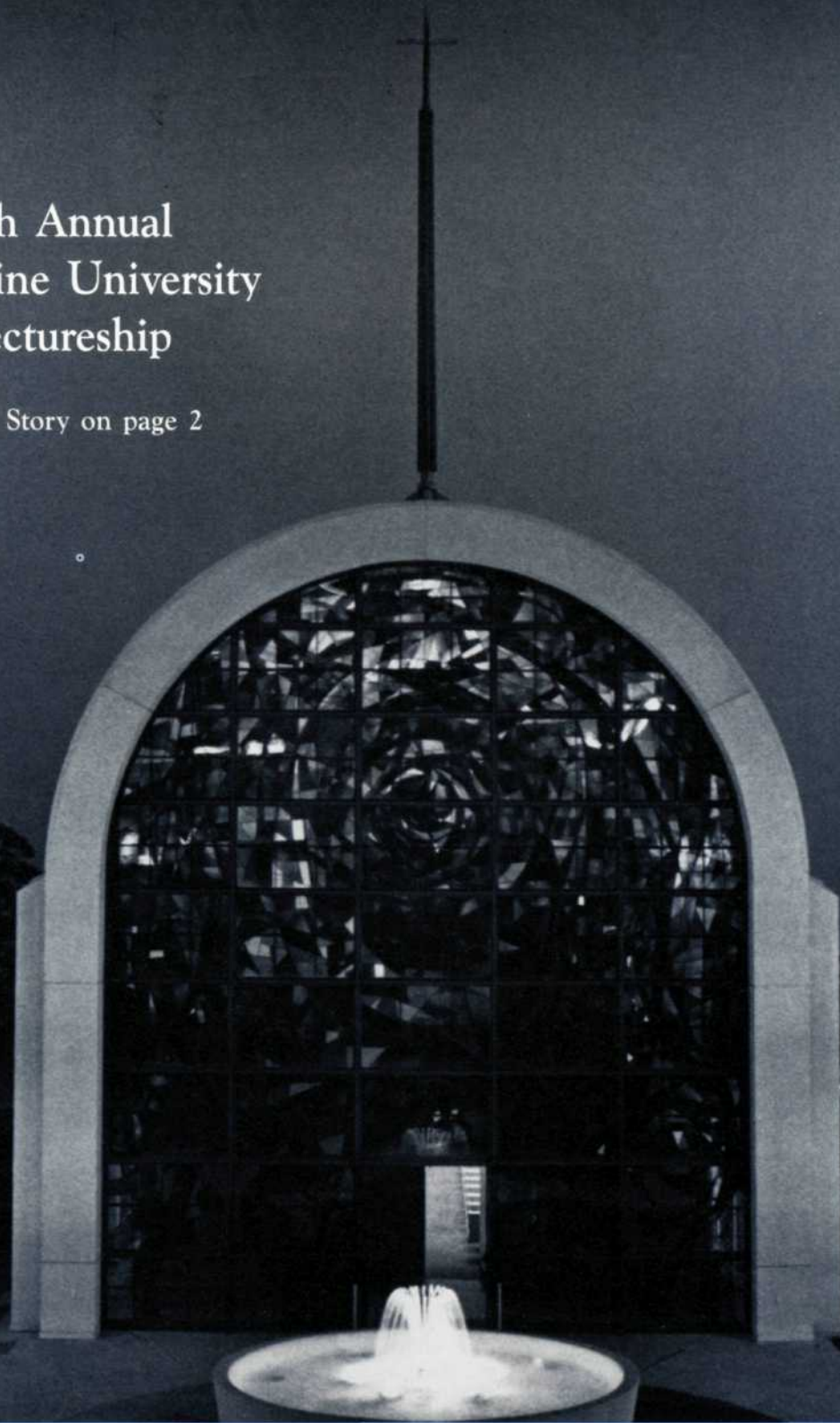


PACIFIC CHURCH NEWS

WINTER 1988

The 45th Annual
Pepperdine University
Bible Lectureship

—See Cover Story on page 2



A NEWS JOURNAL FOR CHURCHES OF CHRIST ON THE WEST COAST

Cover Story: Pepperdine Lectures Set for April 19-22

"Thine is the Kingdom" is the title for the 45th annual Pepperdine University Bible Lectureship, scheduled for April 19-22. Centering on "Great Themes from the Gospel of Matthew", the four-day program will feature seven major theme lectures in Firestone Fieldhouse and 144 classes on a variety of biblically-related topics.

The lectureship will open with two dinner programs at 4:15 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19. Emily Lemley from Lubbock, Texas, will speak at the annual Associated Women for Pepperdine Dinner, and Paul Faulkner from Abilene, Texas, will address the annual Opening Night Men's Dinner.

A crowd of 5,000 is expected on opening night this year; 4,500 people were present last year. Keynoting the lectureship on opening night will be Landon Saunders from New York City. The other six theme speakers will be: Randy Fenter, San Antonio, Texas; Steve Flatt, Nashville, Tennessee; Gregg Hood, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Larry James, Dallas, Texas; Dan Anders, Malibu, California; and Max Lucado, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The featured daily classes on Matthew will be taught by Ian Fair and Jamie Atchley, both of Abilene, Texas. Cynthia Rowland-McClure of Chino Hills, California, will be the speaker at the annual Women's Fellowship Dinner, and Randy Mayeux of Dallas, Texas, will be the speaker at the annual Men's Fellowship Dinner. On Wednesday night of lecture week, David Davenport, Pepperdine president, will be the guest speaker at the annual Friends of Pepperdine Dinner. J. P. Sanders will be honored at an appreciation dinner on Friday evening, April 22.

Following the major lecture each evening, Paul Faulkner and Carl Brecheen will host a "Marriage Enrichment Seminar" in Firestone Fieldhouse, and F. LaGard Smith will conduct a class entitled "A Christian Response to the 'New Age' Movement" in Smothers Theatre. Nightly musical

performances in Elkins Auditorium will be continued again this year.

A one-hour motion picture honoring the bicentennial of Alexander Campbell's birth will be shown on three separate occasions during lecture week, including a West Coast Premier showing on opening night in Smothers Theatre following the keynote address by Landon Saunders. The Good Life Puppet Company from La Habra, California, will entertain and teach the children each evening in Elkins Auditorium while the evening lecture is going on in Firestone Fieldhouse.

In addition to the 144 classes, there will be speakers at 42 meal programs during the week. Following lunch in the cafeteria, there will be a lecture in Fouch Amphitheatre each day on the theme of "Why I am a Christian". The lecturers in this series will be Thomas G. Bost, chairman of the Board of Regents of Pepperdine; James R. Wilburn, vice president and dean of the School of Business and Management at Pepperdine; and Andrew K. Benton, vice president for administration at Pepperdine.

Some of the other participants on this year's program are: Willard Tate, Oliver Howard, Jeff Walling, Emily Lemley, Rubel Shelly, Bill Humble, Larry Keene, Mike Armour, Lynn and Joy McMillon, Mike Cope, Lynn Mitchell, Randy Lowry, Jack Reese, John Wilson, Frank Pack, Leonard Allen, Paul Watson, Stuart and D'Esta Love, Charles and Kay Mickey, Rick Atchley, Art McNeese, Furman Kearley, Howard Norton, Tom Olbricht, Helen Young, Tex Williams, W. B. West, Jr., Ken Dye, Robert Oglesby, Jerry Jones, Stanley Shipp, Terry and Susan Giboney, Ralph and Linda Beck, Del and Marge Green, Calvin Warpula, Rick Marrs, Walt Leaver, Jay Utley, Truman Scott, Anna Griffith, Duane Warden, Ron Rose, Kanet Thomas, John Edmerson, Edwin White, Dan Rhodes, Chris Bullard, Ken Chaffin,

Alger Fitch, Phillip Morrison, Mel Weldon, Bernard James, Kevin Withem, Harold Paden, and Randy Gray.

The 44-page lecture program will be sent on request. Please send correspondence to the Department of Church Services, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California 90265. For more information about the lectureship, contact Paula Marrs or Mary Speaks at (213) 456-4270.



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EDITOR

Jerry Rushford

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Bill Henegar

Paula Marrs

Mary Speaks

CONTRIBUTING REPORTERS

Garth Black, Bakersfield, CA

Larry Cain, San Jose, CA

Ken Chaffin, San Diego, CA

Kelly Deatherage, Portland, OR

Clifton Dittmore, Stockton, CA

Walt Fennel, Fresno, CA

Milo Hadwin, Bellevue, WA

Billie Silvey, Los Angeles, CA

Mel Weldon, San Leandro, CA

Edwin White, Phoenix, AZ

Bud Worsham, Long Beach, CA

John York, Roseburg, OR

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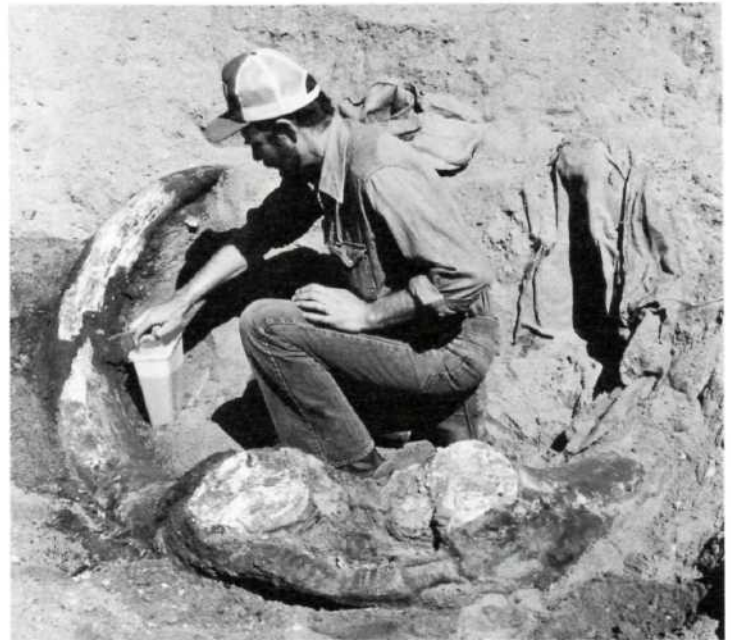
Former Skeptic Now Preaches in Sedona, Arizona

By Edwin White

Except for providence, B. Miles Gilbert, minister for the Church of Christ in Sedona, Arizona, might never have become a Christian. Although Gilbert was influenced early by a faithful Christian mother, he considered himself a skeptic. Miles attended the University of Kansas, where he received the B.A., M.A. and Ph.D., with areas of specialization in archaeology, physical anthropology, and paleontology. Recognized for his scholarship, Gilbert has written for numerous scholarly journals, presented many papers at various scholarly meetings, and has taught for such institutions as Southern Illinois University, University of Missouri, University of Wyoming, and Northern Arizona University.

While living in Laramie, Randi, Miles' wife, came under the influence of Sue Boswell, a local Christian who invited Randi to attend the worship services of the local church. Eventually, Randi was converted. Local Christians then began visiting the Gilbert home. Among the visitors was the church's campus minister, Garrell Kidd, who invited Miles to attend church activities. At first, Miles was antagonistic and responded with what he calls "mean, tactless questions". Fortunately, Gilbert was challenged to prove his claim that the Bible was full of contradictions. Gilbert also began attending the services of the local church in order that he might better understand the

Miles Gilbert working at a mammoth dig near St. Johns, Arizona. He is preparing plaster casts for the mammoth tusks so that they may be transported to a local museum.



people with whom he had begun to dispute. Ultimately, however, Gilbert's scholarly and exhaustive effort to discredit the Bible only succeeded in convincing him of the Bible's total credibility. Miles was baptized in 1981.

In 1985, while teaching at Northern Arizona University, Miles began to occasionally fill the pulpit at Sedona, Arizona. When the

Sedona church lost its preacher, Gilbert was asked to become the church's pulpit minister.

Miles and Randi Gilbert, with their children, Ty and Polly, now live in Sedona where they work full-time with the local church. Ty and Polly attend the Sedona Christian School where Randi serves as a member of the board of directors. When asked about his future

goals, Miles responded, "I want to disprove the theory of evolution, discredit many denominational doctrines which are harmful, do some lecturing in the area of apologetics, and lead souls to Christ." In his spare time, Gilbert serves as a forensic osteologist for various Arizona law enforcement agencies. He also is engaged in a mammoth dig near St. Johns, Arizona.



What an amazing thought! Mammoths, gigantic Ice Age creatures, once roamed what is today the desert of Arizona.

PEPPERDINE PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

By Paula Marrs

Michael F. Adams, vice president for university affairs, preached for the Culver Palms congregation in Los Angeles on January 3 and for Simi Valley on January 10.

Provost **Bill Adrian** spoke at the Vista Church of Christ on January 3 and at Santa Ana on January 10.

Dan Anders, minister of the Malibu Church of Christ, preached in Pritchett, Texas on December 27 and in Seagoville, Texas on December 30. He spoke at the Westside congregation in Bakersfield on January 3, and gave devotional messages at the 27th Christian Education Conference in Culver City on January 18 and 19.

Harold Bigham, professor of law, preached in Nashville at the West End Church of Christ on December 23 and at the Green Hills congregation on December 27. He spoke in Pomona on January 3.

Calvin Bowers, director of the equal opportunity office, preached on January 10 at the 11th St. church in San Bernardino. He was co-coordinator of the Seminar on Black Suicide held at the Figueroa Church of Christ in January.

Randy Chesnutt, assistant professor of religion, preached on January 3 at the Conejo Valley congregation in Thousand Oaks.

President **David Davenport** spoke at the Conejo Valley Church of Christ on December 27 and the Camarillo congregation on January 3. He also preached at the El Cajon Blvd. and Clairmont Churches of Christ in San Diego and the Northeast church in Greenville, South Carolina during January.

Associate Dean of Students **Rich Dawson** preached in Santa Maria on January 3 and in Hollywood on January 10. He was on the planning committee and taught a class at the West Coast Campus Ministry Seminar in January.

David Dowdey, associate professor of German, preached in Valencia on December 20, Ridgecrest on January 10, and Norwalk on January 17.

Stuart and D'Esta Love held a marriage seminar in Bakersfield January 7-9. They are

holding a seminar at Culver Palms (Los Angeles) during January, February, and March and at Whittier in February and March. They are holding seminars in Memphis and Abilene during February.

Randy Lowry, director of the Institute For Dispute Resolution, preached at Redlands on January 10. He will speak at the Abilene Christian University Lectureship in February.

Rick Marrs, associate professor of religion, preached at La Habra on January 3 and at West Covina on January 10.

Tom Olbricht, chairman of the religion division, preached in Palm Springs January 3, in Costa Mesa January 10, and in San Diego (El Cajon) January 17. He spoke at the West Coast Campus Ministry Seminar January 24 and will speak at the Abilene Christian University Lectureship on February 22.

Mike O'Neal, vice president for finance, preached at Garden Grove (Newland Street) on January 10 and at Palmdale January 24. He spoke at a Christian Estate Planning Seminar in San Diego on December 12.

Distinguished Professor of Religion Emeritus **Frank Pack** preached in Lancaster January 3 and will speak at the Abilene Christian University Lectureship in February.

James E. Priest, professor of religion, preached at Ojai on January 3 and at Venura on January 10.

Rick Rowland, associate professor of speech communication, spoke at San Luis Obispo on December 27 and Long Beach on February 7. He also was a teacher and luncheon speaker at the West Coast Campus Ministry Seminar in January.

Jerry Rushford, associate professor of religion, presented a 4-night lecture program on "The History of Hymns" for the Montgomery Boulevard congregation in Albuquerque, New Mexico in December. He preached recently for churches in Santa Barbara, Phoenix, Sacramento, and Tucson. Dr. Rushford was a featured lecturer at the Oklahoma Christian College Lectureship in January. He will speak at the Abilene Christian University Lectureship in February.

Dwayne D. Simmons, assistant professor of biology, preached at Gardena on January 3 and at Torrance on January 10.

James Smythe, chairman of the humanities division, preached at El Segundo on January 30.

Director of Foreign Languages **William Stivers** preached at Oceanside on January 10 and at Montebello on January 17. He spoke at a youth meeting at the Central church in Los Angeles on January 16.

Dwayne D. VanRheenen, associate dean, Seaver College, preached at Malibu on January 3 and at Lompoc on January 10.

"Big" **Don Williams**, associate director of Church Services, spoke at a youth retreat in Littleton, Colorado on December 4-6. He preached at Long Beach on January 3 and Buena Park on January 10. He spoke at chapel and a seminar at Oklahoma Christian College January 15-16. He is speaking at retreats in Seattle; Knoxville, Tennessee; Honolulu and Ventura in February.

Dean of Seaver College **John F. Wilson** preached at Brookline Church of Christ in Boston on December 7, at Coastline Church of Christ in Harbor City on January 3, and at Mission Viejo on January 10. He taught a class at the West Coast Campus Ministry Seminar on January 23.

Jim Woodrow, assistant dean, Graduate School of Education and Psychology, preached in Somerset, Pennsylvania on January 3. His grandfather preached for this congregation for 49 years. He also preached in Riverside on January 10.

Chancellor Emeritus **M. Norvel Young** preached at the Figueroa congregation in Los Angeles, at Sunny Hills in Fullerton, and at San Luis Obispo during January. He will speak at Broadway Church of Christ in Lubbock, Texas on February 21.

Helen Young taught ladies' classes at Figueroa in Los Angeles and Sunny Hills in Fullerton in January. She spoke at a women's day in Austin, Texas on February 13. On February 21 she will speak to a women's class at the Broadway church in Lubbock, Texas.

PROFILES



KEVIN FUCHS

Rancho Cordova Church of Christ welcomes Kevin Fuchs as their new outreach minister. He is a graduate of York College (AA) and Harding University (BA) and currently working toward an M.Div. at Harding Graduate School.

While a student, Kevin spent summers working in ministry. In 1984 he served as youth minister for the Hidden Valley congregation in Houston; in 1985 he visited growing village churches in Kenya and South Africa; in 1987 he served as an evangelist for the University congregation in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Kevin and his wife, Debbie, were married on May 23, 1987, at the Harding Graduate School chapel. She is a registered nurse.



DONALD KINDER

Donald Kinder is the new minister for the Church of Christ in Montebello, California. He holds the BA in Greek and the MA in New Testament from Abilene Christian University and the Ph.D. in church history from the University of Iowa. He worked with several congregations in Iowa between 1977 and 1984 as pulpit minister, campus minister, and youth minister. He has a special interest in Korea, where he has participated in campaigns and worked with the Bible Correspondence Program.

Don is married to the former Vicki Lynn Hood, and they are the parents of one son, Brandon.



KEVIN WITHEM

Kevin Withem will begin work with the El Cajon Boulevard Church of Christ in San Diego as pulpit minister in April. He will also work with the "Know Your Bible" television program. Kevin is coming from the North City congregation in the same city where he has preached since July 1985.

A graduate of Grossmont College (AA, 1983) and Harding University (BA, 1985), Kevin is married to the former Karen Thomson. Her parents are missionaries in Zimbabwe. Kevin was born in San Diego where he gained some experience preaching as a teenager. He also preached for the Holly Grove Church of Christ while a student at Harding.



GORDON GOWER

Gordon Gower will be moving to Tucson sometime this summer to work with the Palo Verde church as minister of preaching. He is currently working with the 7th Street Church of Christ in Texas City, Texas. Before that he worked with churches in Lamesa and Salado, Texas and Leominster, Massachusetts. Gordon has preached mission meetings in several states. He and his wife, Glynna also direct Alpine Trekking Christian Camp, a wilderness camping program for teens and adults. This camp has been in operation for the past ten years.

Gordon holds a BA (1973) and MA (1985) from Abilene Christian University. He has also studied at Baylor University and the University of Houston at Clear Lake.

He and Glynna (Sanders) are the parents of a nine year old son, Todd.



RANDY HALL

The Woodland Hills Church of Christ is pleased to have Randy Hall as their new pulpit minister. He was previously Associate Minister for Involvement and Education at the Johnson Street congregation in San Angelo, Texas for two years. Prior to that he preached for the Church of Christ in North Haven, Connecticut for three years. From 1977 to 1982 Randy served as campus minister, teaching Bible courses and overseeing the student program at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas.

Randy attended Freed-Hardeman College and graduated from Abilene Christian University with a B.A. and M.Div. He is married to the former Kathy Boyle of Ontario, Canada. They are the parents of three daughters: Bethany, Gracie, and Trisha.



DAVID PITTS

The Conejo Valley Church of Christ in Thousand Oaks, California has announced the hiring of David Pitts as youth minister beginning the middle of February. David is a graduate student in religion at Pepperdine. He recently earned a BA from Pepperdine in sociology and religion.

David is engaged to be married June 25 to Cindi DeVita, who is also a student at Pepperdine. She is from Wilmington, North Carolina. Both she and David have worked in the campus ministry office at Pepperdine.

David is from the Westside congregation in Bakersfield where his father is a deacon and his grandfather is an elder. He worked as a youth minister at the Central church in Bakersfield last summer. He also has worked at camps and spoken at various youth activities.

Three Unusual Days Outreach Ministry

By Clifton Ditmore



Paul Methvin

After 36 years, Paul Methvin resigned from local work and is now involved in full-time outreach evangelism. Early in 1987 he began holding 3-day meetings on the West Coast, but demand for his help has taken him throughout the nation. This ministry is designed to encourage, inspire and strengthen the local church.

Methvin states that throughout the brotherhood hundreds of congregations want to break out of a "stalemate" condition which has left them frustrated and not growing, in many instances without finances to cover even routine expenses. The despairing situation becomes unending. He believes the small congregations are as important to the overall brotherhood as the large thriving ones; therefore, he has committed himself to help both. He is sincerely convinced the positive effects of this type of program will have a lasting influence on the brotherhood.

Methvin is no stranger to the Church of Christ. He has preached in meetings across the nation, worked in public relations at Pepperdine University and directed the splendid Yosemite Family Encampment for eighteen years. This gathering has a tremendous influence on thousands of lives as it draws 5,000 to 6,000 people each July. The 48th annual encampment will be held July 24-29, 1988 in the beautiful Yosemite National Park with families attending from many states, as well as a number of foreign countries.

Methvin first started thinking about this type of ministry while he was preaching for the large Davis Park church in Modesto. Jack

Exum, a long time friend of Methvin who has been involved in a similar ministry for a number of years, encouraged him to launch out and invited him to use his title, Three Unusual Days. Methvin uses his own sermon materials and schedules his own meetings.

In 1987 he held meetings on the West Coast, Midwest, and into the Southland. Already he has 35 meetings scheduled for 1988 with a few openings, and a number of meetings are scheduled for 1989.

Methvin can see that this mission effort has touched lives, raised horizons, lifted sights and encouraged the discouraged. He needs enough financial support so he can hold meetings for small congregations as well as large ones. He says small congregations often cannot afford a meeting and sometimes they, above all, feel the need for an "encourager". He hopes he never has to turn down any congregation because of finances. Methvin is anxious to be of service to church leaders and congregations and invites them to contact him.

For more information about the THREE UNUSUAL DAYS outreach ministry, write Paul Methvin, P.O. Box 2005, Orangevale, California 95662 or call (916) 361-7149 or (916) 989-4885.

Television Ministry Continues in California's Central Valley

By Greg Padgett

At 9:00 p.m. each Sunday evening for over fourteen years, central California television viewers have been able to watch and listen to gospel preachers and teachers answer Bible questions... live! The half-hour program is called "The One Way". Since its inception in 1973, the elderships of the Tulare and Porterville congregations have been overseeing the work spearheaded by Marshall Brookey. In early 1987 Gene Gilliland took over the organizational tasks and brought about some changes in the program, both in appearance and in content. During most of the broadcast years, viewers were asked to call in any Bible questions, and they would receive an immediate Bible answer, live, over their TV sets. Gilliland and others added a timely element to this concept by featuring certain topics to be discussed specifically from time to time. Currently, this format is being used alternately with the open forum format, and has proven successful.

As 1987 was drawing to a close, the program found itself in a crisis. Not only were the costs increasing—the airtime figures alone were approaching \$100,000 annually—but the studio facilities were being dismantled and moved by the TV station. This meant it would be necessary for all valley panelists to drive to Fresno from their respective locations and would cause a burden on many to continue their involvement. After considering the idea of moving the broadcast to a church building and the necessity of purchasing thousands of dollars of television equipment plus the re-modeling required, it was decided that the program had run its course, and would not be renewed with the television station for another year. However, within a few weeks of a deadline imposed by the television station, the efforts were renewed by brethren all over the valley to find a way to keep "The One Way" in prime time. The first obstacle to overcome was the inability of any

single congregation to take on a financial obligation of this size. So, a non-profit corporation was formed with a 9-member board of directors. This entity, under the current oversight of the eldership of the East Visalia Church of Christ, takes on the front line financial responsibility while also providing a working body of several men to administrate the program. Technical studio facilities are now being provided in Visalia by VideoVision, a local production house, while various members of the board handle tasks such as panel scheduling, topic formation, Bible Correspondence Course activity and financial administration. Financial support, imperative to the program's continuation, is based on congregational contributions with a new supplemental program of individual donations. Stepping out in faith, "The One Way" is on the air for another year. For more information, write to The One Way, Inc., 1919 E. Mineral King, Visalia, California 93291.

"Your Old Men Will Dream Dreams"

By Bud Worsham



Otis and Leta Warren

Otis J. Warren has seen a lot of his dreams fulfilled during his 91 years. A man of vision and planning, O.J. has combined hard work and trust in his great God to accomplish a successful life by anyone's standards. While his health won't permit him to be as active and hold leadership roles as he once did, Warren is still a dreamer. Just as his business career was one of launching out, O.J. wants the church to launch out—under God's care and guidance—to bring many into the kingdom.

A servant of the Lord for 78 years—he will be 92 on July 11—O.J. continues to attend almost all of the services of the Long Beach Church of Christ, 37th and Atlantic. The self-described "Iowa country boy who went to town" was a deacon at 22 and an elder at 26. O.J. may have been a young elder, but he was wise and mature beyond his years.

He finished the eighth grade before he was twelve, and with his two older brothers as tutors, he entered one of the leading business administration colleges in the Middle West. In the college of 900 students, O.J. was the only one who was not a high school graduate. Warren completed the full course in national and state banking, including business law, with high

honors in accounting and bookkeeping.

At seventeen he was offered a position with the largest bank in Iowa. He declined and instead purchased the largest rural country general store in the state and began a highly successful business career. Two years later, following the theme of his life to "launch out", O. J. had the agency for two lines of automobiles. He recalls installing the first one-gallon pump facility for putting gas directly into the car's fuel tank. He launched out again, adding farm implements, to become the largest dealer in Iowa. Five years later he built one of the state's biggest livestock auction sales.

O.J. admits that the most successful decision he made during this "launching out" time was asking his 17-year-old sweetheart, Rosa, to marry him. "But above all else in the world," says O.J., "was that at the early age of fourteen I became a Christian." It was only natural—his father and brother Earl were ministers; older brother Roy was a deacon. Every member of his parents' families was a Christian.

O.J. served the church in Iowa for seventeen years, then came to Long Beach where he held leadership positions at the Ninth and Lime and Uptown Churches of Christ for

another seventeen years.

When he lost his beloved Rosa, his wife of 71 years, in June 1986, O.J. was ready to be called by the Lord. With Rosa gone, he longed for the Heavenly City. On the first anniversary of Rosa's death, he was reading her obituary. "I was so lonely, and I really thought He would take me," recalls O.J. "But He didn't. So I said, 'All right, Lord, what shall I do?' And like a revelation it came to me."

The idea that entered his mind was totally unexpected, but he acted on it immediately. He wrote to Leta Clark in Iowa and asked her to marry him. She is the 83-year-old widow of Rosa's brother, Ellsworth. Warren and Leta had been related by marriage for 65 years without a hint of romance between them, and after the Warrens moved to Long Beach in 1946, the two had rarely seen each other. But it seemed that divine inspiration was at work in Des Moines as well as in Long Beach. "When I got Otis' letter, it seemed like a pretty good idea," Leta said, "so I said yes."

They were married December 30 in a Wednesday evening ceremony at the Long Beach church. His son, Dr. Neil Warren of Pasadena, performed the marriage vows, with his two other children and many family members, including three great-great grandchildren, present. Leta's two daughters were her bridesmaids. For O.J. it was his happiest moment since August 21, 1915, when he married Rosa.

Missionaries Home on Furlough

Wimon and Linda Walker, missionaries in Botswana, are spending February in the Portland area to report on their work to the Southwest Church of Christ, which oversees that mission effort.

The Walkers left for Botswana in 1985. They are working with two other families on the edge of the Kalahari Desert in the northeast region of this south African nation. During their furlough, the Walkers also are visiting family and supporting congregations in Oregon, Washington, and Texas. The primary purpose of their stay in Portland is to strengthen their ties with their sponsoring church, said Sonny Guild, minister for the Southwest Church of Christ and former missionary in Kenya.

The Walkers' return to the Northwest is a homecoming for Wimon, who is the son of Henry Walker, minister since 1972 for the Church of Christ in Kennewick, Washington.

A Little Like Jesus

By Billie Silvey

"The angels are giving him a standing ovation," M. Norvel Young said at his funeral, commenting on the 5.9 earthquake which had rocked the Los Angeles area earlier that morning. It was Thursday, October 1, and Carroll Pitts, minister for the Normandie Church of Christ, was being remembered by a crowd which filled the 500-seat auditorium and spilled over to watch the ceremony on closed-circuit television in the fellowship room.

The night before, another crowd had assembled for evening services, which included hymns, scriptures, prayers, and remarks and a viewing of the body.

Pitts died of cancer at his home Saturday morning, September 26 at the age of 67.

He was a preacher. He preached for almost forty years—first as youth minister under A. L. Cassius at the Compton Avenue church in Los Angeles, then at the Baker Street church in Bakersfield and as associate minister for the Figueroa church in Los Angeles with R. N. Hogan and Calvin Bowers before becoming minister for the Normandie church in 1963.

He conducted gospel meetings, workshops, and seminars in twenty-three states, Guyana, Jamaica, the Bahamas, Nigeria, and New Zealand. He spoke on many

Bible lectureships at Pepperdine University, Southwestern Christian College, Abilene Christian University, Oklahoma Christian College, and the Nashville Christian Institute. He served as secretary of the National Lectureship.

A panelist on the *Way of Truth* TV program on channel 56, he appeared on *Today's Religion* on channel 4 and gave a two-minute morning devotion on channel 11. He also preached on the *Way of Truth* and *What Says the Scriptures* radio programs on KTYM and was a panelist on a two-hour program, *Religion on the Line*, on KDAY.

Veteran Los Angeles Minister R. N. Hogan said of him, "He was a very active worker in the church. Very cooperative. I don't know anything bad about him. He did everything in his power to advance the Lord's cause. His method was that there's no substitute for work. He was a hard worker. His death is a great loss to us."

He was a builder. Starting with thirty-three members, he taught and encouraged home Bible studies through which the Normandie church grew to over 1,000. It is now served by two elders, six deacons, and two other ministers. He was instrumental in the founding of Normandie Christian School, which meets at the Normandie building and has a current enrollment of 200 in kindergarten through sixth grade. He helped start the Kairos Youth House in Watts, the Los Angeles Bible College, and the annual Ministers' Wives Banquet.

"Carroll was a very positive, influential, action-oriented leader. He was a great team player," according to Calvin Bowers, Pepperdine's equal opportunity officer and a close friend for more than thirty years. "He was concerned with all dimensions of the church and was

a leader in Christian education. He continued to conduct home studies until the time of his death."

He was an educator. Attending Pepperdine University, where he earned his B.A. and M.A. in religion and worked for one year toward his doctorate, he held a general elementary teaching credential from California State University in Fresno. He served as part-time religion instructor at Pepperdine for nine years, taught at Los Angeles Bible College, and helped promote Southwestern

"Carroll was a very positive, influential, action-oriented leader. He was a great team player. . . He was concerned with all dimensions of the church and was a leader in Christian education."

Christian College. He was a member of the Chancellor's Council at Pepperdine until his death.

Frank Pack, former chairman of the religion division at Pepperdine, says of Pitts, "He was a very capable and sensitive teacher. He was unselfish in giving himself to the work of the Lord and to helping other people on a personal basis. We will remember him as one of the finest Christians we've known."

He was a family man. He was married in 1947 to Bernice M. Carr, and they had two adopted children, Philip Carroll and



Carroll and Bernice Pitts celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary in 1987. Their dynamic ministry with the Normandie Church of Christ in Los Angeles covered a period of more than 24 years. The Normandie Church, which was formed by the Pitts and 31 other charter members on August 11, 1963, now has more than 1,000 members. Nearly 2,000 people have been baptized into Christ during the past quarter century.

Pamela Marie, and four grandchildren. Pamela preceded him in death.

Born in 1924 in North Little Rock, Arkansas, to the late Carroll and Algertha Pitts, he was one of nine children. His parents moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, when he was a child, and he was baptized into Christ by the late Henry Clay Tyner in 1944. He is survived by a sister and four brothers, including Dorris and Joe Pitts, who are ministers in Oakland.

He was an administrator, serving on the Chancellor's Council for Pepperdine University, the board of directors for Normandie Christian School, the board of Los Angeles Bible College, secretary of the Ministers-Leaders Breakfast Meetings, and member of the board and personal evangelism director for the annual Campaign for Christ.

"I will always remember him as a kind, considerate, competent, special minister of the Gospel of Christ," says John Edmerson, who worked with Pitts as associate minister for four years and is now preaching at Normandie. "He is a joy image in my memory bank. He is loved by the brotherhood and the members of the Normandie family and will always be admired for his dedication and hard work."

He was a community leader, serving on the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission, the executive board of the N.A.A.C.P., the Urban League, and the 77th Street Division of Police Clergy. He had his picture taken with President Jimmy Carter at the White House, with Mayor Tom Bradley

and Supervisor Kenneth Hahn and Billy Graham, with Walter Mondale and Jesse Jackson, and with City Attorney James K. Hahn, whom he taught at Pepperdine.

According to Billy Curl, minister for the Crenshaw Church of Christ, "He was a man who took care of the little things. He was a pure minister, in that he dealt with

"He was unselfish in giving himself to the work of the Lord and to helping other people on a personal basis. We will remember him as one of the finest Christians we've known."

individuals rather than the church body. He had a set agenda that he followed to the letter. He was a man who believed in unity and preached it and practiced it. He encouraged every individual to reach his potential, and he was always there when you needed him."

He was a world traveler, serving as tour guide on five trips to the Holy Land and also visiting Paris, London, Rome, Trinidad, Canada and Mexico.

He was a writer, contributing to *Christian Echo*, *Power for Today*, *20th Century Christian*,

Mission, *Firm Foundation*, *Gospel Advocate*, and the *Los Angeles Watts Times*.

Carroll Pitts accomplished a great deal, but he did it without bustle or hurry or a sense of his own importance. He was quick with a smile, a kiss on the cheek, or a helping hand. You could count on him to follow through with even the smallest request, and he never made you feel as if you were imposing. It was as if each person he dealt with was the only thing on his mind. He was a little like Jesus that way.

The Southwest Church of Christ in Los Angeles began on July 30, 1922. George Pepperdine was one of the 33 pioneer members who assembled for the first meeting.

After meeting in various locations for several years, the congregation constructed a church building (see sketch below) on the corner of 63rd and Normandie. The first worship service was held in the new building on April 1, 1929.

Mr. Pepperdine served as an elder in this church for many years. Under the leadership of Carroll Pitts, the Normandie Church of Christ began meeting in the building on August 11, 1963. The addition that houses Normandie Christian School (on the left) was opened in 1974.



Laotian Ministry in Fresno

By Walt Fennel

On July 24, 1983, the elders at Palm Avenue Church of Christ in Fresno started a local mission work with Laotian people from Lowland Laos with Athel Hefley, one of the elders, doing the teaching. A high school senior, Phouthai Ketsavong, of the Central Church of Christ in Stockton traveled to Fresno each weekend to interpret for Hefley. The work started with one family and at the present time there are 165 to 225 in attendance each Sunday; 146 Laotians are now baptized believers.

In June 1984 Phouthai Ketsavong went to serve in the United States Army, and later that year Soupha Somvong came to Palm Avenue to work with the Laotian congregation. This work has grown and remained strong in the Lord because the needs of the Laotian people are being met. Volunteers help them with their paper work, social security, welfare, and medical needs. Somvong spends a part of each day

interpreting for various Laotian people.

The church has a large garage used for storage of furniture, bedding, and other household goods donated by the English speaking congregation. One of the deacons, Rod Avedikian, owns a furniture store, and he supplies mattresses for the Laotians. Since beginning this work over 400 beds, plus assorted couches, chairs, tables, washing machines, dryers, baby furniture, and clothing have been distributed. God has really blessed this work.

In September 1986 the Woodale Church in Memphis sent Xidaj Lo to Palm Avenue to establish a preaching school taught in the Lao language. The first class graduated in February with five students including Somvong. On Sunday, January 3, 1988, Xidaj Lo started a Hmong workshop at Palm Avenue. This service is held at 1 p.m. each Sunday. The future is as bright as the promises of God!



Laotian children enjoy Lois Berry's pre-school Bible class at the Palm Avenue Church.



As many as 225 Laotians now meet for worship in Fresno.

Bakersfield Church Sponsors Missionary to the British Isles

By Garth Black

For the past ten years the Westside Church of Christ in Bakersfield, California, has had a close relationship with Nat Cooper of the Sunset School of Preaching in Lubbock, Texas. Nat is a native of Northern Ireland, but he came to the United States as a teenager. He attended Abilene Christian University and has served churches in the southeast and southwest for over thirty years. In 1973 he became an instructor at Sunset and in 1985 was appointed dean of the school. He has preached all over the world including China, Great Britain, and several campaigns in India.

In 1978 he began an association with Westside when he preached in a four day meeting. He has continued to visit Westside at least once a year since that time, presenting lessons on various themes and topics. In 1979 Westside assumed partial support of Nat and at the present time is responsible for over fifty per cent of his salary.

In 1988 Nat will be relocating in the British Isles. His work will be under the oversight of the Westside elders and his work will encompass all of Great Britain and possibly western Europe.

Nat is beginning a work that will be three to five years in duration. It is a program that has five objectives as its goal:

- 1) To present the gospel to the people of Great Britain through a series of evangelistic meetings
- 2) To help mature infant churches
- 3) To conduct leadership seminars in order to develop competent leadership in the churches of Great Britain
- 4) To conduct quarterly seminars in the British Isles that will help to strengthen family relationships
- 5) To help local churches embrace a world vision of the church in its mission to reach lost souls.

Nat and his wife, Jean, will be leaving Lubbock in September and relocating in eastern Scotland. We pray for God's blessings to be with them as they begin this great work.

Entrepreneur Offers Help to Ministers

By Clifton Ditmore

When Matt Corbin played Monopoly as a child, he was always the one tapped to handle the money and distribute the cards. He hasn't changed a lot. So, it really doesn't surprise the people who know Corbin best that he's launched "His Worker Company", a new management system that aims to help organize the typically hectic lifestyles of preachers and other church workers.

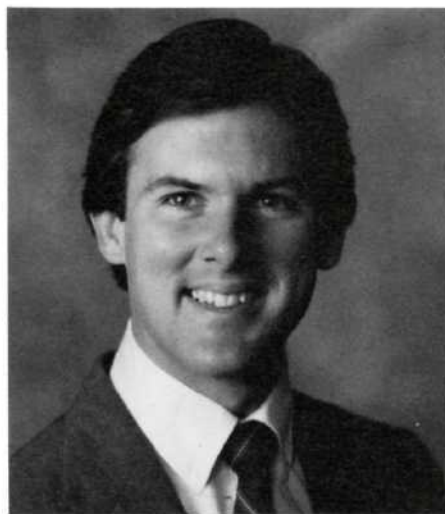
He knows firsthand about cleric chaos. A former youth minister for the Central Church of Christ in Stockton, California, Corbin got used to the late-night phone calls asking for immediate counseling, the weekend commitments, the scheduling conflicts with volunteers.

Corbin is a graduate of Abilene Christian University and has done work toward a master's degree at Pepperdine University. He now resides in Arizona, where he spent two years working as a stockbroker and another two years as a corporate trainer for Time Systems, a management organization company. It was during the latter tenure that Corbin developed the idea for his company.

Each organizer comes in an attractive binder which includes daily planning pages divided by quarters, a weekly evaluation of effort, an attendance record, a sermon-Bible class log, six portable files, a delegation and follow-up system, 100 information and 200 request records and a full calendar year insert. There's even a section where ministers can keep track of commitments due from volunteers and keep notes concerning announcements, church bulletin items, and prayer requests. Corbin also produced a 50-minute training tape, narrated by radio personality Alan Chilcoat. Chilcoat is a member of the Tatum Boulevard Church of Christ in Phoenix, Arizona. Corbin's membership is with the Stapley and Dana Church of Christ in Mesa, Arizona.

His big break could come this year, when Fuller Institute of Church Growth, a church management program sponsored by Fuller Seminary in Glendale, California, will begin marketing his system at its nationwide seminars.

Corbin says, "Ministers just don't have the instinct for organization. They're far more people-oriented." Steve Boyd, youth minister with the Stapley and Dana church, has been on the system for three months, and says his life is considerably more organized.



Matt Corbin

Corbin will co-teach a class with Clifton Ditmore, pulpit minister at the Central congregation in Stockton, California, at the annual Bible Lectureship at Pepperdine University in April. The class will be one designed to help ministers become better organized.

Ministers should also be looking forward to a booklet Corbin is now completing titled, "Getting Your Stuff Together" which is a practical look at organizational strategies for ministers.

For more information concerning this system, write HIS WORKER Co., 3017 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, Arizona 85251 or call (602) 943-3611.

World English School

After preaching full-time for twenty-seven years, including three years of mission work in Taiwan, Richard Ady has left the local pulpit to devote himself to one of the most exciting and far-reaching mission projects in modern times. Under the direction of Reuel Lemmons and Tex Williams, he is working on a new arm of World Bible School known as WORLD ENGLISH SCHOOL—an evangelistic arm that will reach around the globe to hundreds of millions of people who have not yet been touched by the Gospel.

English is fast becoming the universal language. What Koine Greek was to the New Testament world, English is today. Literally billions of people are eagerly studying English

World Bible School Workshop

The second annual World Bible School Teachers Workshop is set for Saturday, April 16 in Torrance, California. The west coast center of WBS has planned a program around the needs of WBS teachers. It features a combination of special speakers and specific workshops. The workshop will be conducted at the Torrance Church of Christ building, 3525 Maricopa Street, in Torrance. The program begins at 8:00 a.m.

Special speeches will be given by Ken Dye, Jack McGhee, Ken Wilkey, and Reuel Lemmons. Workshops will be conducted by Bob Scott, president of World Christian Broadcasting Corporation; Jack McGhee; Ken Wilkey; and members of the west coast center of WBS.

Workshop subjects are practical and designed to give specific information and assistance to WBS teachers. Workshop titles are:

"Getting Started In WBS"

"How To Save Money & Speed Your WBS Mail"

"General Problem Solving & Question/Answer Session"

"How Follow-Up Is Accomplished"

"Outreach Through Sponsoring A Box Of WBS Lessons"

"Computers In WBS"

"WBS/KNLS: Working Together"

Pre-registration is required. Registration forms are available by writing to WBS, P.O. Box 146, Palos Verdes Estates, CA. 90274. A full listing of the program is also available upon request at the same address. If you desire to call by phone, the number is (213) 375-7553.

as the key ingredient of rapid commercial and technological advancement. World English School is structured to take advantage of this widespread interest in the English language. WES is a correspondence course that teaches a little English to create interest and a lot of Bible to create faith.

World English School is looking for mission-minded churches that are interested in joining forces with Christians nationwide in this historic attempt to reach the world for Christ. Anyone who would like to join in this mission project may write to World English School—Ady Mission, Sonoma Ave. Church of Christ, 2200 Sonoma Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95405.

Evangelism Seminar Conducted in Bay Area

By Larry Cain

"We Would See Jesus" was the theme for the 1988 California Evangelism Seminar hosted by the Campbell Church of Christ on January 14-16. Keynote speakers were Bob Hendren, Jerry Jones, and Richard Rogers.

Two hundred fifty people registered from various congregations in California. There were also groups from Tempe, Arizona and Boulder, Colorado. In the evening sessions over 300 were in attendance.

Jerry Jones of St. Louis, Missouri spoke four times and taught a class. His sermons were: "We Would See Jesus", "God's Men", "Come and See", and "As the Father Sent Me". In his class, "Discipling Relationships", Jones noted that historically we have left young Christians on their own without fellowship and help to meet life in the faith. In a sermon he contrasted evangelism that sees Jesus and is motivated by the character of God with evangelism that is motivated by failure.

"Encountering Jesus" was the Bible exposition ably taught by Bob Hendren of Nashville, Tennessee. In his unique style he spoke from the Gospel of John about Jesus as the giver of life.

Richard Rogers of El Paso, Texas spoke on "Behold the Lamb of God", "The Good Shepherd", and "The Resurrection and the Life". In his class on "Developing Leaders" he stressed the local church as the training center for leadership. From his memorable sermon on Jesus as the good shepherd, he noted Matthew 28:18-20 as the great commission, but John 21:15 as the greatest commission "to feed the sheep".

Also teaching classes were Jerry Rushford, Tim Martin, Claudette Jones, Michael Dolla, Tom Sibley, Bill Long, Gary Bortz, and Sandy Sibley. Friday afternoon offered a choice of two class sessions.

During the seminar Ocean Pelcher of San Jose was baptized.

Lewis Robinson, one of the ministers at Campbell, was the seminar coordinator and was assisted by one of the young adult Bible fellowship groups. Tom Sibley, pulpit minister, served as the program chairman. Plans are already underway for the 1989 seminar.

As one person said during the seminar, "I needed to get my focus fresh." This year's seminar did put the focus on Jesus and following Him.

Washington Church Occupies New Building

The Southside Church of Christ in Tacoma entered into an exciting and joyful new phase of its service to God and the community recently as they moved into a beautiful new building. Southside has a long and faithful history of service in the Northwest and South Puget Sound area.

The new facility has an auditorium with seating for 500 and is designed to allow for the addition of a balcony that seats an additional 200. The educational facility has fifteen large classrooms and a nursery and training room. The fellowship hall will seat 300 and is equipped with a complete commercial kitchen and storage rooms for benevolence use. The office complex has four offices, a library, waiting room, and conference room.

This facility has given the church a means for greater outreach with the Gospel and edification of the saints. The congregation is active in evangelism, benevolence, and membership involvement. At present they are actively involved in 41 areas of ministry. Included is an active and growing ministry to the deaf, with sign language interpreting at every public service. The church is presently served by three elders, Rocco Celletti, Wes Hanson, and Marion Ingalls; five deacons; and ministers Roy K. Knott and Larry Redelsperger.

Evangelism Advances at Nation's Largest Prison Facility

Christ Prison Ministry is a work of the Vacaville Church of Christ, in Vacaville, California. The ministry began in 1979 when Steve Foster, minister, and Dennis Goodrich, associate minister, began to visit an inmate who had corresponded with the church. In 1980, through the efforts of Clem Cole, a member of the congregation and a retired sergeant at the California Medical Facility, and Larry J. West, minister for the congregation, regular periods of worship and Bible study were pursued.

The California Medical Facility (CMF) is the largest prison in the United States and thought to be the largest prison in the world. Nearly 9,000 inmates are housed at CMF in seven separate facilities. It is called a "medical facility" because it cares for the needs of inmates who are acutely ill, need surgery, and/or need psychiatric or psychological care from the prison system in northern California. However, the name is somewhat misleading because those requiring medical attention represent only a

small percentage of the total population. CMF is unique among prisons in the United States. It serves as a reception center (a place where inmates are tested, processed, and assigned to a facility where their needs can best be met), as a hospital, and as a "regular" prison. There is a constant turn-over in the population as men come and go.

Christ Prison Ministry began in an effort to preach the Gospel to those who were lost and in need of salvation and God's direction in their lives. Through the years hundreds have been baptized. In 1980 there were 13 baptisms, in 1981 there were 29 baptisms, in 1982 there were 59 baptisms, in 1983 there were 81 baptisms, in 1984 there were 98 baptisms, in 1985 there were 68 baptisms, in 1986 there were 102 baptisms, in 1987 there were 97 baptisms, and to this date in 1988 there have been 13 baptisms. Although a reflection of the success of this ministry, the number of baptisms does not tell the whole story. Over the years thousands have been taught the truth through

Bible correspondence courses offered free to all who wish to study the Word of God. At this writing more than 1,000 students, in prison and in the "free" world, are enrolled in study. Many are inmates in the California prison system. However, hundreds are friends of inmates, family members, and others who live on the outside. As an example of how far-reaching the correspondence course is, enrollments have come from 25 states, five foreign countries, and 49 different prisons or jails. In 1987, 324 Bibles were distributed, 15,364 individual lessons were distributed through Bible correspondence courses, and 5,714 tracts, booklets, and other teaching materials were distributed.

Support is needed for this mission effort. The cost of supplying materials and Bibles alone is beyond the capacity of the Vacaville congregation. If you, or someone you know, would like to help or be added to the mailing list, please write to: Christ Prison Ministry, 401 Fir St., Vacaville, CA 95688 or call 707-448-5085 or 707-447-6385.

National Day of Prayer for Senior Ministries

By Paul Schlosser

When Margie Wright was born, November 6, 1895, she could only expect to live 46 years. Due to the high mortality rate of the times, people who lived to be 70 or more years old were rare indeed. Margie is now 92 years old. She has been a Christian since 1906. Her great grandchildren born today have a life expectancy of nearly 80 years. Since 1950 the ranks of those Americans over 65 have more than quadrupled.

When Margie first came to San Bernardino there were no Churches of Christ. She had to ride the bus to Corona for church. There have been a lot of changes in the church since then.

Margie Wright has been a resident at Sunset Haven for about sixteen years. When Sunset Haven began in 1955 the number of senior saints in the church now could not have been imagined. But faithful Christians did see the need to care for the elderly. Their vision has provided care for many Christians.

The West Coast is blessed to have several homes for the elderly sponsored by Churches of Christ. Their ministry is constantly growing. As a body of churches, we need to pay more careful attention to the needs of our seniors and those who provide these special services.

The month of May has been declared National Older Americans Month. It is designated as a time for the nation to consider the contributions and the resources made available by and for the elderly. Sunset Haven would like



Day is set for Christians to pray for senior saints like longtime Sunset Haven resident Margie Wright.

to encourage the Churches of Christ nationwide to set aside a time of prayer on Sunday, May 1, 1988. We are asking our fellow saints to join us in prayer on behalf of the growing segment of our churches who are seniors. Pray for their families who often have to make very difficult decisions because of the age of their loved ones. Pray for those homes supported by Christians for Christians who need our help. They need our support and prayers in a very difficult and sometimes depressing ministry.

Pray for their directors. Pray for their residents. Pray specifically for the home nearest you.

The Western Church Directory lists these retirement and care homes: Valley Christian Home, Hanford, California; Parkview Christian Estates, Modesto, California; Sunset Haven, Cherry Valley and Upland, California; Lakeview Christian Home, Carlsbad, New Mexico; Bessie Poole Cottage, Portland, Oregon.

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

James 1:27

Lectures on Alexander Campbell

Dr. Thomas H. Olbricht, chairman of the religion division, Seaver College, will be one of six lecturers at the "Celebration of Heritage" series of lectures in honor of the bicentennial of Alexander Campbell's birth. The lectures will be held on April 18-19, 1988, in Claremont, California, just prior to the Pepperdine Lectureship.

Lecturers will address constituents of all three strands of the Restoration Movement on facets of Campbell's legacy. The lecturers and their topics include William Richardson (Campbell and the Unity of the Church), Richard Harrison (Campbell the Reformer), Newell Williams (Campbell and Experimental Religion), Robert Fife (Campbell the Social Thinker), Thomas Olbricht (Campbell the Educator), and Barbara Brown Zikmund (Campbell and Ministry). Several faculty members at Pepperdine will preside at sessions or serve as respondents to lectures.

The "Celebration of Heritage" will also include a banquet on April 18 at 6:00 p.m. and ample opportunity for audience question/answer and discussion. All lectures will be held in the Mudd Auditorium at the School of Theology at Claremont.

Detailed information and registration are available from Dr. Dwayne D. VanRheenen, Associate Dean, Seaver College. VanRheenen and Dr. Larry Keene of Pepperdine are members of the planning committee.

Mark McLean Added to Campaigns Northwest

By John York

Campaigns Northwest is a summer mission effort designed to help Churches of Christ in the great Northwest. Since 1975 over 250 Christian college students have worked with churches in the Northwest.

Campaigns Northwest is not a "campaign" in the typical sense of the word, but more a summer ministry internship program. A team of from two to six students works with one congregation for the summer. The local congregation organizes and directs the work as they see best in their situation.

Typically the students are involved in youth ministry, teaching classes, preaching, Vacation Bible Schools, personal work, nursing home ministry, jail ministry, door knocking, camp counseling, and similar works. The program

has benefited churches in the Northwest by giving them extra "hands" to do the Lord's work. In turn, the students gain valuable training and experience in ministry.

Dr. Obert Henderson, a business professor at Columbia Christian College, has directed the program since its inception. The work is overseen by the elders of the Downtown Church of Christ in Searcy, Arkansas. In recent months Mark McLean, the pulpit minister of the church in North Bend, Oregon, has begun working in the program. A manual detailing the operation and policies of Campaigns Northwest is available by contacting him: Mark McLean, Campaigns Northwest Director; North Bend Church of Christ; P.O. Box 650; North Bend, Oregon 97459; (503) 756-4844.

Campus Ministry Seminar

By Mary Speaks

Approximately 200 west coast Christians met in Malibu on the Pepperdine campus for the 19th annual West Coast Campus Ministry Seminar. The participants represented at least thirteen west coast campus ministry programs. Included was the newest ministry, California State University, Long Beach.

The theme, "Equipping the Saints for the Work of Ministry", was carried through lectures and classes given January 22-24. The text for the weekend was Ephesians 4. Ken Durham of Stamford, Connecticut; Mike Cope of Searcy, Arkansas; Don Crawford of Austin, Texas; Dan Knight of Los Angeles; and Milton Jones of Seattle delivered the main lectures.

A variety of classes revolved around the central theme of equipping each saint for the work of the Lord on the west coast. Classes ranged from the development of evangelistic programs such as teaching small group Bible studies to obtaining a better understanding of the women's role in the campus ministry program. Small group discussions concerning the task of equipping the saints supplemented the classes.

Rick Rowland, an elder at the Malibu church, spoke to the leaders of the various campus ministry programs at a luncheon on Saturday. Rowland, a veteran of the work in Santa Barbara, reminded attendees that west coast campus ministry outreach is on the increase, but that equipping of the saints is necessary to encourage continued growth.

On Saturday evening, Melody Thomas delivered a moving original dramatic presentation of a modern interpretation of the "woman at the well".

The weekend ended with the participants spiritually filled and more fully equipped to meet the challenges presented to them on their college campuses.

20th Annual West Coast Campus Ministry Seminar

January 13-15, 1989
Santa Barbara

A Great Day In May

By Kelly Deatherage

The Campaign for Columbia Christian College will conclude May 22, 1988 with A Great Day In May, when Christians nationwide will demonstrate their support for Christian education at Columbia.

The three-year Campaign For Columbia began in July 1985 when the board of directors approved the college's first major capital gifts campaign to raise funds for Columbia's endowment growth, capital improvements and continuing support.

With more than six months remaining in the campaign, Columbia has exceeded its \$9 million goal by more than \$700,000. During the campaign Columbia's major supporters have focused on underwriting the future of the college with deferred gifts such as wills, trusts and insurance and with gifts specifically for the college's endowment funds.

A Great Day In May will allow Columbia to shift the focus of the Campaign For Columbia to immediate cash gifts necessary for the college's day-to-day expenses. By May 22 Columbia expects to receive \$1 million in cash gifts from

people throughout the nation who realize Columbia's importance to its region.

Already response to A Great Day In May has been very positive. When President Gary D. Elliott announced A Great Day In May at Columbia's lectureship October 21, lectureship guests responded with gifts of more than \$14,000. In addition, many friends of the college have asked how they can be involved in A Great Day In May in their communities and congregations.

Friends of Columbia in cities throughout the nation are helping coordinate A Great Day In May. During the next six months, volunteers will help inform their congregations about Columbia's ministry of Christian education and the opportunities to support it. In many cities, a celebration rally will conclude A Great Day In May activities.

For more information about A Great Day In May or Columbia's ministry of Christian education, please call or write the College Relations Office, Columbia Christian College, 9101 East Burnside, Portland, Oregon 97216-1515, (503) 257-1239.

Blessed Are The Peacemakers

By Mel Weldon

Over thirty years ago the Macdonald Avenue Church of Christ in Richmond, California, fifteen miles north of Oakland, was divided as a result of internal conflicts. The group that left became the El Portal church. A few years ago the Macdonald Avenue church sold their property and merged with El Portal on the condition that they work together to build a new facility in the city of Hercules, five miles north, where they already owned some land. Hercules is the second fastest growing city in California because of its rural setting and its proximity to Oakland and San Francisco.

The merged congregations successfully molded into one and were doing a good work until 1986 when the spirit of contention began to be promoted. They went through a terribly difficult time, lost their eldership and finally part of the congregation was led away and the church was divided again.

In July 1987, the church brought in a new minister, James Michell, his wife, Louise, and their four children from Wolfforth, Texas. Jim is a peacemaker and a builder. He took the church when it was bleeding and hurting and began to help its healing process. The church has come back together and the spirit of love, harmony and service prevails again. Thank God for peacemakers!

One of the congregation's major works is the printing of materials for World Bible School. Marvin Cramer, a longtime member who is a professional printer, has a print shop with three large offset presses set up in the church basement. Members of the congregation help to print, fold, collate, staple, and package the World Bible School materials.

The church is missionary minded. They support missionaries in Argentina, Brazil, the Philippines, and Truckee, California.

The church in Hercules has recently received a permit from the City of Hercules for the construction of a 1.2 million dollar building which should be ready in two years. The congregation's attitudes and giving and cooperation are all good. Interest is growing; visitors are attending, home studies are in progress and people are being added to the fellowship. The future looks good. The whole bay area is better because of this congregation and this good family that works with them. Thank God for peacemakers and builders like Jim and Louise Michell.

Biography on J. P. Sanders to be Published in April

By M. Norvel Young

Morris M. Womack, Ph.D., professor of communication at Pepperdine University and preacher for the church in Valencia, California, has written a book on the life of our beloved brother and friend, J. P. Sanders, entitled *J. P. Sanders: A Champion of Christian Education*. I am delighted that the publication date is April 1988 and that all of us will have the privilege of buying a copy so that we will have in print the story of this talented and humble man whose life continues to be dedicated to his Lord now in his eighth decade. He is a giant among us, when we measure greatness by the standard

of Jesus. I have often said of him as Jesus said of Nathaniel, "He is an Israelite in whom there is no guile."

I have been privileged to be a partner with J. P. in Christian education as we served together at Pepperdine from 1957 to 1970. We have been partners in Christian publications as we worked on 20th Century Christian together from 1938 until today. He was the magazine's first editor. I consider our friendship one of the great blessings of my life.

J. P. was dean of David Lipscomb College, 1942-1957, and president of Columbia Christian College, 1974-1982. In 1982 he returned

to Pepperdine where he served as professor of religion until his retirement last year. He is a scholar and a gentleman. He is an effective preacher of the gospel. He now lives in Palm Springs with his wife, Gloria, and his son, Rick. He continues to be active in teaching and serving in the church there.

The story of his life will bless you as it has blessed countless thousands. Order at the pre-publication price of \$10.00, Professional Communication Services, 155 North Kanan Road, Agoura, California 91301, (818) 889-9583.

Study Religion this Summer at Pepperdine University, Malibu

The Religion Division of Pepperdine University announces four courses especially designed for those studying for ministry or who are currently involved in ministry. Each of the following courses will meet Monday through Friday, six hours a day for two weeks and is for four credit hours.

Abraham J. Malherbe

"Paul as Minister"

May 31 - June 10

Ray Fulenwider

"Church Administration and Growth"

June 20 - July 1

Frank Pack

"The General Epistles"

July 11 - 22

Ken Durham

Dwayne VanRheenen

"Communication in the Church"

July 25 - August 5

Courses may be taken for graduate or undergraduate credit.

Cost is only \$400 per course with scholarship.

Reasonable housing available.

For additional information call or write:

Thomas H. Olbricht, Chairman

Religion Division

Pepperdine University

Malibu, California 90265

(213) 456-4352

Christian Scholars Conference

The eighth annual Christian Scholars Conference will be held on the Pepperdine University campus July 20-22, 1988, according to Thomas H. Olbricht, director. This will be the second year in a row that Pepperdine has hosted the conference.

The conference this year will follow on last year's focus on ethics and emphasize how the university community can best teach and encourage ethics. Several persons have already indicated their desire to make a presentation at the conference.

The Christian Scholars Conference commenced in 1981, on the occasion of Abilene Christian University's celebration of its 75th year. Dr. J.D. Thomas, who was in charge, proposed that Christian college professors, especially Bible professors, have regular meetings. All of those present thought the idea was an excellent one and a conference was scheduled for the following year. The early conference attendees were Bible professors and preachers, but in the past three years attendance by Christian college professors in other disciplines has increased.

The conference moves from college to college by invitation. David Lipscomb College will host the conference in 1991, the 100th anniversary of the founding of that school.

For more information on the conference, please contact:

Dr. Thomas Olbricht

Religion Division

Pepperdine University

Malibu, California 90265

(213) 456-4352

CALENDAR

MARCH

11-13 Family Enrichment Seminar

Date: March 11-13, 1988
Location: Tulare Church of Christ
Tulare, California
Contact: James Turner
(209) 686-2821
Speaker: Gayle Napier
Fort Worth, Texas
Theme: "Strengthening the Family"

17-19 Annual Camp Yamhill Men's Retreat

Date: March 17-19, 1988
Location: Camp Yamhill
Yamhill, Oregon
Contact: Stan Williams
(509) 946-1658
Speaker: Jimmy Jividen
Abilene, Texas
Theme: "Miracles: From God or Man?"

APRIL

1-3 4th Annual World Evangelism Forum

Date: April 1-3, 1988
Location: Bellevue Church of Christ
Bellevue, Washington
Contact: Milo Hadwin
(206) 454-3863
Speaker: Jack McGhee
Knoxville, Tennessee
Theme: "The Open Door to China"

15-16 Elders/Leaders Workshop

Date: April 15-16, 1988
Location: Southside Church of Christ
Tacoma, Washington
Contact: Marion Ingalls
(206) 473-1838
Speaker: Bill Teague
Abilene, Texas
Theme: "The Potential of the Church"

19-22 45th Annual Pepperdine University Bible Lectureship

Date: April 19-22, 1988
Location: Pepperdine University
Malibu, California
Contact: Paula Marrs, Mary Speaks
(213) 456-4270
Speakers: Landon Saunders, Steve Flatt,
Larry James, Max Lucado
Theme: "Thine is the Kingdom"

MAY

12-14 Rocky Mountain Evangelism Seminar

Date: May 12-14, 1988
Location: Site to be announced
Denver, Colorado
Contact: Tim Martin
(303) 443-4085
Speakers: Randy Mayeux, Reuel Lemmons,
Bob Hendren, Doug Parsons,
Theme: "To Dream Again"

16-19 Ministers' Enrichment Seminar

Date: May 16-19, 1988
Location: Columbia Christian College
Portland, Oregon
Contact: Dan Rhodes
(503) 257-1253
Speakers: John Paul Blankenship,
John O. York, Dave Bland
Theme: "Competent to Minister"

JUNE

29-2 Great Northwest Evangelism Workshop

Date: June 29-July 2, 1988
Location: Pacific Lutheran University
Tacoma, Washington
Contact: Richard McGaughey
(206) 537-5181
Speakers: Jerry Rushford, Paul Faulkner,
Marvin Phillips, Jeff Walling
Theme: "There's a Great Day Coming"

JULY

24-29 48th Annual Yosemite Family Encampment

Date: July 24-29, 1988
Location: Yosemite National Park
California
Contact: Florence Johnston
(916) 361-7149
Speakers: Jimmy Allen, Mike Cope,
LaGard Smith, Willard Tate
Theme: "The Pursuit of God and Holiness"



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