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Evangelical Friend

Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Church  
(Quakers)

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11-1977

## Evangelical Friend, November 1977 (Vol. 11, No. 3)

Evangelical Friends Alliance

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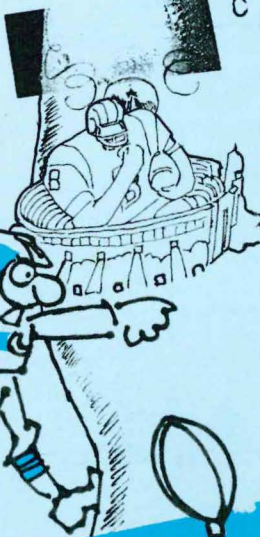
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# Evangelical Friend

November 1977

Vol. XI, No. 3

# Gift

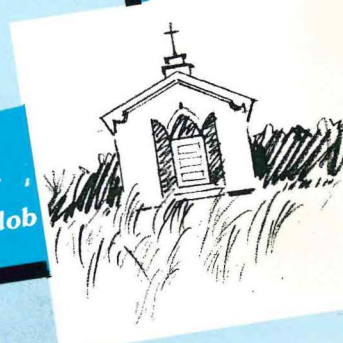


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**Movies**

Weekends were made for Michelob



# DID GOD MAKE WEEKENDS?





# DID GOD MAKE WEEK- ENDS?



## Movies

*Weekends were made for Michelob*

BY HOWARD MACY

We live in an age of weekend mentality. Weekends have a special status. They are looked forward to as times when people can leave their work behind and do the things they really want to do—fish, go to the beach, work in the yard, sit in a recliner, watch TV, and drink beer. Indeed, one of the breweries advertises that weekends were made for its beer (“Weekends are made for Michelob”).

Another advertiser claims to have *made* weekends with an endless array of sporting goods from bicycles and motorcycles to tennis rackets and basketballs and finally boats. The claim is undoubtedly exaggerated, but it points again to the high value we place on weekends and on the assumed right to use them however we may please. I suppose there are very few of us who have not at one time or another chimed in with the familiar letters *TGIF*, Thank goodness it’s Friday.

Now “Thank goodness it’s Friday” is for some just a more polite version of “Thank God it’s Friday.” Perhaps there is more truth than sacrilege here. If it were not for the establishment of the Sabbath over 3,000 years ago, it might very well be that there wouldn’t be such a thing in America as weekends. But I doubt that many, Christian or non-Christian, do thank God for weekends, because the weekend has become fundamentally a civil holiday. Sun-

days have become merely a societal convention, not a religious tradition.

The origin of all of this is in the ancient Israelite custom of observing the seventh day of the week (our Saturday) as a Sabbath, a time of resting from their normal work and a time of worship and joy. Later, after the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community met on the first day of the week and adopted some of the Sabbath traditions, though this was a gradual process.

After the church became established as legal eventually the government itself legislated a Sunday holiday—or holy day—which was to be observed by everyone. Sometimes the elaboration of laws around this custom became quite complicated. We still speak with some humor and amazement about the Blue Laws of the American Colonies. Gradually, however, the religious roots have dropped away from the tradition of Sunday, the recess from work has been lengthened (rest from work is rightly seen as having humanitarian value), and—presto!—we have the good old American weekend.

Now in this hasty history of holy days we could lament the loss of religious understanding, but it is more important to recognize the danger that this poses to Christians. There is the danger that we ourselves will forget the meaning of the Lord’s Day in easily adopting a weekend mentality. If we do forget, then we are robbed of the value of the Lord’s Day, a value that is to be deeply cherished. From time to time, then, we need to consider carefully its meaning.

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*Howard Macy is director of the Center for Christian Studies adult education program in Portland, Oregon, enrolling Friends and others of the greater Portland area. He is a member of the pastoral team of Reedwood Friends.*

Let us first consider *understanding the Lord's Day* and then *celebrating the Lord's Day*.

#### UNDERSTANDING THE LORD'S DAY

Though the Lord's Day and the Sabbath have similarities, it is important for us to understand that they are not the same event occurring on two different days. The Lord's Day does not fulfill the fourth commandment, which reads: "Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God . . . ."

The fourth commandment clearly requires that the *seventh* day be kept in a special way, not merely that one day in seven be kept. Seventh Day Adventists and Seventh Day Baptists correctly point out that the Lord's Day does not fulfill that command. The two days differ further in that the symbolism and theological meaning of the two days are not precisely the same. Yet the Jewish Sabbath does provide an invaluable background for the Lord's Day, and it is to the Sabbath that we now turn.

In ancient Israel the Sabbath was of tremendous importance, and this importance is reflected in the examples of the Pharisees' concern over Sabbath keeping in the New Testament. One of the reasons the Sabbath was important was that it stood as a sign of the special covenant relationship between God and Israel.

The rationale for the Sabbath is also related to the themes of creation and redemption. The most familiar statement of the Sabbath law in Exodus 20 says that man is to rest, "For in six days Yahweh made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred." (Exodus 20:11)

We cannot argue that God needed to rest after creating the world. It didn't wear Him down. But instead we can see that God identified even here with human need and in His love gave the day of rest as a special grace. Such an act may also imply that what is important about a

God has commanded you to keep the Sabbath day." (Deuteronomy 5:15)

Being freed from the slavery of Egypt and being brought into the land of Canaan was the central event that made Israel a people. They talked of it as their redemption and as the time when they as a people were created. So the observance of the Sabbath was a commemoration of God's salvation on their behalf, of their being released from the kind of servitude in which there was no rest.

Another related theme in the theology of the observance of the Sabbath day is that in taking a regular rest from our normal work, we recognize the fact that ultimately we must depend on God for our lives and livelihood.

To quote Norman Frimer, a contemporary Jewish author, "There is the . . . danger that man, aware of his power and success in dominating nature, will begin to regard himself as the measure of what is right and the yardstick of the good. 'Beware,' warned Moses thirty centuries



ago, ' . . . lest when thou hast eaten and art satisfied, and hast built goodly houses (probably split-level ones), and dwelt therein and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied . . . (when thine industrial plants and commercial enterprises have multiplied) then thy heart be lifted up, and thou forget the Lord thy God . . . and thou say in thy heart: My power and the might of (my) hand hath gotten me this wealth!' Men are singularly susceptible to these spiritual foibles." (quoted in *The Jewish Catalog*, p. 103)

So then the Sabbath was a sign of God's care for humankind, of God's redemption, and of our ultimate dependence on God.

By Jesus' time there had been a very baroque elaboration of Jewish Sabbath law with an equally complex set of exceptions or escape hatches. Jesus got into a lot of trouble with the Pharisees and other religious leaders for violating some of these regulations. What caused the most trouble, however, was Jesus' insistence that He had some sort of mastery over the Sabbath. He said (referring to himself), "The Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath." (Mark 2:28) The early Church, after Jesus' resurrection, remembered this saying as well as Jesus' sayings about how he had come to fulfill the Law.

As a consequence the early Christians understood that the Law had indeed been fulfilled and that they were in a new age. Certain rituals and other matters of the Law were valued less or abandoned—including circumcision and Sabbath keeping. For a while Christians with Jewish background apparently continued to observe the Sabbath as well



person is not his work and its success or failure, but his relationship to God.

Another statement of this commandment is found in the Ten Commandments as recorded in Deuteronomy 5. The reason for Sabbath observance is this: "Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt and that the Lord your God brought you out from there with mighty hand and outstretched arm; because of this, the Lord your

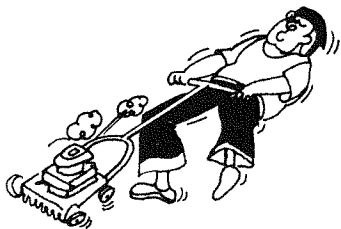


as to meet with the Christian community on the first day of the week, "the Lord's Day." Paul is a good example of maintaining his Jewish heritage without teaching the necessity of the rituals of the Law. Gentile Christians, on the other hand, very early observed only the Lord's Day.

The Lord's Day was observed because of Jesus' resurrection, not because any new command to keep any particular day had been given. It had not. And it was not because the Christians felt bound to keep one day in seven in accordance with the Fourth Commandment. They did not feel bound by the Law any longer. But the Christian community knew they needed one another, and they met in the joy of the Resurrection and in the power they knew through that. The first day was chosen precisely because it commemorated the day of Jesus' resurrection.

The Lord's Day, then, was a different celebration from the Sabbath, and its meaning had both similarities to, and differences from, the Sabbath. On the one hand, the Lord's Day, like the Sabbath, was a *symbol of redemption*. The difference is that now redemption through Jesus Christ is what is celebrated instead of redemption in the exodus from Egypt.

The Christians also attached to the Lord's Day the *symbolism of rest*, but again with a difference. Christians celebrated in a new way the fact of a rest that they experienced through the risen Christ and that permeated their lives in the now. The rest spoken of also symbolized the



final rest God would bring to the faithful when He brings about His ultimate victory. So the idea of rest represented both a present and future reality.

As Roland deVaux, the French biblical scholar, wrote, "Sunday is the 'Lord's Day,' the day of him who lightens our burdens (Matthew 11:28), through whom, with whom, and in whom we enter into God's own rest (Hebrews 4:1-11)." (*Ancient Israel*, II, p. 483) It was entirely appropriate that in time the Christian community should adopt the older pattern of setting aside their normal patterns of labor on the Lord's Day, for in doing so they gave outward expression to the inward reality that they already knew and that anticipated the grand hope all Christians share for the future.

With this brief background on the significance of the Sabbath and the Lord's Day, let us consider how we might celebrate the Lord's Day.

#### CELEBRATING THE LORD'S DAY

"Celebrating" the Lord's Day is probably a better word for Christians to use than "observing" or "keeping"

the day, because the latter words too easily remind us of the legalisms that have often been associated with these days. Let us propose some elements that should belong to any celebration of the Lord's Day and then suggest (hopefully without legalism) some specific implications that these principles might have for us.

One element of the Lord's Day celebration has to be *rest*, given the background of the day that we have seen. Rest has valid humanitarian justifications, of course, but as we have already noted it has more important theological meanings. *But* what is this rest? Is it a Sunday afternoon nap? Well, that's not a bad idea, but the rest associated with the Lord's Day is a lot bigger idea than that.

Rest and the biblical visions of peace have a lot in common. Fundamentally, they communicate an idea of wholeness, of harmony between ourselves and God, between the human family in relationships, and between man and nature. So the rest of the Lord's Day is not merely a cessation from work (though that is its symbol), but it is instead a tasting and practicing of the new reality of wholeness. Abraham Heschel captures something of the spirit of this rest in writing that we can understand the value of a "realm of time where the goal is not to *have* but to *be*, not to own but to give, not to control but to share, not to subdue but to be in accord." (In *Jewish Catalog*, p. 104)

We can further describe this rest as a peace that relaxes, that is not striving, that gives breathing space. The rest of the Lord's Day is not being caught in a web of necessity, not being nagged at by worry over jobs piously set aside for another day. The rest of the Lord's Day involves recognizing again our dependence on God—the fact that we really aren't self-sufficient. And perhaps through recognizing the world about us (stopping to smell the flowers?), we can sense again our creatureliness, the fact that we belong as creatures in the whole of God's harmonious creation. This is a rest that genuinely refreshes us and brings us again to the source of our lives and brings us to one another.

A second element of the celebration of the Lord's Day is *worship*. Though worship should be part of our daily experience, both personally and in community, we take time on the Lord's Day for special attention to praise and to bringing ourselves into the presence of God to acknowledge our dependence on Him and to be guided by Him.

Another essential element of the Lord's Day is the *Christian community*. This is a point at which our understanding of the Lord's Day contradicts common notions of the weekend. The Lord's Day is not simply a private day; it is a day that belongs to the community of faith. In Israel the Sabbath was a distinguishing mark of the covenant people. In the early Christian community, it was precisely the recognition that Christians need one another that

(Continued on page 27)

HOWARD MACY

**2****DID GOD MAKE WEEKENDS?**JOHN AND BARBARA  
BRANTINGHAM**6****MISSIONARY VOICE:  
TAIWAN'S TYPHOON**

RICHARD J. FOSTER

**9****THANK YOU,  
DADDY!**

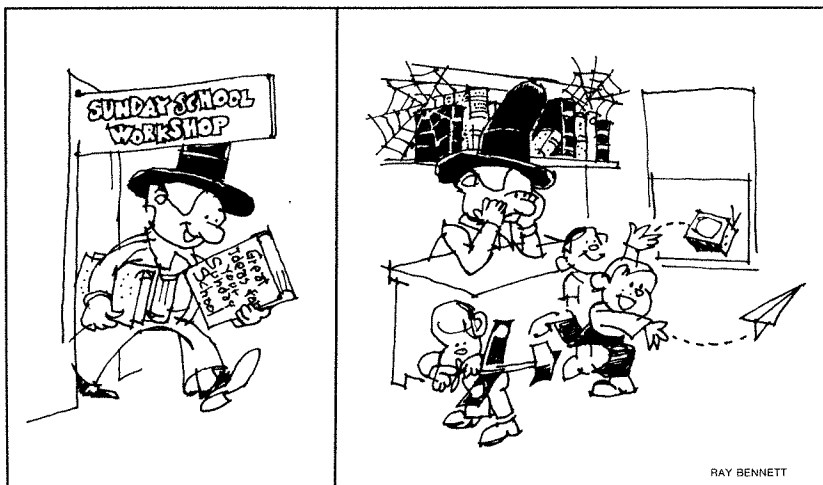
S. M. VAN SCOY

**10****EIGHT BIBLE BASICS  
FOR A RICHER LIFE**

JACK L. WILLCUTS

**11****WHEN THE GOING  
GETS TOUGH, THE  
TOUGH CALL IN  
CONSULTANTS****REGULAR FEATURES**

The Face of the World **12**/ First Day News **13**/ Over the Teacup **12**  
Once upon a Time **17**/ Books **18**/ Friends Concerns **19**  
Friends Gather **23**/ Friends Record **26**/ Superintendent's Page **28**

**COVER**

A collage by Stan Putman provides a visual image for "Did God Make Weekends?"

**ANTECEDENTS**

Weekends mean different things to different people. For some it is a time for staying out late and sleeping in. For students, no classes. For retail stores, advertised specials and busy cash registers. To a growing number of children it is a day or two they can go spend with dad (or mom, whichever the case may be).

For some people weekends are a time for the family to be together—in some cases it's a blessing, in others it's a trial. In care homes for the elderly, weekends mean a special time when visitors come, but for those without visitors it is extra loneliness.

For many people weekends mean entertainment. Friday newspapers give entire sections to what is available in dining, movies, drama, music, sports, exhibits.

Some people find the ecstasy of 5:00 p.m. Friday is second in emotional strength only to the anxiety of Monday morning. To individuals who are deeply entrenched in their weekday work the weekend involves going through withdrawal. Others have their weekends filled with special projects, committee meetings, and appointments.

No matter what weekends mean to you, reading Howard Macy's article will give you a better understanding of the Lord's Day and how to celebrate it. In this issue's lead article he gives us this warning: "There is the danger that we ourselves will forget the meaning of the Lord's Day in easily adopting a weekend mentality." —H.T.A.

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## Taiwan's Typhoon: Two Personal Reports

"It is just unbelievable what can happen in a flood!"

BY BARBARA BRANTINGHAM

The night of the typhoon—we shall never forget it! John was down island—and the children and I had been watching TV when the electricity went off about 4:00 p.m. I went upstairs and picked up my devotional book and was reading—"I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." It really made very little impact on me. It was nice to know.

I wasn't afraid, and I wasn't really thinking about the typhoon. Actually, we've had no really big typhoons for so long—none really since we've been in Taiwan. One hit before we came here that was very bad. There was some flooding in 1970, but nothing really severe like this one turned out to be. I didn't really know what to be afraid of.

We had our supper, and then the boys and I sat around the dining room table writing letters. We had stacks of candles in the middle of the table, and Jonathan commented on how cozy it was. Timothy remembered that the people who live in the community behind us had very poor housing. They were poor people with only one-floor homes, and most of their roofs were held together with bricks, so we stopped and prayed for them and asked the Lord to protect them.

The remarkable thing is that the Lord heard our prayer and those people on the back fared very well. They didn't have any flooding or any damage! But

*This is an eyewitness, first-person report of the typhoon that hit Taiwan on July 31, 1977. It has been taken from a tape sent to Barbara Brantingham's parents, the Cattells.*

we didn't pray for ourselves and the community in front of us. We really had it! I'll tell you! We had a flood like one never expects to have! Timothy was quite impressed at how the Lord answered our prayer. (He really might have moved his boundary lines over a little bit and included us in them though.)

I remarked to the boys that my coziness would be quite complete if I had a cup of coffee. So I went to fix it and on the way back noticed it was quite damp around the front door. I opened the door and saw about two inches of water standing on the yard. I was a little surprised—not alarmed—because we have very good drainage where we are. Even in very heavy thunderstorms of July we've never had water stand—NEVER. I came in and suggested to Jonathan that perhaps we'd better roll up the rug, that we might get a little leaking around the door.

It is just unbelievable what can happen in a flood! We got the rug turned—maybe two turns—when Timothy yelled. We turned around and here was black, dirty water chasing us across the floor. It was all we could do to keep ahead of it and keep the rug rolled up fast enough and put on the dining room table.

We stacked as much furniture on the table as possible. Timothy gathered all the books and magazines off the shelves up to about two feet. I was positive it wouldn't flood any higher than that. We put electrical things on top the piano or mantle. I was really feeling quite smug about it and thought we had done a pretty good job when I remembered the den. By the time we got there the rug



was already soaked and we were already about midcalf in the water.

I started up the stairs with a load of things when I began to hear water pouring. I went back into the living room, and to my utter amazement water was pouring in from the windows. I knew then we must be in trouble. I ran upstairs with the load, but as I was coming down I heard this terrible crash outside. Then I heard Jonathan say, "Oh, my goodness, it's like the Poseidon Adventure." This struck me as a funny thing to say.

Then suddenly he was in water waist-deep. What had happened was that the front gate had burst from the terrific force of the water. Then the front and back doors both burst at the same time; in fact, the screen door was mangled and twisted. With both doors gone, a little river flowed through our house. It brought an oil drum, a tree, 2 x 4s, and debris of every imaginable kind into our living room!

The wind was blowing out the candles since we had no more doors; so we went on upstairs, realizing there was not a thing we could do. Timothy was almost in hysteria. Jonathan was pretty well scared and I certainly was! It's funny the things that seem important to you at a time like that. I looked down and the water was already up to the landing on the stairway.

I noticed my four antique pictures hanging on the wall. The water would only need to go about another inch or

two and it would have gotten on my pictures. I just stood there kind of crying. "Oh, my antique pictures!" So Jonathan waded through the water. He kept saying, "Is that a snake?" and everytime I'd hold the candle down there it would blow out! He waded down and took my pictures and saved them for me. I really appreciate that.

John came home that night though we were not expecting him. He had heard the news that the typhoon was going to hit so he turned around instead of going on to Chiayi, and came back to Taipei. He has his own tale to tell . . . How he ever drove through that I'll never know, but certainly there must have been another Person in that car because it is most amazing that he ever made it at all.

You know, the Lord always brings something of joy into your life in a time of hardship. We had been looking for a baby monkey. The children had heard me tell about the pet monkey I had as a child in India, and they have always wanted one. Stephen Tseng found one that is so small that when it sits up it is only six inches tall. That was the night that he found the monkey and wanted to send it home!

And that's not all—the monkey came with a rabbit. The monkey thought the rabbit was its "mama," so it puts its little arms around the rabbit and puts its head down on her like a pillow. They are just inseparable. So, we had to take them both. When John came walking in with that monkey that night—I honestly didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

It just seemed to me that after all that disaster what I really needed was a monkey! When you think of the hilarity of it—with no cage—no nothing. Oh! Dear! Anyway, we set the monkey down on the bed beside me, and she was so tiny. Her little paws were so big and she kept trying to wring her hands. She'd say to me, "Ruchchuchuchu." And I'd say, "I know, I know, isn't it awful? It's just too bad!" "Ruchuchuchu."

We carried on like this, until pretty soon Jonathan got to laughing and said, "Well, Mom, I knew you'd had a hard time tonight but I didn't know HOW hard!" I enjoyed that monkey so much that evening. It helped me keep my mind off the horrible mess and all that was going on downstairs.

My dear husband had to jump in the car and go driving all over Taipei to make sure all the churches were all right.

I should have known—but anyway he has a very strong compulsion to care for his duty. That's one of the characteristics I love about him, but I always love it after it's over—not while it is going on. I wasn't too pleased that night when he left me for the second time.

The next morning when we went downstairs, we saw an absolutely unbelievable sight. The piano had turned over and all the things we'd tried to save on top of it had gone over. The dining room table had turned over and, of course, the rug and everything that was safely on top of it were gone. The refrigerator, washer, dryer all turned over. All the furniture had floated upside down, so the cushions were floating. The water had come up way beyond where we had cleaned books off the shelf.

**"There are times when I wish I could just mark this disastrous month clear off the calendar. Yet I learned some wonderful lessons."**

Honestly, I have never been so stunned in my life! There was a foot of mud. We couldn't even find our TV. John tripped on something, reached down to pick it up, scraped off some of the mud. Here it was, the TV. My reading glasses were found on top of a trashpile outside. I've never found my Bible . . . and lots of other things. I haven't any idea where they went. I just can't describe it to you.

We shoveled and carried out debris all the first day. The worst thing was that there was no water or electricity, so there was no way to clean. That evening after we washed ourselves off with a little bit of drinking water we tried to find a place to eat.

The only place that wasn't "disastered out" was a Mongolian Barbecue. They eat by candlelight anyway, and they don't cook by electricity, as they have a big barbecue pit. We had supper there and tried to go back to the house and sleep in that mess. The next morning the smell was so terrific that there was no way we could stay there. Tuesday, after working all day in head-to-foot mud and no way of washing off, we decided it was best to move to the YMCA. [This is where the

Roger Woods found them upon their arrival in Taiwan. Roger was the first to get news of the disaster to the Missionary Board.]

The remainder of that week I went down south to work on housing for the Reas. There was not a thing I could do at home. We parceled the kids out. I've never felt so fragmented in all my life! In the meantime Jeanne became ill with a very high fever. Friends took her to their home to look after her.

Then I had another little disaster. I was robbed while I was staying at Moores. It happened in broad daylight. Somebody was watching the house very closely and knew exactly where I was every minute. I went into the bathroom, and when I came back into the kitchen and looked out the window, I saw a little boy running across the yard carrying my purse. He was bringing it back—which was really peculiar. When I shouted at him, he dropped the purse. However, it was already empty. He had taken every single NT. The money was what John had sent down to work on housing. That hit me harder than the flood!

I called Christine Helsby (OMS missionary) and told her I had to see her. I went over and poured out my heart to her. She says that she and my mother had spent many a storm together in India. I guess it seemed so natural for me to share my storm with her. She prayed with me and was so helpful!

During this time a Christian lady found out what had happened to us. She made her home available to us, at a very cheap rate. It is a very large house, and more than adequate.

There are times when I wish I could just mark this disastrous month clear off the calendar. Yet I learned some wonderful lessons. The Bible readings in my devotional book have been exactly the words I needed for each day! The children have been magnificent—just wonderful! They've been such a blessing to us. We thank the Lord that our lives were spared—we had no harm. There were so many who lost their lives. An American lady lost a three-year-old child who was swept away in the flood.

The next morning as we looked over our mess we said, as Aunt Leora would say, "Blessed be nothing." And I was reminded of the words that came to me when I first came to Taiwan: "Hold to the things of this world with a light touch."



# Taiwan's Typhoon

"I feel the Lord was very gracious!"

BY JOHN BRANTINGHAM

I had gone to Taichung to visit several churches in that area. We were going out to see a member of the East Taichung work, trying to get to his factory before he had to work that Sunday afternoon. We had to cross a river in order to reach this little factory; the riverbed was also a part of the roadbed. It flash-floods. When we started across, I noticed the water was rising, already as high as the wheels on the car.

I told Stephen, "That water is coming down pretty fast and I'm not too sure what the roadbed is under this." It was a cement roadbed but we decided, after we got across, to turn around immediately and head back. We had not been back through it very long until a huge wave of water came down the gorge. Had we been *on* the bridge at that time, it probably would have swept us off.

When I saw the situation in Taichung (where the typhoon was *not* to be too serious), I decided to head back immediately because I had no idea what was happening in Taipei. I could get the AFNT radio station from Taipei, and they kept announcing that the typhoon was increasing in intensity, that the eye of the typhoon would pass someplace between Keelung and Taipei. If this were so it meant that our Keelung and our Taipei work would get hit the hardest because it is the radius of the typhoon that is the more damaging.

There were high winds all the way back from Taichung. I kept trying to buy gas but couldn't find a place that had electricity. Every place I stopped they said, "Sorry, the electricity is off. We can't pump any." Finally I did find a place. It turned out to be the last possible place I could have bought it. It was providential because I now had a whole tank full of gas just before entering the freeway, about 50 miles south of Taipei.

I thought the freeway would be easier to drive on than the little lanes but dis-

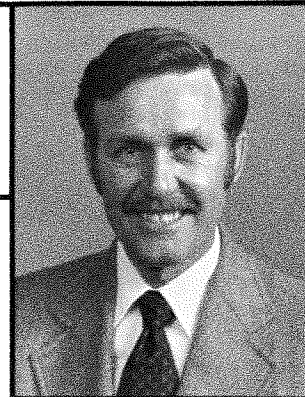
covered the wind was even stronger than on the side highways. But I made it without serious problems—just heavy rains and wind gusts until I got to Chungli. Then the wind started to pick up very seriously. It was nearly 7:00 p.m. and getting dark. There were still quite a few cars on the freeway trying to get back to Taipei.

I was now approaching the highest part of the freeway. It is ordinarily just a twenty-minute drive into Taipei, but wind gusts became really strong. Approaching a tank truck hauling gasoline, I decided to get *beside* it and let the truck take the brunt of the wind. It did help a little.

Reaching the highest place on the turnpike, most cars had stopped ahead of me and we slowed to a crawl. The wind was so hard I had the steering wheel on this Mazda turned to the point where I ordinarily would be making a right hand turn, but I had to hold it in that position in order to keep the car on the road. The only way I could tell where the road was, was by straddling the reflectors in the middle of the turnpike. By looking straight down on them I could count them as they went by.

The speedometer was not registering any speed at all, but I could tell that I was going forward simply by counting those reflectors. We soon got to a place where there were busses stalled, so all the cars jammed up. The oil truck that I had been following was able to get through, but as soon as it got through another car tried to squeeze through and jammed up the hole. So I could not keep up with that oil truck, and he went on ahead.

I waited there probably for a half hour. Finally, somehow one of the cars got unjammed up ahead. Most of them had flooded from the heavy rains beating on the front of their cars. Fortunately in our car the engine was in the rear and



protected from the wind. I was really afraid that the wind was going to blow the front windshield in. It was an eerie feeling.

I had my foot pushing on the brake as hard as I could, the emergency brake on, but the wind was so hard that I still had the illusion that my car was going backwards about 50 m.p.h. just because of the fantastic force of the wind. It rocked the car as though I was driving over a very, very bumpy road without knowing where the bumps were. I unlocked all the doors, in case I would tip over and sat square in the middle of the car. (I usually have to sit there to drive anyway, in order to get my legs in the front end!)

Finally the way opened up so I was able to go again. I wormed my way around because I felt that if I could keep the car moving, it gave me some kind of control over trying to keep the front end facing into the wind. No one else was trying to drive, but this was at least my theory; plus I was very apprehensive about what might have been going on up in Taipei. I was able to keep going. I hadn't gone more than ten minutes on the highway when I saw the big oil truck again, tipped over by the wind. Had I been beside it I would have been crushed beneath. Apparently, providentially, that oil truck was able to get through while I had not.

It was impossible to tell if anyone was hurt in those vehicles. Most of the time they were not; the wind just tipped them over. From the top of the hill down to the Grand Hotel there were forty-five tractor trailer trucks, or sedans, many just exactly like the one I was driving, all tipped over on their sides or blown back into the ditches. I just couldn't imagine

or believe the destruction I saw. Of course all the people had fled the turnpike toll gate stations, so this was the first time I've been on a pay turnpike when I didn't have to pay!

By the time I got to Taipei another hazard had developed, in fact, two: One was the high tension wires all the way out to our place were blown over, and the other was the debris in the streets left roofing nails everywhere. I think within that one week we had three flat tires in two days.

I feel the Lord was very gracious in helping me get home! One other interesting thing: Had I been home right during the brunt of the typhoon, the car would have been flooded out and covered with water had it been parked on the street where we usually keep it.

#### JON'S REPORT

The American School was flooded with about six to eight feet of water throughout. We started on time but our school is sort of shaky. There is mud all through the grounds. The cafeteria and snack bar have not been opened yet because there is mud all through the silverware and all. It took the school about three to four weeks to clean up with 300-400 workers there every day. One day the American Ambassador got down on his hands and knees in the mud to help clean up. Dad also went to help out. My books are all "wavy" from the soaking they got.

#### POSTSCRIPT

We are happy to report that \$2,000 flood relief money was raised at the Yearly Meeting banquets and sent immediately to Taiwan.

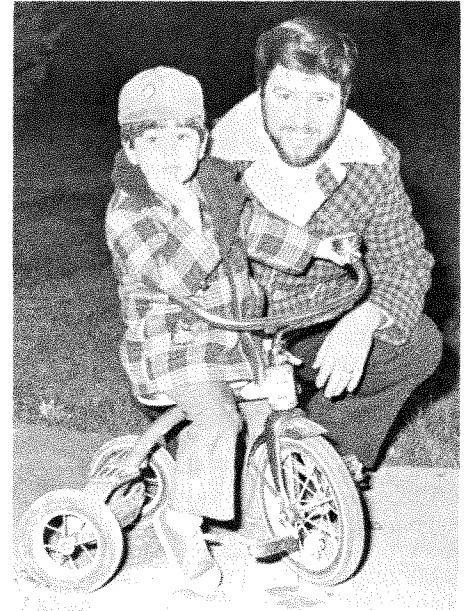
#### FROM ELLA RUTH HUTSON

Large areas of Taipei were again flooded on September 22. Taipei American School had 10 or 12 feet of water. Of course it had been flooded July 31 when the Brantinghams were.

DeVols were flooded. Charles and Mr. Lai had worked putting the refrigerator up higher and carrying some cupboards in the house. Water did get up in the porch dining room but not in the living room or bedrooms. Since they were prepared, not so many of their things got dirty.

# Thank you, Daddy!

BY RICHARD J. FOSTER



My three-year-old son jumped into my arms and smothered me with kisses saying, "Thank you, Daddy; thank you, Daddy" over and over. I had done nothing more than repair his tricycle and yet I was being inundated with gratitude. Filled with a special warmth, I sat in the grass and watched Nathan ride his tricycle up and down the sidewalk.

I pondered the words of King Lear: How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is To have a thankless child.

I thought about the spirit of ingratitude that has reached epidemic proportions in our day. We are incredibly blessed, and yet we find it so hard to be genuinely thankful. "Why is this?" I wondered.

Immediately I realized that we live in a culture in which when the priorities of life are set, gratitude seems to be squeezed out. "We have lost the ability to receive life as a gift," I thought to myself. I remembered the farmer who was entertaining an urban relative. Before the meal, the farmer paused to thank God for the food that had been so graciously provided. The visitor jeered, "That is very old-fashioned; nobody who has any education prays at the table anymore." The farmer admitted that the practice was not very common, for even in his household there were some who did not do it. Pleased, the relative remarked, "So enlightenment is reaching the farm too. Who are these sensible ones?" The farmer answered, "They are my pigs." "Per-

haps we are developing an entire culture of pigs," I mused.

Nathan rode by, waving and ringing his little bell. I waved in return. I pondered how children seem to live so free of the need to control or manipulate others. "This must be what releases them to spontaneously give thanks," I thought. "We have a whole cultural mind set that is in opposition to the spirit of gratitude. Our longing for position, power, and prestige all mitigate against thanksgiving. If we are genuinely grateful to someone, we place ourselves in their debt and to be indebted to them undercuts the ability to control them." Once again the words of Shakespeare burst upon my mind:

Blow, blow, thou winter wind.  
Thou art not so unkind  
As man's ingratitude.

"It doesn't need to be that way!" I said, almost out loud, "Simple words of gratitude can be so healing. Little deeds of appreciation mean so much." I began to consider dozens of good things that had come my way that day—the encouraging words of friends, the colors all around me, the warm smile of my wife. I sat in the grass filled with a new sense of thanksgiving.

My train of thought was broken by Nathan's cries. He came running up to me complete with skinned knee and a flood of tears. I kissed the knee, then held him tight. "I'm very thankful for you," I whispered.



# Eight Bible basics for a richer life

BY S. M. VAN SCOY

Are you getting the joy and fulfillment in your life that the Bible promises? I know I wasn't . . . not until about two years after I accepted Christ as my Savior. Somewhere along the line I lost the thunderclaps and shining light that initially changed my life after I received Christ. Oh, there was joy at first and happiness . . . but that all too quickly wore off. Then I abandoned my daily Bible reading. My life seemed worse off than before, full of depression, routine, and so lonely.

Out of sheer frustration, in an effort to regain some of that joy, I finally reopened my Bible and began studying in earnest, as if it were written for me alone. Truth began to leap out at me with new meaning and force. The Holy Spirit patiently worked with my own sore spirit, teaching me the following rules for a new growing Christian to live an effective, victorious life.

## 1

Ask, ask, ask. Over and over Jesus told us to ask for guidance, help, friendship, love, money, and healing. Ask for anything you need. The simple act of our asking sets Him free to work in our lives.

*Occasionally a newer Christian describes uniquely the experiences in a fresh discovery of Christ and then of the infilling of the Holy Spirit. This young woman believes her "great grandmother was a Quaker." Not living near a Friends meeting (she attends an interdenominational church), she says, "My heart yearns to learn more about the Quakers." Sharon now receives the EVANGELICAL FRIEND! —Editors*

## 2

Be free from worry. What a hard lesson for some of us to learn! The pressures of our daily lives hammer us down . . . the rent is due, car payments, mortgages, sickness, griefs all are to be faced unceasingly. Money seems to be our chief worry and concern. But with Jesus' help we can even overcome these worries and spiritually fly above them. When they are in His capable hands, many problems disappear altogether. Worry is a negative, self-destructive force that Christ counters with all power and glory.

## 3

Be restful. Oh, to know a really good night's sleep and wake up completely refreshed and ready to enthusiastically tackle a new, demanding day. The Holy Spirit helps us not to grow nervous and tense as the anxieties pile up, but to be rested and unafraid of our daily trials.

## 4

Be peaceful. To know, really deep down know, that under any circumstances we need not get upset or "lose our cool" because Jesus is with us and already has the situation well in hand—if we just ask Him to step into it.

## 5

Be joyful. How many of us have never learned or have forgotten how to be truly joyful? We yearn for and seek joy, but it is like a phantom. Ask Jesus to give you His joy, the kind that bubbles inside and never fizzles out. Ask that His joy ring from your voice and shine from your eyes, as a beacon light to all the other weary people searching for joy in this evil world.

## 6

Be free from anger. Another of those self-destroying, negative emotions we humans are saddled with until Jesus frees us. Ask Him to channel all that energy into more constructive areas and use it for His glory.

## 7

Have faith. This is the most important of all, for if we do not have faith when we ask for the other blessings, they will be denied. This is a special kind of faith, hard to come by in these chaotic times. The faith that allows one to throw oneself completely on His mercy, to live within us as He alone sees fit. It is written that faith is a gift from Him to us, so don't hesitate to ask for it. It is our most important asset. Without it we are dead physically and spiritually.

## 8

Do not smother the Holy Spirit. Failing to heed that strong, silent voice within, telling us what to do at times or warning about a contemplated wrong act, weakens the sense of the Spirit's leadings. Follow willingly, trusting the Spirit to lead into all the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

One other note that struck me is the number of times we are told that we who are led to Christ now were actually chosen to be His from the foundation of time. What a thrill to know we have been singled out especially by Him eons ago! He has a definite reason for our being alive on this planet and at this hour. It's in accordance with His divine will. Even though we see as "through a glass darkly," let the thought that He has special plans for us carry us through all the loneliness and depression we suffer from at times. When we wonder just what on earth we are doing here . . . He will let us know in His own good time.



BY JACK L. WILLCUTS

## When the Going Gets Tough, The Tough Call in Consultants

This takeoff from a more familiar cliché (when the going gets tough, the tough get going) is a subtitle for a recent *Time* news story. The church is also turning to consultants with our tough problems; consultants are busy almost every weekend nowadays giving advice to the frustrated faithful on everything from stewardship to sex education.

This isn't all bad. "Without counsel plans go wrong, but with many advisers they succeed." (Proverbs 15:22 RSV) But there is an uneasy assumption developing that a local pastor, a local congregation, a mere elder or Sunday school teacher is no longer adequate or really reliable. Maybe the medical profession has set the trend. The lowly general practitioner has given way to the specialist (he has to sometimes; his malpractice insurance premiums keep him out of surgery!).

But there is something disturbing about either a pastor or congregation struggling hopelessly along between special conferences or retreats. Not that these retreats and consultants aren't helpful or meeting genuine needs; they are. Two opposite dangers, however, are to be recognized and avoided: Dull sameness or acquiescence to the status quo when the fervor of the Spirit has ebbed away is certainly to be feared in what we can accurately call "lukewarmness."

At the same time, we need to discern and watch out for the scintillations of religiously overheated seminars that mistake salesmanship for the glow of the true Shekinah. My heart aches for one dear pastor who had just been piously pummeled in a "creative" retreat and arose to confess with tears, "I realize now my ministry has been a failure for thirty-five years." Maybe. He just may have more stars in his crown than the peripatetic consultant.

In our commendable eagerness to see the fires of Pentecost burn again among us, we are guilty sometimes of overstatement. For instance, we habitually point to the fervor of the great saints of the past (and present), their passionate love, their flaming desire, and fail entirely to notice other characteristics of their personalities, namely their calm steady judgment and salty good sense. The spirit and power of reformers and revivalists, or the mystics of yesterday, including Fox, Fell, Woolman, Wesley, or Finney cannot be denied. But careful reading of these models also reveals they were uncommonly poised and self-possessed people.

We do need to be fired up . . . if it is the true fire of God; we also need quiet judgment, disciplined, day-by-day doing what has to be done to keep the church going. The real church can actually be stopped in its tracks by those trying feverishly to promote it.

When any concern, spiritual idea, or plan becomes large enough to get out from under the direction of the ones God used to originate it, then the danger begins. Marriage counseling, church renewal, Bible studies, healing missions, social action, whatever, all have a significant thrust to make in the movement of God in our Society. But many of these, while legitimate by-products, are never to become the main product.

Among the gifts of the Spirit, scarcely any one is of greater practical usefulness than the gift of discernment. Of course some consultants have and use this gift to the advantage of us all, and we should all be consultants to each other occasionally as led by the Spirit. But the gift of discernment will enable the rest of us to distinguish the chaff from the wheat in critical times.

For want of this gift many of God's good people continue to chase fireflies (we had lots of these creatures in the Midwest) in the mistaken belief that they are following the fire and cloud. And once the excitement of this new approach cools off, too often the congregation and pastor are left somewhat exhausted and disillusioned without the anticipated success.

There will always be those who hesitate to believe that anything is of God unless it has about it some flavor of the unusual. Persons with a certain type of mentality think only in extremes; they can never achieve perspective in anything, but see everything so close as to miss entirely the corrective benefit of distance.

Let us not despise innovation, for the Spirit is creative. But let us not make of novelty an essential doctrine. These are days of great religious turmoil and excitement. We do well to remember that "God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Let love burn on with increasing fervor, but bring every act to the test of quiet wisdom. Paul's word to Timothy is for Christians (not only pastors and elders but all of us): "For the time will come when they will not stand wholesome teaching, but will follow their own fancy and gather a crowd of teachers to tickle their ears . . . But you yourself must keep calm and sane at all times; face hardship, work to spread the Gospel, and do *all* the duties of your calling." (2 Timothy 4:3-5 NEB, italics added) ☐



*The EVANGELICAL FRIEND neither endorses nor necessarily approves subject matter used in Face of the World, but simply tries to publish material of general interest to Friends. —The Editors*

### Ballard to Succeed Graffam as WRC Head

WHEATON, ILLINOIS—Jerry P. Ballard, president of a management consulting firm in Atlanta, Georgia, and a former director of World Vision, Int., will succeed Dr. Everett Graffam July 1, 1978, as executive vice-president of the World Relief Commission (WRC).

R. Gordon Bacon will replace Edward J. Hales as director of field services for the National Association of Evangelicals. Bacon has served NAE since 1969 as a field representative. Prior to that he was superintendent of the Indiana District of the Missionary Church.

### Bolivia Distributes Bibles

LA PAZ, BOLIVIA—The government is distributing 500,000 *Living New Testaments* in Spanish for use in the public schools, where they are the official textbooks for the teaching of religion. Bolivian President Hugo Banzer has pushed this program and is cooperating with Christian groups working there.

—Church Around the World

### Lutheran Leader Cautions Against 'Individualistic' Trend in Religion

ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA—A Lutheran leader warned here against an "individualistic, privatized emphasis" in Christianity, which he says is gaining popularity in this country.

Bishop J. Elmo Agrimson, president of the Southeastern Minnesota District of the American Lutheran Church, said he believed it is related "to the instant-happiness, I-must-find-it-right-now mentality" that is evident among some church members.

"Some religious expression today can be characterized as escape from the tiring tensions of our humanity harassed by the

dehumanizing effect of bureaucratic big-business and cold numbers," he told the district's annual convention here. "Some religious expression is an escape from the burden of responsible decision in a hectic and uncommunicative society."

Bishop Agrimson said he saw "a heightened contemplative mood in our churches." —E.P.

### American Households Becoming Lonelier

WASHINGTON—More than half of the nation's households—for the first time—now contain only one or two persons.

A new report from the Census Bureau attributed the causes to a lower birth rate, divorce and postponement of marriage, and the ability of more young singles and the elderly to keep their own households.

The report states that one- and two-person households increased their share of all U.S. households from an estimated 40.9 percent in 1960 to 51.2 percent in 1976.

There were more than twice as many one-person households in 1976 than in 1960, according to the report, while households with only two persons increased by more than one half. —E.P.

### Evangelicals Celebrate Tenth Anniversary

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA—V. A. Ballantyne, general superintendent of The Evangelical Church of North America, reports this new denomination, which began ten years ago in Portland, Oregon, has grown from 46 to 133 churches, church membership from 6,500 to 12,000, and giving for missions from \$50 per capita to \$87 per capita. They now have five regional offices across the U.S.

### Food Bank to Purchase 50,000 Bushels of Wheat

WINNIPEG—The Food Bank of the Canadian Mennonite Central Committee will soon have its first 50,000 bushels of wheat in storage for emergency relief and development purposes as a final agreement for acquisition is made with the Canadian Wheat Board.

The wheat is to be purchased from the Wheat Board using donations from grain

farmers and funds from the federal Canadian International Development Agency.

The Food Bank, established last October, is part of an emergency preparedness plan that will enable the MCC to respond quickly with food in disaster situations. —E.P.



### RICHES

BY CATHERINE CATTELL

Lately I have come into considerable wealth. It probably has been there all along, but not realized—not fully. When we are unaware, riches are also not fully appreciated. Then suddenly, it happened! Let me tell you about it.

We go along year after year, actually one day at a time (break it down to minutes if you wish), experiencing all kinds of little surprises, as well as the humdrum of routine, the joys and sorrows, successes and failures, fulfillments and discouragements, and the gains and losses. We gather strength as we go, learning, finding, growing, making new friends, and saying goodbye when changes come.

The forty-ninth year of marriage shows up on the calendar. We notice and exchange gifts and cards, perhaps even have the family in for dinner. The day passes as all other anniversaries have come and gone, although never twice the same. But—whoever could imagine what the fiftieth can do to a person—a couple! Somehow family and friends from everywhere converged upon us.

In Kansas Yearly Meeting, our "hundred years" was celebrated with bursting balloons (one burst for each milestone in our life as the story unfolded)—balloons floating down from the balcony, and balloons in baskets for the taking. There were a hundred of them. Imagine!

There were greetings from far and near. Half were presented to my hus-

(Continued on page 17)



# First Day News

## QUICK QUAKER COMMENTARY

EARL AND CATHERINE SMITH, evangelists of Ohio Friends, have held services of ministry in music, children's meetings, Christian education workshops, and revivals in forty-nine Friends meetings the past two years. They were under the sponsorship of the E.P. & E. Board of the Evangelical Friends Church--Eastern Region. They will continue this ministry, arranging their own schedules. Address: 2020 Washington Blvd., N. W., Canton, Ohio 44709.

FRED LITTLEFIELD, EFA Missions Commission chairman, made an official visit to the Mexico City work, October 6-13. He reported back to the commission, which met in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 20, with the yearly meeting superintendents and ROBERT HESS, executive secretary of the newly formed Evangelical Friends Mission.

A number of beloved and veteran Friends ministers' deaths have been recorded recently. Among them was EDWARD F. HARMON, outstanding evangelist, teacher, and church extension pastor of Northwest Yearly Meeting. He pioneered new Friends meetings in Nampa, Idaho, and Ashland, Oregon, and taught several years at George Fox College. ALTA HOYT, Friends missionary to Africa, EVANGELINE (COOK) RAYMOND, who with her former husband MARION COOK pastored in both Kansas and Northwest Yearly Meeting, and SYLVESTER CHANCE, Friends minister and teacher in Kansas, are also among those who recently went to be with the Lord.

CAROLYN HINSHAW of Kansas Yearly Meeting recently arrived in Burundi to teach at the Mwewa School for missionary children. The DEAN GETTINGS recently returned from Burundi and are now living in Haviland, Kansas.

SPENCER GEORGE of Northwest Yearly Meeting, a retired businessman turned farmer, left for Africa in September for a special survey assignment with Inter-Link, an agency providing special assistance to missionaries in overseas work. Spencer is the father of Gil George, Friends missionary to Bolivia.

Ontario (Oregon) Friends Church dedicated a new parsonage a few weeks ago. MARLIN WITT is the pastor.

DUANE AND SHERRILL COMFORT, Friends missionaries on furlough from Peru, are making their home while doing deputation in the old Chehalem Center (Oregon) parsonage, which they are buying. The church building burned a few years ago, and the congregation joined with the former Springbrook Friends Church to form North Valley Friends, about three miles north of Newberg. North Valley Friends assisted the Comforts in preparing the parsonage for their residence.

SENATOR MARK HATFIELD was the speaker for the opening service of a day of dedication at George Fox College October 17, when four new buildings were dedicated: the Herbert Hoover Academic Building, the Coleman H. Wheeler Sports & Physical Education Center, and two residence halls named for Charlotte Macy and Mary Sutton.

JOHN PERKINS, founder and director of the Voice of Calvary ministry in Mendenhall, Mississippi, and author of Let Justice Roll Down and A Quiet Revolution, is engaged to be the speaker for the 1978 sessions of Northwest Yearly Meeting.

GALEN WEINGART, associate pastor of First Friends, Canton, Ohio, and newly appointed presiding clerk of Evangelical Friends Church--Eastern Region, and his wife left October 20 for Switzerland to meet with the planning committee for the 1979 Friends World Committee Triennial Conference.



## FRIENDS FOCUS

### DID THEY CATCH ANY FISH?

Eight men from Medford (Oregon) Friends went into the Pacific Ocean on a deep sea fishing trip October 1, according to their church bulletin. The next issue did not report the results.

### FRIENDS BIBLE COLLEGE RECEIVES \$50,000 GRANT

President Norman Bridges of Friends Bible College, Haviland, Kansas, announces a \$50,000 grant from Dr. William Broadhurst, a long-time friend of the college. This is to be a "challenge fund" for the construction of a new library building. Another gift of \$12,000 has been given for the library by the Ernest Binford family.

The 46th annual FBC Women's Auxiliary Sale, held October 14, netted over \$17,000. The occasion also featured an alumni-varsity soccer game.

### TAIWAN YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS NOW OFFICIAL

On September 27, 1977, the Taiwan Yearly Meeting was established, set off by Evangelical Friends Church--Eastern Region. Eastern Region Superintendent Russell Myers was present for the occasion, along with Howard Moore, who returned for this event. Pastor C. S. Chow of the Northside church in Taipei was named presiding clerk. The Chinese church and Missionary Council have worked carefully together over many months in finalizing the organizational structure.

### 'DADS ONLY,' A NEW PUBLICATION DEVELOPED BY QUAKER

Paul Lewis of California Yearly Meeting and Roy Bruce of Colly Avenue Baptist Church, San Diego, have launched a new monthly newsletter "that will make you a more loving, creative, and successful Dad!" It carries ideas on spiritual training in the home and ideas for children of every age . . . "even a few ideas to use with your wife." Write P. O. Box 20594, San Diego, California 92120.

### 'WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE IN?'

Answer: "What my church believes in."

"What's that?"

Answer: "What I believe in."

"What do you both believe in?"

Answer: "We both believe in the same thing."

--From the East Richland Friends Church Mid-Week Reminder (Ohio)

### MISSION SLIDES AVAILABLE

Colored slides with script or tapes are available in the Eastern Region office showing the work of Friends in Taiwan and India. Also a 16mm movie on the Union Biblical Seminary, Yavatmal, India, may be secured by writing EFC--ER, 1201 Building, 30th St. N.W., Canton, Ohio 44709.

### BOOKER, TEXAS, FRIENDS HAVE BILINGUAL MINISTRY

A church building, formerly owned by Methodists, was recently purchased in Booker, Texas, for a growing outreach ministry in the enlarging Mexican immigrant community. A search is underway for a Spanish-speaking Friends pastor for this meeting.



'SEVEN CRUCIAL INSIGHTS OF EARLY QUAKERS'

This is the description of a new members' class at Newberg (Oregon) Friends taught by Richard Foster, a member of the pastoral team. The insights are:

1. The Nature of Salvation
2. The Abolition of the Laity
3. Jesus as Present Teacher and Prophet
4. Reality in Worship
5. The Rejection of Steeplehouse Religion
6. A Sacramental World
7. The Lamb's War--A New Foundation for Personal and Social Ethics

RADICAL REORDERING OF PRIORITIES

"A simple life-style is more than just cutting back on consumption," is an observation from a New Call to Peacemaking task force. "It is a radical reordering of priorities to put love and justice ahead of material things. Let us follow God's call to serve Him regardless of the consequences and in nonconformity to the injustices around us."

YEARLY MEETING 'COURTESY CART'

One of the features of the annual sessions of Evangelical Friends Church--Eastern Region this year was a courtesy cart to carry senior citizens and others from one part of the Malone College campus to another for the various meetings and to meals. This convenience was a function of Friends Youth and was greatly appreciated.

GREENLEAF FRIENDS ACADEMY GROWING

Enrollment is up 100 percent since the 1972-73 school year, and there has been a growth in endowment of \$77,000 since 1973, according to Larry Wilhite, director of development. A large gift has also made possible the addition of a new home economics unit.

ON BEING THE BEST QUAKER POSSIBLE

". . . it is when you move deep down into the center of each of the vital branches of Christ's Church that you find the point where they all meet," writes Jack Kirk, copastor of University Friends Church (Wichita, Kansas) in their midweek paper. "If you look at the lives of saints, it was when St. Francis of Assisi was trying to be the best Roman Catholic that he knew how to be, and John Woolman was trying to be the best Quaker that he knew how to be, and John Wesley was trying to be the best Methodist that he knew how to be, and Dietrich Bonhoeffer was trying to be the best Lutheran that he knew how to be and C. S. Lewis was trying to be the best Anglican that he know how to be that the striking similarity between them all comes into focus. The Christlikeness in each of their characters as they endeavored to live the obedient life is amazing. They witnessed radiantly to a common Lord. As Friends we make our greatest contribution to Christ's Church when we faithfully witness to those things for which He called the 'People Called Quakers.'"

A FAMILY OF FRIENDS

"What a tremendous gift is the crucial ministry of encouragement! How could we survive the vicissitudes of life if it weren't for friends who come and stand alongside and share our trials with us," writes Ron Allen, pastor of the Friendswood Meeting (Texas), in their midweek paper. "What a way to know that love is real!"



And the joy--elation of victory--would be shallow without friends to share the mountaintop. Of all God's gifts, friendship is certainly one of the greatest. Isn't it great to see how God is enabling us to be a family of friends?"

#### A WEEK OF INTERCESSION

The Executive Council of Northwest Yearly Meeting, in a September Planning Retreat, decided to organize a Week of Intercession, November 6-13. Each church paired with another as a prayer partner for the week, sharing special requests with each other. Each department of the Yearly Meeting prepared requests and prayer concerns as well. In some churches, an around-the-clock prayer chain concluded the week.

#### FRIENDS VISIT CUBA 'UNRESTRICTED'

For the first time in more than eighteen years Friends from North America visited Cuban Friends without restrictions in August. Harold Smuck and Hiram Hilty of Friends United Meeting and Herbert and Ruthanna Hadley represented the Friends World Committee at the fiftieth anniversary sessions of Cuba Yearly Meeting.

#### FRIENDS PAMPHLETS FOR NEW MEMBERS

Friends United Press has a reprint available of promotional pamphlets for handouts to newcomers and as educational pieces that cost 15 cents each or \$1.50 per dozen. One is called An Introduction to Quakers by D. Elton Trueblood; the latest to be added is Who Are the Friends? by Seth Hinshaw and Wayne Allman. Other titles are The Gospel According to Friends, A Quaker View of Ministry, Friends and Water Baptism, The Friends Peace Testimony, and Principles of the Quaker Business Meeting.

## POTPOURRI

#### RULES FOR AGING SUCCESSFULLY

1. Admit you are growing older. But remember that many of the changes that come with age are good. Fight the bad ones but make use of the good.
2. If anybody says to you, "You're too old," answer, "Too old for what?" You are never too old to learn a skill, earn a little money!
3. Don't think you deserve credit because you've lived a long time, or once did something wonderful. To be admired today you have to do something admirable today.
4. Make sure you have a creative hobby. As you find less to do in your job or in your family, remember, the imagination never gets old.
5. Try to learn something new each day. Learning is one of the best forms of living.

--Rush County, Indiana, S. C. Newsletter

#### SEMINARIES BELONG IN THE CHURCH

William Stringfellow, writing in Sojourners (August) states, The indispensable credential for ordination as priest or pastor is that the person called to such office be a confession Christian, as distinguished from a religious inquirer or a theological debater, or for that matter, a scholastic. As such, the appropriate location of the seminary is within the church, the body of Christ, and not within the university. The seminary's manner in the preparation and qualification of those to be ordained should exemplify the church rather than imitate the university."



(Continued from page 12)

band by a girl whose roots were in the same Friends church in the same hometown in Ohio. Mine were presented by a girl whose roots were in Luho, China, my birthplace. Thus instantly names and faces of our early years came into focus. Into our hands came hundreds of names of those present, as well as from afar. We were surrounded by love. What an experience! Nothing dull about Kansas Yearly Meeting!

Then a week later at the Evangelical Friends Church—Eastern Region's yearly meeting on Saturday night, our daughter and her husband, with Malone College cooperation, put on a never-to-be-forgotten reception. Six hundred people came through, our friends—friends from the city, college friends, Bible study friends, missionary friends, yearly meeting friends, and family.

In the midst of all this we were married again, using Friends' ceremony. I will never forget coming down the long wide steps in the Cattell Library, looking into the sea of faces—faces of friends, standing, waiting to say "Hello!"

How rich we have been! We knew we had friends but to see so many at once! And cards! At first I decided to write to each one and say, "Thank you!" But, my friend, this may just have to be it!

During the ceremony a tape from our daughter in Taiwan brought greetings and a precious message. It had arrived that very day. They had just been through a typhoon with devastating flood. She said her desk was washed bare of all correspondence and addresses were gone. At least, she was caught up!

I have had no flood—no excuse—except the flood of incoming expressions of love and greeting that I can never fully acknowledge. One thing is sure! I have all the names. These I will keep always—grateful for each one, counting our riches. What is more precious than the love of friends?

I am rich in the love of a good and wise man with whom I have traveled for fifty years, and with whom I want to spend the rest of my life, "so long as we both shall live." We thank God that without riches, we have been rich beyond measure.

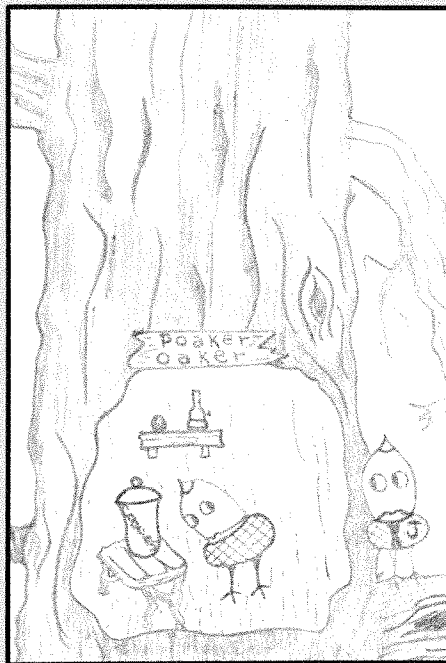
Keep on keeping on, my friends. It is worth it. Marriage is for keeps, and gathers riches as the years go by. Happy fiftieth to you, too!



## THE OAKERS

(Continued from last month)

BY DAN MCCrackEN



Last time I told you about the oak tree and the Oakers that live in it, but I didn't tell you yet that Oakers always tell the truth. If an Oaker says he will be home at three o'clock, he will be there. Oakers don't have to wonder if what they are being told is the truth or if it is a lie. It is really nice for Oaker parents and Oaker teachers to know that whatever a young Oaker says is true.

What does happen sometimes, though, is that an Oaker might "forget" to tell about something or let someone think something different from the way it really is.

If a young Oaker were to get into the cookie jar and eat half of the oakmeal cookies he would never say, "I didn't eat the cookies," because that would be a lie. But if his mother said, "Who ate the oakmeal cookies?" he might ask, "Did someone get into the cookies?" and

try to make his mother think it wasn't he. Or, after eating the cookies, he might go to his mother before she noticed they were gone, and say, "Mom, someone got into the cookies and ate half of them." Then his mother wouldn't think it was he.

The tree realized that this sort of thing was happening. One day he suggested to the Oakers that maybe what they made a person *think* was as important as what they *said*. This made the Oakers begin to think that there was more than one way to tell a lie. They decided that making an Oaker think something that was untrue was as bad as telling a lie.

Then, there's one more thing I should tell you that the Oakers learned. In the beginning when the tree first made the Oakers, they were all kind to each other. However, times came when they forgot to be nice. They would kick, or call someone names, or bump someone on purpose, or even take something from someone. And then it wasn't long until Oakers started trying to get even with anyone who did something bad to them.

Joaker and Poaker are good examples of what I'm talking about. They were a couple of Oakers who did not get along very well together. On the playground when Joaker would see Poaker coming he would say, "Here comes bird legs." Then Poaker would say, "Well at least I don't have a button nose and skin with ridges like you do." And back and forth it would go.

Once Poaker took Joaker's hat from the coat closet. The next day Joaker took Poaker's coat. "If you kick me, I'll kick you back," became a policy of the playground. (You know that Oakers only kick because they don't have arms for hitting.)

This business of getting even only caused trouble; Oakers got hurt physically, they got their feelings hurt, they were unhappy, and they were making enemies. It also made the tree very sad. He knew the solution to the problem, though.

"If you want to be happy and live in me, you will have to do something unusual when someone does something back to you or takes something that is yours," the tree told the Oakers. "This may seem strange, but instead of doing something bad back to them you must do something good. This is the way you will



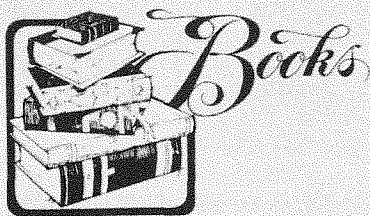
make that Oaker your friend instead of your enemy."

"But what about our rights and justice?" the Oakers asked. "We should be able to punish anyone who does something bad. If we don't, others will just hurt us and take our things."

"Trust me," the tree replied. "Try my system and see if it works. Doing good will have a stronger effect than trying to get even."

It did seem strange to the Oakers to try to say or do something nice when they were wronged. They tried it, though, and it worked like the tree said it would. Even Joaker and Poaker became friends.

Oakers are nice little creatures, but they sure do have their problems, don't they? I'm glad people don't have problems like Oakers.



Bernhard Christensen, **The Inward Pilgrimage**, Augsburg Publishing House, 1976; 176 pages, paperback, \$3.50.

This little book is a terse and readable treatment of spiritual classics from Augustine to Bonhoeffer and a helpful introduction to the classics themselves. In addition to the widely known contemplatives such as St. Teresa of Avila and Brother Lawrence, the book includes John Woolman and O. Hallesby, both of whom influenced my own spiritual pilgrimage at certain stages.

I am pleased that Soren Kierkegaard is included. I had forgotten that Bonhoeffer borrowed the term *cheap grace* from this phrase out of Kierkegaard's *Self Examination*:

"There is always a worldliness that is desirous of having the name of being a Christian but wishes to become one at as cheap a price as possible . . . True faith, however, is a turbulent thing. It is health, but it is stronger and more violent than the most burning fever."

Because Schaeffer has hurt Kierkegaard's name by misreading his philosophy and by using the term *Kierkegaardianism* to cover assorted bad trends, it is good to have Christensen point out

how much the Danish prophet urged people "to let the Word press its message home to our hearts," like a love letter from a loved one, not to be so busy inspecting the mirror that they fail to see themselves in the mirror.

This might be a helpful reference as an adult Sunday school class study book, to be followed by more intensive study, in this order, of Woolman's *Journal*, Augustine's *Confessions*, and Kierkegaard's *Works of Love*. —Arthur O. Roberts

Virginia Ramey Mollenkott, **Women, Men and the Bible**, Abingdon, 1977, 142 pages, paperback, \$3.95.

One of the significant issues of our time is the reexamination of the role of women in the family, in society, and in the church. The Christian community has finally (and rightly) taken a role in the current discussion, and Christian publishers have flooded the shelves with books discussing male and female roles and relationships. Unfortunately, few of these new books are helpful, and many of them are little more than attempts to attach a biblical rationale to contemporary cultural attitudes and role definitions.

The inadequacy of many of these works is sufficient reason to recommend more thoughtful works such as *Women, Men and the Bible*. As the title implies, Virginia Mollenkott relates the Bible to the current discussions, and she does it bravely and well.

The first two chapters, "The Christian Way of Relating" and "The Carnal Way of Relating," show that Mollenkott has not only worked carefully through the biblical texts that are relevant to the discussion, but she has also done excellent research into attitudes about women and about male-female relationships in the biblical period. In chapter one she argues persuasively, even movingly, that "the biblical answer is submission: not the submission of one category of persons to another category, but rather the voluntary and loving submission of each individual to all the others." (p. 32) The second chapter answers objections to this thesis and displays wide familiarity with recent Christian discussions of these issues dealing with authors ranging from Marabel Morgan and Larry Christenson to Letha and John Scanzoni and Paul Jewett.

Chapter three, "Is God Masculine?" is one of the most interesting and stimulat-

ing chapters in the book though not as persuasive at all points as the preceding chapters.

Mollenkott addresses in chapters five and six the thorny issues of biblical interpretation that everyone who writes responsibly on this issue must face. For example, how does one interpret Paul when in some places he seems to support mutual submission or says "in Christ there is neither male nor female," yet in other passages seems to give support to those who argue for hierarchical patterns in male-female relationships? These are particularly important and helpful discussions, for Mollenkott faces squarely the central issues of interpretation and presents sound interpretive principles, which include sensitivity to the cultural context of the Bible. In concluding the book, the issues of human equality are related specifically to the biblical base laid throughout the book.

All who are seriously concerned with the current issues of male-female roles and relationships and who genuinely want to understand biblical teaching on these issues should include *Women, Men and the Bible* in their reading. It is one of the best-researched and best-written books on this topic currently available. For those who might be interested in group study, Abingdon also has produced a series of cassette tapes and study guides to accompany the book.

—Howard R. Macy

## Friends Book Store

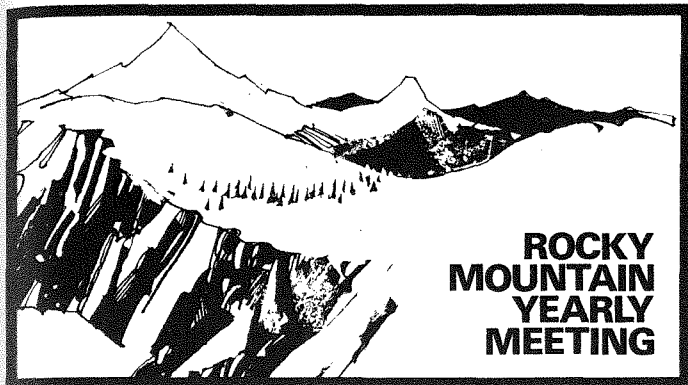
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## RMYM Ministries

In Matthew 25 Jesus spoke about how we are His disciples if we take upon ourselves the interests of folks less fortunate than us.

"Then the King will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'" (Matthew 25:34-36 RSV)

Below are reports from two Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting churches doing just that. —Regional Editor

### LA JUNTA NURSING HOME MINISTRY

For quite a while now different members of the La Junta Friends Church have been conducting worship services in our local nursing home. The services are well attended, with 25 or so in most meetings.

In most services we have a time for singing and praising God, and then one of the church members leading will give a talk from God's Word. We have received real joy



Here are four La Junta Friends involved in the nursing home ministry. Pictured from left to right are Merle and Ruth Roe, and John and Agnes Appino.

knowing we are providing fellowship and worship opportunities to these otherwise shut-in nursing home residents. The Lord has blessed us as we give our time to others, and we ask for your continued prayer.

—Ruth Roe

### POLICE CHAPLAINS CORPS

November of 1976 was the beginning of an exciting new ministry in

Colorado Springs, Colorado. Ken Kinser and three other pastors of the city met with representatives of the Police Department to discuss the need and possibility of establishing a Police Chaplains Corps. After discussion from both groups it was decided to launch this program in December. Each pastor agreed to be on call for a week and to ride with a police officer for at least one four-hour shift per month. Since that time the program has expanded to approximately 40 pastors.

An Executive Committee has been established to direct the program and to screen potential participants. A Speaker Bureau has been set up to provide speakers for various community gatherings, to acquaint the area with the purpose and aims of the corps.

Some positive things are beginning to happen. The chaplains have helped settle family disputes and disturbances, and at least one family has accepted Christ, and their differences have been reconciled as a result of this ministry.

Good relationships between the police officers and chaplains are also developing, opening yet another way to share Christ. Plans are to continue, and to further help other areas of ministry as the need and opportunity arises. —Ken Kinser

### A Mission Vehicle Assists Us

"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isaiah 55:11

During recent weeks we have witnessed the exciting spread of God's Word throughout Rough Rock Mission. Our mission carryall vehicle is a valuable tool in taking God's Word to the people, so let's follow it on some recent trips.

On one trip the carryall took mission staff and local Christians to a fellowship meeting held at Oak Ridge church. During the fellowship we had Bible devotions and prayer for different needs, among which was a camp meeting to be held in a few weeks. When the week for camp meetings came, our vehicle received a rest.

The meetings held in Oak Ridge church were blessed by the Lord's presence. There were many faces

# Friends concerns

seen in the crowd, and happy voices joined together in praises to Jesus Christ. God's power was attested to as His children gave testimonies to how He is working in their lives.

The speaker's messages from God's Word were convicting, as many believers sought a closer walk with God at the prayer altar. The highlight of these meetings was the testimony by one person of having received Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.

After camp meetings, the vehicle again returned to work, except this time its cargo was teaching materials for Bible School to be held at Baa Nina'ilayahii Friends Church for one week, and then for one week at Oak Ridge church. The concern of the study is that a rich, personal relationship with Jesus Christ be developed by all attending.

In these few instances our mission carryall vehicle has certainly been an important tool in taking God's Word to people in our area. We ask for your prayers that God's Word would be working in a dynamic way in the lives of the men and women it is touching.

—Mary Gafford

### Monthly Meeting Status Reached

Sunday, September 11, was a very special day for the new Fort Collins Monthly Meeting. The day began with a Sunday school hour, followed by a Rally Day service.

Attendance awards were given, with one family of five all receiving first-year pins!

At noon we had a potluck dinner, and at two o'clock the dedication service was held, to call attention to the fact we are now a full-fledged monthly meeting and ready to stand on our own.

During the service a short review of our history was given by Joe Henshaw and Frank Terrel. Joe showed some movies from the church's early years, and afterwards time was allowed for people to give their thoughts on what the church and its people have meant to them over the years.

After music by a special church choir, RMYM Superintendent Olen Ellis gave a short inspirational talk

### Announcement

The Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting Midwinter for junior and senior high youth will be held December 27-31, 1977, at Quaker Ridge.

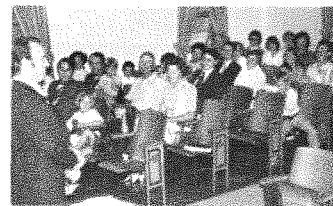
with some helpful guidelines for future growth. The service was closed with a solo by Jerry Anway, who sang, "Bless This House."

May we have your prayers for continuing growth and inspiration from God who provides that growth?

—Norma Anway



Fort Collins Friends members and visitors enjoying a potluck dinner.



Pastor Lowell Weinacht during the church dedication service.



Members and visitors leaving after the dedication service.

### Nothing Could Be Finer

As the song goes, "Nothing could be finer than to be in Colorado in the mountains . . ." Well, that's not quite right, but women in the Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting again discovered the beauty of the Rockies as they gathered for their fifth annual Women's Retreat at Horn Creek Ranch in central Colorado. Add to the beautiful mountain scenery a group of friendly women, delicious food, informative workshops, and a challenging speaker, and you will understand why the attendance has increased each year. Our Women's Retreat is a place for spiritual

growth, new friendships, and mental relaxation.

Marjorie Laird, a veteran missionary for over 40 years, kept the ladies spellbound with colorful stories of her experiences in Africa. When she received the Legion of Merit Award, France's highest civilian medal, she was praised not for any great acts, but instead for little insignificant acts of love she herself had forgotten. We were challenged by her example to "Adorn the Doctrine of Christ."

Also contributing to our spiritual growth were two workshops on practical Christian living. The first was led by Lynda Davis on "Practicing the Presence of God," in which she compared the developing of our devotional life to a physical exercise program. Nadyne Kinser held a

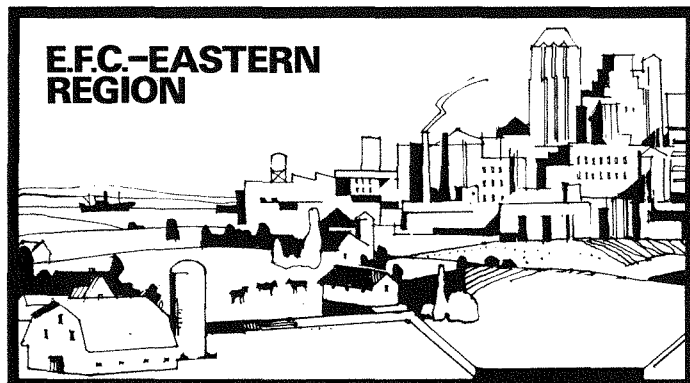
second workshop on "Setting Priorities."

A special time during the weekend was when we took time to just be alone with God, and many stories were told of how God spoke to our hearts.

Special music was furnished by several churches, including the "Singing Friends" from Benkleman, Nebraska. For relaxation purposes, Phyllis Lemons led a workshop on macrame.

Retreat chairwomen, Shirlene Pershio and Rose Neuman, were thanked for their time and energies used in getting the program together. The 88 women in attendance were told that next year's retreat will be held at the same place on September 22-24, 1978. You will want to be there!

—Kay Burgi



## Midwinter Youth Retreat Announced

Duane Rice, youth director for the EFC—ER, has announced plans for the 1977 Midwinter Youth Retreat. Last year's retreat was well received by yearly meeting youth, and many are looking forward to this year's gathering. Youth from several states and Canada will gather December 27-30 at Camp Neosa near Carrollton, Ohio.

Detailed information and registration forms are being sent to local churches. Registration is limited to the first 220 youth. Fun, food, and fellowship are standard equipment for this kind of retreat, but there will be inspiration and challenge also in the messages of Mel Johnson.

Mel Johnson is often called "Mr. Tips for Teens" because of his association with the radio broadcast of that name. He is noted for "telling it like it is." For more than 20 years of radio broadcasting he has been informal, conversational, and enthusiastic. He likes to be realistic, but not "a doomed gloom." "I can't remember ever being a pessimist," said Mel. "And it's biblical to look up!"

After pastoring in Toronto, Canada, Mel took over the directorship of Chicagoland's Youth for Christ. The first *Tips for Teens* was broadcast in Chicago over WMBI in the spring of 1953. Radio is now only one phase of Mel's busy schedule. His speaking itinerary includes everything from what he calls "youth quakes"

to high school assemblies to Sunday school conventions to parent/teen conferences.

### Westgate Church Begins Adult Education Program

Westgate Friends Church in Columbus, Ohio, has begun a new service ministry in education. It is called Center of Christian Studies and is a cooperative ministry of Westgate and Malone College. Its purpose and objectives are . . . (1) to provide the equivalent of one year of concentrated religious studies for those who desire to add this dimension to their educational or life experience.

(2) To provide academically sound courses in Christian studies at convenient times for active, working adults who have completed the requirements of secondary education.

(3) To assist those of our community who cannot or do not desire to spend the years of study usually desirable for ordination, yet nevertheless desire to enter the active ministry.

(4) To assist the ministry of God's church within Columbus by strengthening the "church" that fills the pews.

The Center offers students three registration options: college credit (to be given through the auspices of Malone College); noncredit certificate for those wishing to complete readings and assignments but with-

out the evaluation process of the credit option. Auditors are welcome.

A special feature of the Center is that persons 62 or older may attend the classes without charge.

Courses this semester include "Four W's and an H," a workshop introduction to the critical thinking and skills that build effective communication; "Through the Looking Glass," children's literature, storytelling, dramatization, and methods of presentation; "The Life of Christ," a survey of the New Testament's description of Christ's life and ministry; "The Gospel of Luke," and "An Introduction to Christian Thought."

Everett Cattell, Lauren King, and Pastor Donald Green teach three of the courses. The other two are taught by Roberta Kessler and Don Moffat, well-qualified Christians from the Columbus area.

Fifty-two are enrolled for fall semester, with 29 coming from outside Westgate and 23 from within. We praise the Lord for this opportunity for service and pray for His blessing on its continuance.

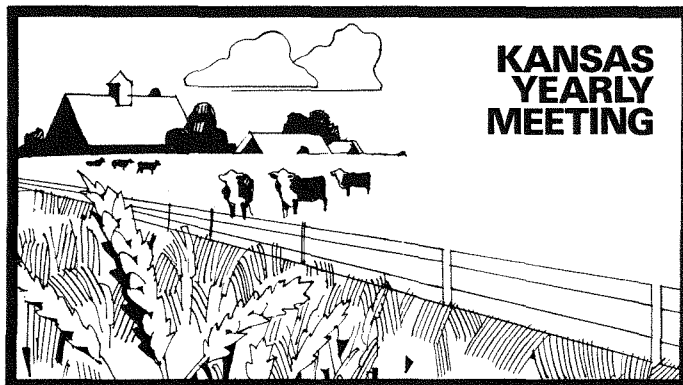
—Diane Boyce

## Focus on Malone

The fall enrollment figure of 948 is Malone's highest in seven years. Included in that total are 98 adults enrolled in "Advance," the new adult education program for credit under the direction of Dr. Robert Oetjen, dean of advanced studies. Friends students number 140, having the highest percentage of all denominations represented.

Dedication of the new Barn/Campus Center was held November 20. The Barn houses Student Senate and Publications offices, the Student Affairs Office, Chapel, a game room, mailboxes, the Stewart Community Room, the Alumni Round Room, and the Pioneer Room (snack bar).

In the new chapel plan for students, one term out of three they participate in either a small group experience coordinated by faculty or an off-campus service project such as teaching Sunday school or taking part in the Big Brother-Big Sister program.



## Gleanings from the Superintendent's Scope

*By My Spirit* continues to be the theme of interest and endeavor throughout the constituency of Kansas Yearly Meeting. Out of gatherings such as Yearly Meeting and Women's Retreat comes a new appreciation of the "Family of Friends." In an attempt to better serve the "family," members of the Executive Committee of the Executive Council and others met to set goals and priorities.

In a serious attempt to discover the felt needs of the "family," survey forms were sent to each church to allow everyone to express himself. From the responses, we trust the Holy Spirit will give clear guidance about directions for the future, as well as the possibility of budget adjustments for the present.

A core committee out of the Executive Council was named to work with the superintendents regarding visitation and church presentations. Visual aids and question-and-answer sessions are used to explain program priorities and needs to congregations and at area rallies.

While searching for goals and priorities, we observe present activities to learn what is happening, thus we hear reports of enthusiasm coming from across the Yearly Meeting such as:

- Great Bend as they tell of their mortgage burning ceremony
- Willow Creek as they experience new growth and implement a visitation program and Day Care Center
- League City and Lowell, who are competing with each other in a Sunday school attendance contest
- Fall Missions Conferences being held in several meetings, with Faith Promise giving emphasized
- On the Mission Front—the Fergusons are busy with deputation while living in Haviland.

Reta Stuart is working on several KYM missions projects as well as devoting part time to the work of EFA foreign missions, out of Wichita. In Burundi the installation of the new generator-alternator at Kibimba Falls has restored power to the hospital, school, maintenance shop, and homes.



Carolyn Hinshaw, new teacher for Mweya, left Wichita November 9, traveling with Hershel and Ruth Young—who are spending time in Burundi visiting the Gary Youngs and assisting Gary where possible.

The family of KYM is, like most families, a group of people with differing needs and responsibilities. It should be a family that has a desire to grow and enfold into its midst others who are hungry for the love and caring found in the body of Christ.

As a family, we must decide priorities. What are they? Aiding Pastors? Administering Programs? Camping? Church Growth? Church Extension? Curriculum for Sunday School? Friends Bible College? Friends University? Friends Youth? Foreign Missions? Fund Raising? Home Missions? Minority Missions? Pastoral-Church Relations? Publicity? Public Relations? Social Action? Training New Ministers?

All of these are the work of THE CHURCH. Many, in responding to the survey, when asked the question: What should be the Yearly Meeting's highest priority? answered with: "To Win Souls." The desire of the Executive Council is to take this priority, along with others of like importance, and determine the mind of God and the mind of man as to the best methods. —Frances Smith

### Friends University Enrollment Rises

Dr. John Williams, academic dean at Friends University since 1973, commented, "This fall there are more full-time students, for they make up the bulk of the increase; and there are more students from abroad. We are very happy to have more than 60 international students, including large groups from Kenya and Nigeria. Now we need more from the Far East!"

Several areas of the curriculum at Friends are undergoing expansion and change at this time. Dr. Leroy Brightup, chairman of the Division of Religion and Philosophy, has been released half-time from teaching to study the needs of the church and community constituencies in religion and philosophy, an area that serves many Friends students and graduates numerous majors annually.

Women's intercollegiate athletics at Friends University is growing, with track and volleyball being added this year, in addition to basketball, which continues. Men's intercollegiate athletic teams compete in football, basketball, baseball, track, tennis, golf, and swimming. Friends won their first conference football game in September over Kansas Wesleyan 21-13 and are favored to win the conference championship again in 1977.

September convocations on the Friends campus included presentations by Dr. Gary Collins of Trinity Seminary; The Covenant Players, traveling troupe of Christian actors; and Wycliffe Bible Translators. Joseph Bayly spoke daily during Christian Emphasis Week November 7-11.

Saturday, October 15, marked the first All-School Auction at Friends University. Proceeds totaled more than \$15,000, and we are especially grateful to the many who donated cash or merchandise or who came and purchased something. Over \$7,000 was realized from the sale of collectibles, antiques, and handmade goods, while the remainder came from the sale of over 30 head of livestock. All proceeds will be used to help underwrite scholarships for Friends University students, which are essential in a day when many students require financial aid to attend a private institution.

### Friends Bible College

Friends Bible College Music and Drama Departments have completed their auditions for various groups. The 39-member *Concert Choir*, under the direction of David Pannabecker, will present Christmas and spring concerts at home and take a week's tour in the Midwest in March. The *FBC Drama Ensemble* has six members who present chancel drama for worship services or informal gatherings.

The *FBC Singers* is composed of eight students who minister vocally and instrumentally. One member is an accomplished ventriloquist, and this will be included in their program. *Kara* is the puppet group of FBC, and these seven young people use "special characters" to present the gospel message to old and young. A new group this year is *Redeemed*, a ladies ensemble of six that will feature old and new hymns with a soft, gentle blend of the folk-ballad type.

These groups are available for church and community ministries. Contact the Public Affairs Office, Friends Bible College, Haviland, Kansas 67059.

Dr. Barbara Worden, professor of English, placed third in the article division of the adult writing contest sponsored by the Seventh District of the Kansas Author's Club.

The family Entertainment Series features its second and third guests November 5 and December 2.

The December 5 program will feature Bill Pearce, an outstanding trombonist and one of the nation's leading Christian musicians.

### Missionary Books

We are fortunate this year to have two books authored by two of our Friends women. They are *From Bamboo to Mango* written by Catherine Cattell and *Missionary Moments* by Phyllis Cammack. Both are true life events in the lives of missionaries written in an interesting and inspiring way. *Chocolate Malts and Nickel Sodas* and *His Tender Grapes* come under the category of Home Missions. The first is an autobiography of the author's life as she came of age in her teens during World War II. Margaret Johnson also authored the book, *18—No Time to Waste*. *His Tender Grapes* is a story of Home Missions, of the greenhouse, a place where young Christians can grow.

The book, *What Happens When Women Pray*, gives practical, down-to-earth biblical teaching on prayer. Evelyn Christenson, a busy pastor's wife, gives her own experiences of teaching women to pray successfully. *Bloom Where You Are* was also written by a pastor's wife. It gives her experiences of learning to grow in the Christian faith as the wife of a minister.

The category of Peace and Social Relations carries the new books of *A Woman in Her Home* and *A Daughter in Bondage*. The authors are Ella Miller and Phyllis Kinley. The first brings inspiration and help to the wife and mother in the home. The second is a fictional story taking place in a foreign country that tells of a young mother who becomes a Christian in a heathen home ruled by a godless mother-in-law.

The reading of good books or recent information from a mission field helps the reader to pray more effectively, work with greater zeal, and give more liberally in finances. Credit is given on our Yearly Meeting Reading Course for one book read from each of the four categories and for reading the *Quaker Bonnet* and the *Evangelical Friend*.

—Winifred Peterson

### 'Beauty for Ashes'

Spring Grove Friends Church, Osawatomie, Kansas, has experienced a most unusual summer. The tragedy of a parsonage fire has changed many things. We are grateful for the way needs are being supplied following the loss, and can truly say that GOD is GOOD. He has been showing it in so many ways. A community shower, gifts of clothing, household items, gifts from loved ones, friends, and churches have all helped so much. It has been thrilling to see such expressions of our Father's loving care.

We began again August 1. Now the basement is in, the plumbing and wiring are roughed in, and labor and materials for insulation, sheetrock, and paint are being donated. The



New Spring Grove parsonage

work of the shell and basement are pretty well done, but we are beginning another step of faith now that our treasury has about been cleaned out. So far we have not had to borrow money. The Lord is SO GOOD!

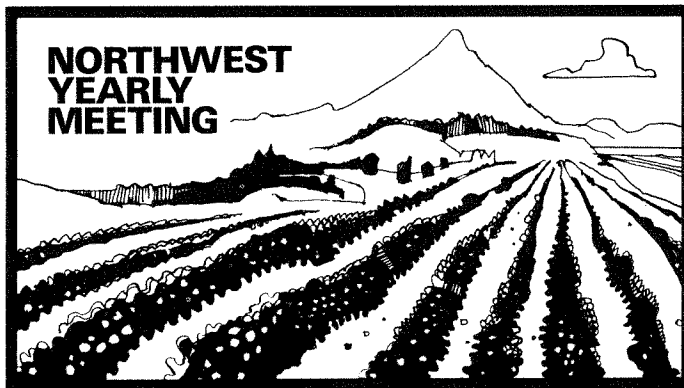
Everyone is helping so much. An ice cream social and concert by the "Amazing Grace Choir" was held August 8. We hoped to have just a little started for the people to see when they came to the social, but they were welcomed by the side-walls up, the windows in, part of the rafters and even the shake-shingle trim under the windows. The choir sang all evening, using the concrete slab as their platform. Would you believe the donations amounted to \$1,069!

One other beautiful thing happened. Our faithful Sunday school superintendent, Lloyd Cook, gave \$1 per year for his birthday money one Sunday and announced his intentions the Sunday before the Ice Cream Social. He asked others to do the same, and the amount added to the ice cream money was over \$400.

There have been garage sales and gifts of furniture and needed items, bake sales, and the young people sold candy bars! Bob Gaither, Northeast Area superintendent, has recruited help from the area churches.

We sincerely express our heartfelt thanks for everything that has been done to help us, and for those who have contributed cash.

It is exciting to see how the Lord has been giving "Beauty for Ashes."



### Superintendent's Corner

I'm excited about the training our Yearly Meeting is receiving in the Focus program sponsored by the Department of Evangelism. Our pas-

tors have completed two training sessions with John Wimber and are moving now into local churches to train their people. The focus of this



training will be toward everyone enjoying ministry and exercising his spiritual gifts. A result will be natural, spontaneous, healthy church growth through evangelism and discipling.

At one point in the training sessions, I told John Wimber about a man I had met who had won numbers of people to Christ recently, and he testified that in each case he knew ahead of time that the person he was led to speak to would accept Christ. John Wimber confessed that he has similar experiences and that he feels that people with the gift of evangelism often have such experiences.

I don't have that experience often enough. This does not mean that I should quit trying. Even though I may not specifically have the gift of evangelism, I am to witness and I am to seek ways to make my witnessing more effective.

I got a helpful suggestion from an old book my dad gave me on prayer by Frank Laubach. He suggests we try "broadcast" prayer. Wherever we are, even in busy public places, we could try praying for people we see with our eyes open. This way we can watch to see if there is some response. Sometimes Laubach said they have spoken to him. Sometimes they just smile. These could be clues that this is someone to whom God is leading us to witness. Many times people will not respond at all, but this does not mean that our prayer is not doing some good. It's likely that a person suppresses a feeling that he should smile or speak.

Laubach suggests also that in the same way we can broadcast our prayers for those the Bible tells us to pray for: presidents and other world leaders, senators, leaders of enemy nations, delegates at peace conferences, our pastors and Christian leaders, victims of sin, educators, and others.

I'd like to encourage all of you to participate enthusiastically in the Focus training if your pastor introduces it at your church. Follow your pastor's lead. Support him with your prayers and cooperation. If your pastor was not able to take the Focus program, feel free to contact the Yearly Meeting office, and we will be happy to do what we can to help you have at least some of the training and emphasis of the Focus program in your church.

And if you feel led, join with me in experimenting "broadcast" prayer. If you have good experience with it, write me and tell about it.

—Norval Hadley

### George Fox College

#### PART-TIME FACULTY MEMBERS ADDED

Norval Hadley and Quentin Nordyke will be teaching courses during the 1977-78 school year at George Fox College. Both of the new part-time professors are leaders in the Friends Church.

Norval Hadley, general superintendent of Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Church, will teach a winter term course, "Organization and Administration of Christian Minis-

tries." Hadley, a 1949 graduate of George Fox, holds an honorary doctorate from Western Evangelical Seminary, Portland. He has been superintendent of the 8,000-member Friends Church organization since July 1971, after 11 years with World Vision International.

Quentin Nordyke, assistant superintendent of Northwest Yearly Meeting, is teaching a fall term course, "Contemporary Trends in Christian Ministries." Nordyke, a 1958 George Fox graduate, also holds a master's degree from the School of World Mission and Church Growth at Fuller Theological Seminary, California. He and his family served as missionaries for 13 years in Bolivia, Peru, and Mexico City.

The new personnel complete the teaching roster for the college, according to President David LeShana. Earlier the college announced the appointment of five new full-time professors. Fall term classes at George Fox started October 6.



Steve and Diane Eichenberger

### Eichenbergers to Mississippi

Steve and Diane Eichenberger are on the "Voice of Calvary" staff in Jackson, Mississippi, an organization that ministers to the needs of lower-income families in the area. Steve works in the print shop and Diane is a secretary in the office. Both are 1977 graduates of George Fox College, married in July. Prior to their move to Mississippi in October, they visited various NWYM churches sharing their plans and encouraging prayer and financial support.

### Greenleaf Friends Academy Sets Enrollment Record

Greenleaf Friends Academy has set an all-time record for enrollment this year with 267 students. The enrollment includes students from preschool through high school.

The Academy is in its 70th year of operation as a Christian educational institution and has been expanding over the last five years to include preschool, kindergarten, and grades 1 through 12.

Growth has been accomplished in the physical facilities also, and at present the academy is building a new home economics unit that will provide 1,008 square feet. This includes a large sewing area and a large, four-unit kitchen, and an instructional area. The basement of this unit will house a new graphic arts center and a laundry and storage area. The new home economics unit has been made available to the

school through an initial gift of \$15,000 from a school family.

Greenleaf Friends Academy has also expanded the art department this year and added Don White to the staff. White is from Colorado Springs, Colorado, and is a professional artist with 15 years of experience in art instruction.

This year's record enrollment consists of 24 preschool, 15 kindergarten and first graders, 23 second and third graders, 27 fourth and fifth graders, and 16 sixth graders, for a total of 105 in the elementary building. In the junior high there are 30 seventh graders and 26 eighth graders. High school students are 29 freshmen, 27 sophomores, 27 juniors, and 22 seniors.

### Missionaries on Deputation

Mark and Wilma Roberts, veteran missionaries, are on furlough and speaking in NWYM Friends churches. Robertses lived in La Paz, Bolivia, two years this term, working with the national church on the altiplano and Yungas-Beni areas. Their third year was spent in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, giving guidance and help to the newer churches in that area. The Robertses are living in Greenleaf, Idaho.

Duane and Sherrill Comfort are living in the Newberg, Oregon, area with their family: Donny, Wanda, Melvin, and Cindy (not in picture). The Comforts have lived in Juli, Peru, for two terms, working with the Peruvian Friends Church.

Jean Clark returned to the States this summer, having spent two years in Juli, Peru, where she taught the Friends missionary children. Jean is a schoolteacher and a secretary and

is presently employed by George Fox College on the secretarial staff.

### In Language Study

James and Gail Roberts, with daughter Leslie, are in San Jose, Costa Rica, in the Spanish Language Institute. Next year they will leave Costa Rica for Bolivia to join the Friends missionary staff. James is the son of Mark and Wilma Roberts and attended Western Evangelical Seminary prior to their departure for missionary service.

### To Mexico City

Kathy and Dave Anderson, pictured with Christian David, Sarah Beth, and John, have completed their Spanish study in Costa Rica and are now in Mexico City, joining the Dick Martens family, under Evangelical Friends Alliance. The Andersons are from the Newberg, Oregon, area and are members of the West Chehalis Friends Church.



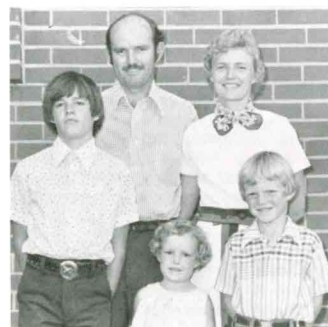
Jean Clark



Mark and Wilma Roberts and Joe



James and Gail Roberts and Leslie



Duane Comfort family



Dave Anderson family



### ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico

The junior and senior high youth have made Philippians 3:13, 14 a very special part of their lives as they've begun a new Bible study.

"Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead. I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (NASB)

The above passage talks about the Christian life as a race, and so the youth have very appropriately named their Bible study the "Youth Olympians." The Bible study is their means of getting into spiritual shape, and so each week they study a part of the Bible which corresponds with an Olympic event.

Our vacation Bible school last summer was successful, as we averaged an attendance of around 35, and many had never before come to our church.

For our mission project we raised enough money to purchase a goat through Heifer Project International, which was sent to a needy family in Guatemala.

### ALLIANCE, Ohio

Our greatest cause for rejoicing is in the number of persons who have recently found new life in Jesus Christ. Home Bible studies are being formed to help nurture these and others who will be brought in through the visitation program.

Our entire Sunday school came together for Rally Day and was blessed by the singing "Krauss Haus," composed of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Krauss and their four children, of Lexington, Ohio. Forty-five Malone students came to worship with us, and several from Mt. Union College.

Treva Jorney and Mike Jones gave reports of their year as exchange students to Brazil and Mexico, respectively. Treva, who experienced great homesickness during her first months in Brazil, ended up the year wishing she could stay. Mike found

his whole experience a delight and a time of gaining new insights into another culture.

### ALUM CREEK, Marengo, Ohio

The Doctor said, "Bring your freezers with the 'makings for ice cream' (or a half-gallon box) and cookies and we will show movies." What a social as we gathered on a colorful summer evening to make and eat our ice cream, fellowshiping while the sun went down at Sunnyslope, home of Dr. Ezra and Frances DeVoll! With nature's lights turned low, the screen and projector were set up for movies—Doc's home movies of Alum Creek and her happenings some 30 years ago. What joyful reminiscing for some! For others, a surprising and at times almost shocking introduction to life as it used to be in our then farming community. Leon Roby and Hiram Bridenstine pastored here in those days.

Pastor Walt and Sue Morton sponsored a Singles Retreat at Salt Fork State Park recently. The singles enjoyed a full weekend of Bible studies and recreation, returning on Saturday night a bit tired from so much retreating!

Musical groups ministering to us have been "Naphtali" from Malone College and "The Singing Avilas," a Spanish-American Mexican couple active in Latin America missionary endeavors.

Tidbits from testimonies: "We ask for the listening heart that we might receive that which God has to give"—Kenneth Black; "Revival starts with you—with me"—Larry Bemiller; and "He is called the Word—God's living message to man"—Bill Lyon.

### BEAVER PARK Penrose, Colorado

Greetings from Beaver Park Friends. In recent weeks we certainly have felt God's blessing. Our Sunday school program has seen a significant increase of 10 children. After Sunday school time Fanny and Martha Gafford have been leading the kids in a morning children's church that has been touching lives.

The seventh grade through college age kids had a great time on September 24, which was Apple Day in Penrose. They set up a booth in the downtown area and sold sloppy Joe hamburgers. They plan to use the money for financing a trip to a Friends mission somewhere this coming summer.

Recently we reinstituted a Sunday evening fellowship meeting and are devoting the time to a study of the book of Jeremiah. It is exciting as we anticipate the great things God will do in our lives as we let His Word become a part of us.

### BOISE, Idaho

During the month of August we had outdoor drive-in church services. In addition to special music, sermonettes were given, telling people that knowing about God is not enough, knowing God is what matters.

Summer church camps were well-attended by our people this year. Thirty-two from our church went to the Couples' Retreat, which was new this year. Those who attended reported an outstanding spiritual tone and felt they experienced rich growth.

Our men's softball team brought home the second-place trophy for the city church tournament this year.

Our pastor is conducting a class, "Family of Friends," with duplicate sessions being held at 10:45 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. each Sunday.

Jon and Cher Cadd presented their vision of Pacific Aviation Mission ministry in Micronesia during our evening service September 18. We must never forget that if a foreign missionary, Paul, had not taken the Gospel to Europe, and from thence it was taken to America, we would not today have the spirit of brotherhood.

Clare Willcuts, our associate pastor, began a series of messages on the Ten Commandments Sunday evening, September 25. We are being challenged to free our minds from the contemporary new religions and honor our Creator, by our allegiance to Him as the Savior of the world.

### CHIVINGTON Brandon, Colorado

In a solemn and impressive service four children were dedicated to the Lord by Pastor James Flick in the morning service at Chivington Friends on August 7.

Those dedicated included Andrea Brown, Justin Lee Brown, Danny Brown (three cousins), and Angela Krista Bowen.

Preceding the dedicatory service Pastor Flick gave an inspiring message instructing the young parents in the church to raise them in the love of Jesus Christ.

On September 18 Dale Field, a representative of Friends Bible College, conducted a seminar on wills, trusts, and other financial matters. He also gave individual help later to those who requested his service. He brought a timely message to Christians on managing money with God's priorities in mind.

### COTTONWOOD Emporia, Kansas

*Spirit Filled Christian* is the name of a new study book by the Navigators we are studying in our Wednesday night Bible study and prayer meeting. It is giving us new insights into living our Christian life to the fullest through the Holy Spirit.

The high school Friends Youth group, with help from the junior highs, sponsored a very successful carnival, variety show, and pie social. The purpose was to raise money for a PA system for the church sanctuary and a speaker for the nursery. The carnival consisted of a "Dunk Tank" (Pastor Paul was one of the "dunkies"), Jello throw, dart throw, duck pick-up, ring on the pop bottle, and a "knock over the bottles" booth. The variety show consisted of skits and one-liners that brought lots of laughs. The grand finale was the pie auction. One pie alone sold for \$77 under the auctioneering abilities of Monty Neff. (Two pies were even auctioned two times!) The hard work of all the kids and sponsors, Jan and Michael Haley and Carol Morfitt, was evidenced in the amount of money taken in. The total amounted to \$275.40. The PA system has been ordered and will soon be installed.

The first Thursday of each month beginning September 1 has become "All Committee Night." We meet as a group at 7:30 for a short time of devotions, then separate into the various committee groups. We then share in a time of fellowship following the meetings.

Our growing nursery is making a change in location. A room in the church basement is being renovated as a nursery instead of the parsonage. The Women's Missionary Society has donated money to the project and toys are being gathered. Cribs or a good rocking chair are also needed. Mothers are volunteering their time to care for the nursery, as well as teenage girls.

Our library has been established and is being managed on the honor system. We have several selections for our Christian enjoyment.

### DAMASCUS, Ohio

The AWANA Club resumed in October with a very enthusiastic group of members and leaders. A special dedication service was held during morning worship for the leaders and also for our Sunday school teachers for the coming year.

Our Fidelis Sunday School Class held a 50th anniversary reunion with a casserole supper in the social room.

Our Board of Christian Education has decided to try something a little different. Instead of opening exercises before Sunday school, each class will have something of their own choosing before starting class. On special days, opening will be planned around a particular theme.

### DENVER, Colorado

Approximately 100 from our fellowship enjoyed a restful weekend at Quaker Ridge Camp over the Labor Day weekend. This is always



a highlight of our year. The time is spent in getting better acquainted with the people with whom we worship on Sunday all through the year. We played many games of volleyball, softball, and table games in the evenings. There were people reading good books, and in general relaxing.

During the Sunday morning worship service, \$1,000 was presented to Harold and Cari Mastin for a blacktopped play area for the camp. The people of the Denver meeting raised most of this money by having yard sales during the summer months.

### **EAST GOSHEN, Beloit, Ohio**

Since school has begun and vacations are over, a "back to church" covered-dish noon meal was enjoyed by many members of our church. Afterward a sing time with the gospel singers, the "Krauss Haus," and a time of fellowship were held.

The Fellowship Class was host for the Family Night luncheon Sunday night. Guests were Bill and Becky Swathwood and family, missionaries who serve with OMS International in Taiwan. They shared in the morning worship, and then after the fellowship hour they showed slides of their work for the evening service.

### **EMPORIA, Kansas**

Galen L. Hinshaw is the new pastor at First Friends Church in Emporia. He and his wife and four children, Karen, Kevin, Kirk, and Kelly, are living in the parsonage. The church and parsonage received several improvements before our new pastors came.

### **FULTON CREEK, Radnor, Ohio**

Hello from Fulton Creek! We had special visitors from Inner-City Missions, Rev. and Mrs. George Primes. What tremendous work they are doing with the blessings of the Lord in guidance. It gave us a better incentive to work harder to make the Dorcas Pantry workable in our area. Several folks have been helped with food, clothing, linens, and furniture. Our pantry now has a good inventory. This came about as a project from one of the three Bible study classes formed at Fulton Creek.

We are also rejoicing at the safe return of Brent Lavendar from his trip to Mexico for Teen Missions. He gave us a detailed account and showed several slides of the work being accomplished. He would like to return next year, if possible.

We have invited Wayne Evans from Cedarville Bible College to assist our pastor with the work. His work will be in conjunction with his classes for the year.

The young folks were promoted, and the impressive theme of "Climbing Jacob's Ladder" was directed by Linda Seiter and Pat Snare.

Women's Missionary Retreat was beautiful, calm, and inspirational under the ministry of Catherine Cattell. How we thrill to be in her presence knowing and hearing of her dedicated life to Christ.

The young folks got together for a 12-hour Rock-A-Thon and garnered

about \$300, and the bake sale brought an additional \$75.

Our building debt will soon be free with two more Sundays like the past "Catch-Up" Sundays.

### **GREAT BEND, Kansas**

A mortgage burning for mortgages on the church and parsonage was an occasion for praise and thanksgiving at Great Bend Friends Meeting.

A special service celebrating the goodness of God in this event was held in September, with several guests present. Devotions were led by Vadin Winslow, area superintendent, and special musical numbers were presented by Gerald and Marjorie Teague, Edwin and Eda Cook, Becky Macy, and Robert and Lenora Barrett, pastors. Former pastors also present were Marvin and Esther Bales and Val and Carolyn Bridenstine.

Gerald Teague presided over the mortgage-burning ceremony, which was followed by a recognition of the recent recording of Pastor Robert Barrett and a dedication of our pastors and congregation.

### **GREENLEAF, Idaho**

A chartered bus left October 20 for the WMU Retreat at Twin Rocks with about 30 women aboard from Greenleaf and other Idaho churches. Larry Choate was the driver.

Special prayer has been made for Vaughn Warren, son of Henry and Mary, who was seriously injured in a car accident in Nampa on October 4.

A special visitor on September 4 was Evert Tuning, who came here with his parents 55 years ago. Thirty-five years ago he took his wife and children to Sprague River, Oregon, to begin missionary work on the reservation, and has served there and later in Klamath Falls since that time.

Ken and Devonne Hibbs and Jon and Kathy Koch attended the Christian Camping International Convention in Banff, Canada, for a week in October.

### **LEAGUE CITY, Texas**

On a recent Saturday 5,000 informative brochures were distributed door to door by people of the church. We met back at the church for a hamburger feed at noon.

We had 61 attend a birthday and anniversary dinner, which we plan to make a monthly event.

Our Puppet Family had complete charge of a recent Sunday night service and did a tremendous job. This is the first of many such ministries from this group and we want to thank them for it. The group includes Jim and Becky Towne, Paul and Sheryl Smith, and Jeannette Vaughan. Some of the puppets were made by Becky and Jeannette.

We have entered into a membership contest with Lowell Friends Church, just outside of Baxter Springs, Kansas. Lowell is a tiny little community tucked away between Riverton and Baxter Springs. There are possibly 100 residents, counting animals, and the surrounding communities don't offer much more. We have 10 times the poten-

tial in unchurched persons. But, Lowell Friends people are set to work hard and win the contest. They will too if we aren't diligent and alive to all our possibilities. We are looking forward to having from 125 to 140 in Sunday school and church in the very near future!

### **MERIDIAN, Idaho**

A joint missionary service with Meridian and Nampa Friends churches participating was held on July 8. Enrique Tito, member at large of the executive council of the Bolivia, South America, Friends Church, was guest speaker. He spoke through an interpreter, one of our missionaries.

July 17 was a special Sunday as we had dedication of our new church hymnal. During the morning worship service many special numbers were sung by various music groups and soloists in our congregation.

Waymark Singers presented a special concert for us during our Sunday evening Family Hour. The Greenleaf Brass presented special numbers during a morning service also.

Many church members participated in various summer activities, such as vacation Bible school, softball games, and youth and family camps.

An all-church Sunday school picnic was held on August 28, with a time following of devotions and late evening swimming.

Meridian is looking ahead to several activities for the fall. Some of our ladies attended the WMU Retreat at Twin Rocks. A Retirees Dinner is being planned to honor all retired people or ones who could be retired. Meridian is hosting the Christian education workshop in November.

### **MT. CARMEL, Cable, Ohio**

The congregation has recently purchased land adjoining the church in order to develop a larger parking lot. Plans for a different parsonage are under consideration. We ask for your prayers on our behalf that God will guide us in the right direction.

### **MT. GILEAD, Ohio**

Gilead Friends Church has been a place of much activity going into the fall season. Beginning late in August and continuing throughout September, the church members have been dismantling the old church building originally constructed in 1841. The pews had been removed in 1975 for use in the new church's chapel. Plans are to mount the old church bell in front of the new church. October 8 was set as the date the men of the church plan to complete the dismantling.

Labor Day the Lutheran Memorial Camp in Fulton hosted Gilead's annual Sunday school picnic. After a full meal, many stayed to enjoy games. Harry Brokaw and son Alan graciously piloted their horse-drawn buggy for many at the picnic who had a taste for nostalgia.

Wednesday evening, September 7, the children of the Gilead community filled the church's fellowship hall with an excited bustle. The event? The beginning of a Christian youth

club called CYC (Christian Youth Crusaders). Under the direction of Don and Judy Harvey, the club meets each Wednesday evening at the time corresponding to evening prayer and praise. Eighty-two children ages four through junior high school age are enrolled. This does not include about 25 workers!

Beginning September 9, Gilead experienced a lay-witness mission weekend. Preceded by much planning, work, and prayer on the part of many people, the weekend was a time of sharing by everyone. The Holy Spirit ministered deeply. The witnesses came under the direction of Jim and Mary McMillan.

### **MT. PLEASANT, Ohio**

The Men's Bible Class held a Fellowship Dinner at the church on September 24.

Friends Women's Retreat at Camp NEOSA with the Theme, "Life Can Be Beautiful," was held October 7-9. And truly it was a beautiful time of the year to enjoy God's handiwork showing through the trees.

We were grateful to have five guests from Madison, Pennsylvania, with us recently in a morning service to bring "A Ministering in Song" to the congregation. Everyone received a special blessing. We pray that these dedicated servants shall be richly rewarded!

### **NEWBERG, Oregon**

Jesse and Dorothy Bales were honored September 11 on their 50th wedding anniversary by a reception in the church social hall.

"Celebrate Life," a musical drama, was presented by a group of our adults and youth under the direction of Mari Eisenbruch on September 11. They also presented the musical at Olympic View Friends Church, Tacoma, Washington, in September.

Pastor Do was Sunday evening speaker on September 25. He brought a group of Vietnamese from Portland who sang.

Bill and Faye Pruitt shared their music ministry and testimonies on Sunday evening, October 16.

"The King's Envoys," a musical group from Portland, Oregon, directed by J. Robert Barber, on Sunday evening, October 23, sang music to praise, honor, and glorify Christ.

Music and crafts from many lands was the theme for an evening of fun and fellowship in the Social Hall on Thursday evening, October 27. Displays were from Bolivia, Peru, Mexico, the Philippines, Guatemala, Alaska, Korea, and Japan. Phyllis Cammack and Mary Bel Duran spoke and played Aymara musical instruments; Janice and Earl Perisho told of customs in Alaska; Bob and Maurine Gilmore sang songs from Guatemala, Tina Knight and daughter Karen Macy brought a skit regarding Mexico, and Marie Chapman spoke on what it meant to her to be a missionary.

### **NORTH VALLEY Newberg, Oregon**

Praise the Lord! We have received two new members into our fellowship—Fred and Betty Ness of Newberg.

On September 13 we hired our new administrative assistant. She is Beverly (Ankeny) Chapman. Beverly and her husband Wayne came to us from Nampa, Idaho, where Beverly attended Northwest Nazarene College. Wayne is presently attending Western Evangelical Seminary in Portland. When he finishes at WES, the couple plans to serve on the mission field.

The Education Committee has approved and started a new Sunday school class that plans to reach the young marrieds, single adults, and college age. The first class was October 2 with 30 in attendance.

The Women's Missionary Union held a luncheon on Thursday, September 22, at the church, to raise money for the WMU. They cleared \$120.34.

A Women's Bible Study began in October. It is being held at the church on Wednesday mornings.

#### OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma

Special thanks go to the Jim Whiteman family for the addition of the many items of furniture and supplies given to the church. This includes an IBM electric typewriter, desk chair, guest chairs for the pastor's office, eight folding tables, two stationary tables, a file cabinet, a table and a chair cart, a large rolling chalk board, plus many small items to be used in the classrooms and the office. These are all good used items made available because Mobil Oil Co. has moved offices to another city. We appreciate this expression of love by the Whitemans to their church!

Our pastor, Sheldon Cox, was recently hospitalized and we appreciate his return to us.

An old-time box supper was sponsored by our youth in October. Many decorated boxes of delicious food were enjoyed by all who attended. The youth planned a special program for the evening. Special appreciation was given those of our church family who are Senior Citizens October 16. We could not do without these more mature brothers and sisters, and a special program was given in their honor. A dinner was held after the service for a time of fellowship, with all invited.

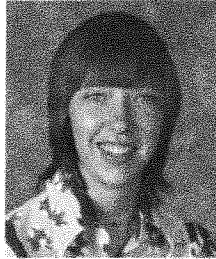
#### ORDWAY, Colorado

Linda Henderson, an Ordway Christian High School junior and member of Ordway Friends Church, recently returned from Bob Jones University in South Carolina. Miss Henderson was attending an annual National Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) contest with her sewing. She earned the trip by winning first place on her coordinates at a regional contest held in Pueblo, Colorado.

Twenty-one ACE high schools from five states competed at the regional contest in many different events. She attended regionals with 22 other students from her school, and 17 also qualified for the national contest.

Students from all over the U.S. and Canada attended the nationals. This was Miss Henderson's second year at ACE nationals, and she feels

it was worth both the time and the money to get in on the Christian training and fellowship.



Linda Henderson

#### SALEM FIRST, Salem, Ohio

Approximately sixty persons attended a choir clinic conducted by Steve Adams, who recently toured Europe and was heard over the Holland broadcasting network. The following Sunday the Steve Adams Singers consisting of Steve, his wife Janet, and Gerald Parr led us in both morning worship services. As a surprise their two sons also sang. The entire group ministered so effectively and sincerely that many were blessed and spiritually renewed.

#### SMITHFIELD, Ohio

During a recent month our morning services included a "We Remember When" segment. Gerald Martin, a 35-year-member, shared his memories of the church, as did Wayne Naylor, a fifth generation member of the church. Others who shared were Ruth Boyd, a member for 41 years, and James Jones, a younger member who recalled early Sunday school days. Other members shared in parts of the service by the reading of Scripture and prayer.

Our pastor's messages carried the theme of the "new" church. Cottage prayer meetings were held at members' homes, and prayers were offered for "a new church within a church." We are desiring to preserve the good of the past, deal with the present, and anticipate the future. Special classes were conducted on Wednesday evenings with instruction for youth, teens, and adults. Much was learned about the church.

Church members have donated small appliances and household articles for the Friends Disaster Service. Three of our members and our pastor traveled to Dilltown, Pennsylvania, location of a flood disaster, to help install plasterboard in one damaged home.

#### SPRINGDALE

##### Leavenworth, Kansas

The church helped our pastors, Ray and Lavell Fitch, to celebrate their 25th year in the service of ministry for the Lord in October. Friends and relatives filled the church when he conducted dedication services for his new grandson, Mark Fitch, son of Gerald and Jean Fitch of Argonia, Kansas.

Following this, the five children of the Fitches presented a very well-planned program, including music

and singing by the children and grandchildren.

Gerald Teague, Kansas Yearly Meeting associate superintendent, delivered the sermon. He and Marjorie Teague, his wife, also presented a musical number.

A bountiful basket dinner followed the service. Mrs. Willoughby Schwinn had baked and decorated a beautiful cake large enough to serve all. A money tree was presented to the Ray Fitches in loving gratitude for their ministry.

#### UNIVERSITY FRIENDS Wichita, Kansas

Two Wichita area girls participated in a six-week tour of the eastern United States and Canada, following the 17th century travels of George Fox, this past summer. Allison Davis and Jan Rishel are among 15 American Quakers who participated in the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage. They were joined by 14 European Quakers. David and Jean Bills, Greensboro, North Carolina, former associate pastor of our meeting, led the pilgrimage. The pilgrimage was sponsored by the Friends World Committee.

Guy and Versa Harvey shared in their 60th wedding anniversary with their many friends and relatives July 24. August 7 saw the celebration of the 50th anniversary of Eugene and Althea Haines. We also rejoice with Ralph and Esther Choate, retired missionaries from Burundi, Africa, on the observance of their 45th wedding anniversary. We wish them all the very best in health and happiness in the years that stretch ahead.

The Elective Sunday School Class has ventured into a three-month study of "Our Christian Faith in the World of Business." Friends University President, Harold C. Cope, led the class off with the topic, "The Gospel According to the Wall Street Journal."

#### URBANA, Ohio

Our ladies hosted the Western District Missionary Retreat on September 15. Behind the pulpit a world map, a Bible, and a lighthouse with lower lights representing each local church were reminders of our theme, "Gleaming Through the Darkness." Georgia Kensler welcomed our guests, and Gladys Johnson of Goshen church was our song leader.

In the morning service our hearts were warmed by the singing of a trio from Mt. Carmel church. As our speaker, Joanne Walker, told how the Lord led her to serve Him in her own neighborhood after a term of service in South America, we were challenged to become better lights in our own communities.

Isabelle Kensler of the Bellefontaine church sang, "Little Is Much When God Is in It" in the afternoon service, and Catherine Cattell brought a heart-searching and inspiring message. After a time of intercessory prayer we closed the service by forming a circle and praising the Lord in word and song. Because the Holy Spirit was present to lead and to inspire us to gleam in the darkness we had a truly great retreat.

#### WILLOWCREEK Kansas City, Missouri

Our church had a fantastic week of Bible school in August using the theme "The Family of God." Our average attendance was 50. We praise the Lord for the opportunity we had to share God's love with so many children.

Our Spiritual Life Committee has started a new series of Sunday evening worship services. On the first and third Sunday of each month we will be having Bible studies—some led by lay people. The second and fourth Sundays will be for fellowship nights—the second Sunday for a time of fellowship at church and the fourth Sunday for some type of home fellowship with families that attend only in our morning worship services. We also have two different teams who are visiting other churches in our area that have been growing. By doing this we hope to find new ideas to help us in our church growth.

Our Sunday school had a graduation ceremony for Promotion Sunday—complete with caps and diplomas. We are much encouraged and blessed by a new group of teachers for the coming year.

For morning worship we have been celebrating each service with a celebration for hope, grace, joy, thanksgiving, good news, and new life. To make our worship more meaningful we have decided to celebrate and praise God for what He has done rather than just come to church and go through a meaningless service. In one of our church growth classes it was brought to our attention how much people celebrate in worldly activities—so how much more should we be celebrating our Lord and all that He means. These services have proved to be a great inspiration to our congregation.

Perhaps the most vital activity we are having is a weekly altar service to gather together and pray for our church and each other as well as for God's guidance in all that we do as a church.

#### WOODLAND, Kamiah, Idaho

This has been a good summer at Woodland. Visitors from far and near have brought us many blessings. One from far away was Enrique Tito from Bolivia, with Paul Puckett of Spokane as interpreter.

In August we were happy to have Bill and Faye Pruitt present an enjoyable evening of music and song.

In September we welcomed our Area Superintendent Walter Lee and his wife Carol; Walter brought the morning message and conducted the evening Bible study. Other visitors were our former pastor and family, Marvin and Betty Hall, with Gene, Terry, Rodney, and Carmen.

The highlight of October was welcoming five new members into active membership and five into associate membership. What a great boost this gives our meeting!

Our pastor attended the seminars led by John Wimber at The Dalles, Oregon.



# Friends record

## BIRTHS

**BANISTER**—A son, Brian Michael, to Patty Banister, September 22, 1977, Arkansas City, Kansas.

**BETZ**—A son, Ryan Neil, September 25, 1977, to Ralph and Julie Betz, Alliance, Ohio.

**BOWEN**—To Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Bowen, a daughter, Angela Krista, December 18, 1976, Lamar, Colorado.

**BROWN**—To Mr. and Mrs. Lee Brown, a son, Justin Lee, March 26, 1977, Chivington, Colorado.

**BROWN**—To Mr. and Mrs. Louis Brown, a daughter, Andrea Madrene, June 26, 1977, Chivington, Colorado.

**BRYAN**—To DeWayne and Joyce Bryan, a son, Paul Daniel, June 19, 1977, Denver, Colorado.

**BURDICK**—A son, Jeremy, September 18, 1977, to Mr. and Mrs. Terry Burdick, Smithfield, Ohio.

**BURNS**—To Bill and Kathy Burns, of Greenleaf, Idaho, a son, Terrance Matthew, September 13, 1977.

**CHANDLER**—To Jon and Robin Chandler of North Valley Friends, Newberg, Oregon, a son, Lucas William, September 15, 1977.

**CROVER**—To Don and Marilyn (Richey) Crover, a daughter, Rebekah Donelle, September 22, 1977, Halsey, Oregon.

**ESCH**—A son, Thomas Joseph, August 5, 1977, to Rick and Connie Esch, West Liberty, Ohio.

**GILLETTI**—To Mr. and Mrs. Jim Gilletti, a son, Jeffery Kai, April 24, 1977, Eads, Colorado.

**GRIFFITH**—A son, Brett Alan, September 15, 1977, to Larry and Beth Griffith, Damascus, Ohio.

**HINSHAW**—To Mr. and Mrs. John Hinshaw, a son, James Joseph, September 15, 1977, Plainview, Nebraska.

**HISKEY**—To John and Candace Hiskey of Greenleaf, Idaho, a son, October 3, 1977.

**HISKEY**—To Sam and Margaret Hiskey of Greenleaf, Idaho, a daughter, October 2, 1977.

**KIM**—To Randy and Janet Kim of Meridian, Idaho, a daughter, Melissa Ann, July 30, 1977.

**KYLE**—A son, Johnathan Howard, to Howard and Alice Kyle, September 25, 1977, Friendswood, Texas.

**LIST**—A son, Lowell, to Lee and Irma List, August 18, 1977, Newberg, Oregon.

**MACY**—To Mauri and Margaret Rose Macy, a son, John Kenneth, Kennewick, Washington, August 28, 1977.

**MARION**—To Rodney and Nancy Marion of Greenleaf, Idaho, a son, Shawn David, September 14, 1977.

**MCDONALD**—A daughter, Alicia Rene, to Randy and Imogene McDonald, August 6, 1977, Wichita, Kansas.

**MERCER**—To Mr. and Mrs. Dave Mercer, a daughter, Jonelle Anjeanette, August 8, 1977, Penrose, Colorado.

**MORGAN**—A daughter, Tami Jo, to Joe Dan and Kriss Morgan, August 22, 1977, Miami, Oklahoma.

**MORRIS**—A son, Jeffrey Scott, September 18, 1977, to Harold and Marianne Morris, Beloit, Ohio.

**MOSSER**—A son, Joey, September 3, 1977, to Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Mosser, Smithfield, Ohio.

**MULKEY**—To Ronald G. and Debora (Cloud) Mulkey, a son, Nathaniel Joseph, September 15, 1977, Silverton, Oregon.

**NEFF**—A son, Randall Alan, to Monty and Betty Neff, August 13, 1977, Emporia, Kansas.

**NICHOLSON**—To David and Debra Nicholson, a daughter, Heather Michelle, July 2, 1977, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

**PETERSON**—To Allen and Lois Peterson, a daughter, Sarah May, May 26, 1977, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

**POWELL**—A son, Tyler James, to Wayne and Donna Powell, July 25, 1977, Plains, Kansas.

**SAYRE**—A daughter, Shawna Lyn, September 9, 1977, to Paul and Linda Sayre, St. Clairsville, Ohio.

**SNYDER**—A daughter, Amanda Lea, to Paul and Linda Snyder, September 2, 1977, Emporia, Kansas.

**STALNAKER**—A daughter, Kristin Mae, August 29, 1977, to Duane and Carol Stalnakar, Salem, Ohio.

**SUMMERLOT**—To Jim and Lisa Summerlot, a daughter, Rachel Elisabeth, September 11, 1977, West Palm Beach, Florida.

**TAYLOR**—A son, Christopher David, August 22, 1977, to David and Janice Taylor, St. Clairsville, Ohio.

**WHITE**—A daughter, Joyce Alene, to Barry and Edee White of Meridian, Idaho, October 5, 1977.

## MARRIAGES

**BILL-BIDDLE**. Julia Elizabeth Bill and Timothy Paul Biddle, September 24, 1977, Westgate Friends, Columbus, Ohio.

**COTTRELL-HAHN**. Vickie Cottrell and David Hahn, August 20, 1977, Osawatomie, Kansas.

**DOWNING-HELT**. Deborah Lynn Downing and Raymond Jerry Helt, Jr., June 18, 1977, East Richland Evangelical Friends, St. Clairsville, Ohio.

**ELLIS-CARNAHAN**. Diana Ellis and Gary Carnahan, August 6, 1977, Osawatomie, Kansas.

**HOLLOWAY-ALLISON**. Lois Holloway and James Allison, September 24, 1977, Salem First, Ohio.

**JOB-HEISE**. Elissa Cherylin Jobe and Harold Heise, August 6, 1977, Wichita, Kansas.

**KINKADE-MILLER**. Shawn Kinkade and Stuart Miller, September 3, 1977, East Richland Evangelical Friends, St. Clairsville, Ohio.

**LINDEN-COMFORT**. Kandie Lee Linden and Steven Ralph Comfort, September 24, 1977, Portland, Oregon.

**McGEE-PEARCE**. Connie Sue McGee and Kent Pearce (Wichita, Kansas), June 21, 1977, Haines, Alaska.

**MESMER-TALBOT**. Kimberly Mesmer and John Talbot, September 16, 1977, Salem First, Ohio.

**MILLER-KIDD**. Jill Elizabeth Miller and Richard A. Kidd, Rockland Community Church, Golden, Colorado, August 19, 1977.

**MILLIGAN-SHANNON**. Carol Lynn Milligan and Steven Shannon, Beaver Park Friends, Penrose, Colorado, August 13, 1977.

**RODINO - WOLFGANG**. Jacquely Rodino and Donald Wolfgang, September 3, 1977, Salem First, Ohio.

**SCHAFFNER - FELLMAN**. Nancy Schaffner of North Valley Friends, Newberg, Oregon, and Wally Fellman, Jr., of Mcclips, Washington, August 20, 1977.

**SEABOLT-TAYLOR**. Brenda Seabolt and Robert Taylor, September 17, 1977, Ramona, Oklahoma.

**SLAUGHTER - DYCK**. Kathy Marie Slaughter and Charles Robert Dyck, August 13, 1977, Wichita, Kansas.

**SMITH-HUBBARD**. Judy Smith and Dennis Hubbard, August 20, 1977, Alum Creek Friends, Marengo, Ohio.

**STANLEY - CAMPF**. Karen Stanley and Bill Campf, September 10, 1977, Salem First, Ohio.

**STONE-SHOEMAKER**. Grace Stone and Marvin Shoemaker, September 4, 1977, Gardner, Kansas.

**STURGILL-GALLAGHER**. Karen Sturgill and Wilfrid Gallagher, April 30, 1977, East Richland Evangelical Friends, St. Clairsville, Ohio.

**VENTERS-TAYLOR**. JerriAnn Venters and Steve Taylor, September 23, 1977, Haven, Kansas.

**VERTREES-HOFFMAN**. Ida Vertrees and Charles Hoffman, July 16, 1977, Osawatomie, Kansas.

**VOTAW - PRUITT**. Sue Votaw and Ken Pruitt (of Newberg, Oregon, Friends) in Whittier, California, August 28, 1977.

**WATSON-HEBERLY**. Carol Watson and Steve Heberly, August 5, 1977, Emporia, Kansas.

**WEEKS-JORDAN**. Lou Ann Weeks and Bob Jordan, October 1, 1977, Beaver-Shannon Friends, Beaver, Kansas.

**WILLIAMS-LONERGAN**. Terri Marie Williams and Patrick Joseph Loneragan, October 8, 1977, Wichita, Kansas.

## DEATHS

**ALLEN**—Mandy Victoria Allen, September 6, 1977, three days old, Eudora, Kansas.

**CHANCE**—Sylvester Chance, September 20, 1977, Wichita, Kansas.

**COREY**—Gertrude Corey, 80, Denver, Colorado, September 16, 1977.

**FREEMAN**—Mary Freeman, Salem, Ohio, September 20, 1977.

**GEORGE**—Floy Bales George, October 18, 1977, of University Friends, Wichita, Kansas.

**GOSSETT**—William Earl Gossett, St. Clairsville, Ohio, July 24, 1977.

**HART**—Delbert Hart, 78, Marengo, Ohio, September 2, 1977.

**JACKSON**—Josephine Jackson, September 30, 1977, Arkansas City, Kansas.

**KNAPP**—Michael W. Knapp, September 1, 1977, Leavenworth, Kansas.

**LINAWEAVER**—Mabel Kennedy Linaweaever, 70, Urbana, Ohio, June 28, 1977.

**LOCKWOOD**—Otto Lockwood, 93, Urbana, Ohio, July 30, 1977.

**MACY**—Perry D. Macy, 93, a minister, September 13, 1977, Newberg, Oregon.

**MOSHER**—Edith Mosher, 76, Mt. Gilead, Ohio, September 4, 1977.

**TRASK**—Leo Trask, 86, Denver, Colorado, September 24, 1977.

**VAN HORN**—Lula Van Horn, Boise, Idaho, September 4, 1977.

## DID GOD MAKE WEEKENDS?

(Continued from page 4)

brought about the observance of one day in the week.

One of the fundamental confessions that any of us must make in order to be a Christian is that we cannot be independent, that we are not self-sufficient. So the Lord's Day is an opportunity for the Christian community to be with one another and to build one another. This is something strikingly different from simply going to church. Here we are talking about the necessity of Christian community.



Finally, the Lord's Day ought to be characterized by joy. It should be a time of unrestrained delight. It is a time to climb out of the bottomless wells of our self-pity and to put aside the negative, critical spirit that so easily overtakes us. Instead we need to delight in the moment, in the present, in the presence of Christ. We should brim over with joy in the presence of our Christian brothers and sisters, in our families, in our hope and confidence in God, and in our triumph through Christ. There should be laughter and sparkling eyes—and serene grins. This is joy that is not manufactured by recreation or other contrivances, not by avoiding the realities of life, but by appreciating the realities of the love of God.

In order for us to experience rest, worship, community, and joy on the Lord's Day, we may have to discipline ourselves. We may have to think intentionally about what we will or won't do on this day. What might this mean?

Perhaps for us to celebrate the Lord's Day better as individuals we need to take more care to plan. We may need to plan our work so that almost nothing has to be done on Sunday, perhaps not just in matters of occupation, but also in matters of chores. Maybe we can learn from Jewish tradition (and earlier


Christian tradition) and do cooking and other Sunday preparations before Sunday begins.

Perhaps we need to plan out the rush so that Sunday can be restful. Even "resting" can be exhausting if we accept the weekend mentality. For example, don't rush around trying so hard to have a good time—whether it is trying to fish, play two sets of tennis, have three meetings, and take a fifteen-minute nap—or whether it is sensing an obligation to find more religious services to go to.

Let's work at ways of enhancing our relationships—personally and in the Christian fellowship. Personally we can avoid activities that cut us off from other people. For example, we can resolve to avoid the rather common practice of spending several hours on Sunday sitting and watching TV—even if it is a good game or terrific show. Perhaps we need to find better ways of enhancing the Christian fellowship—maybe sharing more meals and games and prayer together—as families, in small groups, as a whole congregation.

As a congregation we need to guard against planning a frantic day for the Lord, something quite out of the spirit of the Lord's Day. A schedule that has us running from one meeting to another seems quite out of order. Perhaps we should not even conduct church business on this day (although among Friends the business of the Christian fellowship is not unrelated to worship).

In these or in other ways we must consider the manner of our celebration of the Lord's Day. It is important that we not be trapped into making going to church just one part of a busy weekend. Celebrating the Lord's Day is quite different from working a religious service into what is otherwise a totally secular weekend in plan and execution.

Finally, the Lord's Day, though it is specially celebrated, has another quality. The rest of the Lord's Day can be the rest of all of our days. The rest, the worship, the sense of community, the joy we experience on the Lord's Day can be carried throughout the week. These can permeate all of our living, and they should. The Lord's Day is the symbol of the reality of the new life in Christ, and it is in the special observance of this day that we are helped in keeping that overwhelming reality fresh and alive. 

(A helpful book on this topic is *The Lord's Day* by Paul Jewett.)

## Uncle Charlie Never Wrote A Will . . .



and it only took two years to settle his estate.

Uncle Charlie was not a man to shirk his responsibilities; he just did not realize how much difference a will could make. Since he had no children, he assumed everything would go to his wife. But according to the laws of his particular state, two thirds of his real estate went to his brothers.

If Uncle Charlie had intended to leave anything to his church, his wish was never realized. The law makes no allowance for charitable bequests without a will or some contractual arrangement.

The free booklet below gives some other good reasons for writing a will. Send for your copy today.

-----clip and mail-----

Don Worden, Director of Development  
Evangelical Friends Church—  
Eastern Region  
P.O. Box 102  
Damascus, Ohio 44619

☐ Please send "37 Things People 'Know' About Wills That Aren't Really So" without cost or obligation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_





## Commitment to the Body

JOHN ROBINSON  
SUPERINTENDENT  
KANSAS YEARLY MEETING

One of the many heritages I received from my parents was a keen sense of loyalty to the services of the church. Like all other principles passed from parent to child, this one had to be scrutinized and weighed before I could own it for myself.

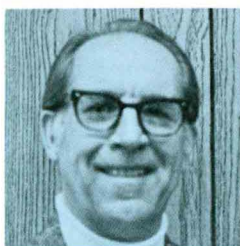
I am personally convinced that belonging to that part of the body of Christ that is MY church obligates me to be with them when they meet together for worship. I need it. More than that, they need me. If the life of the church were simply a vertical relationship (only God and me), then I could get along without the collected church. The truth is, horizontal relationships (people-to-people) are as essential as the vertical one.

So, the Scripture counsels, "We ought to see how each of us may best arouse others to love and active goodness, not staying away from our meetings, as some do, but rather encouraging one

another, all the more because you see the Day drawing near." (Hebrews 10:24-25 NEB)

What, then, is important enough to become a reason to miss the church services? That, I guess, is a matter between you and God, but this I know—it is not an insignificant matter. The choice you make affects you and me and all of the body of Christ in the Friends Church.

—Donivan Crist  
Pastor, Topeka, Kansas



## The Religion of Hypotheticality

By RUSSELL MYERS  
SUPERINTENDENT  
EFC—EASTERN REGION

I was viewing an eighty-year-old newspaper reporter interviewing a scientist very knowledgeable in atomic energy. The discussion came quickly to our energy crisis. The scientist proposed the building of a network of atomic electric generating facilities. His premise was

that because of the desperate need for new energy sources, atomic power must be used more widely in generating electricity.

"But," interjected the colorful reporter, "aren't there great dangers? Suppose there is an accident? Suppose there is an atomic leak into our atmosphere? Many fear such possibilities and conclude the risk is too high."

The scientist quickly replied, "Yes, there are risks—so what's new? In our judgment they are remote and should not deter us from harnessing the atom to meet the greatly increased demand for electrical energy. Many are trying to scuttle the program with fear tactics. I call the name of their game the 'Religion of Hypotheticality.'"

This "Religion of Hypotheticality" is not new nor is it confined to the science of the atom. It's been around for a long time in the church, too. For instance, when innovative, creative, new wineskins are created by the Holy Spirit to achieve evangelism, discipleship, growth, and meaningful Christian fellowship, this old religion often emerges. The proponents of the Religion of Hypotheticality will often suggest that new wineskins are dangerous and nonspiritual. The risk is too great. Mention change and the cult becomes vocal. Embark on a new church growth thrust, and hypotheticality frightens

many into inaction. Propose plans that challenge the church to move out by faith into new ministries, and this old skeleton frightens many into a stampede to stand by the same old ways.

A basic reason that Christians in evangelical churches resist change is a fear that their leaders may be "going liberal." Christians don't want and they should not tolerate the *fundamentals* or *basics* being touched. Changing our methods does not mean "throwing the Bible out the window." Change does not need to mean to "lose our faith." Change, if it is worthy of consideration, should give our fundamental faith a more effective vehicle of expression. Every Christian leader needs to ask periodically, "How may it be done better? How may it be done more interestingly and effectively?"

In our day evangelical Friends have a fresh vision of working together with Christ for world evangelization and church planting. Let us covenant that the Religion of Hypotheticality will not separate, divide, and neutralize what now gives promise of an outreach movement, resulting in significant church growth. At the same time we must commit ourselves to remain anchored to "the Rock of Ages." ☐