. Pete. She was confirmed by Bro. Louis Vitto in an evening service, in which we were joined by members of Branch 1 and Sterling Heights. Sis. Terry expressed herself and told how she had such a great desire to be baptized. She saw her life as it was and became distraught. She prayed about this, and God showed her a different and better way of life. At that point, she decided to make the change for a life with Christ.

Afterwards, we fellowshiped with one another and shared our experiences. Everyone present truly experienced God's touch this day!

### Baptisms at Detroit Inner City

On Sunday, August 4, 1991, Angela Ciaravino and Ron Theismeyer became Sis. Angie and Bro. Ron, two more additions to God's family in The Church of Jesus Christ.

Sis. Angie was baptized by her grandfather, Bro. Gorie Ciaravino, an apostle of the Church. Immediately following Sis. Angie's baptism, Bro. Ron made his way to the river's shore where the ministry was gathered and made his desire known to be baptized. He was baptized by Bro. Gary Champine.

After the two baptisms, a young man named Tony Adams told a few people he was standing with that as Sis. Angie and Bro. Ron came out of the water he saw halos over their heads. Tony then told the ministry that he too wanted to be baptized but he requested they wait until his wife could come from Kentucky to witness it.

Back at church, Sis. Angie was confirmed by Bro. Tony Lovalvo, and Bro. Ron was confirmed by Bro. Kerry Carlini.

We then heard the testimonies of our new sister's family, in which everyone expressed their surprise and joy over her decision.

Bro. Gorie told of how on the morning that Sis. Angie asked for her baptism, he and his wife, Sis. Antoinette, had asked her if she wanted to go to Branch #4 with them, since her family would not be at the Inner City Branch that day. He then related her determination to attend church downtown.

Sis. Angie shared with us that she had such a strong desire to be downtown but could not explain it to her grandparents. She realized that her parents and even her sister would not be there with her, but she knew her spiritual family would be and that was all that mattered.

It happened that on the day Sis. Angie had an overwhelming desire to be downtown, the message was about giving your life to Christ. The unexplainable desire to be at the Inner City Branch was really the workings of God's Holy Spirit!

Sis. Angie's dad, Bro. Gordon, expressed his joy about his daughter's choice and his greater happiness that his dad, whose 80th birthday was in a matter of days, was able to witness one of his grandchildren make a commitment to serve God.

Bro. Ron Theismeyer expressed that he had been struggling over the decision to get baptized for a long time and on the morning of Sis. Angie's baptism felt a strong desire to ask for his, but pondered whether it was proper or not to ask at the water's edge.

On the way to the baptismal site, while thinking things through, his wife, Sis. Debbie, began sharing past Inner City baptismal experiences, one of which was about a sister who asked for her baptism at the river's shore and was baptized immediately.

That morning Bro. Ron took that experience as a confirmation and as Sis. Angie emerged from the waters, he seized the opportunity to ask for his baptism.

We thank God for the beautiful spirit that prevailed and we are

thankful for Sis. Angie and Bro. Ron. Our prayer is that God will continue to strengthen them.

## Ordination of a Teacher

By Cathy Mulla

Many brothers, sisters, friends and families gathered on November 18, 1990 to witness the ordination of Bro. Timothy Capone into the office of a teacher. After we sang *He Changed My Life Completely*, Bro. Paul Whitton opened the service in prayer. The congregation continued singing with *If You Would Labor in Zion*.

Bro. Peter H. Capone, Bro. Tim's father, initiated the service by reading scripture pertaining to the duties of a teacher. He emphasized how the Gospel means everything to us. It is our life. He expounded on the joy we have in serving Christ. This is a joy that the world does not know.

The hymn *The Sea So Great Lord, My Boat So Small* was presented by Bros. Andy and Dan, and Sisters Cindy and Carolyn Parravano, along with Andy's wife Tonya. The teachers in the congregation were then asked to express themselves if they so desired. Bro. Lyle Criscuolo revealed an experience he had had regarding Bro. Tim and his calling. They were boyhood chums and now fellow servants of the Lord. Bro. Jack Pontillo also related an experience he had had concerning Bro. Tim.

The ordination then took place. Bro. Ken Brown washed Bro. Tim's feet. Bro. Tim was then encircled with elders led in prayer by Bro. Pete Capone. Bro. Tim was ordained by Bro. Jack Pontillo.

Bro. Dan Parravano then spoke from I Corinthians 12:28. He cited teachers he grew up with who have been good examples to him and whom he would like to emulate, both naturally and spiritually.

He then reflected on the words of the hymn, *If You Would Labor in Zion*. He indicated that this song depicts what a servant of Christ in the position of a teacher should do. He referred to Alma 1, wherein Gideon stood up for the church until the very end of his life. He

demonstrated how much we should give of ourselves and showed us how far he was willing to go to serve the Lord.

Afterward, we participated in holy communion. Bro. Gary Coppa closed in prayer. Our prayers are with Bro. Tim as he strives to serve God and do His will.

## Ordinations in Anaheim, CA

December 1, 1991 was a blessed day at the Anaheim Branch. We ordained a brother and a sister into the special services of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Paul Gray was ordained an elder. Brothers Frank Ciotti, Otto Henderson, and Tom Liberto all spoke of the great responsibilities being placed on those who are called to serve Him in these special areas. Experiences pertaining to his calling were read. Some went back to 1982. Brother Paul came to know The Church of Jesus Christ through his girl friend (now his wife), Sister Kay Gray. She had invited him to come to Church with her. How blessed we all are because she asked him to attend Church with her.

Brother Paul's feet were washed by Brother Walt Jankowski, visiting with us from Denver, Colorado. The ministry gathered around our brother to pray for him, after which Brother Frank Ciotti laid hands upon him to confirm him into the office of an elder.

Brother Bob Sullivan sang, *For the Sake of the Call*. A calm, sweet, sacred spirit attended all those present that day.

We were visited by many brothers and sisters from many different branches in the Pacific Coast District and we had a wonderful lunch and time of fellowship with everyone after the service.

On this same day, Sister Gertie Alms was ordained a deaconess. She was welcomed to the work of the Lord.

She found The Church of Jesus Christ when she came to live with her daughter, Sister Bennie Jones. She had gone to church from her youth, in another denomination, but

(Continued on Page 10)

**ANAHEIM, CA continued . . .**

Sister Bennie told her, "In our house, you go to our Church." This is another invitation that we are praising God for. She had experiences herself that convinced her of The Book of Mormon, and she heard one of the *Songs of Zion* in an experience before she heard them in church. How great is our God!

Sis. Gertie's feet were washed by her daughter, Sister Bennie Jones, from the Riverside Mission. After prayer, she was ordained by the laying on of hands by Brother Ken Jones, her son-in-law.

Sister Nancy Ciotti had an experience to verify her calling into this office.

Musical selections were presented by Brother Bob Sullivan and Sister Lori Capone, who sang, *There's Strength in the Lord*. Lori sang, *We Are Standing on Holy Ground*, and truly we were.

**MUNCEY VBS continued . . .**

branches and missions throughout the Michigan-Ontario District. Some came for only a day, but most were able to stay for the whole week.

All of the members of the Muncey Mission participated and helped extensively throughout the week in various capacities: they taught classes, helped with the crafts, made and distributed the children's lunches, drove the bus and van to pick up the children and adults, ran errands and shopped for things needed, and fed and housed all of the volunteers from outside the Muncey area.

On the first day, Monday, we started with 49 children and 27 adults. By Thursday, we had 70 children and 30 adults! Friday, the day of the picnic, we ended up with 50 children and 35 adults.

A typical day at the VBS started with the adult teachers and helpers having a word of prayer at 9:00 a.m. in the church building while the bus and van left to pick up the children and some of the adults around the reserve. By 9:30 a.m., everyone gathered in the mission to open in prayer and sing songs. From 9:45 to 10:30 one of

two teachers of the childrens' classes would present a scripture lesson. At 10:30 to 11:20 the other teacher would present the Arts and Crafts lesson. Afterward, lunch was provided from 11:30 to 11:45. At 11:45 we all went back into the auditorium for singing and closing prayer at 12:00 noon. The children and some adults would then be taken home by bus or van. Each day the adults who were not busy with other VBS responsibilities had a scripture class with Brother Bob Dyer.

After the children left for the day, the clean up crew, led by Brother George Grosbeck, would take over while the teachers would get their lessons ready for the next day. In the afternoon the whole crew ate dinner in the church kitchen. The brothers and sisters of Muncey provided most of the cooking and all of the food. The rest of our free time was spent in visiting with each other, going on short field trips to local sights in the area, and running errands.

On Wednesday evening a meeting was held. Brother Rodney Dyer picked various VBS teachers by lot to give us a lesson on each of the nine Fruits of the Spirit, as mentioned in Galatians 5:22. After each of the nine persons presented their part of the lesson, a craft class was held to reinforce the lesson. Each person got to make a wall hanging in the form of a ribbon with wooden hearts attached to it. In the center of each heart everyone inscribed the nine Fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, and Temperance. Attendance was excellent, with many new persons attending who do not ordinarily attend the Muncey Mission services.

On Friday, there was a picnic for the children and adults at a local park with a wading pool, swings, slides and other recreational equipment. Everyone had an enjoyable time. Over 200 hot dogs were consumed!

By Saturday, many of the brothers and sisters from outside the Muncey area had to leave for home. Brother Rodney and Sister Judy Dyer sent them home after a great breakfast in their home.

Brother Kerry Carlini was able to stay for the Sunday service. It was a great success because so many people worked very hard in harmony together. The brothers and sisters of the Muncey Mission should be commended for all their effort. Above all, we thank God for His abundant blessings.

**COUPLES' CRUISE continued . . .**

ing a "State of Your Courtship" quiz. This led to a great deal of sharing within couples.

After lunch, the group was given ample time to relax and enjoy each other. Many took tours of the ship and nearby attractions, others found quiet places to talk, while others relaxed in their staterooms. We met after dinner to enjoy an evening of fun, games, and laughter.

Sunday morning Brother Stacey Light led us in a "wedding" sermon, which caused us to reflect on our own commitment to our spouses. He reminded us of the dreams and desires of the newlyweds that must be kept alive as we continue to grow together. Bro. Bob McDonnell followed on the theme of nurturing our relationships; keeping communication, interest, and romance alive in our marriages.

The couples were then given the opportunity to share openly. Couples who were married only a matter of months, as well as those who had been "courting" for almost half a century, expressed their love and devotion and thankfulness to God for bringing them together. We felt a special closeness in being part of the weekend, and departed with renewed commitment and a refreshed outlook.

**50th ANNIVERSARY continued...**

his desire to walk on the water to Christ. Bro. Joe remarked on how Christ said that He came to bear witness of the Truth. In lack of understanding, Pontius Pilate asked Christ "what is truth?" Bro. Joe reminded us that Christ gave His life for all those who believed in

Him. That is the Truth. To believe and serve God was Peter's mission and it remains ours today. Bro. Joe stressed that we are different from the world and we must stand up for Christ.

Sis. Theresa was then given the opportunity to express herself. She told of her heartfelt gratefulness to God for all of His blessings in her life. She expressed happiness in serving God and a desire for her children—Pat and Joe, and their families—to experience this great Joy. She was also grateful to share most of this time in the Church with her husband, Bro. Mike, who has served for more than fifty-five years. Through many hardships, God has always been there for her.

Bro. Pete dismissed the meeting in prayer, after which the congregation gathered for lunch and fellowship. The day was well spent and we were glad to be in the house of the Lord to receive His Word and His blessings. Praise God!

### 50 YEARS continued . . .

looked at him closely from his feet slowly up to his head. Bro. Jim said, "When I looked up at his eyes, he was looking right into mine. He was a man about six feet tall with real dark hair and he had on a dark brown suit of clothes." He spoke and said, "I am Moroni." Jim said, "Yes, God bless you," and reached out to shake his hand. Moroni stepped back. The Spirit revealed to Jim that he was not here to shake hands with him. Moroni told him to look, and he showed Jim a highway with a chalk line down the center. He said, "Do you see that line? That was your life up to here." Bro. Jim said the chalk line was crooked, and waved from one side to the other. He knew that was his life up until he met the Church. Then he told Bro. Jim, "Prepare yourself, you'll be called to be a teacher and then into the ministry."

It happened just that way. Later on Sis. Eva was also called to be a deaconess. They have been good examples in serving their brothers and sisters, friends, and

neighbors for many years.

They are pioneers of the Imperial, PA Branch and God has blessed them. Bro. Jim is now 91 and Sis. Eva is 78.

They have three children, Kathleen Slay, Arlene Buffington, and Jim Moore Jr., 15 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. They also celebrated 60 years of marriage in December 1991.

May God bless them in their continued service to Him.

### MESSAGE continued . . .

periodic trips are made. Wherever possible, resident missionaries are assigned; but, for the most part, once the activity starts and brothers from that field are ordained into the ministry, they carry on the work.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Perhaps unbeknownst to many, inquiries are received about The Church of Jesus Christ in writing and by telephone. The General Church Correspondent, presently Brother Richard Lawson, follows up on each one. Brother Liberto stated that 34 letters were written in the last six months of 1991 alone; and there is continuing correspondence over long periods of time in some instances. It should be noted that the large mission fields in Africa and India, for example, developed after initial correspondence.

The video presentation of the Church's missionary activities has been completed and is being viewed in all Districts. Produced jointly by the Missionary Foundation Committee and the MOC, it is being shown to make everyone aware of the vast scope of the endeavors. Brother Liberto pointed out that, unless one sees the work in action, he or she would find it difficult to realize what is being done. Not all locations could be shown, but, being familiar with the kinds of work pursued makes it easier to understand why everyone's support is needed.

The MFC is striving to make funds perpetually available for missionary work. At the presentation, viewers can ask any questions about

this objective or any other matters. Also, the MFC and/or the MOC can be contacted at any time. It was stressed that everyone should feel assured that any information they want is available for them to have.

It has really been wonderful how God truly directs those in the mission fields. It has really been enlightening to see how some congregations have grown manifold.

In total, reviewing how the Lord has allowed the Church to expand in different parts of the world was very uplifting. Knowing what has been achieved can give further insights into the ways to move on.

With God's direction and help, the work will go on!

### CONFERENCE continued . . .

lunch, along with some beautiful desserts. Brothers John Azzinaro, his son Bro. John V. Azzinaro, his grandsons Anthony and Chris Azzinaro, Paul Ford, Jim SCalise, and Chad Hood all helped in the kitchen so that the sisters could enjoy the meeting and fellowship.

In the afternoon the Riverside Circle sang, *My Lord Can*, and Sister Lisa Hemmings opened in prayer. The elected officers are:

President	—Lucy Decaro
1st V.P.	—Diane McDonnell
2nd V.P.	—Diana Koeth
Secretary	—Cheryl Lavelle
Asst. Sec'y.	—Francine Salyer
Treasurer	—Lydia Knowles
Fin. Sec'y.	—Vicki Van de Weghe
Photographer	—Linda Reynolds
Librarian	—Francine Salyer

Sister Carrie has been the president for the past four years and since has moved to Colorado, but she continued to fulfill her duty until the election of officers. Though we are sad to see her step down, we welcome Sister Lucy Decaro to the office of president.

Sister Norma Kennedy offered a special prayer for all those mentioned who needed prayer, and Sister Lori Capone sang, *I Asked the Lord*.

We thank the Lord for everything and we count our blessings each day.

## Children Blessed

Megan Marie Edwards was blessed by Bro. Chuck Maddox on May 12, 1991 at the Lake Worth, Florida Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

On the same day, Melony Ann Edwards was blessed by Bro. Ron Carradi at Lake Worth.

On October 13, 1991, Jamie Louise Clark was blessed by Bro. Bob Buffington in the Imperial, Pennsylvania Branch.

Bro. Frank Ciotti blessed Daniel Arliss Yarke on October 27, 1991 at the Anaheim, CA Branch.

Daniel James Severson was blessed on November 3, 1991 in the Miami, Florida Branch by Bro. George Kovacic.

On November 17, 1991, Alexis Lynne Jardine was blessed by Bro. Frank Ciotti in the Anaheim Branch.

Christopher Michael Cordova was blessed by Bro. Walt Jankowski in Anaheim the same day.

On November 24, 1991, Bro. Joe Ross blessed Michelle Lynn Warsing at the Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch.

Brother Paul Palmieri blessed Ryan Frederick D'Antonio at Aliquippa on February 16, 1992.

Jonathon Navarro-Alvardo was blessed on February 22, 1992 by Bro. Joseph Perri in the Freehold, New Jersey Branch.

On March 1, 1992, Bro. Jim Gibson blessed his great-granddaughter, Brooke Morgan Trimbath, at the Aliquippa, PA Branch.

Julie Lynn Bradshaw was blessed on March 29, 1992 in the Roscoe, Pennsylvania Branch by Bro. James Abbott.

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### HAUGH-HYLTON

Brother James C. Haugh and Sister Mechelle Hylton were united in holy matrimony on August 31, 1991 in Fort Myers, Florida.

Brother Milford Eutsey, Sr. officiated at the ceremony.

We wish God's richest blessings in their future life, spent together in love.

### NAVARRO-VALENCIA

On February 22, 1992, Brother Adrian Navarro-Alvardo and Laura Valencia-Gallardo were united in marriage at The Church of Jesus Christ in Freehold, New Jersey.

Brother Joseph Perri officiated at the ceremony, with Brother Juan Murillo interpreting into Spanish. Musical selections were sung by Sister April Murray and by a group of Spanish-speaking sisters.

The newlyweds will reside in Englishtown, NJ and will attend the Freehold, NJ Branch.

We pray for God's richest blessings upon our new couple, originally from Mexico, that God will bless them in their new life together.

## BAPTISMS

On April 25, 1990, Sister Bernice Richie was baptized and confirmed in Meaford, Ontario by Bro. Rick Elzby.

On July 22, 1990, Sister Marlene Wesley of Southampton, Ontario was baptized by Bro. Dick Lobzun and confirmed by Bro. Lou Vitto.

On April 28, 1991, Brothers Jack Stanek and Ron Roy were baptized in Windsor, Ontario. Bro. Jack was baptized by Bro. Bob Stanek and confirmed by Bro. Dick Lobzun. Bro. Ron was baptized by Bro. Don Collison and confirmed by Bro. Ken Wright.

On May 12, 1991, Sis. Kathy Vitto was baptized in Windsor, Ontario by Bro. Ken Wright and confirmed by Bro. Frank Vitto.

On May 19, 1991, Sis. Krysta Panchyshyn was baptized by Bro. Don Collison in Southampton, Ontario and confirmed by Bro. Tony Gerace.

On May 26, 1991, Sis. Pam (Collison) D'Alimonte was baptized by Bro. Don Collison and confirmed by Bro. Ken Wright in Windsor, Ontario.

On September 15, 1991, Bro. Jim Ritchie of Southampton, Ontario was baptized and confirmed by Bro. Ken Wright.

On March 8, 1992, Denise Marie Urso was baptized by Bro. Paul Ciotti and confirmed by Bro. William Colangelo. She is a member of the McKees Rocks, PA Branch.

### Address Change

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# The Gospel News

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

June, 1992

Volume 48, No. 6

## Ohio District Conference "Giving Praise to God"

By Mark Naro

Our Sunday meeting began on March 1, 1992, at the Youngstown, Ohio Branch. District President Phil Jackson opened the service with comments dedicating the service to giving praise to God. This dedication to God's praise was truly inspired, because in the service that followed, we shared dozens of experiences with one another of how the Lord has intervened in the lives of the saints.

Bro. Brian Martorana opened, complimenting the beautiful singing of the saints. He began speaking from Romans 12:1-2. Bro. Brian spoke of sacrifice: the sacrifice that we give to the Lord freely and in pure love. By doing so, we are telling the Lord that we love Him more than anything else in our lives.

In keeping with the theme of praising God, Bro. Brian spoke of the children of the saints and God's goodness and mercy in preserving their lives during World War II. He continued by commenting on the dedication in fasting and prayer

at the parents of those who went to war displayed. He spoke of Bro. Joe Genaro, who recently suffered a heart attack in a meeting, and how the saints in the Niles, Ohio Branch

immediately went into prayer. Bro. Brian told how Bro. Joe responded positively as a result of those prayers. In another instance, Bro. Brian had an experience concerning Bro. Phil Jackson. When Bro. Phil was near death, the Lord revealed to Bro. Brian that He would spare Bro. Phil's life.

Our brother spoke of the widow who fed Elijah with her last bit of flour and oil. The woman had told Elijah that she had enough to feed her son and herself. Elijah told her to feed him (Elijah) first, then serve her son and herself. Just as this woman had enough for one cake, we have only one life to give to God. We have our opportunity to please Him in this life; beyond this life it is too late to wish we had done more.

As a result of the woman making a sacrifice and giving Elijah her last bit of flour and oil, they never ran out. Her supply lasted for three years until the hardship in the land had passed. Truly there are blessings in putting God first, wholly and completely.

Later in the service, Bro. Jim and Sis. Sally Hufnagle related to the congregation how a year earlier they had been anointed, hoping to

have a child. After many tests and visits to the physicians, and through many other trials and setbacks, the Lord again came through. Shortly after the New Year began, the doctor confirmed Sis. Sally's pregnancy. God is truly good and merciful. We sang *There's Power in the Blood*, and Sis. Iva Davis related a vision that she had a year ago which confirmed that this was indeed through the power and goodness of God.

Bro. Bill Hufnagle then told a recent experience where he had lost his wallet, with all his money, credit cards, etc., at an extremely busy market. He failed to find it after searching, and went home downcast. The following Sunday in church, a voice spoke to him and told him twice to return to the market. He went back to where he had parked his car and, upon looking down and seeing a piece of newspaper, he kicked it with his foot and found his wallet lying beneath it, cash and credit cards untouched.

Bro. Phil Jackson related an experience in which Bro. Bill LaRosa of Gastonia, NC was sleeping and, upon hearing a knock on the door, rose from his bed and discovered his neighbor's house was on fire. Realizing the danger to his own home with a fire so nearby, Bro. Bill woke his family and was able to

(Continued on Page 10)



## Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We want to thank each one of you for your prayers, your love and concern, and all the phone calls and the many beautiful cards for my dear wife, Yolanda.

The Lord gave us 55 beautiful years together, for which I am grateful. I also want to thank my wonderful family, who stood by me in this trial.

Your prayers have brought us through this trial. We, the saints, have one beautiful vision, and hope that someday, if we prove faithful, we will be together again never to part no more. God bless every one of you.

Love in Christ,  
Brother Nick Pietrangelo  
and Family

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your expressions of sympathy since the passing of Brother Gerard "Jerry" Valenti. His death has shocked us all, and we will surely feel his loss for a long time to come. But be assured that all the cards and telephone calls we've received during this extremely trying time in our lives have touched our hearts and helped to lift our burden.

Knowing that there are so many people who care and are praying for us truly helps. Please continue to keep us in your prayers, as there are so many trials we must face.

Love in Christ,  
Sis. Fay, Sis. Tammy, Bro. Jerry,  
Sis. Pat, Leanna and Amanda Valenti

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to take this opportunity to give special thanks to all of you for your prayers, cards, flowers, visits, and telephone calls

during my three-week stay in the hospital.

I ask for your continued prayers during my recovery.

God Bless You All,  
Brother Joe Castelli  
Sterling Heights, MI Branch

## Health Class

By Carolynn Gentile

Recently at Detroit Branch 2, a serious meeting of a different nature was held. Dan Griesbaum, who attends Detroit Branch 1 and is a health teacher at Grosse Pointe South High School, was asked by our presiding elder, Bro. Leonard Lovalvo, to come to the branch to discuss several important health issues. On February 29, 1992 he made a presentation to the parents and adults, and then, on March 14, 1992, he spoke to their children, friends, and young people from the ages of 13-24.

The first important issue discussed was AIDS and the HIV virus. Statistical information indicates that there are currently one million HIV-infected people in the United States, and that 20% of the people who have developed or died from AIDS were between the ages of 20 and 29, which indicates that they were most likely infected between the ages of 15 and 20. We discussed different ways this disease is transmitted, how to prevent an infection, and the many myths and questions regarding AIDS. During this evening's discussion, we discovered that only 10% of the young people in our class had previously had some type of sexual education class in school.

Teen pregnancy was also a topic of discussion, and we were told that one out of 10 teenage girls in the United States will become pregnant. This represents a higher rate than in any other country in the civilized world. We discussed sexually transmitted diseases, prevention, and treatment.

Alcoholism is also a major problem in today's world. Less than 10% of the 11 million alcoholics in

the United States today will ever acknowledge a problem with alcohol and receive help. We examined the signs of a developing problem with alcohol, and how it is a definite factor in 20% of all rapes where the victim was acquainted with the attacker.

Dan Griesbaum also spoke about cigarette smoking and the health advantages of not smoking. He admonished us to "never start," and to those who are presently smoking, to "quit now."

Some may question whether these problems or topics ought or need to be discussed in church. Some may possibly deny the existence of these problems in their families, and believe that by simply living a good healthy Christian life, we can shield our families from them. This is true to an extent; however, many teens and young adults will experiment with these activities at some point in their lives regardless of their upbringing. We certainly cannot deny that there are many people in this world that do not lead healthy Christian lifestyles. Since churches have influence second only to parents over young people, it is our obligation to make them aware of these issues and how to protect themselves from the consequences.

The biggest reason for the continuance of these problems is ignorance, and since sex education or alcohol awareness is not always taught in the schools, the responsibility falls on parents, families and friends. It is not always easy or comfortable for parents and their children to discuss these issues, but since these presentations were made in separate sessions, the young people felt less inhibited in asking questions. It was beneficial for everyone to participate in this program and to talk about these issues. It is difficult growing up and existing in this "crazy" world. Let's educate our families so they can make the right choices, and protect themselves from making tragic mistakes in their lives.

## Branch and Mission News

### Baptisms in Anaheim, CA

On August 11, 1991 Carla Reid was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at our place of baptism, The Colorado Lagoon, in Long Beach. She came to know the Church by an invitation from Brother Bob Abel. When she was attending the Church on Easter Sunday and feeling the Spirit of God, she prayed silently, "Lord, if this is your Church and this is where you want me to be, please let them sing *Amazing Grace* as a closing hymn.

Brother John DiBattista chose a song. However, Brother Ken Staley, visiting with us from Florida, said, "No, let's sing *Amazing Grace*, and we did. God had answered her prayer. She was baptized by Brother John DiBattista and was confirmed by Brother Frank Ciotti.

September 8, 1991 took us to the waters again to baptize Jessica Zorich, Sister Deby Abel's daughter. She was baptized by Brother Frank Ciotti and was confirmed into The Church of Jesus Christ by Brother John DiBattista.

It is always a blessing to see a soul make a commitment to serve the Lord, but it brings a special joy when that person is young and will have many years of blessings from God.

Jesus said, seek and you shall find. This is the testimony of Sister Patsy Frazier from Hayden Lake, Idaho:

"While sitting in a Quaker Church, trying to concentrate on the service, I felt distracted and was taken away in the spirit. I found myself standing by water and a person standing beside me said, 'Do you know what I want you to do?' I said, 'No' at first but then I said, 'Yes, I must be baptized.' I knew the Quaker Church did not believe in baptism. The personage said, 'I will send somebody and you will know him.' Several weeks later a minister came into our store and was telling us about baptizing people in Canada. I asked the Lord if

this was him. The Lord said 'No, I will send one.' "

Brother John and Sister Caryl DiBattista were made aware of some property in Washington by Sister Nancy Buck. She told them if they were interested to call her brother, who is Patsy's husband. They called him and he told Patsy they were coming and would be staying at their home. The Lord spoke and said, "This is the person that I will send. When the DiBattista's walked into the store on September 23, 1991, Patsy asked the Lord again, "Is this the person?" God reassured her, "This is the one." After much instruction and confirmations, Patsy was baptized in Hayden Lake, Idaho. Brother John laid hands on her for the reception of the Holy Ghost and administered sacrament to her there in her home.

Please pray for our new sister, who lives many miles from the saints.

### Baptisms in Imperial, PA

On December 8, 1991, we enjoyed a beautiful Sunday morning with our visitors from Aliquippa, Bro. Paul and Sis. Eleanor Palmieri along with Bro. Pete and Sis. Patti Giannetti. Many wonderful words were spoken about coming to Christ and the blessings and experiences that follow.

This day was made special when Dave and Kelly Cornell stood and asked for their baptisms. We gathered at the water's edge, where Bro. Bob Buffington baptized the young couple. What a beautiful sight to see them make this commitment together. We returned to the church where the laying on of hands for the reception of the Holy Ghost took place. Sis. Kelly was confirmed by Bro. Paul and Bro. Dave by Bro. Dan Buffington.

Given the opportunity to testify, Bro. Dave said that God has been so good to him in his life that he would like to serve Him. He also said that he wants to be there for

the brothers and sisters like they have been there for him. Sis. Kelly testified that she had been wanting to ask for her baptism for some time and today she just couldn't leave without making her wishes known. Their parents also testified of how grateful and blessed they were to witness this lovely occasion.

About two months before Dave's baptism, he had a dream where he was standing outside of his home with his briefcase in his hand. In the yard was a young dark-skinned boy. He said to Dave, "Keep the shade open for Israel, keep the shade open for Israel."

His mother explained to him, "Your natural job is important, but Israel is the work of the Church."

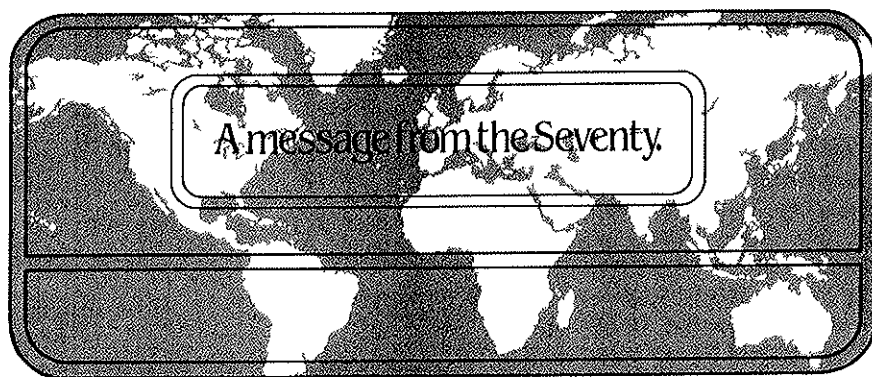
### Tampa, FL

The Tampa Branch has welcomed many new faces during the past three months, and we have also been blessed with visiting brothers and sisters from all districts of the Church. As we meet each week, there is a sense of great anticipation of what the Lord continues to have in store for us.

On December 1, 1991, Bro. Marty and Sis. Debbie Gonzalez brought their newborn twin sons to church for the first time. Jacob Alexander and Jordan Andrew were blessed by Bro. Ken Staley. Many relatives from both sides of the family were present for this special occasion, and our prayer is that these individuals might have the desire to worship with us again soon.

At the beginning of our Sunday service on January 12, 1992, several requested prayer for both physical and spiritual needs, and a very humble spirit prevailed. Later during testimony, Sis. Millie Cristello stood and praised God for the immediate relief she felt after being anointed for back pain. She expressed that it is very difficult for her to publicly bear her testimony, but she felt the overwhelming need to give the Lord all honor and glory for helping her this day.

(Continued on Page 7)



## Evangelists' Trip to Africa

*By Carl J. Frammolino, Evangelist Editor*

After a two-month delay necessitated by surgery for Brother Joseph Perri, he and Brother Joseph Ross left on March 1, 1992 to visit Church missions in Nigeria, Ghana, and Kenya, Africa; they returned April 8. En route, they also spent time during a layover in Amsterdam, the Netherlands with Jan J. Schute, a friend who has communicated with the Church for 13 years.

### NIGERIA

Landing in Lagos, Nigeria after the 36-hour trip, they met with Brother Adrian Etim, Superintendent of that district. Many matters were discussed, including a much-needed mission home to be built adjacent to our new church building in the Ikotun, Lagos area.

Next, the brothers journeyed to Abak, where their first priority was to visit Evangelist E.U.A. Arthur, Nigerian Church President, who, although being reportedly approximately 110 years old, is still active and can read without glasses. He greeted them warmly, after which Brother George F. Arthur, Nigerian Church Coordinator, read a welcome address. Following prayer together, they returned to the mission house and planned their itinerary with Evangelist Edem Ebong, a hard worker who would accompany them throughout their Nigerian travels. The agenda included visiting congregations and officers in seven of the eight districts: Abak, Afaha Obong,

Otoro, Ikono, Ibo, Imo, and Eket Nsit.

The first Sunday, they attended the Nna Enin Branch in the Afaha Obong District for a "Launching," where all branches come to pledge their support for a specific branch. All present were happy to see the brothers, being especially thankful for God's answering their prayers on behalf of Brother Perri.

They traveled to three newly-established missions in the Akwa Ibom State area, containing over 200 new members. Evangelizing in Nigeria consists of contacting neighboring villages, homes, and others to tell them of the Restored Gospel. Only a shortage of workers and resources limits the ability of the Church to increase more rapidly. As the Word is spread, individuals and groups are also initiating contact with us, seeking to know more about the Gospel.

The brothers met with the Sunday School Association officers and teachers, who expressed the need for Bibles, Books of Mormon, and other Church literature. Sadly, for example, they have only one Bible for every 15 persons.

Brothers Perri and Ross were invited to attend an assembly at the Church School. The principal, A. Ekon, is seeking to correct many deteriorated conditions, some caused by the heat, rain, and infestations. There are 846 students enrolled in the school, but 500 applicants for admission could not be accepted because of lack of facilities and classrooms.

They visited the orphans cared for by five Church deaconesses. Previously, the 55 youngsters were fed once a week. Through individual donations from abroad, they are now given one meal a day.

The Church's scholarship program, another caring endeavor, has been expanded to include supporting students in vocational schools where they can learn a trade. The program is supported by Church auxiliaries, organizations, and individuals.

The brothers toured the International Medical Assistance (IMA) Clinic, where many surgeries are performed, medicines dispensed, and treatments administered to all who come for help. Although independent of the Church, the clinic is an asset to The Church of Jesus Christ and is known throughout Nigeria. Incidentally, the need for an American doctor was expressed.

### GHANA

The brothers arrived in Ghana's capital, Accra, on March 23, where they were greeted by Brother Ford K. Boadu, President of the Church in Ghana. The next day, they drove to Kumasi where they attended an elders' meeting, at which plans to ordain Brother Boadu an evangelist were made, needs were presented, experiences were shared, and crusades to reach new areas where missions have been established were outlined. The visiting evangelists were able to speak at several crusades where over 1,000 people were present.

Brothers Ross and Perri were privileged to tour the Ghana clinic, where 1,400 patients have been treated since its opening last July. The clinic functions under government regulations and health officers. In addition to our desires to help mankind through the Gospel, African nations require churches to provide some humanitarian services.

At a memorable Wednesday night meeting, many wonderful testimonies and experiences were given. One new member stated how he had been involved in witchcraft before he met the Church through Brother Boadu. Two of his

(Continued on Page 10)

## The Gospel News

### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Anthony J. Scolaro  
20 Byrd Ave.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

### ASSISTANT EDITOR

Leonard A. Lovatvo  
8085 Schneider  
Manchester, MI 48158

### CONSULTANTS

Nephi DeMercurio  
Peter A. Scolaro

### OFFICE MANAGER

Cathy Gentile

### GMBA EDITOR

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

### GENERAL CIRCLE EDITOR

Mary Tamborrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

### DISTRICT EDITORS

#### ATLANTIC COAST

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

#### MICHIGAN-ONTARIO

Lisa Champine  
47025 Hennings Dr.  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48045

#### OHIO

Mark Naro  
4425 Broadway  
Lorain, OH 44055

#### PACIFIC COAST

Kenneth R. Jones  
24268 Robie Ct.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

#### PENNSYLVANIA

Lucetta Scaglione  
303 Union St.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

#### SOUTHEAST

James G. Speck  
3710 Player Dr.  
New Port Richey, FL 34655

#### SOUTHWEST

Frances J. Capone  
8725 E. Hubbell  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

THE GOSPEL NEWS (USPS #223-480) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by The Church of Jesus Christ PRINT HOUSE, 8282 Boettner Rd., Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030, 313-429-5080. Second class postage paid at Saline, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE GOSPEL NEWS BUSINESS OFFICE, P.O. BOX 30, BRIDGEWATER, MI 48115-0030.

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

The only way we can approach the Lord is with a broken heart and a contrite spirit. But do we still need Salvation preached to us after we've become part of His Church? We've already repented once, after all. Aren't we finished repenting?

While we all readily agree on the need to keep the Lord's commandments to the end of our days on earth, it is sometimes more difficult for us as members of The Church of Jesus Christ to acknowledge our continuous need for individual repentance. Once we've been baptized and received the Holy Ghost by the authority of the priesthood, we may have the impression that we've fulfilled our requirement to repent, and that there is no need for us to search further—within or without—in our quest for eternal life.

As we continue to hear the inspired word of God preached, we may grow to feel that the exhortations to turn from our wicked ways and come humbly to Christ are intended for the benefit of others, perhaps only for the non-baptized in the congregation. Over time we may even become annoyed by the preaching of the word.

As long as we're made of flesh and blood, however, we need to work diligently at perfecting ourselves in Christ. Hearing the word preached makes us aware of our own weaknesses, and gives us a greater appreciation of the Lord's sacrifice for us on Calvary. In addition, we can learn from the successes and mistakes of others (those spoken of in the scriptures), and realize that, as human beings, we are no different than those who went before us.

Whether we're reading or hearing the Old Testament, the New Testament, or the Book of Mormon, it's important for us to understand that the ageless words which God saw fit to hand down must be used by us as a *mirror* before they can effectively serve us as a sword. The Old Testament Jews, who despite God's blessings constantly turned their backs on Him, are a type and shadow of the whole human race—including us today. Those of the New Testament Church who felt more justified by their religious heritage than by the shed blood of Christ could also have their counterparts today. And we should likewise recognize ourselves in the Nephites, who vacillated between serving God and Mammon depending upon their circumstances.

If we feel the scriptures tell us about a group of people completely different from ourselves, if we think the preaching of God's word applies only to others, if we take offense, rather than giving glory to God, when the "shoe" fits us, then we've failed to recognize our need to continually come before His throne brokenhearted. We may need to re-evaluate our perception of ourselves in relationship to Him.

It is important for us, as individuals, to regularly take a careful, critical look at ourselves in the mirror of God's word. It takes humility for us to see—let alone acknowledge—room for improvement in our lives, but with the proper understanding of God's love, His forgiveness, and His saving grace, we can confidently strive for—and attain—the stature of His Son Jesus Christ.

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock



## A Man Who Lied About God

Dear Girls and Boys,

It had been sixteen years since King Mosiah had died. Since his sons, the four princes Aaron, Ammon, Omner, and Himni chose to be preachers rather than to be King, a series of judges ruled the land. The Nephites had established many fair laws; it was against the law to cheat, lie, steal, murder, etc. It was also the law that you could spiritually believe however you wanted to believe. The Lord never forced anyone to serve Him, in those days nor in our days.

There had been three peaceful years since the Nephite people had fought their last war against the Lamanites and Amalakites. The people of Ammon (Anti-Nephi-Lehis) had sent their two thousand young sons to fight bravely and God had spared them all. These true believers in God remembered what their mothers had taught them. They also well remembered the mighty power of God, who had saved them.

But Satan was furious. He began working in the heart of a powerful speaker named Korihor. He told Korihor to go among the Nephites and start confusing the people. But Korihor had to remember to pretend he truly believed his words so he wouldn't be breaking the laws of peace.

Korihor made fun of people who had faith. In a powerful way he told people they were crazy to believe in something they couldn't see and told them that there was no God, so they should do whatever they wanted here on earth. Many weak people in Zarahemla decided they liked his evil words and they began

to break all the laws of God that taught them to do good.

Korihor decided to take his preaching to the people of Ammon, too. But when he reached the land of Jershon, those people remembered well what it had been like when they were Lamanites living in unbelief. They also remembered the beauty and power of God who protected their sons and themselves in battle. Instead of being tricked by Korihor, they forced him to stop preaching his lies and leave their land. Thus we see that evil *will* leave us if we call upon God and stand up to it.

Next Korihor decided to take his lies to the land of Gideon. The people there also did not want him preaching his lies. They took him to be judged by their high priest. When this strong man of God saw the hold Satan had on Korihor and heard the lies Korihor was boldly spouting, he put Korihor under arrest and sent him to be judged by the governor of the land and chief judge, Alma.

Immediately the Lord showed Alma how Satan had tricked Korihor into speaking such lies. Korihor boldly told Alma that there wasn't any God and the elders just told the people stories so they could earn money. Quietly Alma answered Korihor that that was a lie, since he'd never once received any money for preaching the word of God.

Then Korihor said he knew there wasn't a God and Christ would never come. Alma said, "What proof do you have that there isn't a God? The words of the ancient prophets, in fact all things on the earth and the planets that move in regular form prove there is a

creator. I tell you, Korihor, you have no proof; you just say that. I know you do believe but a lying spirit possesses you and you push off the Spirit of God. The devil is working in you to destroy the children of God!"

Korihor replied, "Show me a sign and then I'll believe."

Alma warned him, "Korihor, I hurt because of the hardness of your heart, that you still will resist the Spirit of Truth and your soul will be destroyed. But it is better that one soul, yours, should be lost than many. So, if you deny again that there is a God, He will smite you so you will never talk again and trick so many people."

Once again Korihor argued, "I say that you don't know there is a God, and unless you show me a sign, I will not believe!"

And Alma replied, "This I will give you for a sign, that in the name of God, you will no more have a voice."

Now when Alma had said this, Korihor was struck dumb, that he could no longer speak, just as Alma had warned him.

When the chief judge saw this, he wrote a note to Korihor saying, "Are you now convinced of the power of God? Who did you want Alma to touch to show you a sign for proof? You have your sign, will you argue more?"

And Korihor wrote back, saying, "I cannot speak; I know only the power of God could do this. I also did know there was a God but the devil tricked me and taught me what to say and I believed him."

Then Korihor asked Alma to pray for him and ask God to take the curse away. But Alma said unto him, "Korihor, God tells me that if your voice was restored unto you, you again would go about deceiving and leading away the people of God."

The followers of Korihor all repented once they saw the end of their evil leader. Korihor wandered from city to city begging for his food until one day he was accidentally run over and killed. So we see how Satan tricks people and then abandons them in their pain and sorrow. Peace again reigned throughout the land. (Alma 30)

Sister Jan

**TAMPA continued . . .**

Sis. Kim Zilinski was reinstated into fellowship on February 2 by Bro. Ken Staley. In expressing herself, Sis. Kim explained that she had never found anywhere else what she felt here in The Church of Jesus Christ. This particular Sunday we also observed the ordinance of feet washing—what a wonderful feeling of unity was experienced among us!

On Sunday, February 9 we welcomed Sis. Flossie Molinatto to our congregation. She has transferred from the South Bend, Indiana Mission, as she now resides near family in Zephyrhills. We also rejoiced to have Bro. Fabian and Sis. Juana Perales with us again this day after the birth of their third child. Their 10-day-old daughter Jessica was blessed by Bro. Isaac J. Smith. The Perales family has been an inspiration to all of us. They faithfully travel from Bradenton each week, often bringing friends to the meeting with them. They are always quick to stand and praise God. Although there is a language barrier and our communication is somewhat limited, the love of Christ has forged a bond between us.

**Michigan, Branch 3**

*By Brenda Capone*

On March 8, 1992, we gathered in Church for our regular Sunday Service, but there was something different in the air that morning. Not only was it Brother Joseph Furnari's natural birthday, but it was also to be Christina Lynn Flanagan's spiritual birthday! Sister Chris was introduced to the Church by Sister Kathy Pastorelli a few years ago. After Sister Kathy moved to Florida, Sister Chris came to Church on occasion. She spent time at home reading the Book of Mormon and visiting the Church, and also visiting Sister Kathy's parents, Bro. Vic and Sis. Dorothy. The Lord then touched her heart, and Sister Chris asked for her baptism. We met on that day knowing that there was to be a new lamb added to God's flock.

Brother Peter H. Capone spoke to us about the scripture, "And we know all things work together for good to them that love the Lord; to them that are the called according to His purpose." He reminded us of how we need to trust the Lord in all things and follow His Spirit. Sometimes things may take too long for us, but for the Lord, it is always the right time, *if* we trust Him and have faith. He spoke of the Six Nations Mission, and how they have been meeting there for over 50 years. They have few members, but they continue to strive to serve the Lord and have faith in His work. As in II Timothy 1:9, "... called us with a Holy calling . . .", we must always remember that calling and love, obey, and trust, enduring to the end. The purpose of this calling? To tell others of Jesus, as our Sister Kathy did. Brother Joseph Furnari baptized Sister Chris after our service. Then we all went back to the branch where hands were laid on our new sister for the reception of the Holy Spirit. Brother Peter asked the Lord to bless Sister Chris with the Holy Ghost and also her own special gift that would be used to give honor and praise to God. He also said, "May Sister Chris see things in life with spiritual eyes and not with the natural eye." Sister Chris testified about how she had felt lost all her life, but that now not only has she found God, she has also found a family and a home where she feels welcomed and loved. May we all continue to remember our covenant with God, and view life with spiritual eyes.

**Lake Worth, FL**

On Sunday, December 16, 1991, Bro. Keith Baldwin was ordained to the office of deacon in the Lake Worth, Florida Branch. The church was filled with saints from as far away as Spartanburg, South Carolina (Quincy and Samford, Florida also).

Bro. Eugene Perri opened the meeting by reading the duties and responsibilities of a deacon. Bro. Chuck Maddox then washed Bro. Keith's feet, praying that God

would guide our brother in his new calling and also that God would lead and direct his wife, Sister Jewel, as his helpmate. Bro. Eugene then ordained Bro. Keith.

After a group sang two songs, Bro. Chuck opened the preaching with the story of Daniel and how Daniel's faith spared his life in the lion's den. He told how rather than remove Daniel from the lion's den, God shut the mouths of the lions. Bro. Chuck likened this to today by saying that often God allows the saints to experience trials, but if faithful and prayerful, God will again shut the proverbial mouths of the lions. He encouraged the members to look to the Lord and never to lose sight of His power, because there is nothing that God's people can't do when God is with us. Bro. Gene, in closing the morning meeting in prayer, asked God to be with Bro. Keith in his new office. We then broke for lunch and fellowship.

Bro. John D'Orazio opened our afternoon testimony meeting by reading Mormon 9:27-29. He read the instructional words given to God's people, that they may be found faithful to the end. Many saints, in testimony, confirmed the message and told how good God had been in their lives as they have called upon Him.

May God continue to bless His saints and our Brother Keith in his new work, caring for God's people in Lake Worth, Florida.

**New Members' Meeting**

*By Diana Parker*

"Pray without ceasing," I Thessalonians 5:17 simply reads. This was the theme of Detroit Inner City Branch's first New Members' Meeting, held on Tuesday, February 25, 1992.

As tired bodies after a long day's work began to fill the room, the Holy Spirit began to fill it, too. From beginning to end we were blessed with the Lord's presence.

Bros. Steve Champine and Dan Cotellesse, teachers in the Church,

**(Continued on Page 8)**



**MEETING continued . . .**

conducted the meeting. Bro. Steve asked long-time visitor (who is growing in the Lord) Alfred Mendenhall to open with prayer. "I knew you were going to ask me that!" he exclaimed before proceeding.

A study guide, *Basic Tenets of Church Faith*, was given out which listed doctrines and scriptures. At one point, Bro. Collins Hippolyte said, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matthew 7:7). Bro. Steve responded, "That's the next scripture!" adding he always remembers this scripture because it spells the word *ask*.

Everyone was in one accord, which was manifested by quoted scripture about to be read, by experiences being brought out by scripture, and by the Word. Thank you Jesus! As the night progressed, more and more questions (and answers) came forth, and the joy of His Spirit and of His love edified us all.

Nearing the close of the evening, I had the desire to pray, and immediately the thought came to me that women don't close the service, so I dismissed it. As we held hands within our circle, Bro. Steve asked that I close with prayer. Later, as I shared my aspirations with him, he said, "This wasn't a service—this was a meeting. See, the Spirit is definitely here, even Alfred said that."

Praise the Lord! We had a beautiful "first meeting." Many blessings were wrought.

I love the Lord, He heard my cry. I love the Lord, 'cause He first loved me. I love the Lord, because He alone is Lord.

Blessed be the name of the Lord! Amen.

**A Calling in Niles, OH**

By Barbara Nuzzi

It's the Lord's Day!! Awake, shake off the slumber of sleep. Arise and prepare yourself to receive the Blessings and the Word of God.

It is March 8, 1992. The morning brings a dreary, overcast, very gloomy sky, but this is not going to influence us, for the people of God feel the spirit of rejoicing. "For day is here at last, let all the earth rejoice, Wake the smallest creatures up to hear my Father's voice." Yes, today we will hear the Father's voice through our brothers preaching His word. We find many visitors this morning because God has called Sis. Tina Martorana as a deaconess in His Church. Bro. Jim Moore Jr. opened our meeting with Matthew 20:1-6, the parable of the workers in the vineyard. His words were very inspiring as he told us not to sit idle, but be about the Father's business, for there is great joy in laboring for the Master. He implored us to love and serve the Lord with all our heart and all our soul. As we heard these words the joy of serving Him filled us to overflowing.

Then Bro. Frank Natoli rose to his feet and asked these questions of the congregation: "When is a good time to labor for your soul's salvation? Will you labor for Him or sleep the day away? Who will go and work for me today?" He then read Moroni 10:31, where it speaks about Israel's return to God, and likened it to our daily service. He asked us, "Who among us does not want to be a son or daughter of Zion?" Zion, a day when Satan will be bound and righteousness shall be at the summit! Let us awaken and live for Jesus Christ! Each morning as we arise from our beds let us ask the Lord, "Where shall I labor for you today?" Let us labor a little longer and a little harder so that when we pass from this life He will be waiting with open arms to welcome us into Paradise. These words surely caused our hearts to burn and our souls to take on new strength.

Bro. Joe Genaro then exclaimed, "Jesus said, we are the salt of the earth; then let us go out and make people thirsty for that which they see and feel in us. Then we can lead them to the Fountain of Living Waters, never to thirst again." He then told us how he arose each morning and went out and labored to provide a home for his family. Then he asked us, are

we willing to arise and labor for the Gospel of Jesus Christ that our souls may have a home in Paradise? He cautioned us that whether we labor or not, this Gospel will go forth even unto Zion and it will shine forth over all the world.

As we prepared for the ordination, all the deaconesses present came forward and sang *Second to God*. Their voices touched our ears as if they were the voices of angels. The duties of a deaconess were read to Sis. Tina by her husband, Bro. Wayne. He read them not as a labor but as a blessing. He listed the joy of being first to greet a newly baptized sister, and the humility in assisting during foot-washing, and then the sacred purity of preparing the Lord's Table. These are the blessings we reap through our labors. There are some blessings we do not read of or hear much about in the Scripture, such as the great blessing being given to Sis. Jean Moore as she washed her daughter's feet preparing her to receive the ordination of a deaconess. This prayer was offered by Bro. Brian Martorana. Our meeting was then opened for testimony and very quickly the saints began to rise on their feet and relate various experiences that God had given them confirming Sis. Tina's calling. We truly felt a spirit of rejoicing.

As our meeting came to a close we felt very satisfied that the will of God was fulfilled today, but what about tomorrow? Even as the Lord has called Sis. Tina to labor He calls to us all the day long. Will we answer? Will we seek to labor for the Master and shake off the sleep of idleness? When He calls, "**Who will go and work for me today?**" Will we gladly answer, "**Here am I, Lord, send ME!**"

**Now Available**

The new Church of Jesus Christ General Directories are now available from your branch librarian or the Print House at the cost of \$6.00 each plus postage.

## Omaha-Bedford Mission

By Dorothy Miller

Scripture tells us that by small means the Lord can bring about great things. So it is with the Omaha-Bedford Mission. Though our numbers are small, because of the faithfulness and consistency of the saints here, God continues to bless our efforts on behalf of the Gospel. We continue to enjoy the support of the Ohio District of the Church and to be serviced by the Ohio District Missionary Operating Committee, now chaired by Bro. Wayne Martorana.

The weekend of February 29, 1992, Bro. Russell Martorana visited our mission and the Lord blessed us with a beautiful spirit of singing and fellowship. As hymns were sung the voices of our small group rang out and sounded to the ear as a mass choir of angels.

On Saturday morning we gathered for Fast & Prayer Service. Bro. Russ opened the meeting using Faith as his theme. Reading from a portion of scripture in the 34th Chapter of Alma, he challenged us to exercise our faith in prayer to God over all our spiritual and natural possessions and desires for the growth of the Gospel in the Omaha area. Beautiful prayers went up before God. Testimonies and experiences were shared, increasing our faith to make us better hunters and fishers.

For our Saturday evening service, Bro. Russ continued the theme of Faith leading a lesson using the 11th Chapter of Hebrews. A young mother and her two small children, who had been attending our meetings for about two months, were with us. The mother told how she and her daughter had been ill all day and decided for this reason not to attend the Saturday night meeting. When she told her little daughter they were not going to Church, the little girl started to cry, telling her mother she wanted to come (A little child shall lead them). She said she then knew she had to come and bring the children. Feeling the Spirit of God in her testimony, Bro. Russ called her and her daughter forward to be anointed. A beautiful feeling of

peace came over the mother as Bro. Russ anointed her and her daughter. We all felt the blessing. Pray for this young mother; we feel that the seed of the testimony of God's goodness through the Church will soon turn into fruit for the Gospel here.

We were excited with anticipation as we gathered for the Sunday morning services. More visitors came, and our little Church building was almost filled to capacity. Presiding Elder Clifton Wells welcomed our visitors and made reference to scripture (Acts 19:11,12) concerning the anointing of handkerchiefs. Two handkerchiefs were anointed to be sent to Evergreen, Alabama for two women who were ill. These women had attended our Church meetings that were held in Evergreen.

After many beautiful hymns were sung, Bro. Clifton prayed a beautiful opening prayer. Bro. Russ opened the preaching, continuing with Faith as the theme. He gave us the benefit of his many experiences in the Church and told how, through the increase of faith by prayer, the work will grow. He encouraged us to continue in good works and to take advantage of every opportunity God presents to give our testimony to our family members, friends, and all those with whom we come in contact. The strength and growth of the Gospel in Omaha depend on our faith to give our testimonies.

Bro. Clifton followed in preaching, telling our visitors how God has commanded the light of the Gospel and the knowledge of God's glory to come in truth to the world, out of darkness to shine, in the face of Jesus Christ. He used II Corinthians 4:6 and John 1:5, showing that by the mercy of God truth has been established in such a way that man can truly be free to serve God with all stumblingblocks removed.

A season of testimony followed, and our visitors took part in testifying with a beautiful and peaceful spirit present. This sweet spirit continued as the Lord's Supper was served.

We closed our meeting by all joining hands in a circle and singing *When Shall We All Meet Again*.

"What a fellowship" when the

saints of God gather, "leaning on the Everlasting Arms." We all appreciate the visit, counsel and words of encouragement by Bro. Russ, and the prayers and support from the Ohio District and from the saints all over the Church.

## Blessings in Palm Harbor

On January 26, 1992, we were blessed to have several visiting brothers in our midst. Among the brothers were Brothers Lou Vitto, Richard Lawson, Rusty Heaps, John Manes, Lyle Criscuolo, Paul Benyola, Joe Ross, Tom Liberto, Alex Gentile, Len Benyola, and John D'Orazio.

After our Presiding Elder John Griffith welcomed us with opening remarks, Bro. Paul Benyola opened the service, speaking to us of the Divine Commission of the Church. He quoted from Matthew, telling us to teach all and baptize in the name of Jesus Christ. We were encouraged to serve God to the best of our ability, to have more faith and patience, and to encourage others.

After honoring us with a musical selection, Bro. Lou Vitto followed, reminding us that the Lord gives His blessings where he sees our desires for them. He told us that we need to revive our spirits, that we may be used to convert others.

Bro. John Manes stated that it is the love of Christ in our lives and the love that we share for one another that draws people to the Lord. Bro. Tom Liberto encouraged us not to take the Gospel for granted, and to look for our strength in the Spirit of God.

Next, Bro. Rusty Heaps talked of the vision of Isaiah and encouraged us to stand up against the world for Jesus. We were told to set our priorities, be ready for any trials which may come, and spread the love of God.

Following sacrament, Bro. Lyle Criscuolo encouraged us not to worry about the trials which befall us. He reminded us that we have the scriptures; we know the outcome, and we win! Needless to say, the blessings of God were in abundance that day and we praise God for them!

**CONFERENCE continued . . .**

wet the outside of his home down with a hose until the danger of the fire spreading was past. God had been merciful and spared his home.

Bro. Wayne Martorana related how he had cleaned out his wood burning stove and put the ashes, which he thought were cold, in a cardboard box in the garage. Later that night, Sis. Tina smelled something burning. Bro. Wayne went to the garage and found that the ashes were still hot and had ignited the box. He was able to move the box out of the garage before it set everything on fire including his car, whose tank had just been filled with gasoline. He then expressed an experience of a sister whose husband was involved in an explosion when fumes from a container of linoleum adhesive were ignited from the pilot light of the gas hot water tank. In his infinite goodness and mercy, God spared this man's life.

Bro. Elmer Santilli then spoke of a man who attends the Perry Branch. This man, whose name is Buck Wilson, came to church and saw a man with wavy white hair sitting in the back pew, reading a Bible. As Bro. Mario Milano finished his sermon, Buck noticed that the man in the back pew was gone. Buck asked his wife and three other people what had happened to the man with the wavy white hair. All four of them told Buck there had never been such a person there. Buck had seen a spiritual being, and, although not a member, was moved upon to rise on his feet and testify to the branch of their heavenly visitor.

Space does not permit us to list all the experiences that came forth that Sunday, but after numerous others were related, we sang *Take Some Time to Pray*, and Bro. Vince Gibson offered a prayer of Thanksgiving to God. We enjoyed Communion, and several anointings took place before the close of the service. The Youngstown Branch hosted a beautiful lunch, after which the saints were treated to a slide presentation of the recent trip to India, narrated by the four brothers who had made the trip.

All who were there, I'm sure, can say that we were at the fountain drinking. God is good, and He

is alive and very well, as we can attest after hearing what good things He does for those who love and serve Him with full purpose of heart. May God continue to bless this, His Church and His people.

**MESSAGE continued . . .**

daughters, attending for the first time, also testified of the miraculous change in their father's life. Many others related healings, experiences, and the blessings they have received since being baptized. These testimonies are typical of those heard in Africa.

On Sunday, March 29, many people attended services to worship and witness Brother Boadu's ordination, which had been approved by the last October General Church Conference. His feet were washed by Bro. Joe Perri, and he was ordained by Bro. Joe Ross.

God has blessed the Boadus and preserved them. Two healings they received demonstrated God's power in their lives. Sister Boadu related that doctors had given her up to die. Shortly thereafter, her husband anointed her, and she was healed immediately. Looking back further, Brother Boadu testified that, when he was 22 years old, he had a tumor on his throat and the doctors had likewise given up hope for him. Brother Boadu's mother was given a dream in which a man dressed in white told her that her son would not die but that he would live to do a great work which God had prepared for him. Eight years later, Brother Boadu helped establish the Church in Ghana and now, 16 years later, he was ordained an evangelist. God's revelation was fulfilled!

**KENYA**

The last stop for the brothers was in Kenya, where they met with Brother and Sister Osaka, whom they had not seen since 1988. They reviewed how the Lord had been with them as events in Kenya were discussed.

Efforts are being made to have The Church of Jesus Christ registered in Kenya. The brothers addressed the matter with government officials while there, and are

still pursuing it since their return home.

No one can be baptized in Kenya until the Church is officially registered there. Candidates are waiting patiently, in faith believing that this will occur soon.

Everyone's prayers are requested for this registration to be approved.

Meanwhile, Brother and Sister Osaka mortgaged their home and built a clinic. Brother Osaka also operates two polytechnical schools (with 50 students in each), and a nursery school for 60 children. Although it is the Osakas who have made the sacrifices, these facilities are deemed to be the Church's humanitarian undertakings in Kenya.

Brothers Perri and Ross were grateful for God's protection and their well-being while gone. They indicated that there are many needs in Africa, as in other parts of the world, which can only be satisfied with our support and prayers. In thanking everyone for their prayers and concern during their journey, they summarized: "There is a lot of work to be done by our Church, as there is an entire world awaiting conversion to the Restored Gospel."

**DIRECTORY UPDATE**

Chuck and Dianne Maddox  
2150 Sherwood Forest Dr.  
Miamisburg, OH 45342  
Tel. (513) 859-1387

Paul and Christina Vinsick  
4128 Saith Ln.  
Modesto, CA 95355  
Tel. (209) 523-8211

Ron and Kim Morle  
100 Knights Way  
Apt. 805  
Fayetteville, GA 30214  
Tel. (404) 719-0821

Jerry and Tammy Morle  
650 Hidden Valley Dr.  
Apt. 217  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
Tel. (313) 761-8497

Diane Behr  
933 LeBlanc  
Lincoln Park, MI 48146  
Tel. (313) 381-5705

## First Quarter Financial Results, 1992

Dear Readers:

The figures are improving! That is a good sign. Now we need to build on that so when the second quarter (April-May-June) results are in, we will see that they have improved again. That's what we must do: Keep improving until we can say that our donations in 1992 are significantly more than in 1991. The same holds true in our spiritual efforts as well. We must keep improving each day. As saints of God we must be consistent in our service to Him, which will also be reflected in our natural endeavors.

Here are the First Quarter results for 1992, and a comparison column for the First Quarter 1991.

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>
Atlantic Coast	\$ 14,385	\$ 15,707
Michigan/Ontario	27,849	22,567
Ohio	11,022	10,664
Pacific Coast	18,649	14,523
Pennsylvania	28,969	29,915
Southeast	9,389	11,905
Southwest	2,431	6,266
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$112,694</b>	<b>\$111,547</b>

Now for the bad news: The Spending Plan, our goal for the year, is not being met. According to the Plan, we, the Church, should have received \$136,399.00 for the first three months of this year. As you can see we are \$23,705.00 below where we want to be at this time.

All of the committees of the Church reduced their spending for 1991 and submitted greatly reduced Spending Plans for 1992. This means that some missionary work and other important projects were placed on hold or eliminated entirely.

The goal is within our reach! The General Church Finance Committee commends everyone for their valuable financial help in 1991, and solicits your necessary assistance for this year.

We pray that God will richly bless each of us with His grace, and that we will see The Church of Jesus Christ flourish more with His love and that many will come to the knowledge of Him!

General Church Finance Committee

## Children Blessed

On February 2, 1992, Lauren Renee Wolff, daughter of Bro. Scott and Sis. Cindy Wolff, was blessed by her grandfather, Brother Joseph Perri, at the Levittown, PA Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Bro. Pete Giannetti Sr. blessed Christian Marie Rosemeier, daughter of Scott and Margaret Rosemeier, on April 19, 1992 in Aliquippa, PA.

## OBITUARIES

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

### ANTHONY DOMINIC BRUTZ

On November 7, 1991, with family and friends at his bedside, Brother Tony Brutz acknowledged to his daughter, Diane, that the Lord was coming to take him home. Sister Grace, his wife, remarked that the smile on his face was more beautiful than she had ever witnessed since knowing him. This was a most fitting culmination to a life dedicated in its youth to service to the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Born September 2, 1921, Brother Tony was laid to rest on November 11, 1991, which was Veteran's Day. Brother Ken Surdock, his son-in-law, presented the eulogy, mentioning how appropriate it was that Brother Tony was both a veteran of his country (World War II), and a veteran in service to God. Brother Tony celebrated fifty years of dedicated living since his baptism in 1941. Special memories were shared by the grandchildren as presented by Darron and Christopher Surdock.

Brother Stacey Light conducted the service and presented a sermon reflecting the type of life lived by Brother Brutz. His life was characterized by bringing forth the good news of Jesus Christ and the restoration of the Seed of Joseph and the entire House of Israel.

The ministry stood in honor of Brother Tony, in view of his service to the Lord as an elder and evangelist in Detroit, Michigan Branch 2; the San Fernando Valley, California Branch; and the Tucson, Arizona Branch. He also brought the message of the Gospel and God's promises to Israel to Native American communities in Muncey, Ontario; Wakpala, South Dakota; and San Carlos, Arizona.

The year 1991 proved to be an eventful year for Brother Tony, as he observed the 50th anniversary of his baptism in July, and the 50th anniversary of his wedding to Sister Grace (Ferrante) one week prior to his death.

Brother Tony leaves behind to mourn his passing his wife, Grace; his children and their spouses, Diane and Ken Surdock; Ronald and Loretta; James and

(Continued on Page 12)

**OBITUARIES continued . . .**

Sharon; fourteen grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. In addition, two sisters and three brothers and their families, as well as many extended family members, friends, and saints will miss his presence.

The family wishes to express their deep gratitude for the outpouring of love during Brother Tony's illness and passing.

CATERINA GAMMICHIA

Our dear Sister Caterina (Catherine) Gammichia passed on to her reward on March 1, 1992. She was 99 years old, and had been a member of the Church for over 59 years. She worshipped with the saints in Detroit Branch 2.

Our sister's grandson, Brother John P. Buffa, officiated at the funeral service.

Sister Catherine is survived by two daughters, Sister Eleanor Buffa and Mary Cortese. A son, Phillip Trapani, recently preceded her in death. She is also survived by five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Our sister was a laborer for the Lord, and loved to sing praises unto Him. One of her favorite hymns was *I Am Happy in the Service of the King*. May the Lord bless those she has left behind.

YOLANDA PIETRANGELO

Sister Yolanda Pietrangelo of Detroit Branch 1 was called home to her eternal reward on April 5, 1992. She was born on April 27, 1917, to Michael and Nancy Marinetti, and was baptized in Rochester, New York on October 14, 1934 by Brother Frank Rosati. She was ordained a deaconess on January 21, 1951 and served in that capacity for forty years.

Brother Dominic Thomas conducted the funeral service, assisted by Bro. Louis Pietrangelo. Two of our

sister's granddaughters, Denise and Laura, sang one of her favorite hymns, *Sheltered in the Arms of God*. Brother Thomas remarked that Sister Yolanda was "an outstanding example of what it means to be a servant of God. Like the Apostle Paul, she had fought a good fight, she had finished the course."

Our sister is survived by her husband, Brother Nicholas Pietrangelo; three daughters, Sister Rosalie Campitelle, Barbara Mangiapane, and Deborah Scoza; a son, Nickie; four brothers, Pat, Guido, Lawrence, and Michael Marinetti; two sisters, Dorothy Trovatto and Gloria Christoferson; seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Although we will all surely miss her, we know for certain that Sister Yolanda's soul has passed into the paradise of God.

GERARD J. VALENTI

Brother Gerard "Jerry" Valenti passed from this life suddenly on April 14, 1992. Brother Jerry was born on May 2, 1925 in New Brunswick, NJ. He was raised in the Church and was a baptized member for most of his life, holding membership in the Brooklyn, Bronx, Glassport and Levittown Branches of the Church. Brother Jerry transferred to Levittown in 1976 and served in the ministry there for the past 15 years. He also held many other offices in the Church, and was active in the General Church Finance Committee and the MBA.

Funeral services were held on April 17 and were officiated by his son, Brother Jerry Valenti, who delivered the eulogy. Brothers Sam Dell and Paul Benyola, fellow ministers of the Levittown Branch, assisted by offering comforting words.

Brother Jerry is survived by his wife, Sister Fay; one son, Brother Jerry; one daughter, Sister Tammy; and two granddaughters, Leanna Joy and Amanda Jean. He is also survived by one brother, Brother Anthony; and three sisters, Sister Belle Rose, Sister Rose Laessig, and Sister Lydia Link.

Brother Jerry will be dearly missed by all his family and friends, and brothers and sisters in Christ.

ANNA FALLAVOLLITA

Sister Anna Fallavollita of the Bell, California Branch passed from this life on April 15, 1992. Born on March 15, 1900, our sister was baptized on February 19, 1928.

The funeral was conducted by Brother John McDonnell.

Our sister is survived by seven children, Ruth and Esther Flow, Louise Fallavollita, Grace Lavell, Minnie McDonnell, Dora Maynard, and John Fallavollita.

The presence of our Sister Ann will certainly be missed in the Bell, CA Branch. She was a faithful, gracious, and lovely sister who never uttered a harsh word to anyone. She served the Lord faithfully for over 60 years, and has now gone to be with Him forever.

Address Change

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# The Gospel News

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

July, 1992

Volume 48, No. 7

## Dallas Dedicates New Building

The weekend of May 25th and 26th, 1991, was one filled with great excitement and hope. The members of the Dallas, Texas Mission were about to see God's blessings come to fruition as a beautiful building in Allen, Texas was to be dedicated.

It began on Saturday evening as many visiting brothers, sisters, and friends met at the new church for the dedication program. Dallas' 18 members and their families greeted them, and expressed their thanks that so many made the effort to share this blessed occasion.

The theme for the program was how God's perfect plan was being

pieced together here in Dallas. It compared the work in Texas to that of a jigsaw puzzle, and as God brought families into the mission, and built a new building, this puzzle was beginning to form a picture of His plan for us.

The program opened with the testimonies of the original members of the mission. Each expressed their gratitude for the blessings that God bestowed upon them over the years. They shared how the Church was established here in 1973 with only a handful of saints. Under the guidance of Bro. George Benyola and his wife, Sis. Stella, the members stayed strong in their

faith and in their desire to see the work prosper. Aided by Bro. Doug McLellan, they saw many good times and weathered some difficult periods during the previous 18 years. However, God had a plan for the work here and slowly that plan was being laid.

Next, the newcomers to Dallas testified of how God brought them here. Each shared dreams and miracles that confirmed God's desire to have them labor in this part of the vineyard. They related how God had provided jobs and homes for each of the four new families. The members grew in Christ's love for each other and shared a vision that a new and

(Continued on Page 3)



Building on left, which served Dallas Mission since 1981, was replaced by new structure, right, in 1991.



## Greetings in Christ



By Mark Randy

Faith is a gift that lives within each one of us. From the first step of an infant to the last breath of life, it is faith that gives us the ability to discover the path of life.

Faith refuses to be confined; it gives each of us the power to reach to new horizons.

When Peter saw that it was Jesus walking on water, he said, "If it be you, bid me come unto you on the water." Jesus spoke one simple word, "Come." Peter came down out of the boat; he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But he saw the boisterous waves; he became afraid, saying, "Lord, save me" (Matthew 14:28).

O you of little faith, why did you doubt? Doubt works on faith as water on fire. Faith obliges us to be receptive. Faith sanctifies us, illuminates, where doubt dims our eyes. Faith is the universe of heroic minds; faith abides forever. Faith is next to Love. Faith lights us into sustaining realities beyond the perception of the physical senses.

This is the reason why Jesus' teaching has inspired and still inspires those who possess faith, to their kings, kingdoms and powers. Finally, a simple child-like faith is a power to solve all problems.

On my mission in Italy, I experienced some marvelous miracles.

One Sunday, nine persons asked to be baptized. A young man offered his large flatbed truck to take about 20 of us to the river. Brother Frank Wooley of Youngstown, Ohio, was with me. He baptized some, I baptized the rest. On the way back, we passed by Buccino. I

asked Brother Wooley to get off at Buccino; he was then 79 years old, I was 46 years old. Frank was a man of God. I proceeded on to St. Gregorio Magno. As it is our manner, I layed hands on each of them for the reception of the Holy Spirit. After the service, they walked with me; over 100 persons strong. We sang as we walked to the city limits, then I still had about 11 kilometers to Buccino, where we resided. I stopped; we sang a hymn. I prayed, then asked them to go to their homes and assured them that I would be alright.

A young man came to me, saying, "I know a short cut; it will save you several kilometers." This seemed welcome news. I was not aware of any evil intent.

He began to tell me of his misery and not having any money to feed his family. I was too tired; I could only think of reaching my destination and rest. A beautiful young woman came by on horseback, having gathered dry wood to cook. Upon seeing her, my so-called guide took the hatchet from her. The lady shouted, "You wicked man; what do you intend to do with this Americano?" The young man struck the horse with the handle of the hatchet. "It is none of your business," he said. I suddenly became aware that the young man was not taking me through a short cut, but deeper into the forest.

I pulled my empty pockets out, showing him I had not any money; then said, "You foolish young man. Some of that crowd you saw might have seen you and if not, I am sure that they of Buccino will be looking for me. You are such a fine young man; what will happen to you? I am a missionary; left my wife and three children home. Who was that beautiful woman?" "She is my wife," he answered. "Do you have children?" I asked. "Yes, two." "Do you love them?" "Yes," he answered, "I did not intend to hurt you. I only thought of scaring you to give me some money. Please do not report me to the police."

"No, I will not talk about this in Italy, but one day I must tell of this, because I believe it was the Angel of God who spared both me and you from evil."

Strange but true. He knelt, cry-

ing, "Please forgive me; do not report me."

I lifted my hands, praying on behalf of him and his family. He led me towards Buccino. I had been right; in Buccino, they were alarmed and looking for me.

I only told them of the blessing, but nothing of the incident on the way.

Since our life has been touched by the Holy Spirit, a new glow of life has been within us lit.

How glorious has been our life of joy and beauty!

Beholding Christ today and for eternity.

Grace be unto you.

Mark Randy

## God's Touch

The above title is in reference to an experience God gave to me several months ago. My affliction started in February 1991 while on a missionary trip to Africa. In some way unknown to me until this day, I developed severe pain on the inner part of my left knee. It was while I was speaking at a church service at the Ikot Obong Branch in Africa that I could not put weight on my left leg. However, having scheduled two meetings that day at two different branches, we were obligated to go. When we arrived at the mission house late that Sunday afternoon, I told Bro. Ross that the pain was too severe and the area where the pain was appeared inflamed and red, so I was going to see Doctor André, who was our resident doctor at the IMA clinic. As soon as he saw it, he advised me to have bed rest because I had developed what he diagnosed as a superficial phlebitis (blood clot).

With some medication, I did as he directed and needless to say, I was very disappointed because it meant that I could not continue visiting the branches which we had scheduled to visit. Bro. Ross took care of me for the remainder of the time we were to be at the mission house. He saw to it that I had my breakfast and dinner every day, and helped make me comfortable in ad-

dition to visiting the branches. The doctor requested that I try to make arrangements to return home to America sooner than expected, because the proper medication to treat the problem was not available at the clinic. We were scheduled to go to Ghana after our tour in Nigeria was ended, but we had to cancel our visit in order that I could come home early.

When I arrived home, my doctor issued the medication to treat the phlebitis and in a couple weeks, it subsided. However I developed another blood clot in October and had to be hospitalized, medicated, and scheduled for surgery. The vascular surgeon ordered several tests and a visit to a general surgeon who was a cancer specialist. After viewing the x-rays, He diagnosed the problem to be a tumor wrapped around the vein, causing the blood clots to occur.

During this ordeal, I was anointed a number of times, and many many prayers were offered up to God in my behalf. The message of my illness was relayed as far away as Africa requesting prayers for my full and complete recovery.

On the morning of surgery, January 6, 1992, my doctor came to my bedside as I was strapped on the operating table and told me that we were very fortunate because at the same time I was being operated on, the cancer specialist was also operating in the room adjacent to where I was and that as soon as the incision was made where the tumor was to have been, he would be called in to determine what further surgery was needed.

As I was waking up in the recovery room some two hours later, my vascular surgeon was standing by my bed, and calling me by name he said, and these are his words quoted, "We did not find what we thought we would find—there was no tumor." Being relieved to hear the news, I praised God and I thank him many times over. God had heard the prayers of His people and removed the tumor. God touched me and removed what could have been something serious and complicated.

Not only do my family and I

thank God for the blessing he gave us, but we thank all the brothers and sisters for your prayers. For those who called by phone, visited me at the hospital and at home, and sent cards and fruit baskets—Thank You So Much—God Bless You, and I want to say I love you all.

Bro. Joseph Perri & Family

### DALLAS continued . . .

bigger building would be built. God moved his hand so that in less than a year, the money was raised, funds were received and permits were granted so that a lovely new church could be erected on the same lot on which the previous one stood. After their testimonies, the Dallas choir sang *If You Would Labor in Zion and Holy Ground*.

Lastly, the program turned toward the direction of the future of the mission. Here it was expressed how the saints in Dallas believe that God has prepared the way for a great work to be done. They shared how it began with a nucleus of a dedicated few, it continued when God sent laborers, and it progresses as the building is dedicated and the puzzle comes together. The saints shared their love for each other, their desire to serve God, and finally, their commitment to spreading this great and glorious Gospel.

The program ended with the choir singing *Stand Up for the Restoration*, which so aptly tells in its lyrics the thoughts that had been expressed. All who attended the program felt the presence of God's Spirit and anxiously awaited the Sunday meeting.

Bro. Barry Mazzeo opened the Sunday meeting by singing so beautifully *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*. Bro. Jim Lovalvo followed with an opening prayer. The Dallas choir was called upon to sing *Holy Ground* again as all joined on the chorus and felt that truly we were on "holy ground" this day.

General Church President Bro. Dominic Thomas discussed how Solomon's temple was dedicated to God. Its purpose was to honor and

glorify God and its most precious ingredient was the hearts of the saints. So, too, is the Dallas Mission built with the same ingredients, and the cornerstone must be faith in God. Truly, Bro. Dominic continued, a place where babies are blessed, the afflicted are anointed, sacrament is shared, and brothers and sisters are ordained into their callings, is a holy place. He called for the need to be reverent in God's temple, and therein a blessing can be found any time, any day. He stated that in order for this to stay a holy place, members must be patient, longsuffering, kind, righteous, and filled with love.

After the inspired words of our brother, Bro. Bob Watson gave the dedication prayer. Bro. Ike Smith followed with words of encouragement, hope, and joy at seeing this day come for the Dallas Mission and for the Southwest District.

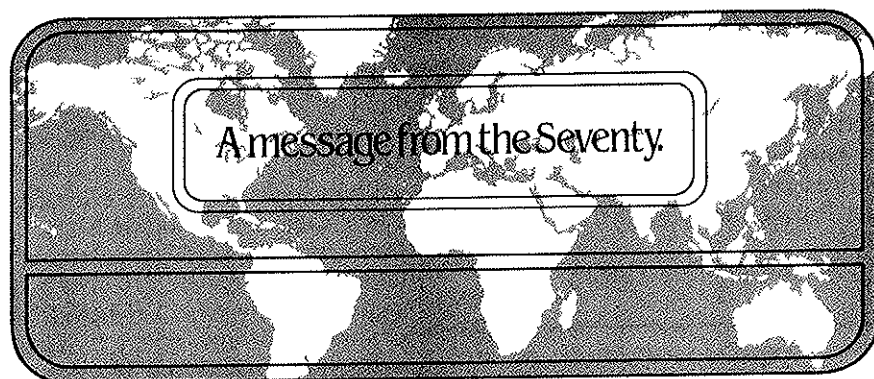
Bro. Jim Lovalvo continued the service, reminding us that this Church is named after Jesus Christ and that it is founded on His gospel. A gospel of unity, love and a desire to keep His commandments is what must be observed.

Lastly, Bro. George Benyola and Bro. Jim Huttenberger, the elders here in Dallas, shared their hope that this would be a place of refuge and comfort. They expressed their desire to have the gifts of the Spirit prevalent here and that soon the building would be filled with new souls dedicated to Christ so that an even bigger building would be required.

As the weekend came to an end, the saints became aware that the future history of the Dallas Mission has yet to be written . . . for it is truly in the hands of God.

## PA Area Campout

The Pennsylvania Area MBA is holding its annual Campout this year from September 18 to September 20, 1992 at the Antiochian Village in Ligonier, PA. For further information and registration forms contact Camp Director Larry Ali at (412) 834-6026.



## Inquiries Received from Around the World

*By Carl J. Frammolino, Evangelist Editor*

In the May, 1992 column about the April Evangelists' Conference Meeting, the activity of the General Church Correspondent was included in the Missionary Operating Committee report. Basically, it reflected that inquiries are received from around the world and that it is the responsibility of the correspondent, currently Evangelist Richard Lawson, to reply to them.

As can be expected, many kinds of questions are asked and appropriate explanations must be given about our beliefs, our goals, our expectations, and our official church position on some matters. Obviously, being the first contact, the correspondent is indeed aware of how essential the response is and how necessary it is to create a favorable impression. Much prayerful preparation, time, and effort are spent to accurately answer and leave the situation open for further exchange.

There is a wide variety to the content and nature of initial letters, which range from specific requests to seeking more thorough understanding of the Church. Brother Lawson includes a Faith and Doctrine card with every first-time reply, and dispatches other pertinent literature whenever feasible.

### IMPORTANT POST CREATED

The need for someone to officially answer letters was recognized in 1965, when the office of General Church Correspondent was created and Brother Joseph

Calabrese was elected to that post. He filled this assignment superbly for 15 dedicated years, as he replied to hundreds of letters from many states and foreign countries.

Brother Lawson, who succeeded Brother Calabrese, has similarly served in this capacity for about 12 years, and has responded to about 550 letters in his tenure. He has written to people in 49 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, Guam, and to 25 other countries. From these statistics, and from the many reports given earlier by his predecessor, it is evident that many hours are required in this activity.

Brother Calabrese wrote a book, *Questions and Answers*, which addresses the kinds of inquiries received. This publication, incidentally also available through the General Church Print House, is sent when appropriate. Brother Lawson forwards other pertinent church printing, such as *A Brief History of The Church of Jesus Christ*, *The Gospel News*, a copy of *The Book of Mormon* (when requested), and a literature list, along with his individualized responses. He uses no form letters. Furthermore, the correspondence is sent as quickly as possible.

Some interested parties write once, while others communicate over a long period of time. Regardless, every letter is treated with the same immediate attention.

### MOST SEEK INFORMATION

Most people are seeking infor-

mation about the Church and want literature that explains what we believe and why. Many are high school and college students who are writing papers for school projects. Others plan to use the information in books or articles they are writing for publication.

Some individuals specifically state they do not want anyone to contact them personally; but on occasion people have changed their minds and have asked for visits. An example of this occurred last year when a man who had been corresponding regularly and had not wanted to meet anyone from the Church asked for a visit; Brother Lawson was able to have an elder in his locale go to the man's house.

How people learn about the Church may not be known. Usually, however, the situation is explained. Even people in prison obtain our address and write, and visits have been made to them whenever possible.

Research has led others to us. Brother Lawson recounted, "In one case an instructor at a small upstate New York college searched the school library unsuccessfully for information on religions dealing with the Restoration. He obtained the name of the Church from a reference book and wrote for some literature. After receiving the brief history, he wrote again and requested five additional copies to place in the library."

Another man wrote for church literature. After that request was filled, he sent money to cover additional literature. Brother Lawson, who assumed that the man was writing for a publication but later discovered that he wanted it for himself, said, "He heard about the Church from a friend who had been in Nigeria and heard of our efforts there. This was an unusual way to learn about the Gospel, but it clearly shows that God does move in a mysterious and wonderful way."

Leaders of various religious groups have also corresponded. In some instances, they additionally seek to interest their congregations in learning about the Church.

(Continued on Page 6)

## The Gospel News

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Anthony J. Scolaro  
20 Byrd Ave.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

**ASSISTANT EDITOR**  
Leonard A. Lovalvo  
8085 Schneider  
Manchester, MI 48158

**CONSULTANTS**  
Nephi DeMercurio  
Peter A. Scolaro

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Cathy Gentile

**GMBA EDITOR**  
Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

**GENERAL CIRCLE EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

### DISTRICT EDITORS

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Lisa Champine  
47025 Hennings Dr.  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48045

**OHIO**  
Mark Naro  
4425 Broadway  
Lorain, OH 44055

**PACIFIC COAST**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
24268 Robie Ct.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Lucetta Scaglione  
303 Union St.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

**SOUTHEAST**  
James G. Speck  
3710 Player Dr.  
New Port Richey, FL 34655

**SOUTHWEST**  
Frances J. Capone  
8725 E. Hubbell  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

THE GOSPEL NEWS (USPS #223-450) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by The Church of Jesus Christ PRINT HOUSE, 8282 Boettner Rd., Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030, 313-429-5080. Second class postage paid at Saline, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE GOSPEL NEWS BUSINESS OFFICE, P.O. BOX 30, BRIDGEWATER, MI 48115-0030.

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

The need for balance in our walk with Christ is something that none of us can afford to neglect. In the same way that our understanding of the Gospel must be based on all of the scriptures rather than on selected parts, our lives and attitudes must likewise be properly balanced, fine-tuned by the Spirit of God, for us to successfully complete our journey and help others along the way.

Like all good roads, the path we travel to heaven is crowned—higher in the middle than at the sides. Should we wander too far to the right or to the left, we place ourselves in jeopardy of falling off altogether. Yet while the middle of the road is a better place to be than on the side, it requires an effort on our part to obtain and maintain that position. The human nature we must all fight to overcome would have each of us drift, to varying degrees, toward one side or the other. As we yield to the Spirit of God, however, we find ourselves gently guided and lifted to a position closer to the middle, where Christ Himself walked when He blazed the trail.

Ironically, if we desire to stay at the extreme right or left of the road, we can find isolated scriptures to support our position. If we adhere only to those principles and read no further, we can become separated from the mainstream, and soon lose the road entirely. The further we drift from center, on either side, the more difficult it is for us to see with the spiritual eyes required to make the journey, and the less tolerant we become toward other travelers—even those who closely follow the steps that Jesus trod.

On the one hand, we can be inordinately strict, adhering to more laws and regulations than the Lord Himself ever required. We can grow so rigid, rational, and structured in our service to God that all variety and spontaneity—even if divinely inspired—is squelched. In the icy, hollow atmosphere to the right of the road, we plod along as if in a dirge, never allowing the warmth of God's Spirit to be fully manifested in our lives.

At the other extreme, we can be overly indulgent, and allow liberty with no regard for responsibility or accountability. We can permit individual feelings to rule to the point where all order—even that brought by the Spirit of God—is abandoned, and confusion reigns in its place. In the mayhem that abides at the extreme left of the road, each one marches to the sound of a different drummer, but we never experience the Unity which moves God's Church forward as a group.

While few of us lean entirely toward either side, we must all be aware of the danger of losing our balance. From time to time, both liberality and conservatism will be required of us, as they were of the Lord. Only a moderate, balanced approach will allow us the flexibility to change lanes without appearing—and feeling—hypocritical. Rather than take a verse or two out of context and hang on to them in support of our personal ideology, we must know the entire word of God and work, with the help and guidance of the Holy Ghost, to strike that balance which is so essential to our successful walk with Christ.

# The Children's Corner

By Jan Steinrock

## He Will Fight for You

Dear Boys and Girls,

When things seem to be going wrong, what do you do? Do you complain, blame someone, or get mad? Worse yet, do you get hopeless and quit praying?

That's what the human side of us often does; the devil also wants us to get discouraged. When he knows he isn't going to win, he wants to ruin the good things that are happening to us today by telling us to have no hope for the future. He'll steal any joy that he can.

But the Spirit of God tells us to trust . . . it tells us to continue to obey. That wonderful Spirit teaches us that the devil tries really, really hard to take away our happiness—especially when something good is about to happen.

Yes, the devil tries really hard then, he'll try to make us worry, but we must answer him back that God can solve all problems. It's up to us whether to give up and be sorry or fight the devil by trusting firmly in God.

The scriptures tell us to fight the devil by using the word of God. For example, when the evil one tells you to give up and not even try to do something you really feel is right, we can answer him with Philippians 4:16, "I can do all things through Christ, who strengtheneth me."

When you are afraid, in the dark, remember that Jesus said, "Lo, I am with you always." When you feel like some terrible problem is in your life, give it to Jesus to solve by praying. And remember that He said in Romans 8:28, "All things work together for good to them that love God."



"Vengeance is mine." He hears your cries; he cares for you. He will give you fresh courage, and peace, and hope.

Sincerely,  
Sister Jan

MESSAGE continued . . .

### FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS

Understandably, many blessings are experienced when face-to-face meetings actually materialize after written exchanges. Both Brothers Calabrese and Lawson have expressed their thankfulness when these take place, such as when Brother Calabrese met brothers from India and Brother Lawson met a brother and sister from Africa who had come to America after being baptized in their land. Having become acquainted through the mail, the person-to-person contact makes everyone feel much closer in the love of Christ.

A recent example occurred locally. Brother Lawson, after answering a man who lived not far from him in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania area, was prompted to telephone him. He could not do so, however, because the man had an unlisted number. Amazingly, the man himself called Brother Dick and told him he wanted to come to church, which he did at the McKees Rocks Branch this past Easter Sunday.

Whether near or far, corresponding with people interested in knowing about The Church of Jesus Christ is very important. No one can determine to what extent God has prepared the hearts of individuals and directed them to inquire.

### DIRECTORY UPDATE

Rosemary Scalise Taylor  
3305 Green Lane—#A  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278  
Tel. (310) 374-7444

That means that our Lord can take something ugly or evil that happened to you and make something good come from the experience.

When someone hurts you on purpose, remember the Lord said,

### WORD SEARCH

ALL	HEARS
SERVANTS	YOUR
BELIEVERS	CRIES
OF	JESUS
GOD	OUR
CAN	LORD
COUNT	GIVES
ON	STRENGTH
HIM	POWER
TO	HOPE
FIGHT	FORGIVENESS
FOR	PEACE
YOU	LOVE
HE	JOY
CARES	FAITH
	MERCY

V	F	N	U	O	Y	V	T	H	G	I	F
C	O	U	N	T	H	F	O	R	S	H	O
A	H	T	G	N	E	R	T	S	R	O	R
R	J	M	Y	G	O	D	R	E	A	P	G
E	E	E	O	I	L	E	W	R	E	E	I
S	S	R	U	V	V	O	P	V	H	V	V
E	U	C	R	E	P	J	E	A	I	O	E
I	S	Y	I	S	L	L	A	N	M	L	N
R	J	L	O	R	D	J	C	T	J	C	E
C	E	F	O	G	I	V	E	S	O	A	S
B	F	A	I	T	H	O	R	D	Y	N	S

## Our Women Today

### Seminar held during General Church Conference

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle sponsored a seminar entitled "It's Time for Our Spiritual Checkup" on Friday, April 10, 1992, at the Greensburg, PA Branch. Sister Arline Whitton, President of the General Ladies' Uplift Circle, welcomed everyone. Then Sister Brenda Capone read Moroni 7:41-44. Next, Sister Rosalie Mott read the words to *Heaven Came Down and Glory Filled My Soul*. This song had been given to her during the night. The words "Now I've a hope that will surely endure" kept going through her mind. This led to the scripture that was read. She also felt that the ultimate goal of our spiritual checkup was to be made whole by our Savior. The reading of Moroni 7 was later confirmed in the afternoon session by Sister Darlene Large.

Sister Nancy DiFede began the seminar by telling everyone that they had gathered at a "treatment center" called The Church of Jesus Christ. No money was required, and each sister was to examine herself, that with the help of God and each other some relief might be found for their spiritual aches and pains. Sis. Nancy applied medical terms in a spiritual way. First, there must be an *examination* of your desire. Do you know God and what He wants from you? *Preventative medicine* must be practiced. Do you read, meditate, fast and pray, spend time alone with God, and support others. Every act of charity is a form of preventative medicine. *Research* must be conducted. How do you gain spiritual strength? You must learn to cultivate your own relationship with God and not always depend on others for spiritual strength. *Protection* must be sought. You have to learn to wait upon God. There is victory in trials, and you must seek a shelter in the time of storm. How much are you depositing each week in your spiritual bank account? *Safety* must

be practiced. Do you turn away from temptations and fears? For every diagnosis that you receive, a prescription can be found in the Bible and Book of Mormon.

Sister Nancy then gave a checkup quiz. How would you describe your spiritual temperature? How would you describe your spiritual blood pressure? How often do you exercise your spiritual body? How often do you exercise with your family? How would you describe your spiritual vision? How would you describe your spiritual diet? How often do you consult your Physician? These questions were discussed, with scripture being given to help find the right answers.

Next, Sister Nancy talked on unity in the body of Christ. I Corinthians 12:12-31 was read. Unity is needed for uplift as well as for correction. She stated that the most important word dealing with unity is forgiveness. The congregation sang *Checking on Me*.

Sister Arline Whitton talked on the anatomy of an illness. *What are your symptoms?* Do you give excuses for not going to church and not getting involved? Are you distracted? Do you blame the church's problems on the other brothers and sisters? Are you complacent? *Can you recognize your symptoms?* Do you realize when you have a problem in your service to God? *Do you seek treatment for your symptoms?* Do you fast and pray? Do you make sure that your spiritual illness does not last for weeks or months on end? *What was the outcome of your illness?* Were you cured? Did you thank God for your healing?

Next, Sister Arline talked about prioritizing our lives. She drew two circles with Christ in the inner circle. The outer circle was divided into all the areas that make up life—family, education, career, etc. She asked the sisters if they were allowing Christ to be at the center of everything they were doing. A sister shared an experience she had had when she turned down a position in her local Circle. She dreamt she was driving down the wrong side of the road. A policeman stopped her and asked her if she realized that what she was doing

was wrong. She answered, "Yes, but there is less traffic on this side of the road." The policeman gave her a citation and took her license away. When she woke up, she realized that she had done wrong in not wanting to do the work that the Lord had for her to do.

Sister Arline then talked about commitment. Activity should not be confused with accomplishment. She told a story about caterpillars who spent days going in circles around food, not finding it. They eventually died. They had done a lot of legwork, but had accomplished nothing. She exhorted the sisters to not *play* church, but *be* church. She asked all present to go back in their memories to the day they were baptized. Do you still feel that same commitment you made on that day, or have you gradually shut yourself up into a small box of complacency and noncommitment? She referred to the March 92 Editorial Viewpoint from *The Gospel News*. It gave a synopsis of what commitment should be. She ended with the words, "The deeper the commitment, the deeper the trust."

Sister Nancy and Sister Arline did an excellent job in bringing forth to the sisters the value of a spiritual checkup. All felt they had received the insight necessary to keep their spiritual bodies in tip-top shape.

After lunch, everyone in attendance was handed a slip of paper containing one of the following four instructions: 1) Tell us about something or someone that has had a great deal of influence on your spiritual life, 2) Tell us what your favorite hymn is and why, 3) Tell us the most outstanding memory in your spiritual life, and 4) Tell us about something today that is near and dear to your heart.

Many beautiful experiences and testimonies were then shared as one by one the ladies gave us their responses. All those with 50 years or more of service in The Church of Jesus Christ sang *Brighten the Corner Where You Are*. Sisters Mabel Bickerton and Mary Ross gave their testimonies. What lovely examples they are to each of us! We closed the service by forming a large circle. Sister Sarah Vancik closed in prayer.



## Branch and Mission News

### Quincy, FL

In a recent meeting at the Quincy, Florida Branch, Bro. Charleston Hester asked, "Are you walking in the light?" He used as his text, John 12:35 & 36, which reads, "Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them."

Bro. Charles encouraged the congregation to, "seek the light while it is near." He likened life to a room where one prepares to meet the Savior, Jesus Christ. He suggested that each person should search oneself, checking to discover any stain within that may need cleaning up. Our brother also stated that the saints cannot afford to let their candles burn low. Brother Charles then reminded all present that time is passing quickly, which makes this an ideal opportunity to keep the light lit brightly. Bro. Charles stated that each individual should strive to be of more quality. He concluded by saying that God is not an inhabitant of darkness.

Brother Cleve Baldwin, in following, said that if each person would walk in the light, he would not lust after the flesh. Bro. Cleve later stated that walking in the light helps to prepare the individual to love God and to understand the things of God. He also said that if we walk in the light, God will set everything straight when trouble arises. Walking in the light allows an individual to stand for truth and righteousness.

Bro. Charles also taught an evening lesson concerning our walk in the light. The scripture that he utilized was Isaiah 58:1-6 and Matthew 6:1-8. The scriptures talk about fasting and prayer. We were taught concerning fasting in secret and abstaining from worldly diver-

sions. We were also told that we should dedicate our service to God in the same manner that we work hard at our jobs. Wouldn't it be nice to prop our feet up after a long day working for the Lord?

We thank God for our visitors from Dallas, Brother George and Sister Stella Benyola, and Bro. Joe and Sis. Regina Alverson from South Carolina.

### Ordination at Harrison, MI

*By Cathy Mulla*

On June 9, 1991, many brothers, sisters, friends and families from the Michigan-Ontario District met with the Harrison Mission to witness the ordination of Bro. Lyle Criscuolo into the priesthood of the Church.

Looking into the congregation gathered in the Township Hall, Bro. John Straccia of the Sterling Heights Branch remarked that "today is a special day, as we let the Lord's will be done." After the hymn *Amazing Grace* was sung, Bro. Nephi DeMercurio opened the service in prayer. Bro. Pete Capone then related examples of individuals in the scriptures whom we should all try to emulate. He indicated that ministers in The Church of Jesus Christ are called by the Spirit of God. They are not professionally trained in an educational institution by man. Instead, they are prepared by God. He discussed the Old Testament priesthood, citing Melchizedek, Abraham, Noah, Aaron, Christ, and later, the establishment of the priesthood after the order of the Son of God. Each of the aforementioned individuals were preachers of righteousness. Bro. Pete stressed that when we are in the service of our fellow man, we are in the service of God. We must do our best to bring people to the knowledge of Christ.

Bro. Pete reminded us that God loves us. He then asked, "How much do we love Him???" We must

all possess the quality of Love, as Christ has loved us. Bro. Pete then asked us to consider the price a minister must pay. He cited the Apostle Paul, and how he was beheaded for his commitment to Christ. Paul was torn between two loves: that of going to be with Christ or staying and attending to the needs of the brothers and sisters. Peter was crucified upside down. If we, like these brothers, make a decision to follow Christ, He will direct where we are to go and what we are to do in this life. Bro. Pete reminded us that it is important for us to see where we stand in life.

We then witnessed the ordination of feet washing as Bro. Gary Coppa washed Bro. Lyle's feet. Afterward, the elders encircled Bro. Lyle as Bro. Paul Whitton offered a prayer petitioning the Holy Spirit of God. Bro. Joe Furnari then ordained Bro. Lyle. A beautiful spirit was felt by all as we witnessed this blessing from God.

After the ordination was complete, Bro. Paul Whitton spoke concerning one's calling into the ministry. He noted that everyone's calling into the ministry or even into the Gospel is different. Each individual has their own unique experience. Bro. Paul explained the method of questioning, recommending and approval that must be done prior to the ordination of an elder. Bro. Paul expounded on his own calling into the ministry, and related how it caused him to fast and pray when he was not accustomed to it. This was followed by a dream he had concerning a narrow road with obstructions, representing trials that he would have to experience. Bro. Paul warned that when Satan would have us do otherwise, we should set ourselves apart. We are accountable for our actions. We must be above reproach. As humans, we are subject to temptation. We must remember that God will forgive us. He also hears our prayers, if we are sincere and honest of heart, and have the humility and faith of a child. He answers in accordance with our needs, our *real* needs relating to our souls.

Bro. Louis Vitto then petitioned us to pray and support Bro. Lyle in

his new office and mission. We must remember his wife, and the new role she must now adopt. He also said that Bro. Lyle has a great work ahead of him.

Bro. Lyle then approached the podium. He said that the most difficult step he ever had to take was just at this moment when he had to step up to the stand to speak. He expressed his gratefulness and thankfulness for all who came to share this day with him. His desire was to have the building filled to capacity each week. He requested that we all pray for him, that he may become the kind of man his mother had always wanted him to be. Bro. Lyle then related an experience he had had which convinced him to accept his calling into the ministry. He had a dream wherein he saw a huge square. There were thousands of people gathered in this square. On one side, there was a platform with a microphone and two men struggling to get to it. One of the men was his father, Bro. Silverio and the other was Bro. Peter Capone from Arizona (both now deceased). Bro. Lyle felt that the square symbolized the Red Square in Moscow. He noted that he saw uniformed men (police) grab the two brothers and tie them up. He was there watching the whole time and finally shouted out that if these men hurt the brothers, they would have to deal with him. His father said to him, "Is that all you can do, boy?" He awoke with the feeling that he could do more. He interpreted the dream to mean that there was more for him to do, and his calling gave him the opportunity to do more.

Bro. Tullio LaCivita from Branch 4 followed. He noted that only the Gospel of Jesus Christ will save us. He also recalled his calling into the ministry. At that time, he felt a heavy responsibility. He also felt unworthy. He asked us all to consider the question: "What are we doing to spread the Word of God and the Gospel?" He expressed his thankfulness for godly parents, who set the example for him to follow. He then noted that God loves the sinner, but added, "Does the human family love God?"

Bro. Gorie Ciaravino then reflected on times past when he and

Bro. Silverio worked together in an area west of Clare, Michigan, very close to the Harrison Mission today. He expressed his gladness in knowing that Bro. Lyle will continue the work in this area. He also reminded us to pray for Bro. Lyle.

Bro. Joe Furnari briefly commented on how Bro. Lyle will now be more visible than ever before with the added responsibility of his new role. He acknowledged the weight of the burden before him, but reminded Bro. Lyle of his mission to bring the Gospel to his fellow man.

Bro. Peter H. Capone then said a few closing remarks. Closing prayer was offered by Bro. Dan Parravano. Afterward, the multitude of people in attendance gathered for a wonderful luncheon. A good time was had by all as we reunited with familiar faces, met new folks, and enjoyed the fellowship of the saints on a beautiful June day. Our hearts were filled with the Spirit after witnessing this great event and sharing each other's company. Our prayers and support are with Bro. Lyle and his wife, Sis. Nancy, as they endeavor to serve God in a new capacity to fulfill the mission that has been assigned to them by our Heavenly Father.

## It All Begins with a Good Desire

By Karen L. Progar

The saints of Detroit Branch 2 visited the Aliquippa Branch on August 24, 1991 for a glorious weekend of fellowship and worship. It was a good desire which brought the saints and their families from Branch 2 to visit Aliquippa, and it was a joyous experience for the saints of Aliquippa to be their hosts. Many gathered at the Aliquippa Branch to await the arrival of the bus. The weekend activities were begun with a pot-luck luncheon, followed by Aliquippa's Annual Sunday School Picnic. Spirits were undaunted by the extremely hot day. Children and adults alike enjoyed the games played that afternoon.

Before an evening activity spon-

sored by the Aliquippa MBA, the visitors were taken to their hosts' homes in order to refresh themselves. The evening meeting proved to be a true blessing. The Aliquippa choir sang, *Just a Little Talk with Jesus, Greater Is He That Is in Me*, and *I Just Keep Trusting My Lord*. The children of the Branch entertained the guests with *Do Lord* and *Don't Let Anybody Take Your Crown*.

Sis. Rose Milantoni, of Detroit Branch 2, was honored on the 50th anniversary of her baptism. Sis. Joyceann Jumper presented a beautiful corsage to our sister, who was very surprised to be so honored. It was wonderful to hear the testimony of our sister, who is an inspiration to us all.

In addition to the hymns presented by the members of the Aliquippa Branch, selections were presented by Sis. Loretta and Bro. Leonard A. Lovalvo, as well as Sis. Judy Lambert. Sis. Judy sang a few of the songs which have been recently given to her by the Lord, and even taught one of the hymns to the congregation. Immediately following the meeting, we gathered in the church basement for dessert and fellowship.

Our Sunday meeting began with a Sunday School service dedicated to the continuance of praise through singing, as we sang a number of the saints' favorites. Bro. Alex Gentile was the opening speaker of the Sunday meeting. Using John 15:12-24 as his text, he spoke regarding the importance of friendship. We were also privileged to hear from visiting brothers Dan Parravano and Leonard A. Lovalvo, who continued on the subject of friendship and how important it is for us to be the friends of God.

During the weekend, we were reminded that this entire event was made possible because someone had a **good desire**, which everyone supported. Branch 2's membership worked hard to raise the funds necessary to pay the bus rental. It took nearly two years to earn enough money to make the trip. What a reward we all received from someone's good desire. It is truly a blessing to reaffirm what wonderful

(Continued on Page 10)

**GOOD DESIRE continued . . .**

friends we have in The Church of Jesus Christ. This friendship and these good desires only exist because of the friend we have in Christ. May God continue to bless the saints and their families. We thank God for the joy He allows us to share through the friendship and love of His people. Many lovely memories were made, which will continue to bless us for many years to come.

**Saline, MI**

*By Tonia Davis and Lisa Francione*

On Sunday, March 1, 1992, Sister Jan Oestricher was ordained into the office of deaconess of the Saline, MI Branch. We had many visiting brothers and sisters from Pennsylvania, Ohio, and various branches of the Michigan-Ontario District. Sis. Jan's father, Brother Felix DeVincentis from the Aliquippa, PA Branch, as well as her sister, Theresa, were present for this joyous occasion.

Bro. Chuck Jumper from Aliquippa expressed his happiness and excitement for our branch, along with his own wonderful memories of this loving sister when she was in Aliquippa.

Sis. Jan related two experiences concerning her ordination. When the members first began using our new building, Jan had watched the sisters set the sacrament table. A feeling that someday she would be doing the same came over her. That feeling returned and stayed with her the two weeks before the elders approached her. When they asked to meet with Jan, she was very concerned about the meeting and went to the Lord in prayer, not knowing the purpose. The night before the meeting, the Lord told her that the purpose of their meeting was to speak to her about being ordained.

Sis. Marty Jumper washed Sister Jan's feet, and Brother John Buffa ordained her.

It was a beautiful day well spent in the Lord's house. We pray the Lord will continue to bless our Sister Jan in all her endeavors.

**Roscoe, PA**

*By Norma Kendall*

On Sunday, April 19, 1992, a warm and sunny day, we awoke with a great joy in our hearts. Earlier in the week, a young man, Raymond Ambrose, visited with Bro. John and Sis. Norma Kendall and requested his baptism. Raymond was blessed in the Church in 1958. As a child he attended our Sunday School. He has had many good examples and teachings from his parents, Bro. Raymond and Sandy, his grandparents, Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Mary Ambrose, who were baptized in 1920 and who remained faithful until our Lord called them home, two aunts, Sisters Virginia Comadena and Louise Welch, members of the Roscoe Branch, the brothers and sisters of the Roscoe Branch, and many others whom he has met. As it was with him, his children, Samuel and Raymond, attend the Church with him.

We hadn't met in our branch for some time because the brothers, sisters, and friends had been remodeling the ceiling of the building. We didn't know if the work would be completed for today. But God blessed us, and the work was finished. It was truly a sight to behold when we walked into the House of God and saw what a beautiful ceiling they had made. We thank all who assisted in any way to make God's House beautiful.

After the morning services, our Sunday School, which consisted of a program, and preaching service, we went to lunch and agreed to return at 12:45 p.m. for our afternoon meeting.

In our midst as we assembled for our baptismal and testimony services were the parents of Raymond, Bro. Raymond and Sandy, his sister, Mary, a co-worker, Mrs. Shirley Chitty, and many friends. We opened our services with a hymn and prayer. We then dismissed to the baptismal site, where many more friends and visitors met with us. We sang two verses of *Shall We Gather at the River?* Prayer was offered by Bro. James Abbott. After asking the new convert, Raymond, "Have you

repented of your sins?" and "Do you promise to love and serve God all the days of your life?" and receiving an affirmative answer, Bro. John Kendall took Raymond into the river and baptized him. It was a beautiful baptism, and Bro. Raymond said after coming out of the water, "I feel so good," which filled our souls with joy. We sang the last two verses of the hymn, prayer was offered by Bro. James Dutchko, and we then returned to the church.

We sang a few songs and Bro. Raymond came forward to be confirmed. As the ministry of the branch gathered around to confirm our new brother, Bro. John Kendall called the house to prayer and offered a prayer to God in behalf of our new brother. The ministry then laid hands on him and Bro. Matthew Laktash offered a prayer to confirm Bro. Raymond Ambrose as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ. As we sang *A New Name Written in Glory*, all present in the church came forward and greeted our new brother in Christ. Our meeting continued and was filled with hymns and testimonies of praise to our Lord for all His blessings towards us. Yes, we have much to rejoice over and we went home filled with joy from a day long to be remembered. Our services were closed with singing *Ring the Bells of Heaven* and prayer.

**Ordination at Phoenix, AZ**

*By Frances J. Capone*

Sunday, March 1, 1992, was a special day for the Phoenix membership and all the visitors—who had come from California, Colorado, and Pennsylvania. The occasion: Brother Bill Duvall's ordination as an elder.

Brother Walter Jankowski (from Denver) was the first speaker. Basing his sermon on the fifth chapter of Alma, he urged the congregation to accentuate the positive and not to dwell on the negatives of life. He ended his sermon by asking, "If we don't sing the song of redeeming love, who will?"

Brother Paul Gray (Anaheim) continued on the same vein as Brother Jankowski—emphasizing that the stresses of life have been the same throughout the ages. In conclusion, he said, God's blessings supersede all the vicissitudes of life."

Brother Isaac Smith (Pinetop) followed, speaking on the fragility of life—how early influences affect the happenings of later life—that we must realize the influence we have on the lives of others. He concluded by saying, "We all have the opportunity to influence others in a positive way. Let us leave good memories."

Before the ordination, Brother Walter Cihomsky washed Brother Bill Duvall's feet. Circled by Brothers Barry Mazzeo, Walter Cihomsky, Paul Gray, Harold Burge, Richard Christman, Isaac Smith, and Joseph Griffith, Brother Bill Duvall was ordained an elder by Brother Walter Jankowski.

Brother Duvall addressed the congregation:

"Praise God that He blazes the trail that I can follow. You cannot see what the right choices are if you're not in tune with God. I especially want to thank God for my father-in-law who has done so much for his family. I love all of you and I hope to do for you what God has done for me. God bless all of you."

While Brother Duvall's feet were being washed, Sister Kay Gray (Anaheim) had the following vision:

"I saw a small orchard and a new baby tree. There were men working and pruning all the dead branches; they dug carefully around the tree—pulling it up from the ground and carefully cutting small sections from the bottom of the roots. Then they handed the tree to a group of men standing close by. The tree was carefully placed in the ground and the area around it was filled with water and dirt and then water again. As they stepped back, the baby tree was consumed with fire. In its place was a larger tree with new buds. I saw oil dripping from the leaves of the new tree."

Brother Duvall, his wife, Sister Terri, and their family of one son and two daughters were called to

the front of the church where Brother Paul Gray invoked God's blessings on them all.

May Brother Bill Duvall and his family be surrounded continually by the arc of God's love and may his ministry bring the message of redeeming grace to many souls.

Brother Harold Burge offered the dismissal prayer, and on this note ended a day of rejoicing for all who were present.

## Three ordinations at Detroit Inner City

By Karen Mancinelli

*It's time for the young men to come to the aid of their country, It's time for young women who love the Lord to stand.*

That's just what Brothers Jeff Bork and Ken Green and Sister Cindy Ciaravino have been doing, and that's precisely why God called them to be ordained into the offices of deacon and deaconess. They were ordained on January 12, 1992.

Before the ordinations, Brother Sam DiFalco, visiting from the Sterling Heights Branch, read the duties of a deaconess. He also related a dream he had regarding some ordinations taking place in the Inner City Branch. He was not surprised to hear the news, because God had already revealed it to him.

Bro. Louis Vitto, also of the Sterling Heights Branch, followed, reading the duties of a deacon. Afterwards our brother pleaded with us to remember to pray for all our ordained officers, of which our brothers and sister are now a part. Bro. Lou also read from Acts 6, reiterating that the men chosen long ago for this same position needed to be full of the Spirit of God. He encouraged us to cultivate the Spirit of God within us so that God could use us, too.

Our brother reminded us that the men of old prayed, meditated, and waited upon the Lord, and when we follow that pattern it's good.

We sang *To the Work* as our brothers and sister made their way to the front to have their feet washed and be ordained.

Bro. Jeff Bork's feet were washed by Bro. Tony Campinelli and he was ordained by Bro. Gary Champine. Bro. Ken Green's feet were washed by Bro. Chris De Roo and he was ordained by Bro. Flip Palacios. Sis. Cindy Ciaravino's feet were washed by her mother-in-law, Sis. Antoinette Ciaravino, and she was ordained by Bro. Eugene Amormino.

May God richly bless them and give them the strength and courage they need to carry out His will.

## Blessings in Lorain, OH

By Sis. Iva L. Davis

On Sunday, January 19, after passing sacrament, Brother Frank Altomare saw the arm of Jesus over His people and said, "He would give us peace, not as the world gives." He said to "come unto Him and He would take care of us," and that He loves us. These certainly were comforting words, as we continually think of the many needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

We gathered for fasting and prayer on Saturday, January 25, to learn that our Sister Katie Cocco had been in a car accident. However, she had been spared from harm and was able to be with us. We were all feeling very thankful in our prayers and as we were praying, Brother Frank Palacios was carried away in the Spirit to a field. He saw those of us who were at the prayer meeting sitting on the ground, Indian style. A man was in the midst of us. He said He came to feed us, and fed we were!!

As we gathered for fasting and prayer once again on February 1, Sister Rose Palacios told us a dream she had had the night before. In her dream she saw the late Brother Rocco Biscotti telling us to "press forward."

We just wanted to share with the readers of the *Gospel News* that God is ready to comfort, strengthen, direct, and bless His people. All we have to do is believe and put our faith into action!

(Continued on Page 12)

## LORAIN, OH continued . . .

A special meeting was held on Sunday, April 5, at the Lorain Branch to honor our brothers and sisters who have been in the service of the Lord for 50 years or more. Those honored, followed by their years in the Church, are as follows: Bro. Frank Altomare, 50 years; Bro. Eugene Persutto, 54 years; Sis. Lena Calabrese, 61 years; Sis. Vera Naro, 54 years; Bro. Ernie Alessio, 57 years; and Bro. Joe Maselli, 57 years. We also remembered those who were not able to meet with us today: Sis. Marie Caldwell, 50 years; Sis. Julie Alessio, 57 years; and Sis. Rose Altomare, with 55 years. Combined, they have put 495 years into the Lord's service.

Visiting with us this day were Bro. Fred and Sis. Charlotte Olexa. Bro. Fred told us a dream that he had, in which he saw a stone staircase, and was strongly impressed with the idea of "one step at a time." He commented that he's only been in the Church for 35 years, and in those years he has trusted in the Lord in order to keep His commandments, and will continue to trust in Him for tomorrow.

Bro. Fred also read from Matthew 12:46-50 (Who is my mother, and who are my brethren?), and I Corinthians 4:15 (We have many instructors in Christ, but not many fathers.). We are the family of God, and all share in His Spirit. God wants us to be a happy and blessed people.

Bro. Joe Calabrese read a little history of each of our "honored" members, and Bro. Joel Calabrese read a poem that Sis. Marie Caldwell had written and sent to us from Florida.

After the congregation sang *The Last Mile of the Way*, each of our senior members gave a personal testimony. After their testimonies, they came forward and sang *Sweeter As the Years Go By*.

As they finished singing, Bro. Frank Altomare saw a white cloud and an angel saying, "Blessed are those that prove faithful to the end."

## Address Change

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## \* WEDDING \*

### CIHOMSKY-PECZELI

Brother John Cihomsky and Theresa Peczeli were united in marriage on Saturday, March 28, 1992.

Brother Walter Cihomsky, father of the groom, performed the ceremony in Old Town San Diego. Musical selections were provided by Bro. Walter and Bro. John at the reception.

The couple resides in Encinitas, California. We pray that God blesses John and Theresa in their new life together.

## Children Blessed

Samantha Lee, daughter of John and Jullie Seighman, was blessed by Brother William Chepanoske on May 10, 1992, in Monongahela, PA.

Timothy James, son of Brother Dean and Sister Sue Crosier, was blessed by Brother Bob Nicklow in Monongahela on June 7, 1992.

## OBITUARIES

### FRANCESCA BOSCIANI

Sister Francesca D'Angelo Bosciani of the Lockport, New York Branch passed away on April 4, 1992. She was born on December 6, 1900 and was baptized on August 11, 1946 by Bro. Ishmael D'Amico in Brooklyn, NY. She moved to Lockport on February 12, 1966.

The funeral service was conducted by Brothers Russell Martorana and Paul D'Amico.

Surviving are one son, one daughter, ten grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. Our sister was a faithful member and will be missed.

### FEARN LOVE

Sister Fearn J. Love passed on to her eternal reward on June 11, 1992. A member of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch, she was born on September 22, 1902 and was baptized by Bro. Charles Ashton on July 3, 1932. She was confirmed by Bro. William H. Cadman.

The funeral was conducted by Brothers Ralph Bernardino and Joseph Genaro.

Our sister is survived by two daughters, one son, a brother, eight grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. Sister Love was a long-time faithful servant of God who loved Him and all her brothers and sisters in Christ. May the Lord comfort her family.

# The Gospel News

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

August, 1992

Volume 48, No. 8

## "Study to Show Thyself Approved"

THE LEHI APPROACH

*By Steve Champine*

Second Timothy 2:15 states, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Do we read and study the scriptures? How often? Have we developed a consistent pattern of personal study for ourselves, or do we wait for our Sunday Schools and MBAs before opening our Bibles and Books of Mormon?

As these questions are asked, do we conjure up thoughts of school days past, and subconsciously attach a stigma to this word "study"? You may even think of study as burdensome and unnecessary, reasoning, "It's not my strong point;" or, "It's too difficult to understand these things, so why try?" Perhaps we're unsure of **how** to study.

Before answering these challenging and personal questions for yourself, let us look to our **standard**, the word of truth found in the Bible and Book of Mormon.

Timothy says we should study to be **approved** unto God. The current Webster's dictionary states, as one of the definitions of approved, "accepted as satisfactory." Why should we seek to be "satisfactory"

to God? So a workman (that's you and I) needeth not to be ashamed.

Have you ever been ashamed or embarrassed to give your testimony because you felt you didn't know enough or were unsure of our beliefs and doctrine? Perhaps you "held back" because you felt fearful of ridicule, unable to produce scriptural evidence for those confronting you. Our personal study of God's word, coupled with His Spirit, will enable us to eliminate these fears and give us confidence because we have **rightly divided** the word of truth.

We can quickly note at least eight different passages in the New Testament scriptures where the Apostles entreated the saints with a form of the phrase, "Now I would not have you ignorant . . .," on different aspects of their service to God. Ignorance does not necessarily denote stupidity, but rather simply a **lack of knowledge**. Peter and Paul wanted the saints to know what they believed in and what they were talking about!

An excellent example of what our method and perception of scripture study could or perhaps should be, is found in I Nephi Chapter 5. I call it, "The Lehi Approach."

To preface Lehi's approach to scripture study, we must bear in mind an important point. I Nephi 3:2-4 plainly indicates that Lehi was **commanded** in a dream by God that his sons return to Jerusalem for the sole purpose of obtaining the plates of brass. As we read on in the following chapters, they did secure the plates, but required divine intervention and encountered personal hardship. Likewise, a brief review of what Joseph Smith endured in bringing forth the Book of Mormon reveals a similar pattern: commandment, divine intervention, and personal hardship. When we acknowledge the sacrifice and adversity evident in the process of acquiring the scriptures, it leads us to a greater love and appreciation for them.

In examining Lehi's approach to scripture study, we discover that he had this deep love and appreciation of God's word. The process that followed was an extension of this same love and appreciation. We can break down this approach into four recognizable categories: attitude, action, benefits, and results.

Starting with I Nephi 5:9-10, we can easily see Lehi's **attitude**. They rejoiced exceedingly and gave thanks. Consider Lehi's circumstances for a moment. He was mocked and ridiculed for his testimony of God. He was com-

(Continued on Page 2)



## Note of Thanks

First of all, I want to thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for seeing me through the serious illness I have had since November 10, 1991.

I want to thank all the brothers, sisters, and friends from the East Coast to the West Coast for their sincere prayers, cards, gifts, phone calls, and letters. I appreciate this very much.

Praise God for the saints throughout the Church who fasted and prayed for me. It's wonderful to feel the love of God displayed among the saints. It brought much joy and comfort to me during my illness.

Special thanks to the Anaheim Branch for the prayer group, Ladies' Circle, MBA, and all the meetings in which they never failed to remember me.

Special thanks to the elders of the Anaheim Branch. Namely, Brothers Frank Ciotti, John Di-Battista, Otto Henderson, and Paul Gray. They never failed to bring sacrament each week, and offered beautiful prayers for my recovery.

Many surgeries were performed on my body. Yes, I almost passed away several times. Yet my Savior, in His infinite mercy, saw fit to bring me back to life. It is a miracle that I am living.

Brother Frank Ciotti was present at the hospital with my family during the first surgery. The doctor came out of the operating room into the waiting room and announced, "We're losing her." Brother Frank Ciotti and my family prayed to the Lord that life would come back to my body. After prayer, the doctor came out again and said, "I believe she will live." Brother Frank Ciotti then said, "Let's pray and thank God for sparing her life once again."

The Lord was with me through all my surgeries, and He continues to bless me at all times. Special thanks to my dear sister-in-law, Sister Marie Campitelle, for leaving Detroit and coming to California to assist me in time of need. May God bless her and repay her for the good deed that she has done.

Special thanks to the members

of my family who assist me in times of illness; great is their reward. I believe in miracles. I was dead, and God has restored me back to life. "Praise the Lord."

Sincerely,  
Sister Mary Dichiera  
Anaheim, CA Branch

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I wish to thank each of you for your prayers during my operation and the many cards and phone calls. They are all appreciated, and I am sure that God answered each prayer on my behalf. I feel so blessed to know that God has given me such a beautiful family of brothers and sisters.

Brother Douglas E. Ford  
Box 1061  
Meaford, Ont. N0H 1Y0

---

### APPROVED continued . . .

manded to leave his comfortable home to go live in a tent in the wilderness. He had to contend constantly with the rebellion in his own family. He also carried the burden of knowing that many of his friends and family would be killed or captured in the impending destruction of Jerusalem. Despite all these things, Lehi **chose** to rejoice and give thanks. This is a valuable example for us to consider and benefit from.

The second part of Lehi's approach required **action**. Sandwiched between his rejoicing and his praise to God was a time of sacrifice and burnt offerings. While we are no longer under the law of Moses, we may translate Lehi's actions as coming to God with a broken heart and a contrite spirit. (See III Nephi 9:19-20.) Therefore our first action is fervent and sincere prayer.

In review, appreciation, an attitude of thanks and praise, coupled with sincere, heartfelt prayer, sets us up for the next element of action: searching the word. We can see from I Nephi 5:10 that Lehi

searched the plates of brass **from the beginning**. This indicates enthusiasm and thoroughness on the part of Lehi. (This was possibly Lehi's first opportunity to examine the plates, which would account for his excitement. We, too, might have reacted in the same manner when first hearing of the Gospel; the key for us lies in sustaining this desire and enthusiasm over time.) Lehi didn't just read, but he **searched** the scriptures. "Search" is defined as "to explore, examine, or look into in order to discover." Again, we can certainly learn from Lehi's example.

We are now open for the third component of Lehi's approach: **benefits**. Because of Lehi's preparation and effort, we can readily observe his rewards. First, Lehi was given new insight into who he was in the eyes of God, and a greater understanding of his heritage (I Nephi 5:11-16). Second, when he "saw" all these things, he was filled with the Spirit to the extent that he began to prophesy (I Nephi 5:17). And lastly, Lehi concludes that the records were desirable and of great worth (I Nephi 5:21). These benefits are in no way exclusive to Lehi; by our following this approach, we too can expect similar benefits.

**Results** make up the final category in the Lehi approach. Verse 23 of I Nephi 5 states, "[I]t was wisdom in the Lord that we should carry them, the scriptures, with us as we journeyed in the wilderness towards the land of promise." Here we can witness the **lasting results** that this approach had on Lehi and even his family. They knew it was "wisdom in the Lord," or in other words, the will of God, the right thing to do, that they should carry the word of God with them on their journey in life. Lehi's perception of and dependence upon God's word for understanding and direction had deepened and taken root in his heart. He would never be the same from this time forward. The culmination of this experience was Lehi's realization of his need for the constant companionship of God's word.

(Continued on Page 3)

## 62 Years in the Church

We celebrated Margaret Scala Benyola's 62nd anniversary of her service to the Lord on April 12, 1992 at the Metuchen, NJ Branch with a beautiful cake and the company of many brothers and sisters. Following is her testimony of how she and her family came to The Church of Jesus Christ:

I was born on October 20, 1913 in Brooklyn, New York. I am the daughter of Sister Florence and Brother Dominick Scala. We moved from Brooklyn to Metuchen when I was about two years old. I grew up in Metuchen, and first heard of The Church of Jesus Christ at the age of 15.

A brother in the Church, Louis Mazzeo of New Brunswick, New Jersey, had a dream of my father (whom he had never met) in which he was told to go preach the Gospel to a man named Dominick Scala.

Bro. Mazzeo spoke to another brother, John Cantamessa, and asked him if he knew a man named Dominick Scala. Bro. John said, "Yes, I used to work with him." So Bro. John took Bro. Louis Mazzeo to see my father.

My father was working, making cement blocks with my brother, when Bro. John introduced Bro. Louis to him. He said, "He wants to tell you something!" Then something happened to my father, like a finger scratching his head, and he heard a voice saying, "Listen and obey, because some

day when you pass away, you will come before Me, and I will give you a place in heaven!"

My father stopped working and listened to Bro. Mazzeo's testimony of The Church of Jesus Christ. Then he agreed to attend the next meeting. That Sunday, I went to my church, and my father drove to a corner where he met the brothers from The Church of Jesus Christ. He enjoyed that first meeting so much that he wanted to give them money right then, but the brothers told him, "Put your money back; we don't preach for money. They invited him back for the afternoon testimony meeting, and he rushed home and told my mother to hurry and make him a sandwich, because he was going back to the meeting.

My father listened to everyone's testimonies, including one where a brother's daughter was very sick, and upon being anointed she asked for something to eat, indicating she was healed. When my father heard how the Lord had worked in these people's lives, he said to himself, "This must be the true Church of Jesus Christ."

When he came home from church, he told us of the wonderful things he had heard. That following Sunday, my mother and some of the family went with my father when Bro. John came to pick us up. My first impression was seeing this small store being used as a meeting place, in contrast to the very large, ornate building that I was used to when I went to church. But the people there were so humble, beautiful, and happy! Bro. Mazzeo and his wife, Sis. Angelino, Bro. John and Sis. Mary Cantamessa, and Bro. Amelio Cantamessa and his wife and their families were there.

The preaching was in the Italian language, mixed with some English, and when I heard it I felt the love of God, and knew there was a change in me. We were so excited to learn that they met on Wednesday nights as well! We attended a number of meetings, and one Wednesday night they taught about baptism. My father was so blessed, he asked for his baptism, then I felt the same blessing and stood up and asked for my baptism. That was April 15, 1930, and the

following Sunday my father and I went into the Raritan River in New Brunswick, New Jersey and were baptized by Bro. Rock Ensana.

I am at this time baptized 62 wonderful years, and if space permitted I would relate all the wonderful blessings that took place throughout the years.

## DIRECTORY UPDATE

Amormino, Eugene, Donna,  
Celeste, Darin, Josephine  
(City name only has changed):  
Chesterfield, MI 48051

Calabrese, Joseph & Victoria  
1244 W. Main St.  
Ashland, OH 44805  
Tel. (419) 281-6394

Ford, John J.  
1924 16th Street  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44423  
Tel. (216) 928-3788

Giannetti, Jeffrey & Kathy  
13 Winterset Lane  
Marlton, NJ 08053  
Tel. (609) 985-3348

Pietrangelo, Nicholas  
40836 Woodside  
Clinton Twp., MI 48038  
Tel. (313) 263-7107

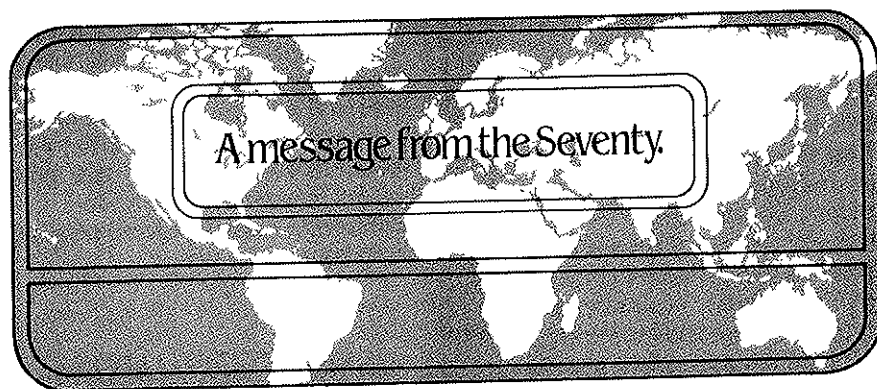
## APPROVED continued . . .

Do we today see the significance of this same result in our lives? As we each journey in this wilderness towards that land of promise, it is still wisdom in the Lord that we carry the word of God in our hearts. The scripture calls it, among other things, "the rod of iron," "a lamp unto our feet," and "the sword of the spirit." Today, let us hold fast to the rod, clearly see the path, and keep our swords ever sharpened.

I would encourage us today to take a renewed approach in spending time with God's word, the Bible and Book of Mormon, and to strengthen our resolve to "study to shew thyself approved unto God."



Sister Margaret Benyola



## Brothers Report on Italian Trip

*By Carl J. Frammolino, Evangelist Editor*

A trip was made to Italy during June of 1992 by Brothers Thomas Liberto, Joel Gehly, and John DiBattista, during which they visited Church locations as well as brothers and sisters. Parts of their report follow:

Brother DiBattista, Secretary of the Foreign Missions Operating Committee (FMOC) was in Italy for the entire time from June 1-18. He was accompanied by Brother Gehly, Treasurer of the FMOC, during the first segment of the journey and by Brother Liberto, Chairman of the General Missions Operating Committee, for the second half. Although moving at a brisk pace, they were able to spend time with some members in their homes.

Many prayers were offered and experiences related. The Lord, of course, is everywhere, and the brothers stated how edifying it was to hear how He has blessed our people in that area of the world. As in other fields, the needs of the brothers and sisters and their desires to have missionary help were expressed.

### FIRST STOP

The first stop was at Calla Gonana, a small seaside village on the island of Sardinia. A new church building, holding between 100 and 125 people, is almost completed. Excellent facilities are also included to house a missionary couple. The property was donated by the community with the stipulation that a church be built on it. Experiences have been received about the building.

Brother Stefano Romano is the elder-in-charge. He is well-liked, respected, and very well-known in the village.

As is true in other places, communicating can be a problem even if the visitors can speak the country's language. Different dialects and colloquialisms are used in different localities, so interpreters are important. In this vein, in Calla Gonana, Brothers Gehly and DiBattista said they had a tremendous experience. They had desired to communicate more effectively and quickly, but no one could be located to translate for them; thus, they were proceeding in what they described as being "halting Italian."

They prayed after lunch the first day that God would help them to communicate better. A few hours later, two young ladies from northern Italy who spoke English came up to Brother Romano on the street to admire his pet dog. He invited them to his house, where they could translate. They stayed until later in the evening, expediting the interaction, and allowed Brother Romano and his wife, Sister Immaculata, to converse more beneficially with the brothers, and vice-versa. It was possible to more fluently relate some experiences and talk about the scriptures. The young ladies returned the next morning for a continuation of the spiritual exchange.

It was then on to Milan, where Brothers DiBattista and Gehly spent two days. Brother Rosario Scravaglieri is the elder-in-charge. Being most desirous to work for the Lord, he also sends out an Italian

Church newsletter to all the members there. On Saturday, the brothers discussed the scriptures, talked about the Church in Italy, and reviewed the membership list in the various cities.

The Sunday service was spirit-filled and everyone was blessed. A special prayer was offered for Milan and the hope that the Gospel would go out from that location. There was much inspiration and liberty in the meeting, as the Spirit of God came down forcibly on everyone.

### TEAM CHANGE

On June 9, Brother Joel left and Brother Tom arrived to join Brother John. The next place visited was Naples. A brother, Mario Digaetano, was in the hospital, so they went to his bedside and anointed him. He was, of course, most appreciative of the prayer, and he was happy to see them. They visited others in the area for two days.

They drove to Bocchino, and another uplifting event occurred on their arrival. They pulled up to a house to ask for directions. To their pleasant surprise, the man living there is a member of the Church. What a wonderful meeting! He then directed them to the elder, Brother Rafaele Magaldi, with whom they spent some time in going over the things of God. They also visited other members during their stay.

San Dimetrio Corone, which was where our late evangelist, Joseph Buonofiglio, had resided, was the next place visited. They asked the first man they saw in the center of town where Sister Buonofiglio lived; once again, they were provided with a ready guide: The man was her nephew; he directed them to her home, and they conveyed their condolences.

The elder there, Salvatore Oliva, was away, but they visited others. They also became acquainted with the hotel owner and his family, and they held a meeting which lasted over two hours, during which the man's family members were anointed and some of his children were blessed.

As they were preparing to leave

(Continued on Page 6)

## The Gospel News

### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Anthony J. Scolaro  
20 Byrd Ave.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

### ASSISTANT EDITOR

Leonard A. Lovalvo  
8085 Schneider  
Manchester, MI 48158

### CONSULTANTS

Nephi DeMercurio  
Peter A. Scolaro

### OFFICE MANAGER

Cathy Gentile

### GMBA EDITOR

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

### GENERAL CIRCLE EDITOR

Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

### DISTRICT EDITORS

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Lisa Champine  
47025 Hennings Dr.  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48045

### OHIO

Mark Naro  
4425 Broadway  
Lorain, OH 44055

### PACIFIC COAST

Kenneth R. Jones  
24268 Robie Ct.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

### PENNSYLVANIA

Lucetta Scaglione  
303 Union St.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

### SOUTHEAST

James G. Speck  
3710 Player Dr.  
New Port Richey, FL 34655

### SOUTHWEST

Frances J. Capone  
8725 E. Hubbell  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

THE GOSPEL NEWS (USPS #223-480) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by The Church of Jesus Christ PRINT HOUSE, 8282 Boettner Rd., Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030, 313-429-5080. Second class postage paid at Saline, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE GOSPEL NEWS BUSINESS OFFICE, P.O. BOX 30, BRIDGEWATER, MI 48115-0030.

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

While most religions have established seminaries, colleges, or schools of divinity through which candidates must pass before being eligible to serve as ministers, a formal education was never a prerequisite for the Priesthood after the order of the Son of God. The inspiration, wisdom, and knowledge supplied by and through the Holy Spirit are what we in The Church of Jesus Christ rely upon to bring convincing words of everlasting life to the souls of mankind.

Through the Restoration of the Gospel, we know that the churches of the world had begun teaching and following after the precepts of men, rather than the precepts of God, until eventually their creeds were an abomination in the Lord's sight. Today we look askance at individuals and institutions that perpetuate such teachings. Unfortunately, we can mistakenly look with equal contempt upon the very notion of theology.

At its root, the word "theology" means *the study of God*. In itself, this is not a bad thing at all. Regardless of our educational background, each of us can (and should) make a prayerful study of God's word, and take the time to meditate upon His ways. And regardless of our natural ability, the Lord will inspire us and increase our wisdom and knowledge directly in proportion to our efforts and desires. Experiences abound in which even men and women who were unable to read were miraculously blessed by God—according to their desires—to know and understand His word. In a sense, everything that we do to draw closer to the Lord—our daily prayer life, studying His word, attendance at and participation in auxiliary meetings and classes, and whatever else we do toward understanding and following the precepts of God—is our personal theology. Whether or not we are called to be shepherds, our study of God makes us more effective as His servants.

It was not theology that caused so many churches to fall away from the true Gospel. They were teaching and following after the precepts—laws, principles, instructions, and rules of conduct—of *men*, therefore we cannot correctly call their studies "theology." The negative connotations that we associate with the word "theology" are more correctly associated with dogma.

Dogma is opinion, asserted authoritatively as fact or doctrine, usually without proof or reference to evidence. It is easy to see how dogma can either bring about or result from the absence of a strong theology within the members of a church. Not willing—or not permitted—to make the natural and spiritual efforts required to grow in the knowledge and understanding of the Lord, an individual or a congregation could be swayed by opinions—if set forth strongly enough—which have no basis in scripture.

As other churches made the mistake of teaching the precepts of men, we in The Church of Jesus Christ must be ever vigilant to ensure that we don't abandon the precepts of God. Relying upon the Spirit of God, let us boldly proclaim and teach only the truth, which can be proven by the word, confirmed by the Spirit, and supported by all who are called to preach and expound the Gospel. But let us only *offer* our opinions (or the opinions of others), after making sure no one receives it as teaching. Above all, let us encourage and promote everyone's personal theology—their own study of God. If we all pull in that one direction, we'll be sure to make headway as a Church.

# The Children's Corner

By Janet Steinrock



## Let Your Light Shine

Dear Boys and Girls,

Did you ever walk into your school or your classroom feeling very shy and nervous? Did you ever look at other kids and say to yourself, "They're smarter than me (or prettier, or better in some way)." Did you ever really feel terrible about yourself and hopeless that you could ever change?

Well, you *can* change. Especially if it is to change for the better. There is a wonderful, powerful, simple way to change the way you feel inside. That way is named Jesus. The Book of Mormon and the Bible are full of ways to overcome our fears through the help of Jesus.

Jesus tells us, "I am the light of the world." He is stronger than any evil. He can protect you from harm, and he can give you courage. The great apostle Paul was sent to Rome, the most powerful city in the world during his day. His job for Jesus was to tell the sinners there that there was a Savior born who loved them. His job was to be a witness for the love and power of Jesus. He went to tell the emperor and all the fancy rulers that they should repent of the bad things they had done and start a new way of living.

The new way is to forgive enemies, to love God, to ask for our needs in the name of Jesus and have faith that He will give us what we need. We do this by praying.

And that is something you can do anytime, anywhere. If you are at school, and someone mean is there, you can ask Jesus to help you. He can change their heart towards you and teach you how to get along better with them.

In the book of Matthew, Chapter 5, the Lord Jesus Christ tells us that we are very important in this world. If people are like food, we are like salt. Think how food tastes plain without salt. The Lord said that even though there are fewer of us; it's just like a little salt on a lot of food. We are the salt of the earth.

Jesus also said that we are like lights in a dark world. You know, when you're happy and someone really loves you, and you see that loving smile in their eyes? Well, we are supposed to show our love and kindness to others too.

The Lord said to let our lights shine. Don't light it and then hide it under a basket or bushel! Let your love and your light shine for everyone to see. And then, when people wonder how you got to be so loving, tell them about Jesus. Tell them how Jesus has heard your prayers and healed you and loved you. Invite them to Sunday School. Pray in front of them and let your love and light shine, shine, shine.

With care,  
Sister Jan

Matthew 5

### WORD SEARCH

THE  
WORDS  
OF  
JESUS  
CHRIST  
OUR  
LORD  
ARE  
TO

MATTHEW  
FIFTH  
CHAPTER  
BIBLE  
DO  
NOT  
FEAR  
YOU'RE  
SALT

LET  
YOUR  
LIGHT  
SHINE  
BEFORE  
THE  
WORLD

EARTH  
HE  
LOVES  
US  
PRAY  
THANK  
HIM

R	B	I	B	L	E	T	H	A	N	K	U
H	E	F	I	F	T	H	L	O	V	E	S
I	F	T	L	A	S	R	L	O	R	D	T
M	O	D	P	Y	J	A	W	U	J	S	J
N	R	V	A	A	T	E	L	R	I	J	E
D	E	R	O	S	H	F	A	R	E	E	S
L	P	K	D	T	G	C	H	R	H	N	U
R	L	R	T	E	I	C	U	U	T	I	S
O	O	A	H	S	L	O	Y	O	S	H	L
W	M	H	A	Y	Y	K	P	Y	G	S	T

### MESSAGE continued . . .

the next day and were visiting with a sister, her husband, who is not baptized in the Church, had a vision in which he saw Brother Oliva returning home. They went to Brother Salvatore's home, but he was not there. After spending some minutes in conversation, they were greatly blessed to see Brother Salvatore approach and return to his house; and they were able to spend some time with him.

The itinerary was completed with visits to Villa San Giavanni and Sicily before returning to Milan, then back to Rome, and on to America. In Sicily, they participated in the Lord's Supper with the flock. On their way there, they stopped once again to visit Brother Digaetano in Naples and anointed him.

All three brothers expressed their thankfulness to God for His protection and direction. They were most pleased to have been with the brothers and sisters many miles away, who are doing their best to keep the Gospel pure.

## Branch and Mission News

### News from Michigan Branch 3

By Cathy Mulla

On Sunday, June 16, 1991, the saints and friends of Branch 3 in Sterling Heights, Michigan had the pleasure of hearing Bro. Lyle Criscuolo present his first Sunday sermon, one week after his ordination as an elder. On this day, we also had Sis. Frances Capone visiting from Arizona. Today, we also acknowledged our love and honor to our fathers as we recognized Father's Day.

Bro. Lyle introduced the service by relating things he recalled about his father and the advice that was given to him. First and foremost, his father told him to serve God. He explained that when we make a decision to serve God, we are essentially entering a battle. Bro. Lyle related that when he served in the military, the ultimate goal was to try to deceive the enemy. In the 1991 Gulf War, General Norman Schwarzkoff used a maneuver from World War II. He caused the enemy to look elsewhere, while his troops attacked around the other side behind the enemy lines. The trick was to deceive the other side and cause them to believe the untrue and unexpected.

Bro. Lyle drew our attention to the Bible where Eve confessed that the serpent had beguiled her. Bro. Lyle indicated that Eve was in a frame of mind to be persuaded by the Devil. Bro. Lyle cited I Corinthians 3 wherein it is written, "Let no man deceive himself." In Galatians 6 it is written, "Be not deceived, God is not mocked." Bro. Lyle added that whatever we sow in life, we shall reap (II Corinthians 9:6). If we walk in the rain, we will get wet. He cautioned us to keep ourselves pure.

Bro. Lyle emphasized that when we resist the principles of God, we are deceived. He expounded on this by adding that we cannot change the principles of God, we can only

confirm them. This can be likened to the law of gravity, which can neither be created nor destroyed. We are saved by God's grace, not because we are good people or by our works, but by God's love. Bro. Lyle concluded with a warning that we follow the scriptures in order to follow through and endure to the end.

\*\*\*\*\*

On November 10, 1991, the brothers and sisters of Branch 3 had the honor and pleasure of the company of Bro. Carl Frammolino, his wife, Sis. Nancy, and his son Ralph, along with his wife Jeanne and their family from California. Their visit was pursuant to the wedding of Bro. Carl's youngest daughter, Cathy.

Bro. Carl spoke about his upbringing and background in Detroit. He pointed out that knowing the Lord is with us helps us each step of the way. He cautioned that there has to be a need for Christ in each of us or many of us would just drift away, and reminded us that Christ will always be with us. Bro. Carl read from Romans 8:38-39, wherein we are told that nothing separates us from the Love of God. Christ went to the cross, died, and resurrected so that we could have the hope of eternal life.

There are times when we feel lonely. Many have allowed the Spirit of God to pass by, thereby missing their calling and later feeling let down. We have all felt a feeling of loss, even in losing things. We have also experienced the exhilaration and the feeling of great relief when we find something we have lost. Bro. Carl compared this feeling to the beautiful feeling we experience when we have God in our lives. It is a feeling we do not want to lose. God is Love.

Bro. Carl explained that it is difficult to go through life alone. We need each other. We need to be with those who love Christ and

## Our Women Today

### Special Announcement!

Free daycare will be provided at the General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference to be held on October 3, 1992 at the Greensburg Branch next to the World Conference Center.

A morning and afternoon session will be available for children 4 years old and younger. These sessions will coincide with the Circle Conference meetings. No daycare will be available during the lunch hour.

Interested mothers should bring the following:

- A. Diaper changing items.
- B. Familiar or favorite toys.
- C. Car seat, travel bed, or something your child can rest or sleep in/on.
- D. Bottles of juice or formula with written instructions explaining any special feeding procedures.
- E. Favorite snacks for the older child.

NOTE: Snacks will not be provided by the daycare staff. Medicines will not be administered by the daycare staff.

Please mark or label all items that belong to you/your child. This will ensure that all items are returned to the correct owners.

The daycare will provide some age-appropriate safe toys as well as an Art Activity table and a story teller time in the AM and PM sessions. A quiet area will also be available for children requiring naps.

The daycare staff will be made up of volunteer sisters. If you would be interested in helping by giving one hour of conference time, please contact Sister Judy Coppa (Michigan) 1-313-739-1579 or Sister Darlene Markazene (Pennsylvania) 1-412-373-8958.

We will do our best to provide good care for your children while you enjoy some quality time at the General Circle Conference.

(Continued on Page 8)



**BRANCH 3 continued . . .**

have a similar need for Christ. We should live each day as if it were our last day on earth. God has blessed us with everything we have. If we have God and His Son, Jesus Christ, within us, we have everything and we need nothing more.

Bro. Pete Capone followed, emphasizing what a blessed assurance it is to know that Jesus is ours. A sinner can change his life completely when he renders obedience to God. If we put our trust in God, He will help us get through tribulations and distress. Bro. Pete directed our attention to Stephen, who wanted to maintain his stake in the Lord. With Christ, we are more than conquerors. God gives us the strength to say no when we need to. Bro. Pete encouraged us to try to serve God the best that we can, until the day that we pass from this earth.

A season of testimony followed. We enjoyed the visit of our brother and his family, and we are glad for the message brought forward this day.

**Ordinations at Cape Coral**

*By Bertha Constantine*

On December 8, 1991, the blessings of God prevailed in the Cape Coral, FL Mission, as four of our brothers were ordained.

*The Spirit of God Like a Fire Is Burning* was sung to open our meeting. Brother Milford Eutsey, Jr. led the congregation in prayer, followed by *My Lord Can* from the *Songs of Zion*.

Brother James Sheffler proceeded to read from Alma Chapter 6 on the ordinations. *To the Work* was sung, and Brother Milford Eutsey, Sr. read from I Corinthians Chapter 12 of the different offices in The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Milford Eutsey, Jr. read from Acts Chapter 6, explaining the duties of the officers. Brother DeWayne Eutsey was ordained a teacher by Brother Milford Eutsey, Sr. after Brother Norman Greg Swanger performed the feet washing.

The following brothers were ordained deacons: William Gawronski, ordained by Brother James Sheffler after Brother Jack Constantine performed the feet washing; Norbert Darr, ordained by Brother Charles Maddox after Brother DeWayne Eutsey performed the feet washing; Lynn Swanger, ordained by Brother Isaac J. Smith after Brother Milford Eutsey, Jr. performed the feet washing.

Brother John D'Orazio, District President, talked on how helpful and important to the Church our brothers will be. He read from St. John on Philip and the eunuch, and Isaiah Chapter 56. He compared our brothers to the Olympic runners, passing the burning torch on to the next runner to win the race. Our ordained brothers all glorified the Lord in their testimonies of how God has worked in their lives.

Many visitors witnessed the ordinations, Brother John and Sister Linda D'Orazio, Brother Charles Maddox, Brother Isaac J. and Sister Sandy Smith and their family, Brother and Sister Giansante, and Mark and Kathy Swanger. Brother Milford and Sister Shirley Eutsey opened their home for luncheon prepared by the Ladies' Circle. It was a day of many spiritual blessings. We thank God for our young brothers. They will be very helpful to our branch in helping spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Cape Coral or wherever they go. May God bless each one of them.

**Fort Pierce, FL Branch**

On Sunday, February 16, 1992, we were delighted to have several visiting members join us. Brother Joseph Bitteringer and Brother Bucky and Sister Norma Kendall from Pennsylvania; and Brother John and Sister Bessie Impastato and their daughter, Sister Roseanne Skupny, Sister Sarah DiFalco and her mother, Theresa Jamborino, Sister Patty and Marty Planko, all from Michigan.

Before our service started, there was a wonderful spirit of singing. One could not help but feel our Lord's presence. Brother Norman Campitelle then opened the

service with prayer, and Brother Bucky Kendall followed, reading from the Book of Hebrews, the 12th Chapter. He stressed faith and sacrifice from the heart, and to love and serve God. Brother Joseph Bitteringer continued with interesting comments on his missionary work with our late Brother William H. Cadman. Brother Bitteringer baptized the first 16 members in Nigeria. He is to be commended on his 37 years of missionary work. His closing remarks were, "The harvest is ripe, and the laborers are few." We then sang the wonderful hymn, *Tell Others of Jesus*.

A great blessing was felt when testimonies were given, and we felt inspired when Sister Roseanne Skupny gave her testimony. After the sacrament was served, Brother Frank Rogolino commented on the love that the Lord has given us for one another, and what a blessing it was to see our visiting members. The hymn *God Be with You* was sung, and Brother Joe Graziosi offered the closing prayer. It was indeed a perfect day.

**Gastonia, NC**

*By Margaret Iorio*

God bestowed a beautiful blessing on us at the Carolina Mission when He poured out His beautiful Spirit upon us. It was like a small conference. We enjoyed the visit of many brothers and sisters—Brother Armand and Sister Jean Genaro, and Brother Mike and Sister Barb Nuzzi of Warren, Ohio; Brother Tom Staley of Glassport, PA; Brother Jon and Sister Pam Molinatto and family; and Bob Dyer of Erie, PA.

Presiding Elder Jonathan Molinatto welcomed all and said how happy he was to see all the visitors. After opening prayer by Brother John Genaro, Brother Jonathan opened our preaching service with Mosiah 35. He spoke beautiful words. Brother John Genaro continued, speaking about the same subject. During our testimony service, many uplifting testimonies were given. Since the hymn *Don't Let Anybody Take Your*

*Crown* was on Brother Jonathan's mind all week, he called this hymn to be sung during sacrament.

Brother Jon was anointed for an illness which he thought would require surgery. However, a great Physician intervened. This illness has left Brother Jon. We are thankful that God is answering our prayers.

Brother John Genaro requested the hymn *Beyond the Sunset* in memory of Sister Jennie Ciarrochi, in addition to those other brothers and sisters who have gone on to their reward.

Pray for us here at the Carolina Mission. We have about 18 members and pray that God will send more. God promises "where two or three are gathered together in My name, I will be there." God bless all of our brothers and sisters throughout the Church.

## The Message Rang Out, the Time Is Now!

By Carolyn Gentile

This was the message relayed by the elders and young people who testified at the Michigan-Ontario Area MBA weekend retreat in March, 1992. Among those who attended the meeting and received the message was Jim Lambert of Detroit Branch 2. The following is Brother Jim's testimony:

"When I decided to go to the Michigan-Ontario Campout, the last thing on my mind was baptism. I thought I would go there and play football, socialize a little, and go home untouched; but that didn't happen.

"We made it to the camp Friday afternoon, and received our room assignments, and just sat around the rest of the night. Saturday rolled around. I didn't wake up for the early morning meeting, but the night meeting was strong enough for me. That night a few young people testified that it doesn't make sense to wait for a big experience to ask for your baptism. That was touching. Then I don't know what happened. While we were closing in prayer I just 'lost it.'—I couldn't stop crying.

After the meeting, walking back to the rooms, my girlfriend Lynette didn't let me deny my emotions. She kept asking me what I was feeling. I told her that it was nothing, and to just forget it.

"After a quick snack, we built a campfire in the woods. We stood around it and sang songs. I still felt a burden on my chest, and I knew what it was, but I was too scared to release it. I kept saying to myself, 'One more song.' Well, the last song came, and I still hadn't asked. Then I got even more scared. All of a sudden I had this feeling that if I didn't ask now, then I would never ask. During the closing prayer, I knew Bro. Keith Lesperance was talking straight to me, like I was the only one there. After the prayer I took Bro. Phil Buffa aside and told him. Before I knew it, the whole camp got the news. The elders decided to wait until next week to baptize me.

"The next Sunday came and it was cold, but as I was walking out into the water I didn't feel it. It was the greatest feeling imaginable! I thank God that He called me and made something beautiful of my life."

Bro. Jim was baptized on March 15, 1992 at Belle Isle, along with three other candidates from the Inner City Branch, all of whom asked at the camp.

We thank God for working in Bro. Jim's life. In the short time he has been baptized, he has been a blessing to us.

## Jesus Helps Billy

By Terri Duvall

On March 23, 1991, my husband and I and our three children moved from Anaheim, California to Phoenix, Arizona. Our two older children, Patricia (age 12) and Cynthia (age 9) had no problem adjusting to their new schools. Our youngest son, Billy (age 7) was a different story.

He would come home from school with a note from the teacher saying that he didn't have recess because he had to sit on the benches and do his school work.

Every night, he would bring home stacks of papers that he couldn't complete in class.

I could tell he was depressed and embarrassed, so I worked on the papers with him. I also told Billy that we were going to pray together about it. We did pray.

The next morning, before school, I told Billy, "When the teacher hands out a paper, close your eyes for a second, and ask God to help you."

He said, "Mom, I can't. That's cheating!"

I said, "Billy, it's not cheating. If the other kids knew God, they could ask Him for help, too."

Billy said, "I'll do it, Mom, but I still think it's cheating."

When I went to get Billy at school, he came out with a big smile. I said, "Honey, how was your day?"

Billy said, "Mom, God talked to me today. When the teacher handed out the papers, I did like you said, even though I thought it was cheating. I asked God to help me get my work done on time, and I started doing my work really fast. Then God talked to me. He said, 'Okay, Billy, now you do the rest.' And I finished, Mom, on time!"

So Billy trusted God and He helped him. Plus, God dealt with the fact that Billy felt it was cheating. Billy has never had a problem with finishing his work on time since then. He gets awards and good notes about his school work! Praise God. He is so good.

## Wisdom from Miami, FL

Sunday morning brought joy and fellowship from Sunday School through the morning service. During Sunday School, verses from Ephesians 4:2-6 were read, about being one with God, and unified with one another, supporting one another and being supported.

Bro. Joe Catone Jr. opened our worship service in prayer, asking that God's word, not the words of man, be spoken. Bro. Ron Carradi spoke to us about judging. We seem to lack the ability to judge

(Continued on Page 10)

**MIAMI, FL continued . . .**

ourselves, but few of us have a problem judging others. We should be supportive, but be careful that our support does not turn into judging. We should be there for one another, but not be a judge as to why we are there. We all have the same calling from God. We must be careful how our countenance can show our attitude, and careful to show the love of God, and not the judgment of man. We must remember where we ourselves came from; none of us are sinless. We all have our faults, yet God loves and accepts us equally.

Bro. Mark Kovacic followed, asking, in three different attitudes, "Are we all saints?" His mode in asking the question was presented in a startling manner, expressing body language. It is said that 65% to 85% of the meaning of what we "say" comes from body language. The Apostle Paul said that we must be careful always to *show* love to one another. The Spirit of God must breathe into our words and into the scriptures. We must speak with sincerity, compassion, and love. We must strive, all of us, to reach this end. It is striving to this end that will lead us into Zion. We must work to achieve a oneness with God.

The fellowship and testimonies that followed were truly filled with the love of God that day. Let us hope that this love will follow us, not only toward those we love, but also toward those with whom we may find fault.

**Lake Worth, FL**

It is so wonderful to experience the Lord's blessings in the Lake Worth, Florida Branch. Our Lord has truly opened the doors and windows of heaven in this part of the vineyard. We have been richly blessed in receiving so many visitors from all of God's creation. We have enjoyed having the Seed of Joseph visit in our midst, and now we have so many new friends.

The saints from all over the country and the ministry gathered in Lake Worth to enjoy the "Son-

shine" in witnessing two baptisms on the morning of February 2, 1992. James Baca and his wife, Martina Jessie Baca, both of the Seed of Joseph, were immersed in the waters of regeneration by Bro. Eugene Perri on that cold, crisp, windy morning. Later that day, Bro. James was confirmed by Bro. Eugene Perri and Sis. Martina was confirmed by Bro. John D'Orazio. Afterwards, Bro. Miguel Bicelis sang *He Changed My Life Completely* from *The Songs of Zion* in Spanish.

We were all greatly encouraged by what the ministry brought to us, and our dear Lord blessed us greatly in seeing two more souls come unto Him. The blessings continued to pour out upon us when, the next Sunday, we were honored to have a large number of our Guatemalan friends visit us along with Bro. Joe and Sis. Mary Perri from New Jersey.

Bro. Joe spoke to us of America, the choice land above all other lands, and how the remnant of the house of Israel will gather upon this, the land of their inheritance.

On the following Sunday, we all gathered from far and near for our district conference. We had a long and beautiful season of singing and praising our Lord. On the rostrum were brothers representing the ministry from all over Florida, as well as California, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

Bro. Louis Pietrangelo opened with Psalm 1, "Blessed is the man who walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly." Bro. George (Rusty) Heaps followed with a poignant discourse on how we should be a smiling, happy people, quoting "Men are that they might have joy." Bro. Rusty followed by speaking of the liberty of the Spirit. The liberty of love bears witness of the Spirit in a person's life. Our Brother Apostle V. James Lovalvo continued, speaking of the strait gate and narrow way and how we make choices. With every choice we make, there is a sacrifice made as well. "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve."

Bro. Bucky Kendall spoke last, on keeping the Lord's day. We were all filled and overjoyed this

day, to be so greatly blessed. While our brother elders were preparing to pass the Lord's Supper, Bro. John Griffith spoke in the Spirit, and God's Spirit was felt by all who were present.

We at Lake Worth would like to acknowledge each and every one who has visited the Church in this part of the vineyard, whether baptized or not, young or old, friends or first-time visitors. There were too many of you to name one by one, but we enjoyed the privilege of having you, and the blessings that you brought into our midst. May God care for you and bless you all.

**Gifts of the Spirit**

The Lord heard my prayers  
as I asked him to help me.  
He took me out of my sinful life  
And corrected my way of living.  
Now I belong to Him!

One night as I lay in bed,  
The Lord called out my name  
He said, "Child, do you love me?"  
I bowed my head in shame.

I said, "Yes Lord, I love you.  
I love you above all."  
He said, "Child, come to me.  
I'll remove every wall."

So I took one step  
And reached out for His hand  
He helped me through another  
Until I was able to stand.

His touch was so gentle,  
And such peace I felt within.  
At that moment I just knew  
The Lord was leading me from sin.

I cried out, "Lord, I'm weak!  
I stumble, and I fall."  
He said, "Child, just have faith.  
I will help you through it all."

So in my heart I searched for faith.  
And found it 'way down low.  
I brought it to my Father,  
And asked Him to help it grow.

He said, "Child, I will help you.  
Take one more step to Me."  
I stumbled one step farther,  
And more faith did I receive.

I cried out, "Lord, I love You,  
But still, I'm not that strong."  
He said, "Child, I will guide you,  
And it won't seem very long."

He said, "Child, your life on earth  
Will pass before you know.  
What beauty you will then see,  
And how your love will grow.

"Let go of earthly possessions;  
You'll feel peace and joy in time.  
For such beauty you will receive  
As I share with you what's Mine.

"My kingdom I will offer  
To those who walk with me.  
But My roads are very narrow,  
Not many will ever see.

"So remain faithful on your road  
in life,  
For I have shown the way.  
And remember these words I spoke  
to you  
Through each and every day."

—Sis. Pat Collison  
Windsor, Ontario, Canada

## Correction

An error appeared in the  
Obituary column of the June, 1992  
*Gospel News*. Services for Sister  
Anna Fallavollitta were conducted  
by Bro. Robert McDonnell and Bro.  
Vincent Scalise.

## \* WEDDINGS \*

### GLOVER—LaREW

Melissa Jean LaRew became the bride of Timothy  
Lee Glover on April 4, 1992, in a ceremony at the  
Vanderbilt, PA Branch conducted by Bro. Lawrence  
King. Melissa is the granddaughter of the late Bro.  
Elmer LaRew.

The couple are now residing in Burgettstown, PA,  
where Timothy is employed.

Our congratulations and best wishes are extended  
to this young couple.

### BOYLE—CIAROLLA

Mr. Michael Boyle and Miss Rebecca Ciarolla were  
united in marriage on April 11, 1992 in Warren, Ohio.  
Bro. Bob Ciarrochi joined them together in holy  
matrimony.

Sis. Barb Nuzzi was the pianist, and Karen Rumble  
was the vocalist.

The couple will be residing in Cortland, Ohio and  
attending the Warren Branch. We pray that God will  
bestow upon them many blessings and much love as  
they begin their new life together.

### RAUB—GIOVANNONE

On May 23, 1992, Mr. Leo Raub and Sister Carrie  
Lynn Giovannone were united in holy matrimony in an  
outdoor wedding in Warren, Ohio. Bro. Brian Mar-  
torana delivered the sermon and Bro. Jerry Giovan-  
none, father of the bride, married the couple.

Vocalists were Christylee Bass and Frank  
Johntony, who also played the guitar. Laurie Sebastian  
was the pianist.

The couple are residing in the Warren area and at-  
tending the Warren Branch. May God bless them as  
they begin their lives together.

### SIEBERT—CARTINO

Mr. Randel Alan Siebert and Sister Robin Lynn  
Cartino were joined together as husband and wife on  
June 20, 1992 in Niles, Ohio. Bro. Bob Ciarrochi spoke  
the sermon, and Bro. Bob Batson administered the  
vows.

Sis. Barb Nuzzi was the pianist, with Diane Yazvac  
accompanying her on the organ. Sis. Marty Jumper  
and Dr. Kenneth Kuhn were the vocalists.

The newlyweds will be residing in Cleveland, Ohio  
and attending the Warren, Ohio Branch. We wish  
God's richest blessings in their future life spent  
together with love.

### PENA—MEO

Mr. Joseph Pena and Miss Sharon Meo were united  
in marriage on June 28, 1992.

Bro. Robert McDonnell of the Bell, California  
Branch performed the ceremony, assisted by Bro. Tom  
Jones of Atlanta, Georgia. Musical selections were pro-  
vided by Sis. Lori Capone.

The couple will reside in Los Alamitos, California.  
May God bless them both in their new life together.

## Children Blessed

On March 8, 1992, Danielle Elaine Davella,  
daughter of Nick and Sis. Susan Davella, was blessed  
by her grandfather, Bro. James G. Speck, in the Palm  
Harbor, Florida Branch.

Nicolette Marie Lovalvo, daughter of Tim and Tami  
Lovalvo of Salida, CA, was blessed by her grandfather,  
Bro. Leonard Lovalvo at the Modesto Branch on March  
15, 1992.

Bro. Paul Palmieri blessed his grandniece Jennifer  
Ann, daughter of Richard and Sis. Darlene Palmieri, on  
April 19, 1992 in the Aliquippa, PA Branch.

Vincent Gene Salvio was also blessed on April 19,  
1992, by Bro. Paul Gehly at the Greensburg, PA

(Continued on Page 12)

**CHILDREN BLESSED continued . . .**

Branch. His parents are James and Heidi Salvio, and his grandmother is Sis. Rose Nalevanko.

Lauren Ashley Urana was blessed by Bro. Bob Bufington at the Greensburg, PA Branch on May 10, 1992. Her parents are Alan and Amy Urana, and her grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Patty Mellor of Greensburg.

Also on May 10, 1992, Ciera Michelle Ross, daughter of Anthony and Michelle Ross, was blessed by her grandfather, Bro. Anthony Ross, at the Aliquippa, PA Branch.

On the same day, Madison Janelle Dulisse was blessed by her great-grandfather, Bro. Joseph Bologna, at the Modesto, CA Branch. Her parents are Dominic and Jane Dulisse of San Jose.

Amber Nicole Morle was blessed by her grandfather, Bro. Bob Nicklow Sr., on May 17, 1992, at the Saline, Michigan Branch.

On the same day, Ryan Christopher Tingler, son of Ron and Phyllis (Jackson) Tingler, was blessed by Bro. Jesse Carr at the Kinsman, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Bro. Joseph Lovalvo blessed his great-grandson, Paul Adrian Guerrero, on May 24, 1992 at the Modesto, CA Branch. Paul Sr. and Amber Guerrero are the baby's parents.

Alexandra Marie Cornell, daughter of Dave and Kelly Cornell, was blessed by Bro. Carl Frammolino on May 31, 1992 in the Imperial, PA Branch.

On June 7, 1992, Bro. Joseph Calabrese blessed Kylee Ann and Shelby Leigh Preston, twin daughters of Jeff and Brenda Preston, at the Lorain, Ohio Branch.

Bro. Dick Lawson blessed his grandson, Benjamin Daniel Bonasso, son of Perry and Amy Bonasso, on June 21, 1992 at the McKees Rocks, PA Branch.

Also on June 21, 1992, Bro. Frank Altomare blessed Melissa Sue Nardozi, daughter of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Tammy Nardozi, at the Lorain, Ohio Branch.

## Address Change

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**OBITUARIES**TONY R. CAPONE

Brother Tony Capone passed away on May 30, 1992. He was born on June 24, 1924 and became a member of The Church of Jesus Christ on April 10, 1955. At the time of his death he was a member of the Bell, California Branch.

The funeral service was officiated by his brother-in-law, Bro. Vincent Scalise, with the assistance of his brother, Bro. Peter H. Capone of Branch #3 in Sterling Heights, Michigan.

Our brother is survived by his wife Betty, three daughters, one son, 18 grandchildren, and many brothers, sisters, and friends in Christ. His son, Bro. Joseph Capone, delivered a eulogy which paid tribute to the many achievements of his father, especially honoring him for his devotion to his family. Bro. Tony truly fulfilled the words of King Benjamin, "that when ye are in the service of your fellow being ye are only in the service of your God" (Mosiah 2:17). The last years of his life were truly devoted to the Bell, California Branch and its members.

MINNIE DePIERO

Sister Minnie DePiero passed on to her eternal reward on June 19, 1992. She was born on July 25, 1906, and was baptized on December 14, 1919 by Bro. Peter Garofalo in Youngstown, Ohio.

The funeral was conducted by Brothers Ralph Berardino and Richard Santilli.

Our sister is survived by one son, Caesar, a daughter, Ruth Hughes, two brothers, three sisters, two grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, and many brothers and sisters throughout the Church who knew her well.

Our sister Minnie stayed active in all the Church auxiliaries and was well-known by young and old alike throughout the Church. The saints of Youngstown will miss her especially. May God bless and comfort her family.

MARTIN C. KLEIN SR.

Brother Martin Klein Sr. passed from this life on July 2, 1992. He was born January 22, 1912, and was baptized on April 2, 1961 in Monongahela, PA by Bro. Sam Costarella.

The funeral was conducted by Brothers Ralph Berardino and Donald Pandone.

Our brother is survived by his wife, Sister Lillian; one son, Bro. Martin Jr.; one daughter, Sis. Mary Kay Surrena; a sister, Elizabeth Rust; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Bro. Martin will be missed by all the saints in the Youngstown area. He was faithful to the end. May God comfort his family.

# The Gospel News

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

September, 1992

Volume 48, No. 9

## Simi Valley Dedication Service

*By Linda Reynolds*

On Saturday and Sunday, May 23 and 24, the Simi Valley, CA Branch held their Dedication service. It has been 11 years since we sold our previous church building, and we had been meeting in homes during the week and rented another church building for Sunday services.

There were many obstacles in our way and many public officials who did not want to see another church being built in Simi Valley. Thanks to the efforts and prayers of many of our church members, we finally completed the building and with great pleasure held our Dedication services. We are especially grateful for some of our older brothers and sisters. Bro. Joe and Sis. Suzy Masselli, who were longtime members of the Valley Branch, were very supportive over the years. Bro. Joe now lives in Lorain, Ohio; Sis. Suzy passed away last year. Neither one was able to see our building completed or come to the Dedication, but we felt they were with us in spirit. Bro. Sal and Sis. Alice Molisani moved to the east coast last year and were not able to attend. Bro. Enos and Sis. Alyse Genaro, who live in Florida, were also missed at the Dedication service.

We began on Saturday at 3:00 p.m. with an Open House. We had

numerous pictures around on bulletin boards, and beautiful music was provided for us by Sis. Sharon Church on the piano. We enjoyed visiting with many brothers, sisters, and friends from all over the country. After an Italian dinner, Bro. Ken Jones from the Riverside Mission led us in singing. Our presiding elder, Bro. Ed Buccellato, began our evening service by asking Bro. Frank Varado to open in prayer. Bro. Ed then began to talk about the history of the Valley Branch. He told the stories of the many obstacles we encountered over the years and we all had a good time seeing the humor in it.

We were very fortunate to have the Mariachi Band from Tijuana with us. They sang and played a couple of songs.

Bro. Ed called Brothers Emmett Hood and John V. Azzinaro up front and gave them both a certificate of appreciation. These two brothers worked very hard for many years, and are appreciated very much by all of us here in Simi Valley. Other certificates were handed out to the many people who have helped in the building of the church in many capacities.

Then Bro. Ed asked for all Simi

## This Miracle Belongs to You

*By Carolyn Martorana Light*

I want to write and thank all of my "family" in Christ for your prayers, support, and correspondence over the past few months. God has answered your prayers and has chosen to heal me of a tumor. I wish to share the details of this experience as a testimony of thanksgiving and praise.

In April I was referred to a specialist for medical attention for my left ear. It had been repeatedly infected over the past winter, and I was losing my hearing.

Upon being examined and tested, the doctor told me that there was a tumor attached to my eardrum, and that he was not able to tell its size or the extent of destruction due to the diseased state of the eardrum. To confirm his diagnosis, he requested that his colleague also examine me. He confirmed the diagnosis, and both recommended emergency surgery due to the proximity of the auditory bones, skull, and brain. Their fear was that these structures might be damaged, or that a fatal brain abscess might occur.

I was anointed and chose to

(Continued on Page 3)

(Continued on Page 3)



## Greetings in Christ



By Mark Randy

There are times in our lives when we need to close our eyes and open our hearts. Then, meditating on the good things of life, we may find our worries and problems slowly depart.

Try this; it will renew your whole life. "Casting your cares on Jesus, because He cares for you."

Rediscover your inward strength, "remembering you can do all things through Christ, which strengthens you" (Philippians 4:13).

You will find a new purpose in life. Our Lord's promise is to all believers. "You will show me the path of life. In your presence is fullness of joy; at your right hand there are pleasures for evermore" (Psalm 16:11).

When Moses died, the Lord appeared to Joshua saying, "As I was with Moses I will be with you; only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law, which Moses, my servant, commanded you; turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate therein day and night that you may observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then you may make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success" (Joshua 1:8).

I did not realize the challenge ahead of me as a visiting Pastor to the Muncey, Ontario Mission. Sunday was the only day I was there; occasionally Saturday and Sunday, but that was not enough to see the

daily needs and trials which were the heavy burden these great people were carrying. There were no jobs and no future for their children. The government was supplying them with the means to survive at a mere subsistence level.

When the burden fell on me to take the full responsibility of caring for them, I saw the dilemma that faced them daily. I had always loved them, but now I became a part of them.

There was an opportunity to visit their homes, and listen to their needs and frustrations. Truly once I had loved them, but now I also understood the reason for their behavior. I can honestly say I became one of them in Christ Jesus.

Our little church became a daily beehive of activity. As I write these words, I think of Rodney and Judy Dyer. I have a prayer in my heart for them and their success.

I remember when we raised the Maple-Leaf Canadian Flag on the church property. Brother George Nicholas, who had served in World War I, pulled the rope that lifted the flag. I watched the faces of our little crowd as they saluted that flag with their little children. Mr. Jackson, the owner of the general store across the road, came out and stood in solemn attention. Together we all sang a patriotic song. Mr. Jackson said, "Marco, I have never seen these people so happy. What have you done to make them so?" My single answer was and still is, "I have become one of them. They know I care and love them."

Three thousand miles and many years separate us now, but I still love them in my memory. Yes, I close my eyes and open my heart. It works; try it.

They planted flowers and kept the place neat, inside and out. I still treasure a picture of my little Samuel walking hand in hand with Brother Nicholas.

I pray for Brother Dyer and the brave elders that still travel to Muncey and Six Nations, remembering that "he that walks uprightly and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart, the Lord will hide such in His tabernacle" (Psalm 15:2).

I thank our Lord Jesus Christ for having called me in the day of

my youth. Thanks to my parents, who brought me up in the fear of the Lord. And thanks to our beloved Church of Jesus Christ, which has stood by me when I needed you most; God bless each one of you.

Grace be with you, the readers.

Ever in Christ,  
Mark Randy

## Note of Thanks

On February 26 I fell and badly fractured my hip. Not long after my surgery, several brothers and sisters from our branch were given dreams and experiences showing how my healing process would be a slow but certainly a sure one, for which I thank God.

I want to thank all of you who sent cards, called by phone and most of all, prayed for me. I truly felt the prayers of my brothers and sisters. They lifted me out of my weakest moments. "I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God."

Sis. Betty Ann Manes  
McKees Rocks, PA Branch

\*\*\*\*\*

Brother Leroy Love of the South Bend, Indiana Mission would like to give a special thanks to all of the brothers and sisters in God's world for their special prayers and cards he received while he was in the hospital during the month of April, 1992. He has asked that God's blessings be upon you all and that you would continue to remember him in your prayers.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends,

We want to thank all of you for your love, support, prayers and many, many cards. You really honored our son, our brother, Jared Thomas Ross, with so many expressions of sympathy. His sudden passing was a traumatic experience for us. Your phone calls and cards have touched our lives and have helped

(Continued on Page 10)

## 50th Spiritual Birthday in San Diego

Sister Cecilia Byo, 80, celebrated her 50th spiritual birthday in the San Diego Branch in March. Fifty years ago, on March 12, 1942, Sis. Cecilia made her covenant with God in Youngstown, Ohio. She was baptized by Brother Rocco Biscotti and confirmed by Bro. Anthony Corrado.

Throughout her years in The Church of Jesus Christ, Sister Cecilia has witnessed many blessings, such as the miraculous healing of her granddaughter who was just seven days old at the time. She has also relied on God to get her through the hard times, drawing on His strength when her only daughter passed away.

Sis. Cecilia, who has lived in Glassport, Youngstown, Florida, and now in San Diego, has one son, seven grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. She has been married twice (both husbands have passed on); her second husband served faithfully in the Church.

At a celebration held in her honor at the San Diego branch, Brother Lou Ciccati said, "Sister Cecilia always has a smile,"—a testament to a life lived close to God.

### DEDICATION continued . . .

Valley members and anyone who had ever been a member of the Valley Branch to come up front and asked that we all sing, *Our Church*. It indeed was a beautiful sound, as over 65 voices joined together. We had voices from Tse Bonito, San Diego, Lindsay, Modesto, Riverbank, Yucaipa and Phoenix. Bro. Bob Watson from Tse Bonito led us in a few more favorites that the Valley Branch used to sing together. After the closing of the service, many of us stayed and visited with each other.

Sunday was a beautiful day, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Bro. Ken Jones led us again in many of our favorite songs. After Bro. Ed Buccellato made some introductory comments, Bro. Dwayne Jordan

opened in prayer. Bro. Bob Watson was the opening speaker, and spoke of his early days in the Valley Branch. He told us he felt like a child who had left home and has now returned. Bro. Bob came to the Valley from Canada. His entire family felt inspired to make the move. He remembers the meetings held in the chicken coop, and told of some of the blessings felt there. A voice spoke to Bro. Rocco Meo, telling him that this is the brother who would take Bro. Rocco's place. After much prayer he felt a kinship to these new brothers and sisters in the Valley Branch. Bro. Bob read and talked about Isaiah 66.

Amy Buccellato, with the accompaniment of Michael Livesay, sang, *Shepherd of My Life*. The San Diego and Anaheim choirs each sang for us. Sis. Elaine Jordan from Tse Bonito, New Mexico, sang, *Bless This House*. Bro. Dwayne Jordan spoke to us, giving a little of his background. The Valley Branch was his home branch, and the members his spiritual mothers and fathers. He told us we must be concerned for others and be our brother's keeper. We need to live up to the principles that our Church teaches us.

Bro. Jim Lovalvo was very glad to be part of the Dedication service. He told us in the New Jerusalem there will be houses of worship. We have all prayed for the Lord's presence to be in the Dedication service. We should dedicate and rededicate our lives to the service of God and be a witness in our community. We must keep trying even though obstacles and rejections come our way. We should love one another and let our light shine.

Bro. Tom Liberto in his talk told us we have accomplished a great work here and now the spiritual work must begin. We need to bring in souls and fill the Church. We need to move onward and upward.

Bro. Ed asked again for all the Simi Valley members and previous members of the Valley Branch to come up front and sing *Precious Memories*. Bro. Ed Buccellato gave the dedicatory prayer and we closed the service. Lunch was served, and then we had to say good-bye to many loved ones.

All the members of the Simi Valley Branch want to thank everyone who participated in our Dedication service, for the beautiful plaque and guest book from the Pacific Coast District, and for the gifts and donations from many generous brothers and sisters and friends.

The following day was Memorial Day, and we held a picnic at Rancho Tapo Park in Simi Valley. Many of our visitors were able to attend before heading home. We ask for your prayers as we meet in our new building, knowing that if the Lord is not meeting with us, there will be no Spirit. May God with His grace and mercy comfort all who walk through these doors.

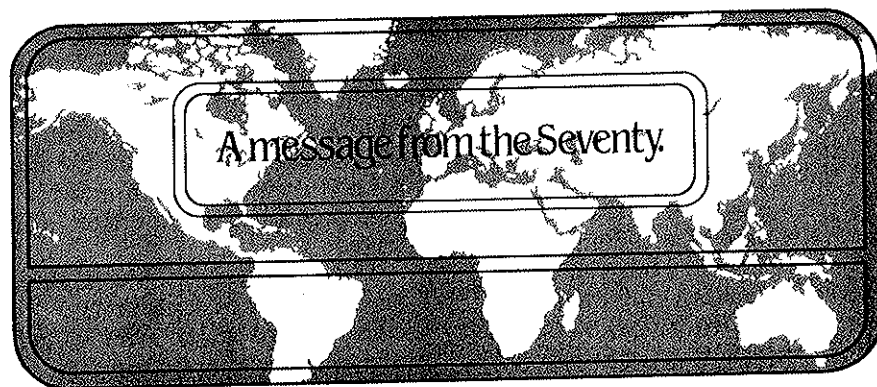
### MIRACLE continued . . .

undergo further tests and obtain another medical opinion. A CT Scan showed skull bone destruction, but revealed no brain involvement. This gave me some time to request prayer and to go to God with this problem. I was repeatedly anointed, and was given the assurance and peaceful confidence that the Lord would take care of me. This feeling of peace is what allowed me to go on through the weeks that would follow.

The second physician did acknowledge the presence of a mass, but was not of the same school of thought as to treatment. He recommended that a third opinion be sought. Again, I approached God and my faith was renewed. I was able to visit my family in Ohio in May, and while there, was told an experience in which the Lord spoke to a sister while in prayer for my welfare. His words to her were: **"I have created Carolyn and I will heal her."** This added to my feelings of confidence that whatever was to transpire, "He'd take care of me."

In June, I saw another doctor at a research facility. I know that God led me to this man, as I would later learn that he specialized in the type of tumor with which I had been diagnosed. I gave him all

(Continued on Page 9)



## Quorum of 70 Development Committee

*By Bro. E. Santilli, Chairman*

I would like to give all readers an historical background of the Development Committee, which came into existence in 1984. One of the committee's concerns is the growth of the branches and missions, which is of vital importance to the worldwide missionary efforts of The Church of Jesus Christ. Without growth in our branches and missions, the total work of the Church is in jeopardy.

In June of 1984, the General Board of Missions was in the process of streamlining itself. It recommended to the General Church that the Domestic Missions Committee be dissolved. In its place was to be a new committee called the General Church Development Committee. This new committee would have the responsibility of domestic work, and would be picked up under the Quorum of 70. It would report its activities to the General Church Board of Missions. The recommendation was accepted.

The Quorum of 70 reported the following brothers be elected to the General Church Development Committee:

Chairman—Paul J. Benyola  
 Ass't. Chairman—Leonard Lovalvo  
 Secretary—Elmer Santilli  
 Ass't. Sec./Treas.—Vincent Gibson  
 Member—Atlantic Coast District—  
 Matthew Rogolino  
 Member—Michigan/Ontario District—  
 Spencer G. Everett  
 Member—Ohio District—  
 Vincent Gibson  
 Member—Pacific Coast District—  
 Tom Liberto

Member—Pennsylvania District—  
 Paul Palmieri  
 Member—Southeast District—  
 Eugene Perri, Jr.  
 Member—Southwest District—  
 Richard Christman

In October of 1985, Bro. Joseph Calabrese reported on two trips that were made to Independence, MO and of some future trips that were planned. The following year, a mission house was established in nearby Oak Grove, MO with two furnished bedrooms, a kitchen, bathroom, and a meeting room that could hold 25 to 30 persons.

In October of 1986, it was reported that Bro. Sam Dell and his wife, Sis. Josephine, were the first missionaries there, spending three months at the mission home. Many contacts had been made, both with individuals and various Restoration churches. A call went out for volunteers to go to Oak Grove for missionary work. Unfortunately, the Development Committee was not able to keep the mission in Oak Grove staffed. A decision was made on September 1, 1987 to terminate our lease at the mission house there, but to continue the work. Bro. Chuck and Sis. Ilene Smith had moved to Oak Grove from Florida, and they continue to work there as of this date.

Just prior to the October, 1986 Conference, Quorum of 70 President Joseph Milantoni passed away and Bro. Paul Benyola was elected President. This necessitated a reorganization of the General Church Development Committee as follows:

Chairman—Elmer Santilli  
 Assistant Chairman—Tom Liberto  
 Ass't. Sec./Trea.—Vincent Gibson  
 Member—Richard Christman  
 Member—Matthew Rogolino  
 Member—Leonard Lovalvo  
 Member—Anthony Lovalvo  
 Member—John Manes  
 Member—Sam Dell  
 Member—Paul Palmieri

The new committee continued with the work in Independence, MO. A missionary packet, which among other things consisted of 29 questions and answers which were asked concerning our beliefs, was prepared. The question and answer booklet helped in presenting our views on a wide range of topics.

At the October, 1989 Conference, the General Church Development Committee was restructured and became the Quorum of 70 Development Committee. Its members consist of the following brothers:

Chairman—Elmer Santilli  
 Vice Chairman—Tom Liberto  
 Secretary—Eugene Perri  
 Member—Vincent Gibson  
 Member—Dwayne Jordan

During this interfacing period, the work in Oak Grove, MO was placed under the Ohio District. This allowed for more time to be spent working on other projects. Some of the areas of responsibility that the Development Committee received from the General Church included the following:

1. Recovery of suspended and undutiful members
2. Programs for children
3. Encouraging friends of the Church
4. Servicing missions
5. Creating spiritual enthusiasm among members
6. Concentrating on the spiritual gifts
7. Implementing effective programs to stem declining membership

All of the above areas of responsibility are important to the health and welfare of our branches and missions. In February of 1989,

**(Continued on Page 10)**

## The Gospel News

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Anthony J. Scolaro  
20 Byrd Ave.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

**ASSISTANT EDITOR**  
Leonard A. Lovalvo  
8085 Schneider  
Manchester, MI 48158

**CONSULTANTS**  
Nephi DeMercurio  
Peter A. Scolaro

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Cathy Gentile

**GMBA EDITOR**  
Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

**GENERAL CIRCLE EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

### DISTRICT EDITORS

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Lisa Champine  
47025 Hennings Dr.  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48045

**OHIO**  
Mark Naro  
4425 Broadway  
Lorain, OH 44055

**PACIFIC COAST**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
24268 Robie Ct.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Lucetta Scaglione  
303 Union St.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

**SOUTHEAST**  
James G. Speck  
3710 Player Dr.  
New Port Richey, FL 34655

**SOUTHWEST**  
Frances J. Capone  
8725 E. Hubbell  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

THE GOSPEL NEWS (USPS #223-480) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by The Church of Jesus Christ PRINT HOUSE, 8282 Boettner Rd., Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030, 313-429-5080. Second class postage paid at Saline, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE GOSPEL NEWS BUSINESS OFFICE, P.O. BOX 30, BRIDGEWATER, MI 48115-0030.

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

Over time, our individual congregations change in size, sometimes dramatically. While the length of time spent in each stage varies from group to group, each of the branches and missions of The Church of Jesus Christ has experienced some or all of these phases: a challenging beginning, periods of both slow and rapid growth, and "peak" years characterized by burgeoning Sunday Schools and worshipers arriving early to get a good seat. For those of us who have seen all the stages that a branch can go through, our favorite years were most likely those when the branch was flourishing.

In a healthy, vital branch, new members have the privilege of maturing gradually in the Gospel, without the heavy burden of responsibility being immediately placed on them. Children in a larger branch are usually surrounded by others their own age, outside of the immediate family, with whom they can share the singular experience of "growing up in the Church." Today more than ever before, we recognize the value of belonging to a peer group that shares and reinforces the values and principles taught to us by the Lord Jesus Christ.

But prosperous, thriving branches are not only important for the new members and young children who need the nourishment and support they provide. Their real value is fully manifested over a period of years, when their progeny—both natural and spiritual—grow up to become seasoned leaders, effective missionaries, and staunch pillars in The Church of Jesus Christ.

It is with this long-term view toward the future of the Church as a whole that the Quorum of Evangelists is working, through their Development Committee, to build up The Church of Jesus Christ at the local level (see article on page 4). Recognizing the strong, well-staffed branch as a source of both physical and spiritual strength to the Church, our brothers are working to bring—in some cases, bring *back*—our individual congregations to their fullest spiritual potential.

Once we reach that spiritual "peak," we cannot allow our efforts, enthusiasm, or creativity to wane, even when our buildings are full. Members and leaders of a congregation—of any size—must constantly address important issues for that group to remain strong. We must confront our own mortality, and ask ourselves where the branch will be when we are no longer. We must keep looking to the outside for "new blood," even when our own families fill the building. We must work with and develop the natural and spiritual abilities of our young people, and possess the humility to gracefully pass the baton to them when we've run our laps. If we fail to do these things, our congregation is certain to face natural and spiritual decline.

While it does not save our soul, a strong spiritual background makes a proven difference in what we can contribute to the Work of the Lord. Let us pray that our branches and missions—all of them—would flourish. We will all enjoy a greater portion of God's blessings, and The Church of Jesus Christ will become everything that the Lord wants it to be.

# The Children's Corner

By Janet Steinrock



Dear Boys and Girls,

Have you ever tried to explain to one of your friends what the Book of Mormon is? Did you tell them that it is an ancient record written by people descended from Joseph of Egypt?

Most other Christians know the story of Joseph and how God loved him. They remember how his father gave him a special coat which had many colors, carefully dyed and specially made. They probably remember how his brothers sold him to be a slave in Egypt. He suffered for many years before God made him a ruler. This story is in the Bible, in its first book, Genesis.

But not many people remember the next-to-last chapter of Genesis, Chapter 49. In verse 22, Joseph is a grown man. His father, Jacob, is very old, and before he dies he wants to give a special prayer or blessing for Joseph and each of his other eleven sons.

Jacob says, using words that sound like poetry, "Joseph is a fruitful bough [That means Joseph is one of his sons and, like a branch (called a bough) comes from a tree, Joseph's branch has many people (fruits).]. He goes on to say, "even a bough [branch] by a well, whose branches go over the wall." We know that in the ancient days, many people thought of the ocean as a wall. But God showed Jacob that Joseph's children would cross over the ocean to this land. Now, many years later, their children's children are called Native Americans, or Indians by some.

Jacob tells Joseph that his children will suffer, as the Indian people have suffered. He says, "The

archers have sorely grieved [hurt] him, and shot at him, and hated him. But his bow abode in strength [stayed strong] and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob."

And great things were then prophesied for our brothers, the Native Americans. They will be incredibly well-blessed by God, "who shall bless them with blessings of heaven above, of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breasts and womb" (many children).

Jacob told Joseph that the blessings on the Native Americans will be greater than all the blessings of all his other children's children. This blessing would begin at that time until the "utmost bounds of the everlasting hills" (forever).

And this is one of the main parts of the Bible that speaks of who the Native American people are. They are truly God's chosen people, and many wonderful things are prophesied for them in the future.

Their record, called the Book of Mormon, was kept over hundreds of years by one great man after the other. Sometimes it was engraved on gold pages (plates), and some of it came from brass plates.

Joseph Smith was given the engraved pages with ancient writings on them, and God provided an interpreter called the Urim and Thummim, which allowed Joseph Smith to translate these holy records when he looked through it.

Together we read in the Bible how to live and follow God's commandments, and we read in the Book of Mormon of the many great

things God did, here on the face of the Americas, for those who would serve Him.

The Book of Mormon also promises that when we get hungry enough to fast and pray and lead more righteous lives, that we will be given other ancient records. These will be from the other ten sons of Jacob.

So far we have the book from Jacob's son Judah's people (the Jews), called the Bible; and we have the book from his son Joseph's people (the Native Americans) called the Book of Mormon. Great days are ahead for us who love and serve the Lord.

With care,  
Sister Jan

## WORD SEARCH

READ  
GENESIS  
FORTY  
NINE  
IN  
THE  
BIBLE  
FOR  
THE  
STORY  
OF  
JOSEPH  
WHOSE  
BRANCHES (2)  
WENT

OVER  
THE  
WALL  
OCEAN  
BLESSINGS  
AND  
GREAT  
PROMISES  
TO  
NATIVE  
AMERICAN  
PEOPLE  
CHOICE  
SEER  
COMING

E	N	I	N	R	E	T	P	A	H	C	N	F
E	H	T	G	R	E	A	T	O	J	V	A	O
C	H	P	R	O	M	I	S	E	S	B	T	R
S	B	L	E	S	S	I	N	G	S	I	S	T
I	R	D	N	A	T	I	V	E	W	B	E	Y
S	A	A	F	C	M	C	S	O	A	L	H	E
E	N	E	O	H	P	E	L	P	L	E	C	V
N	C	R	R	O	S	Y	R	E	L	A	N	H
E	H	E	J	I	F	R	S	I	O	D	A	P
G	E	V	M	C	O	O	N	T	C	N	R	E
S	S	O	B	E	H	T	E	E	E	A	B	S
A	R	B	I	W	C	S	W	H	A	P	N	O
P	N	C	O	M	I	N	G	T	N	E	W	J

## MBA Highlights

### Pacific Coast Area MBA Campout

"WHOLENESS IN JESUS CHRIST"

By Linda Reynolds

Our MBA Campout was held again in Idyllwild, CA from June 30 to July 5, 1992. Idyllwild is 6,000 feet above sea level and the weather is very pleasant, with lots of pine trees and blue sky.

Bro. Paul Vinsick was the camp director and Bro. Don Fedorchak the assistant director. These two brothers worked very hard to see that things ran smoothly along with

our Area MBA President, Bro. Bill Gamache. There were some very interesting seminars and instead of age groups we grouped according to where you were in your life.

Our chaplain, Bro. John Di-Battista, asked the adults to come up front and sing to the young people. He then asked the adults if they had a testimony they wanted to share. Bro. Ed Buccellato from the Simi Valley Branch told some experiences he had before being baptized and some that he had after his baptism. Sis. Elaine Jordan from Tse Bonito and Sis. Linda Reynolds from the Simi Valley Branch, who were both baptized at a young age, told of some experiences and problems they had encountered as young people.

The young people were a very big part of our camp. They sang in

groups and gave their testimonies. A young 19-year old sister had a beautiful dream about Zion after having hands laid on her and asking God for just a small portion of His Spirit.

Chad Hood from the Simi Valley Branch asked for his baptism and was baptized by his father, Bro. Emmett Hood. Before Chad's confirmation by Bro. Isidro Lopez, Amy Buccellato, who is 14 years old, asked if she could sing *Blessed Assurance* in honor of Chad's baptism. Cameron Calabrese from Tse Bonito also asked for his baptism and was baptized the following Sunday in Tse Bonito so that his family could witness the baptism. His uncle, Bro. Dwayne Jordan, baptized him. Many of the young people requested prayer and we pray that they will feel the Lord in their lives.

## Our Women Today

### General Ladies' Circle Conference

By Linda Reynolds

The Pacific Coast Area Ladies' Circle was very honored to host the General Circle Conference on April 24-26, 1992, in San Diego, California. There were over 175 sisters in attendance, and we were blessed from the moment the visiting sisters started arriving. Some were familiar faces and others we had never seen before. It didn't matter to any of us if we didn't know each other, and it didn't take long before we felt as if we had always known each other.

On Friday night we met in the dining room of the San Diego Branch and enjoyed a strawberry social. The next day we met in a large auditorium and Circle President Sis. Arline Whitton conducted the business meeting. We opened the meeting by singing *He Changed My Life Completely* and Sis. Bonnie Smith from Arizona offered prayer. We followed by singing, *Sing Hallelujah*.

Sis. Arline introduced the officers and the former President, Sis. Mabel Bickerton. Sis. Arline stated that she was overwhelmed by the Spirit of God that was present in our meeting and that even though it had taken a while to plan this West Coast trip, we were setting another milestone in the history of the Ladies' Circle. This was the first General Circle conference to be held in California. She also encouraged us to identify with Christ and to realize we are His children. We expect so much from Him, but we forget what God expects from us. The Church is in need of workers. As sisters we must step forward in faith and let the Lord use us. She reminded us of the commitment we made at the water's edge to serve God all our days and to the best of our ability.

Vice President Sis. Lorraine DeMercurio read Psalm 100. She related an experience Sis. Mabel Bickerton had recently when the first verse of the 133rd Psalm came to her mind with one word changed: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for *sisters* to dwell together in unity!"

The Area Circle Presidents gave their reports and the organization minutes were read from the three new Circles. The new Circles

are in Riverside, CA; Saline, MI; and another one in India. We sang, *It Is Well With My Soul* while forming a circle as a symbol of unity, and Sis. Shirley Pershin of California closed with prayer.

After a beautiful luncheon, Sis. Mabel Bickerton opened with prayer and we sang *Keeping Step*. The California Area Circle President, Sis. Lucy DeCaro, welcomed everyone and gave a brief history of their Area Circle, and a slide presentation of the California Local Circles was shown by Sis. Sue Coppia. The sisters from the California Area Circles came up front and sang *Love in Any Language*, which was the theme of the program, while two of our young sisters, Lisa Hemmings and Lisa Liberto, signed the song in American Sign Language.

Sis. Mabel Bickerton spoke to us about the original organization of the Circle, and how the Spirit of God inspired our older sisters. She was glad to see new Circles still being organized and so much work being done.

Sis. Nancy DiFede presented the topic, "I Promised the Lord That I would Make It, Somehow." Several sisters were asked to share

(Continued on Page 11)



## Branch and Mission News

### Blessings in Palm Harbor, FL

On March 8, 1992, we were blessed in witnessing our first blessing of a baby in the Palm Harbor Branch as Danielle Elaine Davella, daughter of Nick and Sis. Susan Davella, was blessed. The branch was full with visiting brothers and sisters as well as several friends of the family.

After opening remarks were given, Bro. Jim Speck, grandfather of Danielle, opened the service with the passage where Jesus took the children and blessed them. After Bro. Jim explained why we believe in the blessing of children, the child was brought forth and blessed by Bro. Jim.

Following the blessing, Bro. Eugene Perri from Lake Worth exhorted to us how much God loves and honors children and how we must become like them to better serve God. Bro. Ken Staley from Tampa followed, reminding us to keep focused on serving God. Bro. Duane Lowe, also from Tampa, went along with the same thought as Bro. Ken, reminding us to seek after that which is of God and not that which is of man.

A beautiful day was had by all, and after the meeting the Speck and Davella family had dinner available to all who attended, with special thanks for attending this blessing of one of God's creations.

We are thankful for the wonderful blessings that we are experiencing in our new branch, and pray that the Lord will accompany Danielle all the days of her life.

### Fort Pierce, FL

*By Florence Catena*

The Fort Pierce, FL Branch has been blessed with many visiting members. On March 8, Elizabeth D'Amico, daughter of Brother John and Frances D'Amico of Rochester, NY, attended our branch for the first time. We enjoyed her visit and

were impressed with her testimony. On March 15, we were pleased to see Vickie and Al Colpitts from Detroit Branch #1 and Carol Johns of Vero Beach join us. Elder Joe Bologna of Modesto, CA spent another Sunday at our branch. His messages were greatly appreciated. He commenced our service by reading several verses in the Book of Ezekiel, 37th Chapter. Brother Bologna summed up by saying, "Without the Spirit of God, we are dead, and we should never regret the step we have taken; there is nothing to lose, but everything to gain," referring to our decision to serve the Lord.

Our service continued with the congregation singing *He Changed My Life Completely*. Brother Frank Rogolino then added, how important it is to hold on to our commitment, and that the Knowledge of God is far greater than our own.

We ended our morning service by singing *Give Me Understanding, Lord*. After lunch we held the ordinance of feet washing. The hymn *Cleanse Me* was sung, and one could not help but feel the Spirit of God in our midst. Brother Norman Campitelle commented on the wonderful example Jesus set for us, to wash one another's feet, and how we should not take the washing of feet lightly.

After an afternoon of rejoicing our service came to a close. We sang the very inspiring hymn *Prayer Is the Key to Heaven*. We then formed a circle and held hands as Brother Sam Costarella closed in prayer. We thank God for the Restored Gospel.

### News from Harrison, MI

*By Brenda Capone*

January 12, 1992 brought happiness to both the Harrison, MI Mission and Branch 3 in Sterling Heights. We gathered at the Harrison Mission to witness the ordination of our Sister Nancy Criscuolo into the office of a deaconess.

Bro. Peter H. Capone spoke first about Phoebe, and how she, too, was a worker of the church. He spoke of the ways in which a deaconess must be constantly willing to serve the Lord and His people. She must be humble, understanding, helpful in any way she can be, with a listening ear.

Sister Mary Coppa of the Harrison Mission washed our sister's feet. Brother John Straccia spoke of the great responsibilities of a deaconess, and how each of us should always remember that someone who holds an ordained office in the Church is no "better" than anyone else. They have merely accepted greater responsibilities in God's service. He explained that as Sister Nancy is ordained a deaconess, she will have to have a greater communication with the Lord so that He may use her in any way necessary. Bro. John also stated that each and every one of us can be used by the Lord if we will be prayerful and open to the Lord's call.

Our brothers in the priesthood then gathered in a circle around Sister Nancy, and the Lord chose our Brother Paul Whitton to lay

### Notice

The General Church Board of Trustees are requesting bids on the General Church Blanket Insurance Coverage of all Church properties and vehicles. Any person interested in submitting a written bid, please contact the Board Secretary:

Joseph Ross  
#2 Ross Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001  
Tel. (412) 375-1648  
FAX (412) 375-5108

Upon written request, **insurance specifications** will be sent to any bidder. All bids must be submitted by December 19, 1992. The General Church Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Secretary, Joseph Ross

hands upon our sister and ordain her a deaconess. Several musical selections were offered in observance of the occasion. Although the weather was cold outside, it was warm and beautiful in God's house, and in each of our hearts.

A luncheon was provided afterwards, wherein we shared much love and fellowship. May we all continue to pray for our sister and all others who have a greater responsibility to our Lord and His Church.

## Surprise blessing in Glassport, PA

By Maryanne Donkin

Our MBA in Glassport is very small. Often we have only seven or eight members, but we enjoy getting together and reading the word of God. On Friday May 22, 1992, we gathered together for our regular MBA meeting. There were only seven of us. Sometimes you wonder if it is worth the effort to come, but you never know what the Lord has in store for you.

Our meeting was opened with *Taste the Grass on the Summit*, and Brother John Ali opened in prayer. We were then surprised when Brothers Lou Ross and Doug Obradovich came in. We continued by singing *My Lord Can*, and another visitor, Brother Rick Lobzun from Windsor, Canada, joined us. Our teacher, Brother John Ali, left the meeting open to our visiting brothers. Brother Rick asked what we had been studying, and we told him the Book of Ether. He stated that they were studying the same thing in their Sunday School class.

Brother Rick began to relate experiences from his work at the Six Nation Reserve, which tied into the lesson on the Jaredites. Brother Rick stated that he had never taught a lesson while he was visiting anywhere, but he had fasted and prayed that morning, and the Lord had directed him to our MBA meeting that evening. Brother Doug related his testimony of how the Lord blessed him and his family with finding a new job and having the opportunity to visit

his family here in Pennsylvania.

We sang *The Sea So Great, Lord, My Boat So Small*, and Brother Lou Ross closed in prayer. The Lord really did bless us for the little bit of effort we put forth to come to MBA. So you never know when you come to a meeting thinking it will be the "same old thing." The Lord may surprise you with a special blessing.

## Baptism, Ordination in San Diego

By John Cihomsky

The San Diego Branch recently experienced two blessings: the baptism of Sister Lisa Menard and the ordination of Brother Paul O'Sullivan to the office of deacon.

Sister Lisa had been attending the branch for several years with her husband, Brother David, who made his commitment to Christ in 1990. On February 9, Sister Lisa asked to be baptized during a testimony service. Sister Dina O'Sullivan and Sister Josie Ciccatti testified they had dreams that something special would happen that day in church, which confirmed the blessing Sister Lisa felt throughout the day.

Two Sundays later, she was baptized in San Diego's Mission Bay by Brother Bob Womack, Sister Lisa's brother-in-law. During her confirmation at the branch, the following experience was given to Brother Ricardo Nava: As the ministry was kneeling and praying prior to confirming Sister Lisa for the reception of the Holy Ghost, Brother Ricardo was meditating as to who would confirm our new sister. In his heart, he felt a certain brother of the ministry would confirm her, but then he saw a light descend and rest upon Brother David Ciccatti. When the brothers arose, Brother David stepped forward and offered a beautiful prayer over Sister Lisa. As he was praying, the light passed to Sister Lisa. After the prayer, the light went on to each of the rest of the ministry in the circle.

Sister Lisa later testified that she looks forward to growing

stronger and stronger each day in her new life.

On May 17, Brother Paul O'Sullivan was ordained a deacon in the San Diego Branch. Since coming into the Church in 1987, Brother Paul has been a diligent worker concerned with the spiritual and physical welfare of the branch. The ministry felt directed by God that the time had come for Brother Paul to take on the responsibilities of a deacon.

Presiding Elder Stacey Light opened the service and spoke on the sixth chapter of Acts, when the saints were inspired to ordain the church's first seven deacons. During the ordination, Brother Sam Hemmings washed Brother Paul's feet following the direction of God. Brother Ken Surdock, father-in-law to Brother Paul, ordained our new deacon. From the preaching service to Brother Paul's ordination and the saints' testimonies, God's Spirit was truly felt in our presence.

## MIRACLE continued . . .

records, reports, and test results, and he performed a thorough examination.

When he was finished, he began to explain the formation, progression, and seriousness of such a tumor. He paused and then added, ". . . but this is not what you have." My facial expression must have indicated surprise as he began to question me and tried to explain again. He stated that in spite of the test results that had indicated its presence, *he could find no tumor now.*

You can imagine my feelings as I left that office. What could I say to express my thanksgiving to God for this? Although I was not spared surgery (my eardrum needed to be removed and replaced with a graft), I *was* the recipient of God's grace and goodness. Praise God!

What I would like to share is this: This miracle is not mine alone. It belongs to each and every one of you who prayed for me. The many prayers, letters and cards, and

(Continued on Page 10)

**MIRACLE continued . . .**

phone calls are appreciated so much by myself and my family, but I want you all to share in this blessing and know that God has answered *your* prayers, and that you had a part in this miracle as well.

I am now recuperating from surgery, and while composing this article I received 55 letters from the brothers and sisters at the GMBA Campout! What a huge blessing I received as I read them! I must thank God for this treasured "family." Our God is alive and well; worthy of our praise. I have learned and experienced much in the past four months which I intend to use for the honor and glory of God. My prayer is that He will share with you my feelings through His Spirit, just as you have shared yourselves with me. May God bless you.

Love in Christ,  
Sis. Carolyn Martorana Light

**THANKS continued . . .**

ease the burden and pain. There is nothing like The Church of Jesus Christ. What wonderful people we have in His wonderful Church.

Our family will never forget your kindness and goodness. Please continue to remember us in your prayers. With your prayers we can focus on many beautiful memories, not our loss. God bless all of you. We love you all.

Love in Christ,  
Don, Joyce, Suzette,  
Janette and Jason Ross

**MESSAGE continued . . .**

we sent out letters to every branch and mission in the United States telling of our desire to produce a teacher's manual. The committee felt that one way to strengthen branches and missions was to have active teachers. The committee solicited branch and mission input as to what should be included in this manual. It was hoped that this manual would help teachers in car-

rying out their important responsibility by spelling out in greater detail the areas that should be covered in their discussions with members.

About seven branches and missions responded with suggestions for this manual. We have been working on this task for the past three years, and should have it ready by April, 1993. There is still time for any branch, mission, or individual who has some suggestions to forward them to the committee.

Another desire of the Development Committee is to become a resource center for growth-stimulating projects. We would like to come up with a list of successful ideas that have been tried by various branches and missions. There is no need for each branch or mission to "re-invent the wheel."

We can help individual congregations try to implement ideas which have succeeded someplace else. This way, if your branch or mission would like to have an activity, you could look in the Resource Booklet and find the necessary information to get started.

Listed below are some of the ideas that we would like to have on hand, spelled out step-by-step for anyone to follow:

1. Vacation Bible School
2. Branch Newsletter
3. Family Day
4. Family Meetings
5. Yard Sales

In the Perry, Ohio Branch, we have just concluded our 14th Vacation Bible School (VBS). We held it for three days and had 42 children

(Continued on Page 11)

## Six Month Financial Results 1992

Dear Readers:

Donations for the first six months of this year are better than the comparable period of 1991. That is progress! We need to continue on this course for the balance of this year.

Here are the Six Months figures for 1992, and the comparison column for 1991.

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>
Atlantic Coast	\$ 29,611	\$ 28,483
Michigan/Ontario	57,769	40,283
Ohio	22,904	21,593
Pacific Coast	32,369	24,380
Pennsylvania	58,302	57,814
Southeast	18,864	22,784
Southwest	9,299	11,430
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$229,118</b>	<b>\$206,767</b>

While we are improving, we are still not meeting the Spending Plan. At this point we should have received \$272,797.00, which means we are \$43,679.00 behind. Our last article made mention of the fact that the spending Plan was reduced for 1992. Remember, the goal is \$545,595.00. It is definitely reachable. Let's do our collective best and see what can be attained with God's help and blessings which He has promised.

The following short article is about charity, a subject we are familiar with, and should give us some things to consider. God bless you and make His face to shine upon you.

(From Maimonides, a 12-Century Jewish Scholar)

There are eight degrees or steps in the duty of charity. The first and lowest degree is to give, but with reluctance or regret. This is the gift of the hand, but not of the heart.

The second is, to give cheerfully, but not proportionately to the distress of the sufferer.

The third is, to give cheerfully and proportionately, but not until solicited.

The fourth is, to give cheerfully, proportionately, and even unsolicited; but to put it in the poor man's hand, thereby exciting in him the painful emotion of shame.

The fifth is, to give charity in such a way that the distressed may receive the bounty, and know their benefactor, without their being known to him. Such was the conduct of some of our ancestors, who used to tie up money in the corners of their cloaks, so that the poor might take it unperceived.

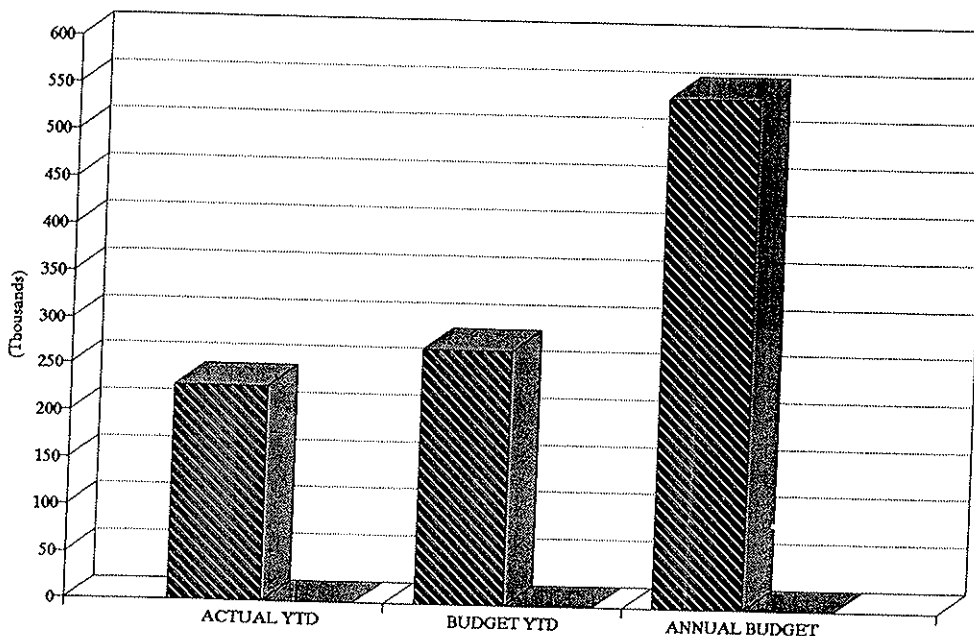
The sixth, which rises still higher, is to know the objects of our bounty, but remain unknown to them. Such was the conduct of those of our ancestors, who used to convey their charitable gifts into poor people's dwellings; taking care that their own persons and names should remain unknown.

The seventh is still more meritorious, namely to bestow charity in such a way that the benefactor may not know the relieved persons, nor they the name of their benefactors, as was done by our charitable forefathers during the existence of the Temple. For there was in that holy building a place called the Chamber of the Silent, wherein the good deposited secretly whatever their generous hearts suggested, and from which the poor were maintained with equal secrecy.

Lastly, the eighth, and the most meritorious of all, is to anticipate charity by preventing poverty; namely, to assist the reduced fellowman, either by a considerable gift, or a loan of money, or by teaching him a trade, or by putting him in the way of business, so that he may earn an honest livelihood; and not be forced to the dreadful alternative of holding out his hand for charity. To this Scripture alludes when it says: And if thy brother be waxen poor, and fallen in decay with thee, then thou shalt relieve him; yea, though he be a stranger or a sojourner; that he may live with thee. This is the highest step and the summit of charity's golden ladder.

General Church Finance Committee

## ANNUAL BUDGET First Six Months, 1992



## MESSAGE continued . . .

on the second day, with 22 workers present each day to work in various capacities. Each year, we have made some improvements based on previous experience. This year we decided to hold our program on the last day of our VBS. Even though it was mid-week (a Wednesday evening), everyone agreed to invite their families and friends to come to our church grounds at 6:00 p.m. for grilled hot dogs, soft drinks, etc. The VBS program would be held under our pavilion at 7:30 p.m. with the children singing songs and showing the crafts they had made during the three days of VBS.

We were pleasantly surprised to find that almost 80 children and adults attended. Quite a few parents were at our Church for the first time, and were greatly impressed with what their children had learned. The Perry Branch has about 31 members, so it doesn't take a large group, only enthusiastic people.

If you have a good, time-tested idea that can be used by others, please send that information to any Development Committee member, and we will take it into consideration as we go about trying to strengthen the branches and missions of The Church of Jesus Christ.

## OUR WOMEN TODAY continued...

a promise they had made to the Lord. Many beautiful songs were sung, including some by our Mexican sisters.

The visiting sisters expressed their gratitude to the California sisters, and Sis. Connie Ross from Arizona closed with prayer. The next General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference was scheduled for October 3, 1992, at the World Conference Center in Greensburg, PA.

In the evening we continued with another service of fellowship, singing, special group songs and Bro. Paul Liberto from San Diego was a guest speaker.

We thank the Lord for these wonderful sisters who travelled across the country to visit us. We truly were blessed.

## Children Blessed

On June 21, 1992, Tasha Archer was blessed in Muncey, Ontario, Canada by Bro. Rodney Dyer. Tasha is the granddaughter of Sis. Maryline Finley.

Jennie Mona Ogden and Lily Marie Ogden were blessed on July 5, 1992 by Brothers Rodney Dyer and Michael LaSala, respectively. Jennie and Lily are granddaughters of Sis. Mona Ogden of the Muncey, Ontario Mission.

Also on July 5, 1992, Anthony Frank Dominic, son of Frank and Dolores Coppi, was blessed by Bro. Bob Nicklow Jr. in Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

## OBITUARIES

### ANTOINETTE MERCURIO

Sister Antoinette Mercurio of the Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to her eternal reward on April 16, 1992. She was born August 12, 1912, and fulfilled the covenant that she had made to the Lord to serve Him at the tender age of 13, when she was baptized in New Brunswick, NJ.

Brothers Leonard Benyola, Paul Benyola, and Anthony Vadasz offered words of inspiration and comfort at the funeral.

Our sister is survived by three children, Brother Ralph, Sister Rose, and Sister Angie; a stepdaughter, Sister Mary Feher of Phoenix, AZ; three sisters, and one brother. Sister Antoinette was a kind, loving sister who was a good example to young and old. She never failed to testify of God's goodness in her life. Though we miss her, we know that God has called her home to a better place.

### NATALE C. BILARDO

Natale C. (Chris) Bilardo died on April 20, 1992 at the age of 84. He was born on December 24, 1907, and baptized in 1926. He served the New Brunswick,

New Jersey Branch as an ordained teacher.

The funeral service was held by Brothers Frank Mazzeo and Sam Sgro.

Bro. Chris is survived by two sons, one daughter, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. We all will surely miss our brother, and we pray that God will bless his family.

### THERESA DELBROCCO

Sister Theresa DelBrocco of the North Jackson, Ohio Mission was called home to her eternal reward on June 18, 1992. She was born on May 13, 1907 to Anthony and Rose Ambrose, and was baptized in The Church of Jesus Christ in Belle Vernon, PA in 1935.

The funeral was conducted by Bro. Frank Giovannone, with the assistance of Bro. Richard Santilli.

Our sister is survived by two sons, five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. Sister Theresa will be dearly missed by her family and friends, and brothers and sisters in Christ.

### JOSEPH D'ANGELO

Joseph (Danny) D'Angelo passed away on June 30, 1992 at the age of 71. He was born in Italy, the son of our late Sis. Francesca D'Angelo Boscianni of Lockport, New York.

The funeral was conducted by Brothers Paul D'Amico and Russell Martorana.

Danny is survived by his wife Carmella, two sons, and two grandchildren. May God bless and comfort his family and friends.

### JARED ROSS

Jared Thomas Ross passed on from this life on July 1, 1992. He was born on February 5, 1971 in New York City, and was blessed in The Church of Jesus Christ by Bro. James R. Link in The Bronx, New York. Jared attended the Edison, New Jersey Branch, where he grew up.

The funeral service was beautifully conducted by Brother Paul Palmieri, Jared's great-uncle, along with Brothers Philip Arcuri and Arthur Searcy of the Edison Branch.

Jared is survived by his mother, Rita Wheeler and her husband Ed, as well as his father, Don Ross and his wife Joyce. His siblings are Suzette Ross, his twin sister Janette, and a brother, Jason Ross. Also his grandparents, Sister Mary Difede of the new Brunswick Branch, Brother Tom and Sister Josephine Ross of Aliquippa, and a great-grandmother, Sis. Philomena DeLuca, also of Aliquippa.

That Jared was always an affectionate, generous and kind young man who touched many people's lives was apparent by the sheer number of brothers, sisters, family and friends who attended his funeral.

Sister Tracey Francione sang *Does Jesus Care* at the funeral. We know Jesus cares and will comfort those who dearly miss Jared.

## Address Change

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# The Gospel News

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

October, 1992

Volume 48, No. 10

## District Conference

*By Marty Jumper*

Despite the raindrops falling outside, Sunday, July 26, 1992 proved to be a beautiful morning in Aliquippa. Our branch had the privilege to be one of the hosts for the Pennsylvania District Conference of The Church of Jesus Christ, and it was truly a glorious day as saints from many branches gathered to sing and praise the Lord.

The children of the Aliquippa branch started off the day by singing *It's a Miracle*, which certainly set the theme for the day. Brother Art Gehly, our District President, introduced the conference with some important announcements and some special prayer requests, after which Brother Tom Jones from Atlanta, Georgia, opened the service in prayer. Musical selections were presented throughout the day by Sister Carol Jumper, Brother Pete Giannetti, Jr., and a group from the McKees Rocks Branch which included David Ciotti; Brother Paul Ciotti Jr.; and Brothers Patrick, Jason, and Kevin Monaghan.

Visiting from New Jersey, Evangelist Joseph Perri, our first speaker of the day, related several experiences in which the Lord's healing power had been made manifest in his life as well as in the

lives of his family. He read a beautiful scripture from II Nephi:5, and stated that although we find much tribulation in the world, in Christ we find peace. Brother John Manes from McKees Rocks followed, praising God for a healing he had as a child. Double pneumonia had left a young John so ill that the doctor expected him to die. A call went out to the elders of the Church, and after anointing him, John immediately began to recover. His message to us was that God is real and that prayer works. Brother Jim Moore from Imperial, Brother Bill Colangelo from McKees Rocks, and Brother Joe Ross from Aliquippa, all joined their voices relating miracles that God has performed in the lives of the saints. We were reminded of the Restoration of the Church and that the power of God is found in The Church of Jesus Christ.

The membership then partook of the Lord's Supper, and sadly, our service came to an end with a few closing remarks by the district president. Apostle Russell Cadman dismissed us with prayer.

But the day wasn't over yet!! The hosting branch served a wonderful spaghetti luncheon to all in attendance. Even as our spirits were fed throughout the conference, the physical needs of the saints were taken care of as well. We all went away completely satisfied.

## If We Endure . . .

Desire and endurance are essential ingredients for successful completion of any endeavor, whether it be excelling in the work place, pursuing an education, and especially critical, maintaining our commitment to God. Why, these things are even utilized when participating in a favorite pastime or hobby. These two attributes, desire and endurance, were also the driving force and theme for our first ever "Tour de Sonshine."

As many of you may already know, this "tour" was a trip from Atlanta, Georgia to the 1992 GMBA Campout in Leesburg, Florida.

The idea for the trip was conceived on the way home from a Florida Area MBA Conference last year. A few of us had been inspired there and wanted to do something to help support the MBA and its missionary efforts. That was easy; we would simply donate some money. After all, one of the best ways to support something is through financial backing. Then reality set in. See, we all happen to be students and our resources are understandably limited.

But we weren't to be denied; this was something we really wanted to do. So we decided to *raise* the money through a fundraiser. But what type?

(Continued on Page 2)



## Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We want to take this opportunity to thank each one of you for your love and concern shown by your telephone calls, many sympathy cards and words of comfort and most of all your prayers since the tragic death of my husband Salvatore. His death was a terrible shock to us all, and we will feel the void in our lives for a long time to come.

Please continue to pray for us because we need God's love and comfort.

Love in Christ,  
Sister Assunta Feola and Family

\*\*\*\*\*

I wish to thank all my brothers and sisters of The Church of Jesus Christ for their prayers, cards, and phone calls when I was hospitalized.

How great is our God for giving us the power of prayer and His love! It is so wonderful to be part of such a beautiful family.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Bertha Ford  
Meaford, Ontario, Canada

## Publication Notice

*The Gospel News* (ISSN 0279-1056) is published monthly—12 issues per year at \$12.00 per subscription. It is owned by The Church of Jesus Christ with headquarters at Sixth and Lincoln St., Monongahela, PA 15063 and published by The Church of Jesus Christ Print House at 8282 Boettner Rd., P.O. Box 30, Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030. The Editor is Anthony J. Scolaro, 20 Byrd Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003. The Managing Editor is Leonard A. Lovalvo, 8085 Schneider, Manchester, MI 48158. 2175 copies are printed, 2033 subscriptions are paid, and a total of 2094 are mailed monthly.

## Married 40 Years

Brother Frank and Sister Helen Gianfermi of Branch #1, Roseville, Michigan, recently celebrated forty years of marriage. Brother Frank and Sister Helen were married on May 10, 1952 at the old "Devine and Hall" branch in Detroit, Michigan.

Brother Nick Pietrangelo had officiated at the ceremony; her maid of honor was Sister Frances Palposi and the best man was the bride's brother, Ether DiFalco.

Sister Helen, eldest daughter of the late Brother Anthony and Sister Raffaella DiFalco, was baptized on October 12, 1975 and Brother Frank made his commitment to the Lord on September 5, 1976. They have two daughters, Sister Patricia Saragosa and Sister Priscilla McGregor. May the Lord bless and guide them continually throughout the rest of their lives together.

## ENDURE continued . . .

Heaven knows we've done them all. We needed something that would demonstrate the degree of enthusiasm and commitment that we felt. Something challenging, something that would require us to "earn" the money, something that at the same time might even boost our morale and restore some pride. We needed a dare, if you will. We thought about all those things and, coupled with the fact that those of us involved enjoy cycling as a hobby, we decided to combine the two. A fund-raiser that utilizes our hobby: A bike-a-thon. But remember we wanted something that would test us, so this bike-a-thon was to be five consecutive days of riding, each in excess of 100 miles! For us, we believe this qualified as "giving of our substance."

From even the planning stages of our trip we found that it paralleled life, both naturally and spiritually, in many ways. Let me try to elaborate.

Needed to succeed in either venue you must first have a *desire*.

Just exactly how strong that desire is, can only be determined by your ability to reach your end goal, whether it's campout in Leesburg or eternal life. Next, both require much *planning* as to what is the best strategy with which you might obtain that goal. At the same time we must be cognizant of any trials and possible setbacks that might alter that plan. Spiritually the plan is laid out for us in the Word of God. We, on the other hand, had to work on ours. It is also crucial to have the proper *equipment* for the task. Spiritually that equipment is the Bible and Book of Mormon. For our ride our tools were our bikes (and seats with a ton of extra padding!!). Along with the obvious physical preparation, we also needed to make *sacrifices* that would help us to reach our goal, the toughest perhaps being, no more "after Sunday spaghetti dinner naps" but rather, hop on the bikes for another fifty! In our spiritual lives we must also make sacrifices. Sometimes we must give up some of the smaller, less significant distractions in order to get closer to that frame of mind that might allow us to commune with God.

During the ride itself, we found more similarities. We encountered many hills and valleys, finding it tough to overcome the hills while descending into the valleys didn't take much effort at all. For this reason, along with the overall length of the journey, we found out how important it is to pace yourself so you won't burn out halfway through the trip. In serving God we also must strive for *consistency*. Being "on fire" one minute and "down in the doldrums" the next just won't cut it. Because at different times each of us may have felt strong while others felt weak, we learned to *depend* on and draw from each other. We had only each other and God to help us through each day. So it is in the Church. Also, at various times we found we needed to make *adjustments*, either in ourselves, (maybe a particular riding position) or even in our chosen path. We needed to be able to *adapt*. Once again we must sometimes do the same in a

(Continued on Page 10)

## MBA Highlights

### MBA Area Campout 1992

*By Sis. Terri Bravo*

On Friday, May 22, 1992 the Atlantic Coast Area MBA sponsored a weekend campout at beautiful Camp Fairview in Newtown, New Jersey. Our camp director was Bro. Jeff Giannetti, assisted by Bro. Jim Speck. Sis. Kathy Giannetti handled registration. They welcomed everyone to a weekend of fellowship with the saints, families and friends. We were encouraged to leave our problems behind and focus on Jesus.

The camp theme was, "You can make a difference." This positive statement gave us much food for

thought and discussion. Our seminar leaders used the following scriptures as the basis for their presentation: I Peter 2:9 and Mark 16:17 & 18. We concluded that to make a difference we need to reflect Jesus in all that we think, do and say. As Jesus has made a difference in our lives, we can make a difference in the lives of those around us.

We felt great joy in seeing the smiles on one another's faces. It was as if a portion of the brightly shining sun was in each one of our hearts. There were new people to meet and friendships to nourish. We enjoyed one another's company during the seminars, at the meetings, on the playing fields or strolling through the forest. We reveled in the unity that comes from knowing and serving the Lord. His Name was praised by one and all!

We did have to say goodbye to Bro. Bruce and Sis. Darlene Large. They've been a vital part of our district for the past twenty years. We have enjoyed their participation at campouts and other area functions. We pray that God will bless them in their move to St. Louis, Missouri. We'll miss both of them very much.

Our Saturday evening and Sunday services were blessed by the presence of the Lord. We were reminded that it is everyone's responsibility to "make a difference" in the lives of those around us. We enjoyed the talents and testimonies of our brothers and sisters. There was a positive energy that all could feel. We were exhorted to be unified, to be dedicated, and to tell others of Jesus. We left Area Campout 1992 feeling refreshed, recharged and ready to make a difference.

## Branch and Mission News

### News from Modesto, CA

*By Valerie Dulisse*

On March 29, 1992 we were visited by Brother David Picciuto from the San Carlos AZ Mission. Our brother opened our service with the remark that all of our church buildings have been set aside by God as a place for worship, fellowship and comfort. He was inspired to speak on the subject of faith. Bro. Dave suggested that we question ourselves, "Can I do better?" At times, the flesh brings us down to the point that we forget that God is on His throne, but we serve a living God who wants to bless and comfort us. The word of God tells us that God made man that he might have joy.

Our brother asked us how many of us want to fall short of God. In our tribulations at times we may lose our confidence in God and in our ability to continue serving Him, but God's grace through Christ brings us to the point where we are

capable of all things. Christ bore the cross so that we could reach that mark of eternal perfection to be a better brother or sister in Christ. In addition, we must diligently add to our faith the things that are virtuous. To faith, repentance, baptism, and reception of the Holy Spirit we must add works. They are necessary to obtain the greater things in our relationship with God.

We are laborers—soldiers of the cross. When we partake of sacrament, we should be rededicating our lives to serving the Lord in a greater way. Being present for fast and prayer meetings, Sunday School and mid-week meetings are ways we improve upon our faith—they are the "substance of things hoped for." "Faith without works is dead." What is it to give an hour in the morning, or two hours later in the evening, for the service of God?

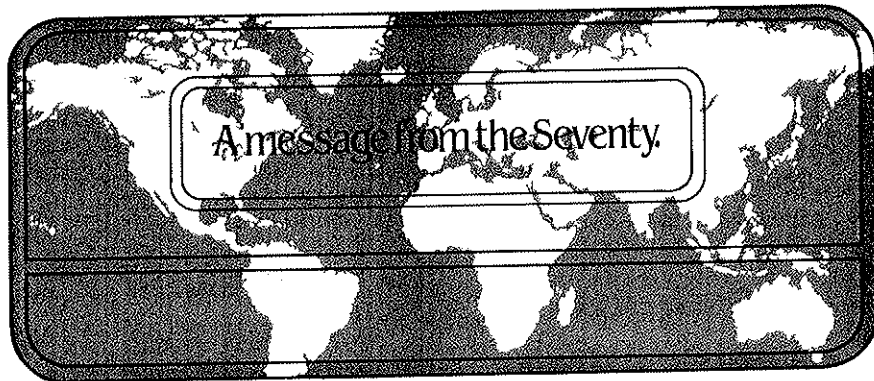
We were reminded also of the Biblical David, who because of his great faith set out to slay the Philistine giant Goliath, who

slandered the God of Israel. We all have giants in our lives—obstacles which seem impossible to overcome. Our faith must be strong in God in order for us to emerge triumphantly over the stumbling blocks of life. God's grace will be sufficient to reward our faith if we only keep the commandments He has given, love more, and persevere in our service to Him. "The object is to not give up until we have the 'evidence of things not seen.'"

Ecclesiastes, 12th chapter states, "Fear God, and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man." Our responsibility is spiritual first, and our natural duties should be the second priority in our lives.

Next, Brother Sam Randy spoke to us upon the matter of faith. He reminded us that the exercise of our faith results in the ability to partake of God's promises. There is no receiving of a promise before we diligently show our faith. God could withhold nothing from the brother of Jared because this man was dedicated, and exhibited absolute faith in his service to the Lord. We have to become involved

**(Continued on Page 7)**



## Resource Center Concept

*By Carl J. Frammolino, Evangelist Editor*

Last month, Evangelist Elmer Santilli, Chairman of the General Church Development Committee, wrote about that group's history and goals. After explaining the background and scope of responsibilities delegated by the General Church, he presented some areas in which the committee is striving to accumulate information which would be available for all branches and missions.

It is noteworthy that the concept for a much-needed and potentially helpful resource center is becoming an actuality. Furthermore, it is extremely uplifting that growth-stimulating projects, as well as materials for seasonal and ongoing programs, are being sought and collected for members, children, and friends. The National Education Committee has also developed some excellent presentations and has worked in conjunction with the development group.

The General Church has been very concerned with helping the different locations to maintain their membership and also to assist growth. Brother Santilli wrote, "Without growth in our branches/missions, the total work of the Church is in jeopardy."

His statement highlights the importance of our increasing in numbers so that the Church can be better able to follow Jesus' command to:

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

"Teaching them to observe all

things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Amen.

### WIDER BASE

The statement has been often made that a wider base (larger number of members) must be achieved to allow overall proportional growth. With increased numbers, there can be more people in the field and more resources for use. Then, it is stated, the Lord will add the increase.

It is encouraging that branches and missions will be able to have help to solidify their positions and widen their bases. The Development Committee has compiled information and experience in some phases, so in these areas, as Brother Elmer specified, "There is no need for each branch/mission to rediscover the wheel! We can help branches/missions to try and implement ideas that have succeeded somewhere else. This way if your branch/mission would like to try something to stimulate growth or whatever, you could look in the Resource Booklet and it would give you the necessary information to get started."

Exchange of ideas and successes is essential, so it is important that this transfer of knowledge be accomplished. Specifically, the committee is asking anyone who has a good proven idea, procedure, or program that can be used by others to forward it to them so it can be considered for inclusion.

Some suggested categories include:

1. Vacation Bible School
2. Branch Newsletter
3. Family Day
4. Family Meetings
5. Fund-Raising Drives.

Door-to-door visiting, advertising, media exposure, and other more direct people approaches are also possible.

### DIFFERENT STAGES OF EXISTENCE

Each branch and mission is presently in its own stage of existence. Some came into being many years ago, others are in intermediate stages, while a number of them are relatively new. Each place can therefore appraise its progress and situation. Basically, there are ways to grow in each instance.

The Church has been conducting monthly fast-and-prayer services in every branch and mission. The purposes have been to improve the spiritual welfare, pray for the sick, pray for our missionaries, and to increase our numbers. This has been a determined united effort, but each location can seek ways to follow-up, so that the Lord can use us further.

The auxiliary units have also participated in aiding and supporting the missionary work of the Church. The Missionary Benevolent Association, the Ladies' Uplift Circle, and the Sunday Schools have attempted to reach out within their sphere of activity. In some cases, they have been the doors through which new people have been introduced to the Church and have later become members. They have also been responsible for the printing of literature, with General Church approval, given to visitors. Their financial support has been very helpful; and their endeavors are much appreciated and have been noted in the past.

### BRINGING RESOURCES TOGETHER

In bringing all resources together, the Development Committee can process available information in an orderly fashion and give each branch and mission a head

(Continued on Page 6)

## The Gospel News

### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Anthony J. Scolaro  
20 Byrd Ave.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

### ASSISTANT EDITOR

Leonard A. Lovale  
8085 Schneider  
Manchester, MI 48158

### CONSULTANTS

Nephi DeMercurio  
Peter A. Scolaro

### OFFICE MANAGER

Cathy Gentile

### GMBA EDITOR

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

### GENERAL CIRCLE EDITOR

Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

### DISTRICT EDITORS

#### ATLANTIC COAST

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

#### MICHIGAN-ONTARIO

Lisa Champine  
47025 Hennings Dr.  
Chesterfield, MI 48047

#### OHIO

Mark Naro  
4425 Broadway  
Lorain, OH 44055

#### PACIFIC COAST

Kenneth R. Jones  
24268 Robie Ct.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

#### PENNSYLVANIA

Lucetta Scaglione  
303 Union St.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

#### SOUTHEAST

James G. Speck  
3710 Player Dr.  
New Port Richey, FL 34655

#### SOUTHWEST

Frances J. Capone  
8725 E. Hubbell  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

THE GOSPEL NEWS (ISSN 0279-1058) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by The Church of Jesus Christ PRINT HOUSE, 8282 Boettner Rd., P.O. Box 30, Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030, 313-429-5080. Second class postage paid at Saline, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE GOSPEL NEWS BUSINESS OFFICE, P.O. BOX 30, BRIDGEWATER, MI 48115-0030.

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

By George A. Neill

(reprinted from the February, 1964 Gospel News)

Many times we advise individuals to overlook the faults of one another. No doubt many of us have had the occasion to speak such words to someone, and I believe this is good advice because all of us have faults. We may take comfort in the thought, "Well, that's a fault I have and people will just have to look over it." However, we should never overlook our own faults, but rather, I believe, we should remember them. We have all noticed how easy it is to remember someone else's faults. I think it would do us all good if we would try to forget other peoples' faults and begin to remember our own.

I am impressed with this thought from reading of a fellow 'way back in the Old Testament scriptures. I don't know his name but he was a butler serving time in jail. He made the statement, "I do remember my faults this day." The incident referred to has its background in this history: Joseph was sold into slavery by his envious brothers. The Midianites who bought Joseph for twenty pieces of silver took him into Egypt and sold him to an army officer by the name of Potiphar. The scriptures say the Lord was with Joseph and made all that he did to prosper in his hand. He found grace in the sight of his master and was made overseer of his house. The Lord blessed this man's house, and even his fields, for Joseph's sake. However, something happened which brought trouble to him. This officer's wife, who was a woman laden with sins, made advances to Joseph; such advances a gentleman like Joseph resisted. Eventually, though, she trapped him and he was unjustly sentenced. But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him mercy. He found favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison and was soon business manager of the prison.

About this time Pharaoh's chief butler and chief baker offended him in some way and they too landed in prison. While there they both dreamed troublesome dreams which Joseph interpreted for them. The baker was to be hanged and the butler was to go free. As the butler left the prison Joseph said, "Think on me when it shall be well with thee and mention me to Pharaoh that I might be taken out of this place, for I have done nothing that they should put me here." The butler, however, forgot Joseph. He forgot a friend; he neglected to carry out a promise, an obligation, until one day Pharaoh dreamed a dream that troubled him. The butler, upon learning of this and that no one could interpret it, went to the king and burst out with these words, "I do remember my faults this day." Even though God intended to use Joseph as an instrument in His hands to help His people, a man had to undo a fault before the grand process could get under way.

Faults are not necessarily sin. A willful transgression of God's law is sin, but faults are destructive and can prevent things from being accomplished. Homes are broken up simply because of faults. It is my honest opinion that someone always suffers from our faults; on the other hand someone is always blessed when we remember them and come to grips with them. The Church suffers because of faults. I'm afraid much of God's will in the Church and for the Church is held up, perhaps even prevented, because we as saints refuse to come to grips with our own faults.

Let us go back to Joseph in prison. "Even though God intended to use Joseph as an instrument in His hands to help His people, a man had to undo a fault before the grand process could get under way." Thus, as a result of the butler remembering his fault Joseph was freed from prison and became the king's grand vizier, which placed him in a position whereby he could perform the work God had designed to be accomplished.

We owe it to ourselves and others, as well as the Church, to urgently find our faults, face them and forsake them. There are no unpardonable faults. Again I say, "someone always suffers from our faults and someone is always blessed when we remember them and do something about them."

# The Children's Corner

By Janet Steinrock



Dear Friends,

Have you realized yet how powerful your thoughts are? We talked in another lesson about how the greatest athletes in the world tell themselves good things about themselves. I told you about the famous Indian athlete who told reporters he would picture himself in his mind, running the right way and jumping the right way so that he would win. He made it to the Olympic Games, where the finest athletes in the world go to test themselves. He won gold medals.

Well, we are in a contest, too. Every day, when we wake up to a fresh new day, we have the chance to think good thoughts and do something good for Jesus.

Every day, or even every moment, we have a chance to start something good. We have a Savior. His name is Jesus. And Jesus knows all about the ugly things His children often think and do. And Jesus has the power to help us *stop* doing things that are harmful to ourselves and others.

We start by thinking about Jesus and His power and love. Then we must imagine Jesus. Imagine His gentle, quiet, loving smile. Turn off the TV, turn off the radio, go to a quiet spot in your mind and just talk to Jesus.

Tell Jesus how you were afraid and then got so angry. Tell Jesus how mean you wanted to be and ask Jesus to forgive you. He will. He already knows all of our ugly thoughts, and He's just waiting for us to ask Him to take them away and put love there instead.

Tell Him your shame. Sin grows when people are afraid to name it and ask Jesus to cut it out. Tell Jesus.

If you are really deep in sin and not sure even how to get out, tell *that* to Jesus, too. He'll help you to *want* to get out. He'll give you a strong mind and a strong will to walk away from sin. Jesus also will let you see how empty and ugly that sinful way really is.

Then, after Jesus makes you strong and clean inside, you still have another job to do. That job is to thank Jesus and to put *new* thoughts in your mind. Your new thoughts can be straight from the scriptures.

One thought could be from John 3:16, "For God so loved the world (you and me) that he gave his only begotten son (Jesus) that whosoever believeth in him, shall not perish, but will have eternal life."

So if you start to holler at yourself or tell yourself, "I'm so stupid," or "I'm just bad," stop right there!

You're the person Jesus came down to love. He died for you. He has all the true power of the universe, and He cares for you. Thank Him. Beg Him to help you again. Then remember, as you believe in yourself, that "I can do all things through Christ Jesus, which strengtheneth me."

(Philippians 4:13)

With Care,  
Sister Jan

I  
CAN  
DO  
ALL  
THINGS  
THROUGH  
CHRIST

CHAPTER  
4  
VERSE  
THIRTEEN  
JESUS  
LOVES  
AND

WHICH  
STRENGTHENETH  
ME  
FROM  
KING  
JAMES  
VERSION  
OF  
THE  
BIBLE  
PHILIPPIANS

FORGIVES  
HE  
WILL  
HELP  
MAKE  
YOU  
STRONG  
THINK  
ON  
HIM

M	E	S	W	J	H	G	U	O	R	H	T	S
G	T	T	I	H	I	M	A	K	E	F	T	N
L	J	R	L	J	E	S	U	S	S	R	F	A
L	E	O	L	N	D	I	R	A	E	O	O	I
I	N	N	Y	O	U	E	B	N	M	M	R	P
W	E	G	S	I	V	H	G	D	A	H	G	P
S	E	B	R	S	C	T	N	B	J	S	I	I
G	T	I	K	R	H	B	I	B	L	E	V	L
N	R	B	I	E	A	P	K	A	L	L	E	I
I	I	L	N	V	P	W	H	I	C	H	S	H
H	H	E	G	H	T	C	H	R	I	S	T	P
T	T	L	O	V	E	S	A	T	H	I	N	K
H	E	L	P	F	R	L	L	N	C	P	T	4

## MESSAGE continued . . .

start on their projects. Precious preparation and organizational time can be saved and more productive efforts can be started immediately. The encouragement and enthusiasm thus gained can go a long way toward achieving success.

Anyone wishing to find out about materials currently available at the Development Resource Center or who is interested in sharing their materials and programs may do so by writing to Brother Santilli at 8817 Farbar Drive, Kirtland, OH 44094.

There are many benefits to be gained by supporting and participating in the realization of the Resource Center concept. Working together will allow us to work more effectively on behalf of the Gospel of Christ.

**MODESTO continued . . .**

and apply ourselves in the word of God. We must seek and desire the things of God. Any one of us could attain the stature of the brother of Jared; there are no limitations. God will work with each of us, if we put forth the effort and allow the Holy Spirit to work within us, denying the flesh. We cannot have a hidden agenda in our lives and expect to receive the blessings and promises God has set forth for us. We have to desire them with a pure heart, and the Lord will reward us.

Brother Sam exhorted us to take the time to exercise faith, thereby taking on the nature of God so that we may be partakers in the abundant storehouse of blessings which is God's ever-present promise to us.

The beautiful words spoken by our brothers on this important virtue, faith, were very uplifting. We felt inspired to reach greater heights in our relationships with the Lord, that we might be more worthy recipients of His wondrous promises, in this life and in the next.

## Aliquippa Enjoys Apostle Visit

By Karen L. Progar

Visitors are always welcome; however, it is a particular blessing when one of the apostles comes to share a day of worship. The Aliquippa Branch was the setting of just such a visit on June 14, 1992, when Apostle Paul D'Amico spent the day with us.

Beginning with Sunday School, the spirit of testimony was clearly evident. Experiences were shared regarding the personal workings of God in our lives. This spirit continued into our morning meeting. After prayer, Bro. Joe Giannetti was obviously touched as he sang, *The Savior Is Waiting*, a fitting prelude to the day's activity.

Bro. Paul D'Amico began his sermon expressing his gratitude to the Lord for watching over him. He stated that once his foreman told him that "the Lord watches over you" and expressed how it pleased

him that this man had noted the workings of God in Bro. Paul's life. He reminded us that if we call upon the Lord, He is there to help us. Using Psalm 121 as his text, which reminds us to look up to the hills from where our strength comes, he told us that our purpose for coming to church is to give praise and thanks to God.

Bro. Paul continued by saying that when God wants us to know He is in control, He makes himself known. He then shared a number of personal experiences. Touched by the workings of God in Bro. Paul's life, we were given cause to reflect upon God's dealings in our own lives. We thank God that He provides these blessings and brothers who have the ability to impart them to us in a truly meaningful way.

## News from Monongahela

April 5, 1992 was a blessed day at the Monongahela, PA Branch. Brothers Alexander Cherry and Rick Scaglione, Jr. were ordained into special offices of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Apostle Russell Cadman opened the morning service, relating his testimony of how he came into the Church, and his calling into the ministry. He then read from Ephesians 4, exhorting that we "walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called." Brother Cadman continued by reading, "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."

We then dismissed for lunch, and enjoyed a time of fellowship with the brothers and sisters.

We reconvened upstairs for our afternoon meeting, and Presiding Elder Brian Smith exhorted us to raise our level of righteousness. The duties of an elder and teacher were read from the minister's manual.

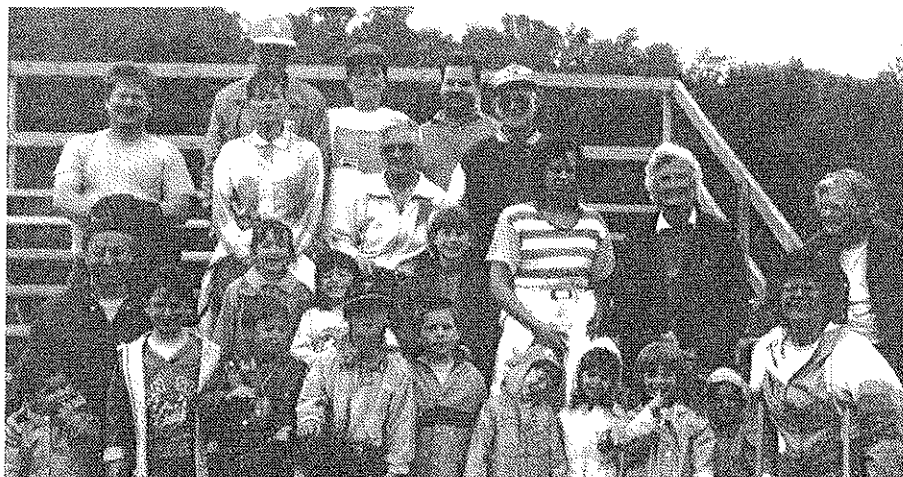
Brother Richard Scaglione then proceeded to wash his son's feet. Brother Alexander's feet were washed by Brother Bob Nicklow, Jr. After Brother Bob Nicklow, Sr. asked God's blessings on the ordinations, Brother Brian Smith ordained Rick into the office of teacher. Brother Alex was then ordained into the priesthood by Brother George Johnson.

Our two newly-ordained brothers then related their testimonies, along with some of the other brothers and sisters. Communion was served, and a beautiful day came to a close. We praise God for His blessings, and we pray that God will bless our brothers in their service to Him.

\*\*\*\*\*

Pouring rain was unable to dampen the spirits of the 23 participants in the Monongahela Branch Walkathon. A total of 76

(Continued on Page 8)



Members and children of Monongahela Branch.



**MONONGAHELA continued . . .**

miles were walked to raise money for the missionary work of the Church.

Ages of those walking ranged from 2 up to 79 years old; 12 of the 23 were children. All of the brothers, sisters, boys, and girls showed an amazing amount of enthusiasm, raising over \$600. We know God blesses us all for the efforts that are put forth in behalf of others.

**An open letter from the Bowery**

We'd like to share with you a recent letter from the Manhattan Bowery Corporation to the Brooklyn Branch that was an uplift to our spirits and an indication that hard work is being recognized.

As you may know, Brother Matthew and Sister Joan Rogolino and family have spearheaded visits to a men's detoxification center in the Bowery just about every Sunday afternoon for the past several years, bringing smiles, encouragement, hope, the Word of God, and pajamas to the men that are in recovery there. Their work has resulted in the visits of men to the Brooklyn Branch, baptisms, and the satisfaction of providing hope and help for people in desperate situations.

They encourage donations of men's new pajamas, and ask that any MBA local or Sunday School or Ladies' Circle that might be looking for a cause to support, to contact Brother Matthew.

Please continue to remember this work in your prayers, as we remember you.

Here's the letter:

Manhattan Bowery Corporation  
8 East Third Street  
New York, New York 10003

July 3, 1992

The Church of Jesus Christ  
2650 Bath Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York 11214

To whom it may concern,

This is a letter of thanks to your organization for allowing something to occur in the lives of the men here—that which has brought forth more than just spirituality—we have experienced through your agents nothing short of new life.

As fellows currently in the Substance Abuse Recovery at Bowery Detox, we are nourished not only physically but spiritually as well through a comprehensive program of which your mission has become an integral part. We thank you for your ongoing support.

(The letter was then signed by all of the men present. The Editor apologizes for misspellings.)

David Beufield	Harold Reed
Allen Hickey III	M. S. Glenn Smith
Nathan Reverer	Donald Buoff
Henry Mack	William Marshall
Alfred Taylor	Robert L. Newton
Neymar Howell	Van H.
Stephen Dash	Marck Williams
Bill Lacy	Jack Collins
Patrick Hagars	Raul Alonso
Bruce Thomas	Randaolph Brown
Anthony Rielnieu	Juan Vera
Festus Cahill	Thomas Nezay
T. Fordsman	S. Vargas
T. Brailsford	Nathanial Brown
John Rover	Harold Weiman

(The back of the letter included notes from some of the men:)

Thanks for being there when I need some GOOD WORDS, Brother Matthew. I'll be leaving June 23, 1992 for my 1 yr-program. S.W.P. 29th Shelter. I'll call from time to time—maybe even come out to visit.

Your friends in Christ,  
Allen Aihene, John Sands, M. Sulakis

P.S. Bless you and your family.

Without you bringing the Word of God to me, I would be lost. Well, I was lost until you brought the Word of Christ back into my life. NOW! I know what I have to do!

Praise God, Thank you!

Calvin Hester

I am grateful and thankful that God has entered into my life.

God Bless You!

John Rover

**Baptisms in Detroit Branch #1**

*By Sisters Patti Saragosa, Rosanne Champine, and Helen Gianfermi*

The morning of June 28, 1992 was the start of a brand new day and a new life for four young people who surrendered their souls to Jesus Christ.

The brothers and sisters were notified before that Sunday morning of the upcoming baptisms of Wayne and Kevin Conti, the sons of Bro. Frank and Sis. Virginia Conti. What we didn't know was that two more souls would ask for their baptisms that same day.

After the opening prayer by our visiting Brother Frank Vitto, Chris Scolaro stood upon his feet and asked for his baptism. Afterwards, Bro. Dave DiBattista from the Sterling Heights branch stood up and testified that he had felt that Chris would ask to be baptized. Bro. Edward Palposi also got up and said that he heard a voice speak to him saying, "There will be more."

At this time Bro. Larry Champine came to the front and sang a song entitled *Today*.

Bro. Mike LaSala's sermon that morning was based on the scripture found in Luke 15:11-32, the parable of the Prodigal Son.

Bro. Mike spoke of how the prodigal son finally realized the error of his ways, and was willing to repent and return to his father. After feasting upon the "natural" things in life, he began to see that he was "spiritually dead." Bro. Mike proclaimed, "When a soul comes unto God to be fed with that glorious manna, nothing else matters. Man surely needs God."

After Bro. Mike's sermon, Sister Tracy Francione and Sister Marilyn Scolaro sang that beautiful hymn, *For Those Tears I Died*.

Brother Flip Palacios from the Inner City Branch spoke next and reminded us of that portion of scripture that says, "What is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" He also stated that there is nothing in life that will give us true satisfaction like Jesus Christ.

Our presiding elder, Brother Peter Scolaro, remarked on how happy he was for his son, Chris. He also said that he knows there are others who are still looking for the Lord. Bro. Peter stated, "Because of His love for us God sent us His only Son; are we making it worthwhile by doing our best for the Lord? We should all strive to the best of our ability to live the life of Christ."

The congregation sang *I Surrender All* and Brother Louis Pietrangelo closed our morning meeting in prayer.

On the way to the river, a fourth soul decided to make Jesus her choice. While riding in the car, Darlene Benyola expressed her desire to be baptized!

Brothers Kevin and Wayne Conti were baptized by Brother Lou Vitto. Chris Scolaro was baptized by his father, Bro. Peter Scolaro, and Darlene Benyola was baptized by her father, Bro. Jerry Benyola. We then returned to our church building and our afternoon service began with Bro. Spencer Everett opening in prayer and the congregation singing, *Because He Lives*.

Brother Leonard A. Lovalvo from Branch #2 got up to speak a few words to us before the new converts were to be confirmed. He said, "This morning they were born of the water, this afternoon they will be born of the Spirit." He then spoke on the second chapter of I Corinthians where it says, "... the spirit searcheth all things" and "... we have the mind of Christ." This portion of scripture encourages both new and long-time members to know that as a child of God we have the guidance of the Holy Ghost to lead and direct us throughout our lives. Bro. Leonard told the new converts to relish the many spiritual gifts available to the children of God and to always be as excited about the Gospel as they are right now.

As the congregation began to sing *Ready to Go* the elders encircled the new converts for the reception of the Holy Ghost. Brother Kevin was confirmed by Bro. John Buffa; Brother Wayne was confirmed by Bro. Frank Vitto; Brother Chris was confirmed by

Bro. Louis Pietrangelo, and Sister Darlene was confirmed by Bro. Jack Pontillo. A special blessing was that Bro. Pontillo had heard a voice telling him to confirm Sister Darlene.

After the Lord's Supper was served, the four new converts gave their testimonies. Bro. Wayne began by saying how honored he felt that so many came to see the baptisms. Because he was raised in the Church he never forgot what Bro. Frank and Sister Virginia had taught him. He felt that the person most responsible for helping him to make his final decision was his young son, Gino. Gino had asked his father, "Dad, when are you going to get baptized? You know, if something happens to you, you won't be in Heaven with us." Bro. Wayne said he did stray off the straight and narrow path, but thanks be to God that the Lord directed him back. He thanked God for being on his side and said he knows the Lord will always be with him.

Sister Darlene got up next and thanked God for giving her the opportunity to be a part of this beautiful day and to become a member of this wonderful Gospel. She said it had been a struggle because she was fighting the feeling to get baptized for such a long time. Sister Darlene said every prayer she had ever prayed the Lord had answered, maybe not her way, but they were answered, His way. She expressed a strong desire to serve and to learn as much as she can, for she knows the prayers of the brothers and sisters got her through some difficult times.

Our new brother in Christ, Chris Scolaro, testified next. Chris said that while Bro. Frank Vitto was saying the morning prayer his heart began to race. He was trying to decide what to do when he looked down in the pew ahead of him and saw that the hymn book was opened to the song, *Why Not Accept Him Now?* Chris decided to do just that. Bro. Chris asked that we would pray for him, that he might learn to put everything in the Lord's hands, and that the Lord would guide him all the days of his life.

Brother Kevin began his

testimony by thanking God for his wonderful parents and family. In his search for the Lord he went and talked with Bro. Lou Vitto about many things that were on his mind. As he began to talk, he felt as though a heavy burden was being lifted from him. He knows now that he had to take that first step of reaching out and seeking the Lord. Bro. Kevin went on to say that he had always been a leader, at work, and in playing ball; now he has found a new ball team to play on. He asked for prayers in becoming a leader for the Church, and again expressed his thankfulness for all that he had experienced.

Brother Jerry Benyola told an experience he had concerning his daughter's baptism. He had been keeping a set of baptism overalls and socks in the trunk of his car, but just this morning he put in a pair of shoes—everything he needed to perform Sis. Darlene's baptism was now complete. Bro. Jerry commented, "When the fruit is ripe, it falls to the ground. Nothing is too great for the Lord to do."

Surely, the saints of Branch #1 experienced the joy that is expressed in the hymn, "Happy Day, happy day, when Jesus washed my sins away." May we and all our branches and missions be blessed with many more "Happy Days." Amen!

## Baptism in Palm Harbor

It was truly a blessing of God to witness our first baptism in Palm Harbor, Florida on February 1, 1992 as Angelo Demassio made his wishes known to be part of the body of Christ. Bro. Angelo was touched as he heard the words of our visiting brothers the previous Sunday and could wait no longer.

As we gathered at the water's edge that Sunday morning, many were there to witness the event, including Angelo's sister and brother-in-law, Sis. Ann and Bro. Frank DiAntonio from McKees Rocks, PA, Bro. Milford Eutsey from Cape Coral, FL, and Bro. Joseph Bittinger from Vanderbilt, PA. Bro. Jim Speck baptized our brother.

(Continued on Page 10)

**PALM HARBOR continued . . .**

We returned to the church where Bro. John Griffith read to us from Moroni Chapter 2, Acts Chapter 2, and John 16:7-15. All these scriptures reminded us of the Comforter which would come onto our brother when called upon in the name of the Lord, even as It did in the past as a rushing, mighty wind on the day of Pentecost. Bro. John then offered a prayer and Bro. Sam Risola Sr. confirmed Bro. Angelo. As Bro. Sam was confirming our brother, the Word of the Lord came forth saying, **"Thus saith the Lord, this is my promise, this I have given unto you, Thus saith the Lord."**

Following the confirmation, Bro. Milford exhorted us from John 6:26. He encouraged us to labor for the meat of everlasting life and do works that can be rendered to the honor and glory of God. He also reminded us to honor our spiritual father and mother and desire to see the church grow.

Next, Bro. Bittinger told us that we should rejoice in seeing others brought to Christ. Reading from Jeremiah, he encouraged us to trust in God and commit to Him totally. Bro. Joe stated how today the world doesn't trust in God and asked us how great our trust is.

Communion was passed, and we heard from our new Brother Angelo, how he waited and finally decided to make God his choice. Truly the Lord is good, and we continue to pray that the Lord will not only bless us with growth, but that he will bless your branches and missions with growth also.

**Edison, New Jersey**

*By Sis. Carmela Madison*

April 5, 1992 was a special day for Sis. Theresa Ann Bravo as God called her as a deaconess in His Church.

To look upon Sis. Terri that day was to experience a picture of serene joy and overabundance of excitement. Her deep devotion to God was apparent as she waited in anticipation of that very special moment. We could all not help but

share in her excitement as we saw how moved she was by this blessed honor.

The happiness that Sis. Terri was experiencing was magnified by the attendance of her mother and family who were attending the Church for the very first time, as well as the many visitors that came to see her ordained.

The holy spirit was in our midst as we sang *The Spirit of God Like a Fire Is Burning* with opening prayer by Bro. Phil Arcuri. Bro. Jim Sgro preached from Matthew 17, followed by Bro. Len Benyola with the message "Have you experienced the mighty change?"

As Bro. Jonathan Olexa was reading the duties of a deaconess from Romans 16:1 & 2, Sis. Linda Scolaro saw a personage in white standing next to him.

Sis. Terri was overwhelmed with spiritual joy as she was blessed to have Sis. Theresa Venuto offer prayer while Sis. Betty D'Orazio washed her feet, preparing her to receive the ordination of a deaconess. This prayer was offered by Bro. Arthur Searcy.

Sis. Terri and Sis. Theresa Venuto then set the Communion table.

The afternoon service found the congregation rejoicing in praise to God for His calling of our sister. There were several dreams confirming our sister's calling, and many testimonies of love and thanksgiving to God that He found one worthy of this calling.

As Communion was served by Bro. Jim Sgro and Bro. Phil Arcuri, we sang the following song that our Sis. Terri had written under the inspiration of the Lord entitled *Broken Bread*. We can truly say the Lord filled our cups that day, as we felt His presence in our midst and His Spirit and light surrounding our sister.

1

Broken bread, sacrifice,  
Savior's offering will suffice.  
Life eternal, heaven's gain,  
In His blessed holy name.

2

Outpoured wine, freely shed,  
For our sins the Savior bled.

Nails of anguish, sword-pierced side,  
"It is finished," Jesus cried.

**CHORUS**

Broken bread, outpoured wine,  
Love of Jesus, love divine.  
Share the blessings, bear the shame.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed name.

May God continue to walk along side her as she seeks to labor in His vineyard. May He shower her with blessings and gifts as she continues to exemplify the light of goodness we all have come to love and admire.

**ENDURE continued . . .**

spiritual vein. Finally, the most important analogy we found was, we must *endure!* We put up with heat, fatigue, pain, and even doubt as to whether we could make it through the days ahead, but each of those things only made reaching our goal that much sweeter. Can you imagine how sweet the reward of eternal life must be? I don't think I can.

We don't know to what degree, if any, we accomplished either of our goals, but we learned a lot about ourselves and God. And, about how some things are definitely worth making sacrifices for, in the process.

I would like to thank you all for your support financially, your prayers for our safety, and especially for having the faith that with God's help, we could accomplish this. Especially thanks to the two guys insane enough to attempt this with me: Jeff "Lucky" Paxon and Bryan "Abdu" Griffith, and above all, God.

As a people, the trials and turmoil of the 1990s are by far our toughest challenge to date. Can we meet and overcome this challenge? I say yes, *if we endure . . .*

God Bless You All,  
Bro. Bruce Anthony Picciuto

"And you shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved" (Matthew 10:22).

## OBITUARIES

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

### REGINA DAVELLA

Sister Regina (Jean) Davella of the Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to her eternal reward on May 10, 1992. She was born on September 27, 1934 and was baptized on July 23, 1950.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Paul Benyola and Leonard Benyola.

She was survived by her husband, Bro. Nick; her mother, Sister Jennie (Benyola) Perkall; one son, Nicholas Jr. of Palm Harbor, Florida; twin daughters, Sisters Michele Burns and Colleen Pittius; five grandchildren; one sister, Sis. Mary Faragasso; and two brothers, David and Julius Perkall.

Sister Reggie, as she was affectionately known, was an active member of the Hopelawn Branch. We miss her warmth and consistently smiling face, but we know that the Lord has called her home to eternal rest. Though our sister suffered with the affliction of cancer, she continually had faith that God was taking care of her. Her testimony was encouraging to all.

### SALVATORE FEOLA

Brother Salvatore Feola passed from this life in a tragic accident on June 4, 1992. Brother Salvatore was born on January 5, 1924 in Ponza, Italy. His mother, the late Sister Assunta Feola of the Bronx, New York Branch, was instrumental in encouraging Brothers Todaro and Sammarro to include Ponza in their planned trip to Italy so that they could bring the Gospel to her family there.

The brothers were well received, and began holding meetings in the home of Brother Salvatore. This was the beginning of The Church of Jesus Christ in Ponza, Italy. Our brother was baptized on January 16, 1949 in Ponza by Bro. Dominick Todaro. He was ordained an elder of the Church in Ponza on September 4, 1949. In 1955, Brother Salvatore and his family came to the United States, where he served in the ministry at the Bronx, NY Branch for the past 37 years. Our brother, an architectural engineer, used his talents to design and draw the plans for the church building that is now under construction in Sardinia, Italy.

Funeral services were officiated by Brothers James R. Link and Dominick Rose.

Brother Salvatore is survived by his wife, Sister Assunta; his daughter, Ilva Pacifico; his son, Luigi; and three granddaughters. He is also survived by two brothers, Brother Andy and Antonio.

Brother Salvatore will be dearly missed by his wife, family and friends, and brothers and sisters in Christ, both in the United States and Italy.

### GEORGE A. NEILL

Brother George A. Neill passed away on July 14, 1992. He was born in Monongahela, Pennsylvania on December 4, 1909. He married Sister Sarah Teye on September 16, 1932. Ordained an elder on July 16, 1944, Brother George served the Lord and His Church faithfully and loyally all the days of his life. He had a delightful sense of humor, and was always ready to relate meaningful experiences to suit every occasion.

With the death of Bro. W. H. Cadman in April of 1963, Brother George succeeded him as *The Gospel News* Editor-in-Chief and ably published this paper from June, 1963 to May, 1967. (Brother Cadman had founded *The Gospel News* in 1945 and served as editor until the day he died.) During his four-year editorship, Brother Neill touched the lives of many brothers, sisters, and friends with insightful, thought-provoking editorials whose messages are as refreshing today as when they were first penned.

Though ravaged toward the end of his life with Alzheimer's disease, he always smiled and radiated a glorious warmth of spirit.

Brothers Barry Mazzeo and Richard Christman officiated at the funeral in Phoenix, Arizona, where he resided at the time of his death.

Survivors include his wife, Sister Sarah; one daughter, Sister Patricia Christman; four grandchildren, Sister Deborah Roach, Sister Cynthia Everett, Brother Joel Christman, and Sister Melissa Christman; six great-grandchildren; and one sister, Sister Ethel Crosier.

Heaven is richer for gaining Brother George, and we are poorer for losing him. May his family be consoled by the greatest Comforter of all.

### NICHOLAS C. DAVELLA

Brother Nick Davella was called home to the Lord on July 15, 1992. A member of the Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch, he was born on February 28, 1934 and was baptized on May 1, 1966.

The funeral was conducted by Brothers Paul Benyola and Leonard Benyola.

Our brother was preceded in death just two months prior by his wife, Sister Regina. He is survived by their three children (named above) and their spouses; five grandchildren; his father, Charles Davella; and one sister.

Brother Nick was a kind, loving brother. A bus driver by profession, he conducted many a busload of Atlantic Coast saints and young people to and from GMBA Conferences over the years. Though heart disease weakened him in the last year of his life, the Lord gave him the strength to care for his wife, whom he loved dearly, throughout her affliction. The branch and family feel the loss of our brother and sister very deeply, and request your continual prayers for God's strength and comfort.

# Marriage Enrichment/Singles' Weekend Retreat

*The GMBA will again sponsor an activity intended to provide an opportunity for all ages to be uplifted, encouraged and strengthened. As directed by the preamble of the GMBA constitution and by-laws, the General MBA will, from time to time, conduct special activities intended to provide a means of assisting in the development of the organization's membership (both spiritually and temporally). These activities may include seminars, retreats or informative sessions addressing the various problems faced by its membership.*

*As we endeavor to carry out our purpose, we encourage all interested married couples and singles to make plans to be a part of the next marriage enrichment/singles' retreat weekend. We expect this activity to be a special blessing to all who will attend. As each of us face the trials of life, we can share together and seek the means of overcoming whatever obstacles are before us. As stated by Alma, "Let all thy doings be unto the Lord, and whithersoever thou goest let it be in the Lord; yea, let the affections of thy heart be placed upon the Lord forever."  
(ALMA 37:36)*

Brother Paul J Ciotti  
GMBA President

## March 5,6,7

(starting Friday evening)

SPONSORED BY GMBA AND LADIES UPLIFT CIRCLE

### \* WEDDING \*

#### CRUZ—GRIFFITH

On May 30, 1992, Mr. Salvador Michel Cruz and Sister Kimberly Jo Griffith were united in holy matrimony in Phoenix, Arizona.

Brother Walter Cihomsky was the officiating minister. Beautiful strains of harp music filled the church.

Sis. Kimberly is the daughter of Brother Joseph and Sister Paulette Griffith, the granddaughter of Sister Sara Vancik and the late Brother Paul, and the great-granddaughter of Brother W. H. and Sister Sadie Cadman—both deceased.

The couple are residing in Phoenix. May our heavenly Father's blessings rest upon them for many years to come.

### Address Change

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Children Blessed

On March 15, 1992, James Eugene Campbell was blessed by Bro. Louis Vitto at the Sterling Heights, Michigan Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Michael Jarod Pratt was blessed by Bro. Spencer Everett on May 3, 1992 at the Sterling Heights, MI Branch.

Melissa Ann, Matthew Shayne, Amanda Kaye, and Andrew Scott Haley were blessed on August 9, 1992 at the Sterling Heights, MI Branch by Brothers Lou Vitto, Eugene Amormino, Spencer Everett, and John Bufa, respectively.

Brother John Straccia blessed Brittany Lynn and Melissa Ann Kersey on August 23, 1992 at the Sterling Heights, MI Branch.



# The Gospel News

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

November, 1992

Volume 48, No. 11

## Hurricane Andrew

Those of us who live in South Florida had always heard that the "big one" was coming, and now that we've lived through it—with God sparing our lives—we are living surrounded by great destruction day after day, even months later.

After the storm hit, the need was so great that we hardly knew what to do first. We were in great shock, and the words from the Book of Mormon came to us so many times, "*... and there were some who were carried away in the whirlwind ... and thus the face of the whole earth became deformed ... and the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the storm ... and it did last for the space of three hours.*" We are changed forever since the storm, after what we have witnessed, and we are praying for the Lord to lift the sadness from our hearts.

But then the reinforcements came. You, our dear family of God, our brothers and sisters who felt our time of trouble and who gave, from your hearts, gave financially, gave us food and clothing. When there was the greatest need, it was our family of God who cared. We thanked God that our great nation sent our military men to help. We could not describe to you how strange it felt seeing the military on our roads and in the air, day and night.

We were in darkness. We reached out to our neighbors and we found new friends that we'd never had a chance to know before. Everything was closed down for weeks. No mail, no school, no work. Everyone had the same problems. We realized how precious our water is; thank God when you wash your hands. We realized how precious our electricity is; we waved at the power company trucks, hoping they were coming to our area, and when we did receive our power, we thank God over and over again.

The storm hit in the hottest time of the year, August 24, and it was over 90 humid degrees every day, and difficult to sleep at night with broken windows and mosquitoes free to come in. Yes, we suffered. It changed us, and it will take a long time for things to be "normal" again, but we felt that peace that the Lord gives, and we knew you were praying for us when we couldn't pray for ourselves.

The Southeast District brothers and sisters have been so wonderful to us, coming down with supplies, helping us with our homes, climbing up on our roofs to make temporary repairs, putting plastic on our windows, climbing into our attics to help seal up the broken air conditioning ducts ... these memories will stay with us forever. Thank you all, and God bless you, all our dear brothers and sisters.

Our Homestead, Florida Mission

house was used as a donation center and a 24-hour medical supply center, and our little "Church of Jesus Christ" sign hung over the heads of the many who lined up for days, and even now, months later, they are still coming. The military was there, too, to help organize and coordinate the people.

Our 40-year-old house (on cement blocks) withstood the hurricane with minor damage, while the huge government building in front of it lost its roof. The hurricane was filled with tornados. Unless the Lord protects you, nothing can withstand those winds. We are watching our traffic lights being put back up. It was difficult to travel around with no signs or signals. We knew of a surety that God was with us because as we drove, we couldn't help but look around at the damage to everyone's home, for miles and miles. The damage was endless, and it was difficult for us to keep track of our own driving as we saw what the hurricane had done.

As we distribute your generous donations, we are mindful of so many, many people who lost everything, with no insurance at all, and we rejoice to see these donations put to good use on behalf of the many, many people who have no homes. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the out-

(Continued on Page 11)



## My Thanksgiving

When I think about the giving of God,  
I think of life, death, and the  
iron clad Rod,

The chance to live,  
The chance to love,  
The chance to be loved,  
The chance to win; to lose,  
The chance to experience good  
and bad.

Without the giving of God, What  
would I have ever had?

He fills my life with joy and happiness,  
Neither of which come without sorrow  
and sadness.

But without unwanted events that  
cause me to question, "Why?"  
I would never understand the things  
that try . . .

my patience,  
my day,  
my night,  
my family,  
my church,  
my thoughts,  
my mind,  
my soul,  
my life.

Without the bad, there is no good.  
There is no need to wonder if I  
ever could . . .

Be myself,  
Work for God,  
Love my neighbor,  
Do the world a favor, and spread the  
Gospel.

He gave me the birds' angelic voices,  
The life made full of choices,  
The warmth of the fireball in the sky,  
The promise it isn't over when I die,  
The WAY in the search for truth,  
Knowledge of the Gospel from  
my youth,  
The beauty of the human race,  
The smile on the child's face.

The giving of God is something that I  
will never understand  
Why He is there to lend me His hand.

To lead me,  
direct me,  
love me,

understand me,  
watch me,  
and KEEP me.

All these things He does and gives  
Are noticed every moment; each day  
that I live.

Thanksgiving means the act of giving  
thanks; as to God.

Thanking God for the things He gives  
and doesn't give,  
And thanking Him for the things that  
happen and don't happen.

All things work together for good,  
and I thank God for all things.

Although Thanksgiving is one day set  
aside, each year, for giving thanks to  
God,  
Every day I take the time to thank the  
Lord for the things He has given me.

And every day I go on living,  
I'll make sure each day is  
MY THANKSGIVING.

David Lovalvo

## Fifty Years in God's Service

*By Carol Monaghan*

On Sunday, August 16, 1992,  
our dear Sister Chris Colangelo  
celebrated 50 years in the service of  
Our Lord Jesus Christ. Sis. Chris  
was baptized as a member of the  
Glassport, PA Branch on July 26,



**Sis. Chris Colangelo of McKees  
Rocks, PA.**

1942 by Bro. V. James Lovalvo,  
and was confirmed by Bro. Vincent  
Clements. She was ordained a  
deaconess on September 6, 1973 at  
the McKees Rocks, PA Branch,  
where she is currently a member.

Sister Chris has gone on lay  
missionary work with her husband,  
Bro. William Colangelo, to the San  
Carlos, AZ Mission in 1970. They  
traveled to Italy in 1982 with Bro.  
Dan and Sis. Fannie Casasanta, to  
Oak Grove, Missouri in January-  
February of 1987 with Bro. Joe  
Genaro, to South Dakota and St.  
John, Kansas in August of 1991  
with Bro. Richard and Sis. Lucetta  
Scaglione, and they are currently  
laboring with others of the Penn-  
sylvania District at our Elkins,  
West Virginia Mission.

Our sister has now and always  
been a hard and diligent worker for  
the Church and her family, and has  
offered her home and hospitality to  
many of the saints. As Sister Chris  
said in her testimony, it is easy for  
her to thank God, for He has been  
good to her and her family. She  
was drawn to the Church by the  
love of the brothers and sisters, and  
always enjoyed hearing their ex-  
periences. We, along with her fami-  
ly, can say we have spent many  
beautiful years worshipping God  
together with our sister, and she  
has always been a joy and a bless-  
ing to "the Family of God."

## DIRECTORY UPDATE

Cadman, Russell & Ethel  
235 St. Johns Rd.  
Fredonia, PA 16124

Coppa, Silverio & Ilene  
P.O. Box 308  
3243 Palmer Place  
Grayling, MI 49738  
Tel. (517) 348-8798

Curtin, Tom & Sally  
25 Holmes St.  
Belleville, NJ 07109  
Tel. (201) 751-9495

Risola, Sam & Arleen  
Tel. (813) 942-4200

Zaccagnini, Mario & Sara  
21350 Urban Drive  
Macomb, MI 48042

## Our Women Today

*By Mary Tamburrino*

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference was held on Saturday October 3, 1992 at the Greensburg, Pennsylvania church building. Sisters were present from every district of the Church. Sister Lorraine DeMercurio read the scripture from the Bible, Romans 12:1-2. Sister Arline Whitton, General Circle President, stressed in her opening remarks that we should love and pray more for one another.

The minutes of the last conference, held in San Diego, California, were read and accepted. The roll call of officers was had and all of the officers were present. Communication was read from New York's Bowery with 31 signatures—they thank the Circles for their help.

The presidents of the Area Circles—Atlantic Coast, Southwest,

Pacific Coast, Southeast, Michigan-Ontario, Ohio, and Pennsylvania—read their reports. All are busy reading the Scriptures and helping their branches. The money raised for the San Carlos building was \$2058.00. This project will continue for the next six months.

Sister Pierina DiFalco, the Card Sender, sent thirty-nine cards. Contributions were made to the General Church Indian Mission, Africa, India, Italy, Missionary Foundation, and to the Media Committee Funds.

Contributions were made to the Memorial Fund in memory of: Anna Fallavollita, Allen Henderson, Stephen Johns, Louise Krumpe, Nicoletta Lombardo, Edward Pastore, Fannie Pontillo, James Ross, Rose Scalise, Wes Shaw, James Staley, and Willis Timms.

After lunch the Pennsylvania Area held a "talk show" which was enjoyed by all in attendance. Sister

Jan Cornell was the coordinator. She had three sisters on the panel, namely, Elizabeth Staley—she told how it feels when a loved one is sick or passes on, Terry Snyder—talked about a home divided spiritually, and Shannon Sapko—explained what it's like to be young in the Church. Questions were asked of them by the audience. We learned that there are many needs in the Church, and how we may be able to help those in different situations.

A vote of thanks was given to the Pennsylvania Area and to Sister Judy Coppa for taking care of the Day Care Center. Sis. Judy reported that there were as many as 22 children in attendance.

The next General Circle Conference will be held on April 24, 1993 at Detroit, Michigan Branch #2.

## Branch and Mission News

### Sterling Heights Branch

On March 15, 1992 the Lord visited us in a mighty way. In some services we receive many blessings, but this one completely overwhelmed us all.

We began by witnessing the healing of a blind 5-month-old infant that had been brought to be blessed. When the young mother returned to her seat her son looked in recognition at her face and followed her movements for the very first time. Praise God!

After worshipping God in some praise songs, Bro. Lou Vitto felt compelled by the Holy Spirit to ask for those who had needs to come forward for prayer. He had intended to bring forth a message but was constrained by the Spirit not to do so. Even though our cups were already filled, God had much more in store for us.

Our Bro. John Straccia felt

something brush by him as he prepared to pray for a sister. He then expressed that the presence of the Lord was with us. During prayer the gift of tongues was spoken with the following interpretation: "Thus saith the Lord, today I am in this house, I will meet all your needs according to your faith today. Believe."

As if this weren't enough, the very next person asking for prayer was a young man named David Haley, who has been visiting us for about one year. Before prayer he expressed his desire to surrender all to Jesus. As Bro. Lou prayed for David, he related to us that it was revealed to him when Bro. David entered the building this morning, that today was his day of salvation. This very humble and earnest young man has received some beautiful experiences throughout his life, both prior to and since coming to the Church.

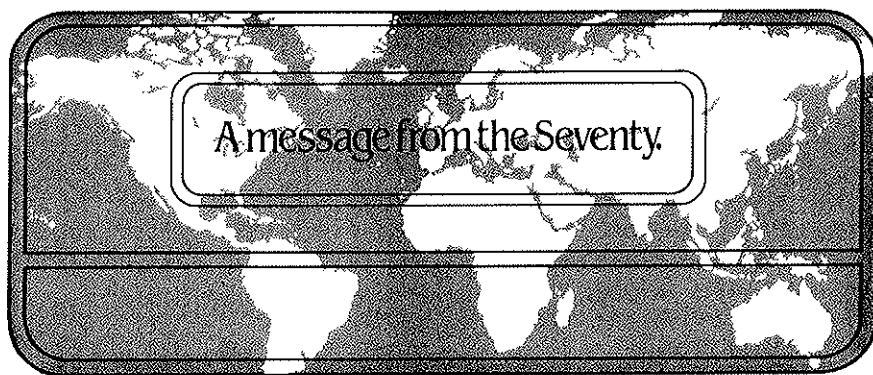
There was a beautiful season of testimony, followed by another stream of members and non-members alike who came forward having a great variety of needs to be laid on the altar of God in prayer. The Lord was truly merciful and allowed the Holy Spirit to touch every person present in the building that day!

We reluctantly dismissed the meeting with plans to meet at the river shore the following Sunday morning to perform our Brother's baptism. Bro. Lou Vitto took him into the waters early that morning before our District Conference Sunday service. Bro. David was confirmed by Bro. Spencer Everett which, along with our brother's humble testimony, gave a beautiful beginning to our meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sunday, February 23rd, was also a glorious day indeed in which the Spirit flowed like a warm blanket of special blessing from

(Continued on Page 7)



## Missionary Activities, Election at Conference

*By Carl J. Frammolino, Evangelist Editor*

Reports of missionary activities, election of officers, and other important matters were on the agenda at the General Quorum of Seventy Evangelists Semi-Annual Meeting at the World Headquarters (General Church Auditorium) in Greensburg, PA on Thursday, October 1. Many items were acted upon, some of which were submitted to the General Church Conference starting the next day.

Brother Thomas Liberto, Chairman of the General Missionary Operating Committee, presented an overview of the efforts being expended. He stated that many locations are being served in both domestic and foreign fields.

Although it was impossible to elaborate on each one, he cited the labors on a district-by-district basis in North and Central America. Some are under the District Missionary Operating Committees, while others are under the respective districts. Unfortunately, a small number of places have not yet been included in the reporting process for various reasons, but the otherwise comprehensive analysis made it possible to better understand the total picture. In some areas, brothers and sisters from different cities gather for services. The update included the following localities where members reside:

**ATLANTIC COAST:** Brunswick, Maine; Dedham, Massachusetts; Cottageville and Spartansburg, South Carolina; and the Bowery in New York City.

**MICHIGAN—ONTARIO:** Muncey and Six Nations Indian Reservations in Ontario, Canada; and Detroit, Michigan Mexico Town.

**OHIO:** Evergreen, Alabama; Elizabethtown, Kentucky; Omaha, Nebraska; St. Paul, Minnesota; Bedford, Iowa; South Bend, Indiana; Independence, Missouri; and Cincinnati, Columbus, and Kent, Ohio.

**PACIFIC COAST:** Guatemala City, Guatemala; Tijuana, San Isidro and Ahome in Sinaloa, Torreon in Coahuila, Mexico City, Cuauhtemoc, and Pedernales in Michoacan, Mexico; Mexicali, Baja California; Riverside, Riverbank, and Yucaipa, California; Portland, Oregon; and Denver, Colorado.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Elkins, West Virginia; Butler, Pennsylvania; Wakapala, South Dakota; St. John, Kansas; and Atlanta, Georgia.

**SOUTHEAST:** Homestead, Florida; also Spanish-speaking meetings are held in the Lake Worth, Florida Branch for over 30 people from Guatemala who are attending.

**SOUTHWEST:** Lakeside and San Carlos, Arizona.

Most of the places not mentioned above have had articles from or about them printed in the past. It is intended to include them in the future, as the reporting process becomes more complete.

The work of the Native

American Committees in the Districts was also elaborated upon. There are many workers who labor with the Seed of Joseph in various ways, and these were mentioned.

### FOREIGN MISSIONS

More detailed information about the foreign missions has been presented in the recent issues of the *Gospel News*. Trips to India, Africa, and Italy have been reported. Brother Liberto summarized the activities in these nations, and foreign visits also expressed themselves at the end of the session in which they offered highlights, along with needs and expectations for each field. Future trips were also discussed.

There are many other possibilities for foreign missionary work. Some cannot be pursued presently because of world conditions, while others have been postponed because of either lack of workers or funds.

Interest in learning about the Church is always being shown, as evidenced by the communications received. The General Church Correspondent reported that 33 letters were written from January 1 through September 15. Among them were answers to two inquiries from France, one from Italy, and one from Vancouver, Canada.

### REGIONALIZATION: BROADCASTS

The General Church Development Committee is working on some future plans. Among them is a regionalization alignment which would minimize travel for missionary activities. Another one is the resource center discussed last month in this column.

Five radio broadcasts are being aired on Sunday mornings. The 15-minute "Gospel Message" segments are being prepared and distributed by the General Media Committee. The newest one is in Bath, Maine, which was begun at the request of the nearby Brunswick, Maine Mission. Favorable responses have been received.

(Continued on Page 11)

## The Gospel News

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Anthony J. Scolaro  
20 Byrd Ave.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

**ASSISTANT EDITOR**  
Leonard A. Lovalvo  
8085 Schneider  
Manchester, MI 48158

**CONSULTANTS**  
Nephi DeMercurio  
Peter A. Scolaro

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Cathy Gentile

**GMBA EDITOR**  
Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

**GENERAL CIRCLE EDITOR**  
Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Alliquippa, PA 15001

### DISTRICT EDITORS

**ATLANTIC COAST**  
Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**  
Lisa Champine  
47025 Hennings Dr.  
Chesterfield, MI 48047

**OHIO**  
Mark Naro  
4425 Broadway  
Lorsain, OH 44055

**PACIFIC COAST**  
Kenneth R. Jones  
24268 Robie Ct.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Lucetta Scaglione  
303 Union St.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

**SOUTHEAST**  
James G. Speck  
3710 Player Dr.  
New Port Richey, FL 34655

**SOUTHWEST**  
Frances J. Capone  
8725 E. Hubbell  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

THE GOSPEL NEWS (ISSN 0279-1056) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by The Church of Jesus Christ PRINT HOUSE, 8282 Boettner Rd., P.O. Box 30, Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030, 313-429-5080. Second class postage paid at Saline, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE GOSPEL NEWS BUSINESS OFFICE, P.O. BOX 30, BRIDGEWATER, MI 48115-0030.

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

As we commit our lives to the Lord, we immediately become partakers of His divine Salvation. Yet when we enter the waters of baptism, our service to Him is only just beginning. Being a saint of the most high God consists of much more than attending church meetings and having our name in a book. Serving God has a dynamic effect on our lives which eventually molds us into the image of Christ Himself.

The life of an effective, successful servant of God is always marked by *sacrifice*, that is, giving of ourselves—of our best—unselfishly, for the benefit of someone else. Sacrifice is “going the extra mile,” making an extraordinary effort, purely for the sake of others. In any endeavor, great things are only achieved through this kind of sacrifice. And so it is with the things of God. For the Lord’s work to be accomplished here on earth, He needs servants who are willing to make this kind of sacrifice for Him.

We receive little recognition, and collect no earthly compensation, when we make sacrifices for the Lord. And as we work for the Master, the fruit of our labors belongs to Him. Through our sacrifice, we glorify God’s holy name, but looking at it through eyes of flesh, we can see nothing in it for ourselves.

We can’t even take comfort in the notion that giving of ourselves somehow helps save our souls, because the scripture teaches us that “Jesus paid it all.” Our sacrifices must be motivated purely by our love for God and His creation. It is not a question of paying back the debt that the Savior paid for us, but rather, an outward manifestation of our inward gratitude to Him for paying an obligation which, without Him, we would be completely unable to settle. Making genuine sacrifices for the cause of Christ is not what brings about our salvation. If anything, it is a *result* of it.

Because it is a labor of love, a sacrifice made for the Lord is done cheerfully, and with a thankful heart. When we’re properly occupied with our Father’s work, we don’t look about us to see whether others are likewise giving of their time and substance. True sacrifice is not misery seeking company. It is inspired of God, motivated by His grace and accomplished through His strength.

Regardless of who we are, there are areas in all of our lives where we could make a greater commitment to God. Like the rich young ruler, who was told by the Lord, “One thing thou lackest,” we may not enjoy hearing what the Lord wants from us. Yet if we hope to realize the purpose for which He placed us here, and if we want to see His kingdom established on the earth, then affluent lifestyles, prestigious careers, the best years of our lives, and carefree childhoods for our sons and daughters may be among the things we’ll have to sacrifice, without any worldly recompense.

If that be the case, let us remember who God is and who we are, and realize that this is our reasonable service.

# The Children's Corner

By Janet Steinrock



Dear Boys and Girls,

In I Corinthians 12:12-31, the Apostle Paul tells us that all of us who serve God and love each other are parts of one body. Each person is a different body part. When I began to think upon this scripture, so many wonderful thoughts came to mind.

I realized how silly it is for me to be jealous of a brother or sister who can do something better than I can. I remember as a young person at Campouts resenting a different group of young sisters and being very rude and jealous. We laugh about those days now, but even as an adult there are times I feel those old feelings of jealousy, hate, or resentfulness sneaking in. Usually the root of these feelings is fear—fear that I'm not as good as someone else, or that someone will see me as a failure, or that I *will* be a failure.

Think what a body would do if the feet were afraid to move! What if the hands were afraid to reach out and grasp something or if the muscles that support the hands and feet refused to work and said, "No way! If I'm not the one out in front, I won't support that part of the body that is!"

Have you ever had a muscle in your eye or in your face tic, flicker and feel so odd? Well, it is the same way with the body of our Church. If one tiny muscle, one precious member, is 'out of sync,' not working right, it affects the outlook and the well-being of the whole body.

Even the tiniest body parts—the life-giving red blood cells—are vital. Perhaps those are the constant prayers prayed in secret by faithful members.

Who would be the tongue? That is a precious member of the body. The Apostle James in the Bible tells us what a powerful member the tongue is, to do good or evil, and how hard it is to control. So much good work can be done by a tongue that sees the good instead of the bad—by a tongue that refuses to say the bad and discouraging words that hurt or assassinate someone's character behind his back.

Who will be the ears? Quick to hear the good. Quick to hear the secret pain someone needs to share, quick to understand and direct the body to do good.

Who will be the fingernails, standing close there to protect the sensitive fingertips of the groping hand, which must reach out into the void and pat a head or smooth away tears, or reach out where they might be rejected?

Will you be the faithful heart, firmly beating away, steadfastly and earnestly sending nourishing good prayers out on behalf of all the body parts? Vitally needed in all areas of our wonderful Church are those quiet deep souls who will day in and day out carry great spiritual burdens for the more delicate or infirm body parts.

Are you a white blood cell? Ready to dash in and sacrifice *your* life, to heal pain and the disease of sin in someone else's life?

Are you a joint or a wonderful stretching ligament, someone who connects one part of the body, one way of thinking, to another whose ways or culture may be different?

We each are vitally needed. One whole body needs many different working parts. It indeed is silly for

us to waste our energies coveting somebody else's job or position. There is always a way to tone and strengthen our individual body part.

Muscles need to be used or they will wither. Our spiritual gifts are like that. We must pray to God to remove our fears, to flex our body parts and let them grow strong and useful. One body part cannot function without another for the body to be whole. Even the smallest, most hidden body part is vital to the health of the whole body. The whole body suffers when one part suffers; when one part (person) is honored, we are all honored. As God has set each person in the body as it pleases Him (verse 18), then let us feel the joy and honor in that and develop our body part to be a member of a beautiful, smoothly functioning body, building the kingdom of God upon the face of this earth.

Sincerely,  
Sister Jan

## WORD SEARCH

BLOOD	SAY
BODY PARTS	SPIRITUAL
FOOT	SUM
GIFT	SUPPORT
GOD'S	TALK
GOOD	TALK (AGAIN)
HAND	TELL
HOPE	TONGUE
MUSCLE	THINGS
PRAY	WORD

B	O	D	Y	P	A	R	T	S
L	E	E	U	G	N	O	T	P
O	P	K	U	K	L	F	R	I
O	O	L	L	L	I	A	O	R
D	H	A	E	G	Y	D	P	I
R	T	T	S	A	Y	O	P	T
O	O	D	N	A	H	O	U	U
W	O	T	H	I	N	G	S	A
G	F	E	L	C	S	U	M	L

**STERLING continued . . .**

believer to believer to the honor and glory of God!

Our service started with the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit carried over from our Sunday School to continue to anoint those hearts open to receive. A sister requested anointing after the opening prayer, which followed our singing of praises and worship to our great God. Several more prayer requests followed shortly, and there was no turning back. The members exploded in spontaneous testimony to God's goodness while nary a sermon had been preached! Who among us can quench the Spirit's flow and not be robbed?

Quite suddenly in the beginning of the previous week, our young Brother Presiding Elder had taken ill and was hospitalized. After several days of agonizing tests, he was released with a "nothing wrong" diagnosis.

He stood to give testimony of God's goodness to him and to relate what had transpired during his experience, and the Lord turned his testimony into a sermon on using our faith.

There were several first-time visitors that day, and there can be no doubt at all that they knew they had entered the house of God and were indeed on holy ground. All praise belongs to Him.

It was difficult to end the meeting, and we were reminded of the words of the Book of Mormon as to the manner in which to conduct the meetings of the saints of God. How can we ever sufficiently praise Him?

Editor  
Sterling Heights Branch

**Miami/Homestead**

We had been praying that the Lord would give us peace and solace so that we could enjoy His blessings, and as May 10, 1992 started with the cool, fresh air and the blooming flowers, we anticipated those blessings. When Peter Katsaras stood and requested his baptism, we all felt that inner

joy, and what a Mother's Day gift it was to his mother!

As our Presiding Elder George Kovacic was speaking from Luke 11, where Jesus was teaching the people, he told of a woman who was praising Mary for being Jesus' mother, but the way that Jesus answered her told what was most important, "Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it."

Bro. Ron Carradi was visiting, and he followed on the same theme. When we came to The Church of Jesus Christ, we were taught the better part of hearing and keeping the word of God. The things that we did in our life before coming to the Church do not compare with what we have received since coming to the Gospel. We want to love and serve God; we have joy in thinking about eternity with Him.

Bro. Joe Catone Jr. continued, referring to the answer Jesus gave. God chose Mary, but blessed are they that hear the word and keep it. We must keep God's commandments, and if we endure faithfully to the end, we'll have eternal life.

Bro. Mark Kovacic followed, stressing the point that not just one day in our lives, but *every* day we should hear the word of God and do it. He spoke about his mother, and how she took her children to church alone when her husband had to work. He asked us to think about our mother when she was our age. Our brother stated that he felt his mother was a more responsible, more mature person than he is now at the same age.

Before communion was served, our presiding elder asked if any needed prayer or had special requests. It was at this time that Peter Katsaras stood on his feet and made his wishes known.

The brothers were to serve lunch to the sisters this day, and it was a beautiful, delicious meal that they had prepared themselves, served to the ladies, and then cleaned up afterward. Then, off to Homestead for the baptism.

Bro. Joe Catone Jr. took Peter into the water of a beautiful, peaceful lake. Peter had invited four of his friends to witness his baptism. It was a joy and a peace to behold. It was so beautiful to

hear the sweet singing from the small group, and a pleasure to have our Homestead group join us.

After Peter's baptism, we gathered again at our Homestead Mission house for the confirmation. Bro. Joe Catone Sr. was so happy to see everyone fill the building. They had met the Friday night before, and he had prayed for God to fill the building Sunday. It was so full, people were standing. What a blessing!

After the elders knelt in prayer prior to the confirmation, Bro. Mark Kovacic went forward to lay his hands on Peter and we could all feel how strong the Spirit of God was in our midst. Afterward, two sisters related beautiful visions they had witnessed at the time of the bestowal of the Holy Ghost upon Peter.

Bro. Joe Catone Sr. read from Romans 12:1 & 2, on making yourself a living sacrifice. He encouraged us to read and study the scriptures.

Bro. Mark Kovacic related that after the confirmation, he felt his entire strength leave him. He encouraged our new Brother Peter to pray always and not faint. God wants us to be a righteous people and do His work, and He will give us the strength to perform what He has for us to do. Nephi lived like this, and Bro. Mark prayed that Peter would be like unto Nephi.

Many beautiful testimonies were given, starting with Peter's grandfather, Bro. Nick Ritz, who thanked God for his first grandson being baptized and for his own 71 years in the Church. Then Bro. Nick's wife, Sis. Pauline, thanked the Lord, followed by Bro. Peter's parents and Peter himself. Peter said he felt so very happy, and thanked God for blessing him all the time, and giving him understanding of the scriptures each time he asked. He loves bringing his friends to church, and now he knows that his actions must reflect the Church and the Lord's teachings at all times.

All the young people gathered to sing *He Changed My Life Completely*, and Bro. Miguel Bicelis' testimony afterward was very

(Continued on Page 8)



**MIAMI continued . . .**

touching as he thanked God for his new Brother Peter. When Peter was a young boy, Bro. Miguel was drawn to the Church through him. Peter knew the scriptures even as a young man; he left us for a few years, and now he is back. Thank God!

## Mexicotown and Muncey, Ont. exchange visits

By Samuel French

Sunday, June 28, 1992 the Muncey Mission had the privilege of having the brothers and sisters from the Spanish Mission (Mexicotown) visiting with us.

It was a joy to have them with us here in our mission, to hear them glorify God not only in testimony but in song.

There were songs which were sung in the Spanish language which touched the hearts of everyone present.

We also were blessed as Brother Peter H. Capone and his wife, Sister Frances, sang *In the Garden*, followed by Brothers Gary and Claude Champine.

During the meeting the brothers and sisters and friends in Muncey were called upon to sing. They sang *Won't It Be Something to See Israel Smile*, *Sing Hallelujah*, and *My Lord Can* from the *Songs of Zion*.

Our speakers on that day were Brothers Gary Champine, Pete Capone, and Sam DiFalco.

Our brothers spoke on joy, hope, and God's plan for us as a people. There are events which we see happening around us, but our brothers stated that we should not fear. God will take care of us. Brother Pete related that Zion was most important to him and also to us who belong to The Church of Jesus Christ.

We at Muncey wish to thank all those who attended the meeting on this day.

Following the meeting we were privileged to have a beautiful dinner, prepared by the sisters, awaiting us. It was a day of remem-

brance for all who were present.  
May God be glorified.

\*\*\*\*\*

On July 19, 1992 we of the Muncey Mission had the opportunity of traveling to the city of Detroit to visit with the Seed of Joseph at the Spanish Mission in Mexicotown.

We were welcomed there, and what a blessing we received throughout the day! The power of God and his Spirit were strongly felt by one and all as we worshipped the Lord in Spirit and in Truth.

Many glorified God in song and testimony of what the Lord had done for them, and how He blesses us if we serve Him and do His will.

Bro. Rodney Dyer from Muncey spoke and said in his message that the natural man is an enemy to God. He also said that one day there will be no more language barrier, but we will all speak the language of Jesus Christ.

During the evening meeting which we also attended, we once again felt the presence of the Lord. Many of the brothers of the priesthood who spoke said that we as members of The Church of Jesus Christ must be laborers. We must work to help build the Lord's Kingdom and He will be with us if we are workers for His Church. Praise be to God.

We of the Muncey Mission wish to thank the brothers and sisters for their hospitality and the beautiful dinner which was presented to us. It was a day well spent in the Lord. May God richly bless one and all.

## Fort Pierce, FL

On April 26, 1992, our Sunday morning service commenced with a wonderful Sunday School lesson, conducted by Brother Carl Romano. We were happy to have Sister Sally Romano, and Brother Vic and Sister Dorothy Pastorelli from Michigan present.

The morning service was opened by Brother Frank Rogolino, reading several verses in I Nephi, 17th Chapter. The third verse gives

us much to think about: "And thus we see that the commandments of God must be fulfilled. And if it so be that the children of men keep the commandments of God He doth nourish them, etc."

After testimonies and sacrament was administered, we ended a blessed day singing *Have You Counted the Cost*.

On May 10, we were happy to see Brother Nick Pietrangelo in our midst. He opened our morning service. It was Mother's Day and he chose to dwell on mothers: it was a great tribute to all mothers.

Brother Nick then related a dream that he had of his wife, Sister Yolanda (who has recently passed away and is greatly missed). The gift of tongues was spoken. The Spirit of God was felt by all. How greatly God blesses His children!

On May 24, 1992, we were extremely jubilant when Sister Trudie Sommerville, of Orlando, requested her baptism. It was a blessing to have Sister Trudie's mother, Mrs. Blanchard, present and also Brother John and Sister Patricia Cote and family.

Brother Frank Rogolino introduced the morning service by reading in II Nephi 9:10, "O how great the goodness of our God, who prepareth a way for our escape from the grasp of this awful monster; yea that monster, death and hell, which I call the death of the body, and also the death of the spirit." After several remarks by Brother Frank, Brother Norman Campitelle followed with comments on what we must do to be saved; how important it is for the remission of one's sins and to love and serve God to the end.

We then left our branch to meet at the Lake where Brother Frank Rogolino performed Sister Trudie's baptism—it was a beautiful day!

Back at our branch, Sister Trudie was confirmed by Brother Costarella. When our service came to a close, we held hands and sang *Ring the Bells of Heaven*. We are thankful to God for a wonderful day and for His many blessings.

On May 17, 1992 Sister Ilene Katsaras of Miami, FL and Sister Bonnie Miller of Florence, KY sur-

prised us with a delightful visit. We enjoyed their wonderful testimonies. God bless them.

Florence S. Catena  
Port St. Lucie, FL

## Seed of Joseph work in Cape Coral, FL

Exciting things have been happening in Cape Coral! In case you haven't heard, we are no longer simply an established mission. At the February, 1992 District Conference, we officially became a branch.

May 10, 1992 was an extremely exciting day for our branch. We were blessed with five residents from the Big Cypress Indian Reservation as visitors in our midst. These individuals arrived bright and early for Sunday School, and remained for the church service. After church there was a luncheon prepared in the home of one of our brothers and sisters, where we all fellowshiped late into the evening. Before they started for home, a Book of Mormon was offered and accepted with apparent interest.

A week later, at our Sunday School picnic, we were thrilled and happily surprised to have our Lamanite friends with us once again to add to the enjoyment of the day.

Upon visiting the reservation, our brothers were overwhelmed to discover that after one short month, their Book of Mormon appeared to be well-thumbed and obviously had been read. Our friends now ask questions of our brothers regularly regarding the Bible and Book of Mormon. They have even purchased Bibles!

On Saturday, August 8, we were blessed once again to be invited to celebrate with the Jumper Family. Lucille's son Keith was going away to an Indian high school in Oklahoma. We were honored to be asked to partake of this family affair. The day was filled with sports, an abundance of food, and even Bible trivia! It was certainly a day of laughter and of growing closer. We are thankful for these

times and we pray for more.

Another honor was granted to each family invited: An 8x10 picture of Mama Jumper, which we all cherish. Mama was asked to offer a blessing on the food and though she prayed in her native Indian language, we felt the beauty of her prayer.

These blessings have filled the branch with gratitude to Our Lord for granting these fruits of labor. May God bless you all in your endeavors in spreading the Gospel, for surely it is our intent to persuade *all* men to come unto the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and be saved.

## Blessings in South Bend, IN

On May 23 and 24, 1992, members of the Detroit Inner City Branch came to visit the South Bend, Indiana Mission along with saints from Omaha, Nebraska and St. Paul, Minnesota. Saturday began with a visit from a friend, Karen Harris, a student at nearby Notre Dame University, who had a vision of the meeting that afternoon with Brothers Mitchell Edwards and Clifton Wells. Saturday evening, after the sisters had a seminar, we met to sing and do whatever the Lord directed us. Brother English Webb from Pennsylvania opened the meeting. Brother Mike Italiano from Youngstown, Ohio followed, and Brother Clifton Wells followed him. As beautiful as Saturday was, it was just a taste of what was to come.

On Sunday morning, two vans and several cars came from Detroit. We began by singing hymns, and followed with the Word of God, as read by Brothers Mike Italiano and Cliff Wells.

Bro. Mike opened on the message of Progressive Love, expressing how throughout his life he had experienced love in stages. First, there was the "maternal" love experienced by a child, then the love of a beautiful wife and a family of his own. Then, in finding the Gospel, he had found an even greater love—the Spirit—the Love of God.

Reading from John 15:12, Bro. Clifton Wells spoke on how this love makes us love one another. He explained how we must love each other, or we cannot truly love God. A beautiful spirit accompanied our brothers' speaking.

The "law" of love was next to be expounded by Bro. English Webb. He showed us how the beatitudes preached by Jesus from the mount could be describing one person whose heart and soul exhibited each of the attributes listed:

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "The Lord wants a broken heart and a contrite spirit."

2. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. "We must bury that old man in the waters of regeneration and raise up a new creature. Mourn him because he's gone, but don't miss him!"

3. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. With much vigor, Bro. English stated, "So many want to die and go to heaven; well, I'm looking for heaven to come down here to earth. Zion! We must grow day by day in our hearts. This is the Law of Love."

Bro. English's countenance shone with glory as he expounded, "For righteousness' sake, Christ has come and taken His abode in you, *never to leave or forsake you.*" Forgiving and forgetting (vv. 11 & 12) helps you to live. On the cross, Christ said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Inasmuch as Christ forgives us, we should be able to forgive others.

Many spoke during testimony of what God had done for them. All spoke of His glory, and then Reuben Hippolyte rose to his feet and asked for his baptism. At this time, the Spirit revealed through three different brothers that not only this man, but others were ready to give their lives to Christ. Karen Harris then stood and said that her heart was beating hard, and the Spirit prompted her to ask for her baptism.

A caravan of the saints drove off to the river for the baptism. After prayer, led by Bro. English,

(Continued on Page 10)

**SOUTH BEND continued . . .**

we witnessed Karen gracefully submerge as Bro. Mitch baptized her. Once back at church, the Spirit was present as we sang songs of rejoicing. The Holy Ghost was bestowed upon our new sister by Bro. Mike Italiano. After communion, we closed with *Amazing Grace* and went into the dining area for a beautiful meal and continued fellowship. It was a weekend well spent in the Lord.

**Two ordinations at Fredonia, PA**

On Sunday, August 9, 1992, Bro. Gary Martin was ordained an elder and Sis. Nancy Gehly was ordained into the office of deaconess. On this wonderful occasion we had many visitors from Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois. It was a blessing to see the Lord's house full.

Bro. Paul Whitton opened the meeting by reading Moroni, Chapter 3. He spoke concerning the ordination of teachers and priests. He exhorted the group concerning the calling of elders. He said that we must show forth works and the Spirit. Bro. Paul told of his personal experiences in the offices of deacon and teacher. He told of how you can learn by working with other teachers and elders. The Lord comes first and all other things come after.

Bro. Paul Pezzenti then quoted from the scripture concerning the endurance of faith until the end. He told of visiting two powwows. He continued on by telling us of Lehi's dream, where he saw God with angels around his throne. He said we should be visionary speakers and we should have a dream. We should persevere, hold on, and be consistent. Lehi's son, Nephi, listened to his father. We have a commission to endure and we need much support. He told the congregation that there are going to be some trials. Perhaps we can lift each other up. Nephi was a strong believer. His brothers murmured. Nephi believed the Lord would not give him anything to do that Nephi

couldn't endure. The Lord has plans for us as well.

Bro. Paul Palmieri told of how God used mankind to help mankind receive eternal life. He set the pattern, opened the door and used men to help other men. Bro. Paul read parts of the 61st chapter of Isaiah. Christ appointed us to preach good tidings. He said that our Bro. Gary can make promises to men that if they would repent and be baptized and remain faithful, they would receive eternal life. God likewise used Joseph Smith to establish the Church. We proclaim the gospel and are set free. We are used by God to open the prison and set others free. Bro. Paul told Bro. Gary that he will be called to minister of the Lord Jesus Christ. You walk into His footsteps, you carry His mantle and you have a great responsibility. Bro. Paul read a list of the responsibilities an elder must uphold.

Bro. Russell Cadman told Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy to always be humble. He said they must be humble, meek, and lowly of heart. He then read the duties of a deaconess to Sis. Nancy.

Sis. Ethel Cadman washed Sis. Nancy's feet and Bro. Arthur Gehly ordained her a deaconess.

Bro. Russell then read from Titus Chapter 1, exhorting on the qualifications of an elder, and also read the duties of an elder.

Bro. Arthur Gehly washed Bro. Gary's feet and Bro. Paul Whitton ordained him an elder.

May God bless our Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy and give them the strength and courage to carry out His will.

**Quincy, FL news**

I would like to introduce myself and share a portion of my experience so that you might become familiar with me, the new editor for the Quincy, Florida Mission. My name is LaQuanda Bright. I'm sixteen years old. I was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on October 21, 1990 after having several remarkable experiences. I'll share them with you.

I was at school in the computer

laboratory one day, typing on the computer, and I looked at the screen. Instead of the work I had typed on the screen, I saw these words: "It's time for the young men to come to the aid of their country, it's time for young women who love the Lord to stand."

I wiped my eyes and, with amazement, I looked at the screen again and saw these words: "Men long in battle, a lifetime of fighting." When I looked the third time, my schoolwork reappeared there.

On October 21, 1990, while sitting in Sunday School, I had a vision of my baptism. I saw a man dressed all in white standing in the water, beckoning me to come to him. Then I saw him taking me into the water and baptizing me. After I shared this experience with the brothers and sisters, I requested my baptism. I was baptized that very day.

We have enjoyed the blessings of God throughout 1992. On February 25, two children were blessed in the Church: Larry Lorenzo Jackson Jr. and Candace C. Jackson.

On the same day, Lorenzo Reginald Thomas, who has been visiting the Church for seven years, asked for his baptism.

Brother George (Rusty) Heaps visited our Friday evening meeting. He spoke of the importance of understanding what we have come in contact with. He referred to prophecy and explained it more fully, causing us to realize what a precious thing we have in the Restored Gospel. These matters, he said, should cause us to be more concerned with eternity.

March 15, 1992 was a glorious day for the Quincy Mission. Three souls were added to the Church through baptism. They are Lorenzo Thomas, Stephanie Jackson, and Larry Jackson.

As a mission, we enjoyed the privilege of hosting the Southeast Area MBA. The fellowship of the saints is most refreshing to the soul. Brother Eugene Perri opened the meeting reading from Philipians 3:8. In summary, his words reminded us that judgment begins at the house of God. It's a changed life that will build God's house. Bro.

Perri related experiences to confirm and support his words. Brothers John D'Orazio, Ike Smith, and Charleston Hester followed, each highlighting the topic of the changed life.

Tuesday, July 19, Brothers Joseph Calabrese and Anthony Lovalvo, along with their wives; Bro. Bert and Sis. Ina Miller; and Sis. Carmella Mazzeo worshipped with us. Bro. Joe's theme was Restoration.

"Who do you think you are?!" Bro. Joe exclaimed. Reading from I Nephi 18, he enlarged on the phrase "curious workmanship." Bro. Joe began from the creation of time and showed this curious workmanship of the Lord. He told how it was built upon a rock, fell away, and then was restored again upon the earth, because it was of a divine nature.

Bro. Anthony Lovalvo followed on this theme, sharing how this curious workmanship changed his life completely, and the joy and power it has had in his life.

On Wednesday, July 1, 1992, a van of brothers and sisters from the Detroit Inner City Branch and Mexican Mission visited with us, accompanied by Bro. Phil Buffa. The fellowship of our brothers and sisters is what we refer to as "the joy of the saints." We thank God for the joy He brings us.

LaQuanda S. Bright  
Rt. 1 Box 1885  
Chattahoochee, FL 32324  
Telephone: 904-856-5048

## Freehold, New Jersey

We have been greatly blessed recently in our branch for many reasons. For a full month, we were privileged to have visiting with us, Bro. Isidro Dominguez and his wife Sis. Marisela from Guatamala. We have a large group of Spanish-speaking Seed of Joseph members and visitors that benefited greatly from our brother's visit. Bro. Isidro conducted our Sunday afternoon meetings in Spanish, during which the power of God came down upon us in preaching, teaching, testimony, singing, prayer and

beautiful visions had by several members. During the weeks as well, we gathered at brothers and sisters' homes often to pray, sing and talk about the things of God. Many beautiful experiences came forth there as well. In one vision, a sister saw a mountain which was nearly vertical upon which brothers and sisters were trying desperately to climb. She saw that they all had sacks on their backs weighing them down. We talked about how God was trying to show us in this experience that we wanted to "taste the grass on the summit," but many things were weighing us down. Many experiences revealed that a new day has dawned in the Church. Many experiences revealed to us that God is waiting for us to drop the things that are weighing us down and labor to bring the kingdom of Zion about upon this promised land. Bro. Paul Gehly of Greensburg, PA; Bro. Eugene Perri of Lake Worth, FL; and Bro. Jim Huttenberger were among some of the other visiting elders.

We have had other visitors from California, Florida, Ohio, West Virginia, New York and Pennsylvania. We are thankful for all who have visited, supported and encouraged us. We completed a large portion of the work needed on our Church building, financed almost entirely by the brothers and sisters of our branch. Without God's miraculous intervention, none of it would have been possible. We can now honor God by making His Church look beautiful, understanding that without spiritual beauty, our Church building would be nothing more than a mere building.

Pray for us as we continue to strive to do God's will in bringing about this new day, not only for us in the Church but for the entire world.

"And the time cometh speedily that the righteous must be led as calves of the stall, and the Holy One of Israel must reign in dominion, and might, and power, and great glory!" (1 Nephi 22:24)

## ANDREW continued . . .

pouring of love, and it is so comforting to us. Please accept our gratitude from the Miami and Homestead saints. We still have our Treasure: The Church of Jesus Christ!

Sister Eileen Katsaras  
9741 SW 119th St.  
Miami, FL 33176

## MESSAGE continued . . .

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The election of officers was held. The following brothers were elected for two years.

President	—Isaac Smith
Vice President	—Thomas Liberto
Secretary	—Eugene Perri
Ass't. Secretary	—Wayne Martorana
Treasurer	—Fred Olexa
Editor	—Carl J. Frammolino

In addition to the above, there are evangelist chairmen in each district who are elected by the Quorum members in that area. Those presently thus serving were announced, as follows:

Atlantic Coast	—Matthew Rogolino
Michigan-Ontario	—Nephi DeMercurio
Ohio	—Russell Martorana
Pacific Coast	—Paul Liberto
Pennsylvania	—Richard Scaglione
Southeast	—Eugene Perri
Southwest	—Dwayne Jordan

## New Arrivals

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the indicated new members of their families.

Christopher David to David and Carla-Jo Smith. Christopher is the great grandson of Bro. Joseph and Sis. Bertha Constantine of Cape Coral, Florida.

Anthony James to Bro. Jim and Sis. Janis Carrabia of Branch #3 in Sterling Heights, Michigan.

## Children Blessed

On April 5, 1992, Cara Denise Johns was blessed by Brother Frank Rogolino in Ft. Pierce, Florida.

Patrick Joseph Foster was blessed by his great uncle, Brother Gerard Valenti, in Brooklyn, New York on April 5, 1992.

Brother Dominick Rose blessed Christina Marie and Nicole Crista Rios on April 5, 1992 in Brooklyn, New York.

Matthew Capone, son of Pete and Lori Capone, was blessed on July 5, 1992 at Branch #3 in Sterling Heights, Michigan by his grandfather, Bro. Peter H. Capone.

On August 2, 1992, Emily Kathleen Eskut, daughter of Tim and Donna (Miller) Eskut, was blessed by Bro. Kerry Carlini of Branch #4 in Redford, Michigan.

Kelly Anne Colpitts, daughter of Allen and Vickie Colpitts, was blessed on August 9, 1992 by Bro. Sam DiFalco of the Sterling Heights, Michigan Branch.

## Address Change

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## OBITUARIES

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

### VINCENT MOORE

Vincent Moore, son of Sister Gladys Moore of the Ft. Pierce, Florida Branch, passed away unexpectedly on June 19, 1992 at the age of 45.

Brother Frank Rogolino and Brother Norman Campitelle conducted the funeral service.

Survivors include his two daughters, his father, two brothers, two sisters, and one grandson. Vincent will be missed by his family and friends.

Vincent contributed much to the Ft. Pierce Branch, and his efforts in assisting our Ladies' Uplift Circle prepare for yard sales were greatly appreciated. May the Lord comfort his family.

### THEODORE CARRABIA

Brother Theodore John Carrabia passed from this life on July 17, 1992. He would have turned 92 years old in September. Our brother was baptized into the Church as a member of Branch #3 in Sterling Heights, Michigan on November 16, 1986. He was married for many years to Sister Vienna, a faithful member of the Church, and together they had Ted, Jim, Celia, Virginia and Antoinette.

Brothers Paul Whitton and Gary Coppa conducted the funeral service as many gathered to say good-bye to our brother.

Our brother is survived by his wife, Sister Vienna, their children, 11 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. The family was blessed a few days after their loss with a new grandson. Sister Vienna wishes to thank everyone for all their cards, hugs, and words of comfort at this time. May we all continue to remember our brothers and sisters who have lost loved ones.

### GEMMA SANTILLI

Sister Gemma Santilli of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch passed away on August 17, 1992. She was born on May 11, 1901, and was baptized on October 19, 1929 by Bro. A. A. Corrado. She was ordained a deaconess in 1954.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Tullio LaCivita and Mario Milano.

Our sister is survived by three sons, Brothers Mario, Richard, and Elmer Santilli; and two daughters, Sister Jean Pusateri and Sister Esther Santilli.

Sister Gemma served the Lord quietly and humbly, enduring all her burdens to the end. She was especially blessed to have all her children baptized in the Church. May God bless and comfort her family.

# The Gospel News

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

December, 1992

Volume 48, No. 12

## "But If"

In this closing decade of the twentieth century, a century wherein is found the greatest advancement of mankind's progress since recorded history, there exists a multitude of social evils that plague our society. Slowly as a cancer devouring a body, these evils are destroying the very moral fiber of our nation. Riddled with these many problems, evil of one kind or another has reached deep into humanity to cause damage to every home and family in America. Every resident of this nation is faced with the onslaught of evil creeping into the inner circle of their lives. The sacredness of home and family has been desecrated. These are indeed the darkest hours before the dawning of the latter day glory.

The writings of Ether clearly state that this land is chosen by God to be a promised land above all other lands. The Lord swore in His wrath that whoso should possess this land should serve Him or be swept off by the fulness of His wrath. Ether 2:9 states, "And the fulness of his wrath cometh upon them when they are ripened in iniquity," "they" being whatever nation of people it is that should occupy this land. The final end of the Jaredites and the Nephites is the sorrowful proof that God's word is not mocked. "They" became ripened

in iniquity, and God swept them off in the fulness of His wrath.

The Gentiles have occupied this land for the past 500 years, and sin has been found among them throughout American history. The degree of sin among the Gentiles has varied in times gone by, but in the past three decades of this century a very permissive, pleasure-hungry attitude has gripped the hearts of the American populace. This is a generation that seeks to satisfy self. Sinful pleasures have

---

*"Is the 'fulness of my gospel' the present-day lukewarm, liberal christianity found throughout the multitudes of churches?"*

---

become an accepted way of life. Abominable practices among consenting adults is commonplace. The Apostle Paul warned Timothy that perilous times would be identified by men being "lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God." Is this the ripeness of iniquity?

What truly reveals the ripeness of iniquity are the abominations of an adult society flourishing among the youth and children of our nation. The sorrowful, heart-

wrenching reality of the deplorable condition among the youth is reflected in the grim statistics that indicate a continuing rise in adolescent drug and alcohol abuse/addiction, sexual activity in all levels of high school and junior high school, teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, distribution of condoms in schools, disregard for authority, satanic worship, acceptance of homosexual lifestyles as normal, practice of homosexuality, use of profanity, teenage abortion, disrespect of parents, role models setting sinful examples, teenage suicide—the ripeness of iniquity is fast approaching God's limit.

In III Nephi 16:10 Jesus Christ, speaking the words of the Father, states, "when the Gentiles shall sin against my gospel, and shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations, and above all people of the whole earth, and shall be filled with all manner of lyings, and of deceits, and of mischiefs, and all manner of hypocrisy, and murders, and priestcrafts, and whoredoms, and of secret abominations; and if they shall do all those things, and shall reject the fulness of my gospel, behold, saith the Father, I will bring the fulness of my gospel from among them." These words of the Father coincide with the aforementioned prophecy concerning the Gentiles ripening in iniquity. Jesus

(Continued on Page 2)



## 60 years to celebrate

Brother Joseph Castelli, who just turned 100, celebrated his 60th spiritual birthday in the Sterling Heights Branch on August 9, 1992. Bro. Joe made his commitment to the Lord at Detroit Branch #1 after hearing the testimony of his friend, Bro. Joe Cipponeri.

The very first time Bro. Cipponeri told Bro. Castelli about his new-found faith, Bro. Joe replied, "Wait for me to change clothes," and he went along with the brother to church. Two short months later he was baptized, on August 14, 1932, by Bro. Anthony Ruzzi and was confirmed by Bro. Matthew Miller.

Our brother Castelli was ordained a teacher on January 1, 1951 by Bro. Mark Randy. He served the Lord faithfully in this office for many years. Even though Bro. Joe is 100 years "young," he never misses a meeting if he is well, and we are blessed to hear his beautiful testimony every time he is in church.

Bro. Joe and his wife, Sis. Mary, were blessed with six children and have many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Other than his devotion to God and his desire to faithfully serve Him, his constant hope is that his family might also follow Jesus.

Our brother is a pillar of our glorious Church, and he is a wonderful, valuable member of the body of Christ here at the Sterling Heights Branch. We thank God for his wonderful example.



Bro. Joseph Castelli

## "BUT IF" continued . . .

further admonishes in III Nephi Chapter 16 that the covenants made to the house of Israel will be remembered and Israel will go through and tread down the wicked Gentiles. Other prophecies spoken by Jesus Christ liken the house of Israel to a young lion that will tear a flock of sheep (the Gentiles). The question arises: With the apparent wickedness of our present day, have the Gentiles rejected the "fulness of my gospel" to the point that the house of Jacob should go through and tread them down and tear them in pieces?

The words spoken by Jesus Christ in III Nephi 10:13 further state, "But if the Gentiles will repent and return unto me, saith the Father, behold they shall be numbered among the house of Israel!" However, is our present number the extent of our harvest among the Gentiles? Can we be content with our present efforts in spreading the Gospel to this wicked generation? Is the "fulness of my gospel" the present-day lukewarm, liberal christianity found throughout the multitudes of churches? Or is the "fulness of my gospel" the pure and unadulterated Gospel Restored in these the last days, The Church of Jesus Christ?

The "But if" of III Nephi 16:13 is a conjunction indicating an unspoken, unwritten outcome that will be determined by our efforts, our labors, our prayers, our preaching, our love for the dying souls of humanity, Israelite or Gentile, black or white, bond or free. How we handle the full weight of our responsibility to spread the Gospel will have a direct determination as to the salvation of this Gentile nation.

Are we of the opinion that this Gentile nation is too far gone and will not repent, as Jonah concluded regarding Nineveh? Or, are we of the same mind and heart as Abraham, who, when the Lord revealed that Sodom and Gomorrah would be destroyed, pleaded with God to spare the city for the sake of fifty righteous people? How is it that Abraham negotiated from fifty righteous down to ten righteous to spare the city?

Surely Almighty God is pleased when we plead for mercy on behalf of the wicked, even as Abraham did and as Jesus does! Melchizedek exercised mighty faith and preached repentance to the very wicked people of Salem and they repented. Are we pleading for mercy toward the wicked today, that perhaps in hearing and feeling the power of the true Gospel they may repent? If we are like Jonah, running from our calling or thinking they will not repent, we fail in our responsibility. But if our hearts are filled with faith in Christ and love for the souls of mankind, surely the Lord will grant us success in bringing thousands of souls to salvation. Remember the words of Jesus, "Say ye not, There are four months and then cometh the harvest? Behold I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest."

God bless you,  
Brother David Nolfi

## Note of Thanks

We would like to thank all the brothers and sisters, family, and friends for your love and concern during the recent illness and passing of our mother, Sister Mary Nolfi.

Your outpouring of love and prayers were deeply appreciated. May God bless you all is our prayer.

The Nolfi Family

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Brothers, Sisters, and Friends,

My heartfelt thanks for all your prayers during my recent surgery and illness. Through your love and concern, I felt a peace in my heart and His presence beside me during all the difficult ordeals.

Thanks, too, for the cards, phone calls, visits, and the many ways your love was shown to me and my family.

My love in Christ and gratitude to all.

Brother Alma Nolfi

## MBA Highlights

### 60 Years in the Church

On Friday evening, September 18, 1992, in lieu of our regular MBA service, the saints of Detroit Branch #1 met with our Brother Concetto Alessandro as he marked 60 years in the Gospel. Because he suffered a stroke, we have not been able to enjoy our brother's presence in our meetings for the past seven years. But we took this opportunity to meet at his daughter's home (where he currently resides) to sing hymns, recall experiences, and recount the many ways the Lord has blessed and worked through our brother over the years.

The testimony of his conversion can be found in the Church History book. Here is an excerpt in Brother Concetto's own words: "Shortly after beginning to investigate The Church of Jesus Christ, in June of 1931 I was informed that my oldest sister had just eloped, which I resented. I took a stubborn stand and resolved that I would never forgive her.

"I continued to investigate the Gospel and I began to find much joy and satisfaction in my soul. The Lord gave me knowledge and understanding, but I had said I would never get baptized unless the Lord would lift me up by His spirit.

"After about four months, I had the following experience. I had not been able to sleep for about two

months. My health was excellent, yet I could not fall asleep at night. One evening, after I had been in prayer unto the Lord for three days asking Him to show me the cause of this restlessness, I promised I would do whatsoever He wished, if He would only show me.

"The third evening after I had inquired of the Lord, I was speaking to my landlady about the Gospel, then all of a sudden my body fell lifeless to the floor and I was carried away to view the most beautiful place my eyes ever beheld. Words could not describe the splendor and glorious scene which was before me. I was again carried through space and I beheld dense darkness. I could look right through the darkness, yet there was no end to it.

"I then heard a voice speak to me saying, **'How do you think I can forgive you and cause the spirit of repentance to come upon you when you have not forgiven your own sister?'**

"I then saw my spirit descending to earth, and when it entered my body I wondered what I was doing on the floor. Then my experience came back to me. I was very weak when I tried to get up and I told my landlady my experience. Both she and I began to weep, but my tears were tears of joy. I wrote to my sister that very evening and told her what the Lord had done for me and that I forgave her from the depth of my heart.

"From that time on, I had continual sleep. And on September 18, 1932, I actually felt lifted up by the Holy Spirit and, acknowledging my sins, I requested baptism."

As we met with our brother that evening, we were able to reflect on how he has touched our lives with his faithfulness and unwavering commitment to the Gospel. His work as an evangelist and his knowledge of the scriptures serve as a shining example even today. And we thank God for the love and generous spirit that have always been exhibited in our dear Brother Concetto.

As is always the case when you do for the Lord, we went hoping to bring a blessing to our brother and instead, we found one waiting for us at the door!

## Atlantic Coast Area MBA Men's Retreat

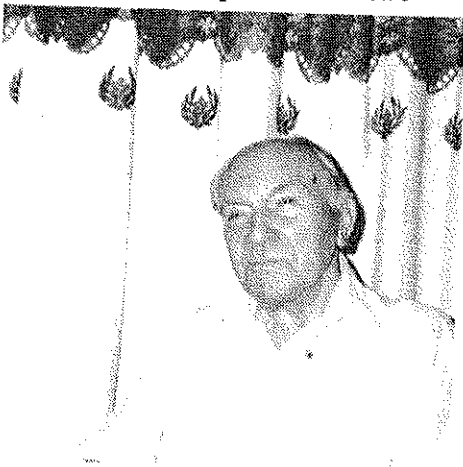
Is it worth it? That's a question that keeps popping up in the privacy of our minds every time we go through a trial, have a doubt, suffer a tragedy, consider missionary work or need to work at a relationship, isn't it? As we in the Atlantic Coast had suffered through a number of deaths and sorrows in our district in the last six months, the Area MBA decided to use this question as its theme for the 2nd Area MBA Men's Retreat, held September 11th and 12th, 1992.

About 26 brothers and friends met at a campground for the overnight event with great anticipation, great needs, and great expectations. Each came with his own objective, it seemed. Some came to share their sorrows and burdens. Some came to get support for their spiritual lives. Some came to be encouraged. Some came to encourage. Some came to just "hang with the gang."

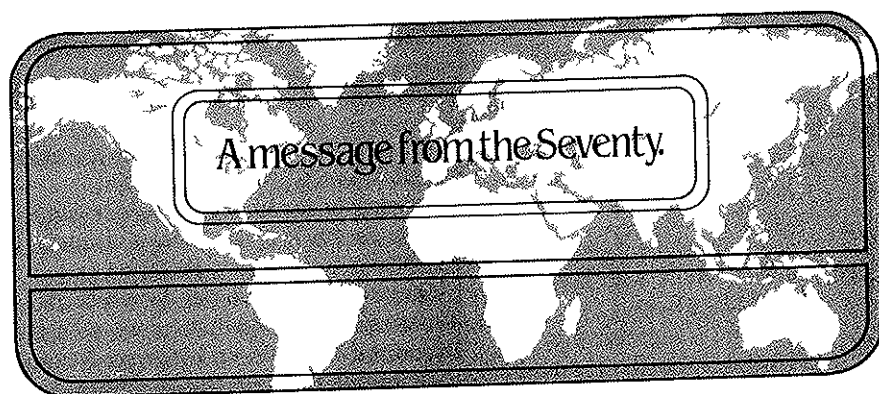
On Friday evening, we gathered first for an orientation meeting to discuss our agenda for the next day, and from that time on, it seemed that every time a prayer was offered, we were in a circle. There was an immediate unity that we fell into, and after the orientation meeting, we had a planned/imromptu round table discussion that took all 26 of us into the wee hours of the morning, discussing everything from our broad positions in the General Church to our intimate family testimonies. It was beautiful.

Then, after laughing ourselves to sleep, the next day we held a morning prayer service before breakfast and, for a change, a morning worship service instead of seminars. Brother Domenick Rose, who was celebrating his 60th spiritual birthday that day, encouraged us to continue to pull together. We enjoyed testimony, and let our voices ring in the little chapel where we met, despite the terrible piano and the 100 or so campers from other groups that were on camp that weekend.

(Continued on Page 9)



Bro. Concetto Alessandro



## Evangelism: For All and By All

*By Evangelist Thomas Liberto, Chairman, Missions Operating Committee*

In the past, many articles have appeared in this column informing you of the missionary endeavors of The Church of Jesus Christ. Many aspects of the work have been portrayed offering readers the opportunity to know world-wide evangelism is being conducted by the Church.

Many dedicated workers have labored and are laboring diligently in response to the great commission of Jesus Christ as 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."

### ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITY

The Missions Operating Committee (MOC) has been assigned responsibility by the Quorum of 70 to oversee worldwide missionary endeavors. Although the organizational structure is not in its final stage, we are pointed in the right direction and working well, as evidenced by the large amount of work that has been accomplished to date and is ongoing. Much fasting and prayer, communication between committees, planning and development, media attention and dedicated willing workers who labor tirelessly are the propelling factors in the forward progress. It is evident that the effectual fervent

prayers of a righteous people have availed much.

Even though only a few are involved on committees overseeing the total work, there is room for all members of the Church to be involved in witnessing for the Lord. Our world-wide success hinges on the strength of the Church at home. As the MOC assumes the responsibility for global evangelism, each of us as members of the Church is responsible to witness for the Lord wherever we are, including in our own backyards. Hymn #80 in the *Saints' Hymnal*, *If Jesus Goes with Me*, nicely illustrates the contentment we can have laboring away or at home.

### MISSIONARY GOALS

I would like to reiterate the Church's views on its missionary goals as accepted by the General Church Priesthood assembled in the Conference of October, 1976:

"1. The Church recognizes, that in our day, the Gospel has been restored first to the Gentiles and that we must continue to preach it to all who will listen and accept it.

"2. The Board of Missions' responsibility to carry out a missionary program at home, abroad, and to the Seed of Joseph, requires the setting of priorities. Based on the accepted doctrine of the Church, the restoration of Israel, commencing with the Seed of Joseph, has the highest priority and should be reflected in the missionary plans and programs of the

Church. This does not preclude the continuation of our foreign missionary programs. This work must continue to be implemented in as fine a manner as we know how.

"3. Furthermore, the work among our Branches and Missions must not be diminished, but rather this effort must be accelerated, and enlarged.

"4. All Board committees must pledge their total support of each other for attaining the success of the Church's missionary responsibility to the world.

"5. Therefore, be it resolved that the Priesthood of the Church accept the foregoing statements as the basis for implementing a total missionary effort throughout the Church and in all of our General Church Missionary Programs."

Knowing that God has commissioned the Church to preach the Gospel to the whole world, including the divine commission to bring the Restored Gospel to the Seed of Joseph, we, as individual members, have as much responsibility in this effort as the assigned committees do. This was iterated by Brother Dominic Thomas at the October, 1992 Conference in telling the membership of the Church there is no escape from the commission we have been given, and that we must rely on the power of God to do His work.

### IN OUR OWN BACKYARDS

It is possible, as we focus on overall evangelism, to tend to neglect evangelism in our own backyards. I remember many wonderful experiences over the years given by our aging members, many who have gone on to their rewards, how they witnessed to their neighbors, friends, co-workers, the grocer, the milkman, physicians, strangers, etc., telling their experiences of finding and serving the Lord. Many were added to the Church by hearing their testimonies. Time has passed, but the needs are as great, if not greater, today than they were in their days. We must strengthen our Branches and Missions and bring others to the knowledge of Jesus

(Continued on Page 6)



## The Gospel News

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

Anthony J. Scolaro  
20 Byrd Ave.  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

**ASSISTANT EDITOR**

Leonard A. Lovaivo  
8085 Schneider  
Manchester, MI 48158

**CONSULTANTS**

Nephi DeMercurio  
Peter A. Scolaro

**OFFICE MANAGER**

Cathy Gentile

**GMBA EDITOR**

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

**GENERAL CIRCLE EDITOR**

Mary Tamburrino  
100 Oak Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

**DISTRICT EDITORS****ATLANTIC COAST**

Kenneth Lombardo  
10 Rockview Terrace  
North Plainfield, NJ 07060

**MICHIGAN-ONTARIO**

Lisa Champine  
47025 Hennings Dr.  
Chesterfield, MI 48047

**OHIO**

Mark Naro  
4425 Broadway  
Lorain, OH 44055

**PACIFIC COAST**

Kenneth R. Jones  
24268 Robie Ct.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

**PENNSYLVANIA**

Lucetta Scaglione  
303 Union St.  
Monongahela, PA 15063

**SOUTHEAST**

James G. Speck  
3710 Player Dr.  
New Port Richey, FL 34655

**SOUTHWEST**

Frances J. Capone  
8725 E. Hubbell  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

THE GOSPEL NEWS (ISSN 0279-1056) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by The Church of Jesus Christ PRINT HOUSE, 8282 Boettner Rd., P.O. Box 30, Bridgewater, MI 48115-0030, 313-429-5080. Second class postage paid at Saline, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THE GOSPEL NEWS BUSINESS OFFICE, P.O. BOX 30, BRIDGEWATER, MI 48115-0030.

## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

One of the balances we struggle with as members of The Church of Jesus Christ is that between thinking and acting as individuals, and being part of and subject to a collective group, in this case the Church. At the outset, these two situations seem to be in conflict with one another. But as saints of God, we err if we only pursue one of them, and leave the other.

We in the Gospel have given our lives to the Lord Jesus Christ. We have each taken His name upon us and dedicated ourselves to keeping His commandments. We are members of one body, over which there is one Head; our ambition is to follow Him wherever we are led. In fulfilling our covenant to the Lord, we often do things for the sake of others, and yield to the majority when we don't quite agree, for we know that as a Church we can only stand strong and move forward when we're united. Experience has taught us that things go much smoother when we're in one accord.

At the same time, we recognize that the Lord created each one of us as unique individuals. Inherent in our nature is the ability to think and choose for ourselves, and life is full of situations where we must do exactly that. Our likes and dislikes, and the choices we make based upon them, express the uniqueness of our individual personalities. Indeed, much of life's beauty consists of the endless variety which God employed when He created us. As members of the body of Christ, our diverse natures combine to produce a unit which can function in marvelous ways which none of us can accomplish by ourselves.

It's good to be the same, and it's good to be different, but without the Spirit of God to guide us, both situations are bad. We could be tempted to enforce "sameness," with rules and regulations pertaining to the clothes we wear, the songs we sing, and what we think. While we might think we're achieving a type of unity by doing this, what we've really created is a state of spiritual bondage, wherein everyone is denied his God-given ability to reason.

On the other hand, in a world that promotes "self" as everything, we are encouraged to assert our individual "rights" to the point where we deny the Holy Ghost of its rightful place in our hearts and minds. This situation, no less than forced unity, spells spiritual disaster for us, regardless of how self-fulfilled we may appear in the eyes of the world.

As is the case is so many aspects of our lives, the key to this tricky balancing act is to have the Spirit of God alive within us. Only then can we fully grow to become the amazing individuals that the Lord intended for us to be, appreciating one another for all that we are, while fitting perfectly—like pieces in a jigsaw puzzle—into the wonderful plan God has laid out for mankind through His Son, Jesus Christ.

# The Children's Corner

By Janet Steinrock



## Jesus Gives Joy

Dear Girls and Boys,

Is there anything in the world as wonderful as a true friend? The Bible is full of stories about people who were friends. The Apostle Paul traveled with younger brothers in the Church who were friends. Sometimes he then talked about being separated and disagreeing with his friends and his brothers. Sometimes he didn't want to travel with them anymore.

It is hard to believe that we can love somebody deeply and then be so angry or hurt that we don't even want to see them or be by them.

In today's world, in the United States and Canada, there are many children who see a beloved mother and father get angry and separate. Oftentimes the children think it is something they can control. Well, they can't. It is not a child's fault when grown-ups cannot get along. It is not the child's problem to solve, but it is the grown-ups' job to help the children.

Jesus knows how sad you feel inside sometimes when something goes horribly wrong in your family. Jesus knows how angry you feel when you cannot control somebody else's anger or problems. Jesus knows all about it and He loves you.

He loves you when you think ugly thoughts. He loves you when you make mistakes. He loves you when you get angry. But He wants you to have joy inside—and peace.

One of the best ways to get rid of painful and terrible feelings is to tell Jesus. While you are alone in your room, tell Him all of your thoughts. He cares for you. Tell Him about your terrible problems

and all of your fears. He wants to know; He cares.

Then ask Him to help you. Ask Him to help the person having a problem. Ask Him to show you how to help or how to change. And if it looks like the problem isn't going to go away, then ask Him to help you endure it, get through it.

Did you know that Jesus wants to show His power through you? For example, when you are kind and loving, people can see the love of Jesus. When you are caring or helpful to others then people see Jesus in you. Many times people have come to our Church because Jesus became real to them through someone else. You can be that person.

We don't have to stay crabby and mean and jealous and bitter. Jesus can take it all away. Forgive your friends *and* your enemies. Just tell Him. Just ask Him. Just let Him love you a little bit more and then *you* can shine that love all around on others, too.

JESUS  
TRULY  
LOVES  
YOU  
HE  
TEACH  
HOW  
TO  
FORGIVE  
AND  
LOVE  
AN  
ENEMY  
YOUR  
HEART  
WILL  
BE

JOYFUL  
NO  
MORE  
HURTS  
OR  
HATE  
ANGER  
JEALOUSY  
BITTERNESS  
ONLY  
PEACE  
JOY  
EVERLASTING  
SADNESS  
FEAR  
AWAY

H	U	R	T	S	E	N	E	M	Y	J
E	J	O	P	S	T	A	F	O	L	G
A	Y	Y	E	S	E	W	E	R	N	N
R	O	S	A	E	A	A	A	E	O	I
T	J	S	C	N	C	Y	R	J	Y	T
O	E	E	E	R	H	L	O	V	E	S
R	V	N	J	E	S	U	S	U	U	A
L	I	D	O	T	J	R	Y	S	N	L
U	G	A	Y	T	E	T	E	G	L	R
F	R	S	E	I	S	J	E	I	W	E
Y	O	D	V	B	U	R	W	O	B	V
O	F	N	O	N	S	V	H	A	T	E
J	E	A	L	O	U	S	Y	O	U	R

### MESSAGE continued . . .

Christ and the Restored Gospel in our days.

We have the opportunity to do much more than we are now doing, but it will require more of us to accept the challenge/commission from Our Savior, Jesus Christ, to evangelize the Gospel wherever we are and whenever we can. Hymn #138 in the *Saints' Hymnal* states "Somebody somewhere, perhaps at your side; Someone is waiting for you; Say that for all Jesus suffered and died; They need Him, they need Him, too."

### CAN BE INVOLVED

We can all be involved! We *must* all be involved! The Lord is depending on all of us, not just a few, to do the greater work He spoke of in the scripture.

Can we do it? *Will* we do it? I believe we can do it and pray that each of us will answer affirmatively to both questions and that God will bless each of our efforts, great or small, in evangelizing the Gospel of Jesus Christ world-wide, beginning in our own backyard. Let us all feel the spirit that Paul, the apostle, felt when he said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

## Branch and Mission News

### Fort Pierce, FL

We were elated to see Brother Ron and Sister Marilyn Carradi, from the Lake Worth Branch, visit with us on Sunday, January 19, 1992. Brother Ron opened our morning service. He delivered a wonderful sermon elaborating on the 11th Chapter of Isaiah, 9th verse: "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." We felt blessed and gained much from his inspiring words. Brother Sam Costarella followed with comments on how we should walk in the ways of Christ and be responsible for our souls.

The service was then turned over for testimonies. God's wonderful Spirit was felt as each testimony was given. Sister Marilyn Carradi testified that she saw a personage dressed in a gold robe, in the likeness of Christ, standing in the midst of our Brother Elders. How great it was to feel God's presence in our midst. We cannot thank Him enough for calling us into this wonderful Gospel.

After sacrament was administered, Presiding Elder Frank Rogolino commented on what a wonderful day we had experienced. He then suggested that we sing *First Love* for our closing hymn and form a circle holding hands. It was very evident that we all felt God's blessing and love for one another. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! A touching prayer offered by Brother Norman Campitelle ended a beautiful day in God's house.

\*\*\*\*\*

On March 1, 1992 our Sunday service began with a beautiful duet by Sister Mary Morrin of the Saline Mission and Sister Rosalie Campitelle of the Fort Pierce Branch, singing *Calling the Prodigal*.

We were pleased to have Brother Joseph Bologna of

Modesto, California, visiting with us. He opened the service by reading John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." He said, "God's love is so great it cannot be measured." Brother Norman Campitelle continued on the same subject and as he spoke, the gift of tongues was spoken. We thank God for the wonderful Spirit that prevailed.

Testimonies were then given and it was a pleasure to hear our visiting Sister Elsie Lowe's expressions of her many years in the Gospel. She is the daughter of our late Brother Oron Thomas and she resides in Deltona Beach, FL.

After sacrament was served, Brother Frank Rogolino commented on the many who are ill throughout our Church, and asked that we remember them in prayer. In closing, Brother Sam Costarella offered a special prayer for the sick. With faith in God, all things are possible! We parted feeling grateful for the love God has given us.

Sister Florence Catena

### Detroit Branch #3

By Brenda Capone

On July 4, we all celebrated Independence Day. On July 5th, we at Branch #3 continued that celebration as we witnessed the blessing of Matthew Ryan Capone. It was a special day, as Brother Dan Paravano spoke to us about the blessing that many of us received as a child. He referred to how, if he didn't have God in his life, it would be easy to fall back to the "old person." He read from I Corinthians, and said how malice is not a part of a child's life, and that we should not have any malice as a child of God. A child is pure and beautiful; so should we be when God looks at us.

"When we look at Matthew to-

day, he is all of that, pure and beautiful. And as he grows up, his parents will teach him how to talk and walk, how to laugh at himself and how to ride a bike. They will also teach him all that they can about God. And Matthew will remember these things. When Pete and Lori look at him, they will see all that they have taught him, and be proud." That's the way it should be in our lives. Though we may not be that little child anymore, we must have that childlike faith, love, and forgiveness, so that when God looks at us, He also can be proud and happy.

Many times, with our children we have to tell them over and over how to do something. Then we have to let them go on their own for a while, knowing that they must learn. God also does this with us and He waits patiently, with a hope that we will learn and come back to Him. Just as Jesus prayed to the Father, when He blessed the children, so do all parents, at some time, pray for their children. Then we must praise Him for helping them or for watching over them.

Today, Pete and Lori are shouting praises to God. They are presenting Matthew to God, by asking this special blessing, that God would watch over and protect Matthew all of his life. Also that God will help them in raising Matt. Brother Dan said, "As Matthew is blessed, ask God to bless your own lives over again and make us as a child today, without malice . . . sincere, honest and as pure as this child."

Brother Pete Capone, the child's grandfather, then asked God's blessing on his grandson. Our meeting then continued with Brother Larry Watson of Tse Bonito, AZ. "Matthew has inherited a birthright today, through his parents, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And as his life goes on, he may inherit many other things, but none will be as important or as beautiful as this doctrine. Someday Matt will have to make a decision, just as many must, and that is whether to accept this inheritance or not. It is just as with a citizen of this land—some come from somewhere else

(Continued on Page 8)



**BRANCH #3 continued . . .**

and accept citizenship, and then give of themselves to this country. Some think, as I did, because they are born into it, that that is all they have to do. But this Church is a gift, and we should enjoy this inheritance by giving all of ourselves." We truly enjoyed the words our brothers brought forth this day, and our prayers are with Pete, Lori, and Matthew, as they all grow in the Gospel.

**Harrison, MI Mission**

*By Ilene Coppa*

God blesses us with so many beautiful days, and today was to be very special. Brother Silver and I attend the Harrison Mission in the summertime. Today, as we traveled to church, I looked in awe at the beauty of all God's creation. I was looking for a great blessing after the recent loss of my sister, Betty. As our meeting began, we all felt God's blessings from Sunday School right on through our meeting. Silverio and Lucy Tagliamonte were visiting with us again today. Lucy is the daughter of our late Brother Silver and Sister Mary Criscuolo. My prayer today was that God would touch their hearts.

Brother Silver Coppa spoke to us about the heroes of the scriptures and how they tried to never be discouraged. They just kept working for the Lord. We sang *It Is Well with My Soul*, and I was touched by the words, "When peace like a river attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll, Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul." We all felt a beautiful spirit and an even greater blessing when Lucy asked for her baptism!

We went to the water and there were people swimming in the area. They were quiet and respectful as Brother Lyle Criscuolo entered the water with his natural sister Lucy, and they came out again as brother and sister in Christ. What a wonderful day!

We returned to Brother Lyle's and hands were laid upon our Sister

Lucy for the gift of the Holy Ghost. A prayer was offered up that God, in His goodness, would keep His promise and send the Comforter to lead, guide and direct Sister Lucy as she walks her walk with Christ. May God bless each and every one of us, with love and support for our new sister and each other.

**Baptisms in New Jersey**

On July 5, 1992, two new brothers were baptized in the Raritan River at Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

Brother Jason Rogolino was baptized by his father, Bro. Matthew Rogolino of the Brooklyn, New York Branch. He had felt the Lord's call and had several experiences while attending the GMBA Campout in June. After he got home, he continued to pray about it, and finally asked to be baptized.

The same day, Brother Marc Zaino of Edison, New Jersey was baptized by Bro. Jonathan Olexa of the Edison Branch. Our two young brothers are friends, and it was such a blessing to see them render obedience to the Gospel while still in their teens. Our prayers are with them, that the Lord might bless and keep them all their days.

**Baptism in Detroit Branch #1**

*By Sister Patti Saragosa*

They came from Muncey, Canada, North Carolina, Ohio, Lansing, Michigan, the Inner-City Branch, Branch #2, and Branch #4 to share in the blessings of another soul coming to Christ! Cindy Thomas, daughter of Brother Richard and Sister Lorraine Thomas, had asked for her baptism at Muncey and was baptized at Branch #1 on August 9, 1992.

Along with our many brothers and sisters we also had with us the following visiting elders: Brother Rodney Dyer from Muncey, Brother Lou Vitto and Brother Sam DiFalco from the Sterling Heights Branch,

Brother Kerry Carlini from Branch #4, and Brother Jerry Giovannone from the Warren, Ohio Branch.

Our morning meeting began with the blessing of a new baby girl, Kelly Anne Colpitts, born July 10, 1992 to Allen and Vickie Colpitts. While Bro. Sam DiFalco was blessing Kelly, Brother George Grosbeck, from Muncey, had the following experience: "When Bro. Sam picked up the baby I began to cry. I felt a soft touch on my shoulders and turned around to see if someone behind me had touched me, but no one had." This experience was a special blessing to the parents as they had left it up to the Lord to decide who should bless little Kelly.

Afterwards, Brother Mario and Sister Sara Zaccagnini sang a song in the Mexican dialect called, *You Decide*.

Brother Kerry Carlini opened our morning meeting with an inspirational message from the Book of Mormon. Speaking from Alma 46:12, Bro. Kerry delivered to us the wonderful subject of liberty. In verse 12, Moroni, angered by the wickedness of Amalickiah, rent his coat and wrote upon it, "In memory of our God, our religion, and freedom, and our peace, our wives, and our children." He then fastened it upon the end of a pole and called it the "title of liberty." Moroni prayed to the Lord " . . . for the blessings of liberty to rest upon his brethren, so long as there should a band of Christians remain to possess the land." Bro. Kerry proclaimed that this country is based upon the teachings of Jesus Christ and that this land of America will continue to be blessed as long as the people serve the Lord according to His will. We must all follow the precepts God has set forth in order to receive liberty.

After Bro. Kerry spoke, Sister Marilyn Scolaro and Sister Rosanne Champine sang the hymn, *Is Anyone Willing to Let Jesus In?* This hymn seemed to reflect the morning theme of freedom and choice.

At this time Brother Peter Scolaro, our presiding elder, remarked, "This land was established as a land of liberty, a land where

people choose to serve the Lord and are not compelled to serve Him. We have this morning the liberty to decide." Brother Peter closed the morning meeting with the hymn, *Because He Lives* and everyone met at our baptismal site to witness Sister Cindy being baptized by her father, Brother Richard.

We returned to our church building where a beautiful luncheon was ready for us, prepared by some of our hard-working sisters.

Brother Mike LaSala opened our afternoon service in prayer. All of the visiting brothers and sisters from Muncey then got up and sang two hymns for us: *Send Hunters and Fishers* and *Sing Hallelujah*. A choir of angels couldn't have sounded more beautiful!

Brother Rodney Dyer began his afternoon sermon by greeting us in the same manner as the Apostle Paul did in days of old. Brother Rodney began speaking about the many choices that liberty gives to us, and how we can sometimes abuse our freedom by making wrong decisions.

He related to us his personal experience concerning his decision to go to Muncey. Everything fell into place when he and Sister Judy left all the decisions in God's hands. Bro. Rodney stated, "We need to listen when God speaks. Sometimes we cannot see how we fit into God's plan, but the Lord works it out if we stay in His will."

As the congregation sang, *Where He Leads Me*, Sister Cindy proceeded to the front for the reception of the Holy Ghost. She was confirmed by Brother Jerry Giovannone. Our new sister then gave her testimony as follows:

"On my birthday, January 17, 1992, I had a dream that I was sitting in Church. On my left side was my grandmother, the late Sister Raffaella DiFalco, and on my right side was my father. My grandmother said, 'When are you coming home with me?' I knew that she had passed away, so I turned to my father and asked him, 'How am I going to go with her, she's in heaven?' Then I woke up and I knew I had to get baptized. For the next seven months I struggled with this decision. I began to feel a separation between myself and the

Church members. I didn't want to lose this feeling I had of the love of God. That Sunday morning at Muncey, as soon as the meeting was opened, I knew I wanted to get baptized. I struggled throughout the whole meeting; finally, sitting at the piano, the feeling became so strong, I couldn't resist anymore, so I got up and asked to be baptized. Now I can truly say I feel the love of God. I want to thank the people from Muncey and everyone who came out here today."

Brother Sam DiFalco had the following experience at Muncey before Sis. Cindy asked for her baptism: During Bro. Sam's sermon the Spirit spoke to him and revealed that "two were ready." He knew one of them was Cindy. After she asked for her baptism, he got up and related his experience as a confirmation.

Cindy's father, Bro. Richard, woke up that morning and knew that she was going to ask for her baptism that day. And during testimony at Muncey, it was given to him to understand that while solos were being sung, a choir of angels were singing while Cindy played the piano.

The day of Sister Cindy's baptism, Brother George Grosbeck had the following experiences: "While Cindy was being confirmed, a man in white ascended from the center of where the brothers were praying, and then went up towards the right corner of the Church and disappeared. I also saw a white form in the spot where Cindy had testified after she stepped down from the podium." Brother George also had the following experience while Bro. Dyer was speaking: "I saw a personage in white that seemed to come from him. It stayed right above him and then just disappeared."

After Sister Cindy's testimony, Brother Jerry Giovannone related an experience that his son, Brother Ron, had six months ago. Brother Ron had a dream that Cindy asked for her baptism in the Warren, Ohio Branch, but that she wanted to go home and be baptized by her father in Michigan.

Bro. Jerry then spoke about a recent experience he had concerning a recent drought in

Youngstown, Ohio. Our brother had passed by this well-known lake and saw that the lake was becoming dried up because of the drought. This sight brought tears to his eyes and he prayed to the Lord for the rain to come so that the water would run over the dam. After he had seen a few drops fall, he prayed again, asking the Lord to "make it really rain!" Afterwards, he heard on the radio that the water was filling the lake and the dam was overflowing. He stopped by the lake and when he saw how the waters were running over he thanked God for His goodness and for answering his prayers.

Our afternoon service was closed in prayer by Brother Tony Scolaro. Surely, anyone who had come to Church that day hungry for the blessings of God could not say that he was sent home unfed, but like the psalmist we could cry out, "... He hath filled the hungry with good things!" Amen!

---

## MEN'S RETREAT continued . . .

After a great outdoor barbeque lunch and some recreation, we held seminars and split into two groups where more bonding took place. We discussed the importance of keeping our focus on Jesus Christ, whatever the situation. We discussed missionary work, our district and branch needs, and how we specifically work together as a group to inspire and uplift our district. The Lord's presence was in our midst as various brothers shared of themselves, and we felt a closeness that would unite us long after the camp was over.

After dinner, we stayed for a short service to share Communion, which was a great blessing. As we sang the lyric, "At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the light, and the burden of my heart rolled away . . ." we felt our burdens roll away, and we gathered in a circle again to dismiss and returned to our homes to share our peace with the rest of our branches. One thing was sure: we all agreed together

(Continued on Page 11)

## OBITUARIES

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

### ANTHONY LEOPOLDO

Brother Anthony Leopoldo of Branch #1 in Roseville, Michigan passed on to his eternal reward on July 25, 1992. Brother Tony was born on August 13, 1922 and was baptized in January, 1957 by Bro. Alfred D'Amico.

The funeral service was conducted by Brothers Gary Champine and Tom Everett.

Our brother is survived by his wife, Sister Connie Zaccagnini Leopoldo; two sons, James and Daniel; a daughter, Antoinette (Dolly); six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; three stepchildren, Salina Carlini, Mario Zaccagnini, and Rudy Zaccagnini; and three step-grandchildren.

One of our brother's favorite songs was *Come All Ye That Thirst*. A faithful member for 35 years, he is now resting in the paradise of God. May the Lord bless and comfort the loved ones he has left behind.

### DAVID WESLEY

David Daniel Wesley passed from this life on July 2, 1992. He was born May 2, 1956 in Southampton, Ontario.

The funeral service was conducted by Bro. Don Collison at Allenfor, Ontario.

He is survived by his wife, the former Marlene Cameron, four children, his parents, and his brothers and sisters. May God comfort the family and others who mourn David's passing.

### ROBERT DYER

Brother Robert M. "Bob" Dyer passed away on September 7, 1992 in Gastonia, North Carolina. He was born June 7, 1925 and was baptized at the GMBA Campout in New Hope, PA in 1972.

The funeral was conducted by Bro. Bob's son, Bro. Rodney Dyer, and Bro. John Genaro. Musical selections were presented by organist Tom Russell. Sisters Judy Dyer and Florence LaRosa sang two selections by the late Sister Esther Dyer, and the congregation sang *First Love* as a tribute to our departed brother.

Bro. Bob was a very active member and an ordained teacher in Erie, PA before moving to Gastonia in 1978. Meetings were held at his home before the mission was officially established; Sunday School if there was no visiting minister, a regular service if there was. Our brother enjoyed being a member of the Church, and after Sis. Esther's passing, visiting the branches and missions became very important to him.

Survivors include three sons, Robert, Ronni, and

Rodney; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Brother Bob will be greatly missed by his family, the Gastonia Mission, and the many brothers and sisters who learned to love him.

The Dyer family would like to thank everyone for their concern and prayers, and for the many contributions to the building fund in Bro. Bob's memory. It was his desire to see our Mission, and the Lord's Church, grow.

### MARY NOLFI

Sister Mary Nolfi, of the McKees Rocks, PA Branch passed on to her eternal reward on September 21, 1992. She was born on January 31, 1912 and was baptized in 1928.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Bill Colangelo, Dick Lawson, and John Manes.

Our sister is survived by two sons, Brothers Chester and Anthony Nolfi; one daughter, Marlane Anish; and four grandchildren.

Sister Mary was blessed with many beautiful dreams which are recorded in our church history. Our prayer is that the Lord would bless and comfort the natural and spiritual family who feel her loss.

### JOHN BICKERTON

John Bickerton, of the Monongahela, PA Branch, passed away on September 22, 1992 at the age of 89.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Brian Smith and Robert Nicklow, Jr.

Left to mourn are his wife, Sister Mabel Cadman Bickerton, with whom he had celebrated 64 years of marriage. Also surviving are two daughters, one son, twelve grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, three brothers, four sisters, and several nieces and nephews.

Our prayer is that God will bless and comfort Sister Mabel and all of those who mourn the loss of their loved one.

### LUCY COSTARELLA

Sister Lucy Costarella, of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch, passed from this life to the next on November 6, 1992. She was born on September 19, 1919 and was baptized on October 9, 1938 by Bro. A. A. Corrado. She was confirmed by Bro. Frank Wooley.

The funeral was conducted by Brothers Ralph Berardino and Joseph Genaro.

Our sister is survived by her husband, Brother Adam; two sons, Dr. Anthony and Bro. Adam; two daughters, Sis. Regina Root and Robin Speece; a brother, Robert Wooley; a sister, Sis. Ruth Santilli; and seven grandchildren.

Sister Lucy had a beautiful testimony of praise to God. She remained faithful through all her trials and afflictions, and was an inspiration to us in the Youngstown Branch. May God bless and comfort her family.

## Nine Month Financial Results 1992

Dear Readers:

Results for the first nine months of this year are better than the same period for 1991. This means that the Church is headed in the right direction! We can look at the following figures and say that since we are doing better, we do not need to do anything beyond what we are doing, or, we can look at the Spending Plan and decide that we need to do more to meet the needs of the Church. The final decision is ours and the final figures will determine what course we chose.

Here are the nine month figures for 1992 and the comparison column for 1991.

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>
Atlantic Coast	\$ 41,169	\$ 46,695
Michigan/Ontario	82,715	63,481
Ohio	36,930	33,342
Pacific Coast	44,719	35,839
Pennsylvania	88,138	84,667
Southeast	27,584	30,660
Southwest	14,446	17,210
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$335,701</b>	<b>\$311,894</b>

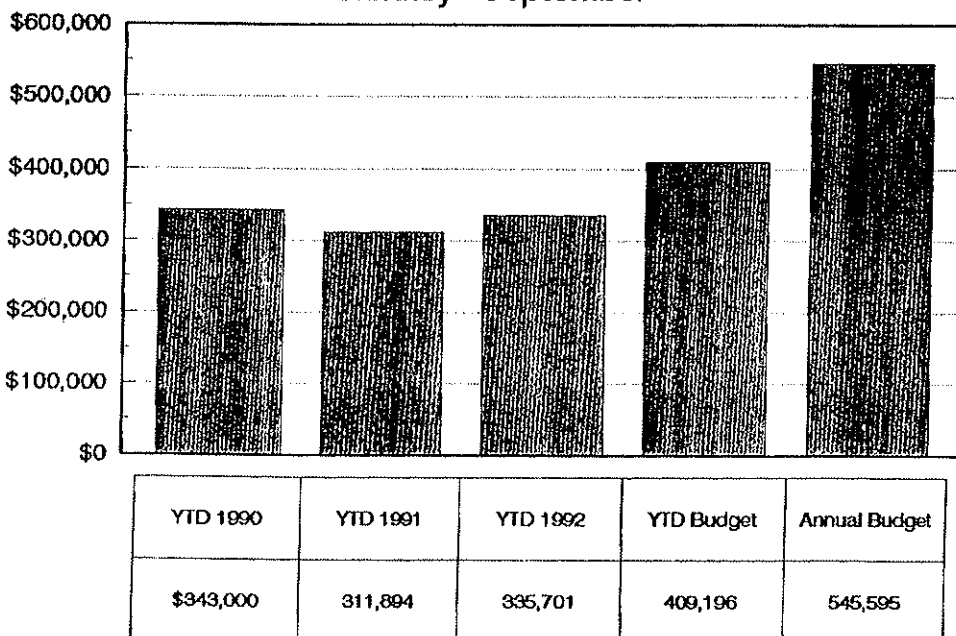
We are improving but not significantly enough to meet the Spending Plan. At this point we should have received \$409,196.00 which means we are \$73,495.00 behind. The goal is \$545,595.00.

May God bless each of us with the determination to reach the financial goal established by the Church as well as the eternal goal established by the Lord!

General Church Finance Committee

## THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

January - September



### MEN'S RETREAT continued . . .

that God had allowed us to receive His love, and to fulfill whatever our own personal objectives might have been in coming, and that truly, because of His Holy Spirit in our lives, everything is worth it.

## A Passage to India

By Shannon Lambert

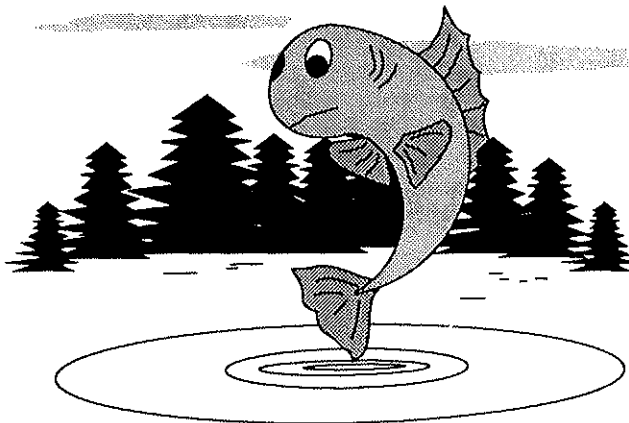
On Saturday, September 26, 1992, the Michigan-Ontario Area MBA gathered at Branch 1. We were privileged to have Bro. Brian and Sis. Rhonda Martorana visiting us from Warren, Ohio. Bro. Brian was invited by the Area MBA to tell us about his trip to India with Brothers Paul Palmieri, Joe Calabrese, and Phil Jackson last winter.

Bro. Brian shared his experience confirming that he should make the trip to India. He also related many experiences that took place while they were there. Bro. Brian explained the format of the meetings in India, described the church buildings, and shared the blessings of the many baptisms and ordinations during the trip. When he had finished his presentation he opened the meeting for any questions regarding either their recent trip or the ongoing work in India.

After the meeting was over, we gathered in the back rooms for a pizza fundraiser. The rest of the evening was spent in fellowship. We then parted for our homes and returned the following day for District Conference. In the closing prayer Saturday night we petitioned God for his blessings at Conference the following day and he certainly answered that request. We enjoyed a beautiful Sunday service filled with the Spirit of God.

We would like to thank Bro. Brian for giving us a greater insight on the Church in India. May God continue to bless him and the other brothers in their efforts toward the work there. Our prayer is that God will bless the Church throughout the world and that His protection and direction be with those who journey to foreign lands in an effort to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*Don't feel like  
a fish out of  
water! Join  
your friends at  
the Singles'  
Weekend  
Retreat*



## **Marriage Enrichment/ Singles' Weekend Retreat**

March 5-7 at Salt Fork, Cambridge, Ohio

SPONSORED BY GMBA AND GENERAL LADIES' UPLIFT CIRCLE

### **New Arrival**

Brent Michael to Bro. Brent and Cheryl  
(Chepanoske) Smith of Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

### **Children Blessed**

On June 28, 1992, Adam William Roy was blessed  
in Windsor, Ontario by Bro. Don Collison.

Sharaya Jamica Hunt was blessed on September  
27, 1992 by Bro. Isidro Dominguez, in the Freehold,  
NJ Branch.

Brett Michael Nolfi was blessed by his grandfather,  
Bro. David Nolfi, at Glassport, PA on November 8,  
1992.

### **Address Change**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### **Baptisms**

On August 9, 1992, Todd Muir was baptized by  
Bro. Larry Henderson in Windsor, Ontario. He was  
confirmed by Bro. Ken Wright.

On the same day, Christopher Barnes was baptized  
by Bro. Dick Lobzun in Windsor. He was confirmed by  
Bro. Don Collison.