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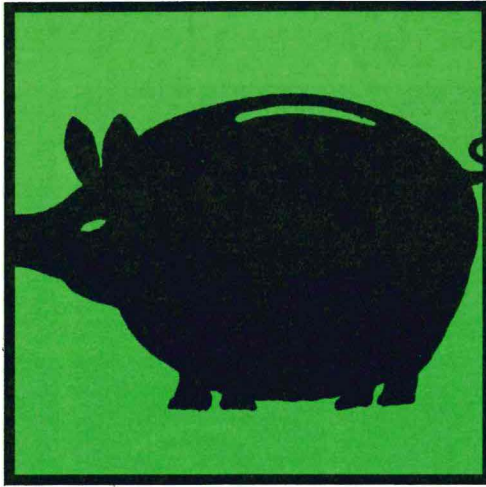
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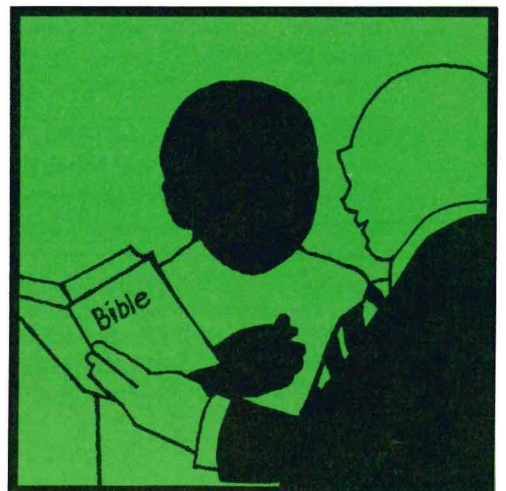
# *Evangelical Friend*

January 1982

Vol. XV, No. 5



HORIZONS  
OF  
STEWARDSHIP





# HORIZONS OF STEWARDSHIP



BY RUSSELL BAKER

**D**URING THE 1950s I was asked by a friend to take my first airplane ride in a small plane. I was flown over most of Yamhill County, plus several circles over my own farm where I had been born and had lived. It would be, I presume, a natural assumption that I would know every nook and corner, at least in my own immediate neighborhood. But, I must confess, I was greatly surprised, in looking down from elevations of one to five thousand feet, how differently things looked from what I had supposed.

We who live in the Northwest are often unaware of the great mountain peaks that are real but far from our awareness. The closeness of our environment can cause it to be

*Russell Baker is a retired dairyman from Newberg, Oregon, and is vice-president for stewardship promotion of the Northwest Yearly Meeting Stewardship Board. His concern for Christian stewardship is backed by personal example. Camp Tilikum, a wooded, 63-acre rustic retreat center operated by George Fox College, was a gift from the Bakers to Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends.*

distorted, the horizons indistinct. The vision of stewardship in our lives and Yearly Meeting may also be a far too-limited horizon.

When did stewardship start? "In the beginning, God." We are the result of God's creative stewardship. Apart from a recognition of God's sovereign ownership of all things, faithful stewardship will not happen. The claims of God upon our lives are greatly increased by virtue of His redemptive acts in sending Jesus Christ into our world to die in our place. "Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body." (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20)

Direct scriptural statements spelling out the detail of stewardship and worship practices are not found before the time of Moses. However, inferences seem to point to the practice of "firstfruit offerings" as an acknowledgment of God's ownership from the very beginning. The response of God to these offerings indicates they were an act of wor-

ship. Stewardship must ever be kept to the high realm of worship. Only man has degraded stewardship to the point where it is no longer a joyful response but rather a grudging performance.

Giving the law through Moses, God chose to designate the tithes and offerings, which were His, for the sustenance of the priestly tribe of Levi and the maintenance of the places of worship. Tithes and offerings became an expression of worship, a means of maintaining orderly and consistent worship practices.

The Jews were instructed to bring an additional tithe every third year for the relief of the poor and widows. Every seventh year the land was to rest. Those having needs were to glean without restriction of that which the land produced. Every 50th year was to be a year of jubilee, in which all slaves were to be set free, debts were to be canceled, and property was to revert back to original possessors. The Lord made it very clear that they were only possessors, not owners, and that for a brief time only.

Leviticus 25:23 from the Moffatt translation reads, "No land is to be sold in perpetuity, for the land is mine, and you are only guests of mine, passing wayfarers." As long as man thinks he owns anything, he is tempted to think "he" has something to give to God. Listen to David, "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand . . . all of it belongs to you." (1 Chronicles 29:14, 16b NIV)

The history of the stewardship performance of the nation of Israel may be summarized as follows:

**1** Under judges, kings, and prophets who both recognized and acknowledged God's sovereignty by the payment of tithes and the giving of offerings, there were both great spiritual and material blessings showered upon them.

**2** When kings, priests, and prophets disdained God's rightful place, there was great corruption in both the spiritual and political life of the people. The needs of the poor were neglected and many were oppressed—mercy was in short supply.

**3** By the time of Christ the laws of God had been so badly diluted by man's accommodation to his covetous nature that they were a veritable mockery of the law as originally given. It was this distortion of stewardship that Jesus corrected.

"A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15); "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:21) More than half of all of Jesus' parables relate properly to money and God. Next to the love of God, no passion is higher than the love of money. Remember it is not money

but the love for it that is the root of all evil. The proper stewardship of money has been, and will continue to be, of the utmost importance in the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

#### *Jesus Had a Financial Plan*

Jesus said many things that put new meaning into old precepts. It is significant, however, that He never abrogated the tithe and offerings or their designation. The church is recognized as the successor of the Jewish religion. It is unthinkable that Jesus would say He would build His church and the gates of hell would not prevail against it and not have in mind a financial plan for it.

The Jewish religion was centered in Jerusalem and the Temple was the depository or storehouse for their tithes and offerings. *The church was to be scattered over all the world, and the local churches became the "storehouse" for the designated tithes and offerings.* The worshipers, both in the Old Testament and New Testament, were admonished not to come to God's house empty-handed. "You can tell the sincerity of a man's interest in anything by the way he puts his money into it."

A great hindrance to the Great Commission is the unconsecrated money in the hands of Christians. John Wesley once exclaimed, "Some of you Methodists are twice as rich as you were before you became Methodists, some of you are fourfold as rich, some of you are tenfold as rich: Now if, whilst you get all you can and save all you can, you do not give all you can, then you are tenfold more the child of hell than you were before."

The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost ushered in a new day of stewardship recognition and performance. A profound conviction came upon the people regarding God's sovereign ownership. It is said of these believers that none of the things they possessed were their own (Acts 4:32). When anyone really recognizes that none of the things he possesses is his own, a whole new set of attitudes and values comes into being. *When a Christian begins to make money, God either gains a fortune or loses a follower.* Money is a measure of value, and to withhold money is to withhold the giving of oneself. Stewardship needs to be lifted to the high level of holy worship.

#### *The Stewardship of Prayer*

Accompanying the high view of the stewardship of property is a new appreciation of prayer. The apostles gave themselves to prayer and the ministry of the Word. Prayer must be viewed as a visible stewardship. Giving was practiced out of love and was based on principle, not on emergency need. "For the love of Christ constraineth us." (2 Corinthians 5:14a)

With the union of church and state for nearly 1,500 years of church history came a grossly distorted sense of stewardship. With pagan leaders at the helm, the ancient enemy of good stewardship—covetousness—took almost complete control. The church has been most vulnerable to error in the area of financial support. Tithing received in-

creasing emphasis after the fourth century, eventually becoming law in both church and state. As the legal compulsion increased, the spirit of generosity and joyful response subsided.

It is noteworthy that in the biblical records of giving, the response was most generous in a climate of freedom and voluntary willingness. The setting was usually one in which worship and the communication of God's laws were mingled together. It was the exercise of freedom within law, but not without law.

#### *Stewardship and Missions Go Together*

The Protestant Reformation brought many changes, but the stewardship picture changed slowly, well into the 20th century. As late as 1938 half or more of all church funds in the United States were brought in through bingo, bazaars, auctions, lottery, gambling, merchandizing schemes, pew rentals, and subscription lists. It is noteworthy that with the rise of missionary concern and activity there was an almost simultaneous rise in better stewardship practices.

There still remains resistance to a biblical view of stewardship. Many would like to operate only from a base of meeting immediate visible needs. The slogan "Let love guide you" has not received wide acceptance. Yet the *compulsion of love* must be the goal for which we strive in stewardship education.

#### *Where Are We Now?*

In coming to a proper evaluation of where we are now, several facts need to be considered:

**1** There has developed an unworthy philosophy of life in our country called the "American standard of living."

**2** This philosophy centers on the concept that life *does* consist in the abundance of the things one may possess.

**3** This philosophy has invaded all of our churches to a much higher degree than most of us recognize.

**4** There is a *Christian standard of living*.

If in spite of economic problems today there is great wealth in the American church, why is the church crippled in finances? Why is the major portion of the financial load in each church borne by a comparative few? Commitments are not to be to a local church, a denomination, or a service organization, but rather to the God who has redeemed us. Love is the commitment that constrains us to respond consistently to the Gospel. Every church desperately needs those with a lifetime commitment that does not fluctuate with every wind that blows. Our real task is to *raise men*, not to *raise budgets*.

There is a lack of teaching and proclamation of the claims of God upon our total lives. Stewardship has come

to be a hush-hush subject. Rent, property payments, taxes are all paid without argument. But somehow, because God does not send a statement on the first of the month, many seem to assume that God's payment is optional.

Where are we now? We are living on the threshold of unparalleled opportunities, both at home and in our foreign fields. But in the midst of a world filled with uncertainty and anxiety, people continue to make their investments where "moth and rust . . . corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal."

Jesus proclaimed two basic principles in stewardship, which we dare not forget or minimize:

**1** "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

**2** The same measuring stick we use in giving to others is the same as will be used by God in measuring His blessings back to us. These laws apply both individually and corporately.

A thorough indoctrination in the basics of stewardship includes God's ownership of all, the tithe acknowledgment. God's designation of the tithe, "the storehouse," will result in budgets being fully met and room created for going above budgets in strategic areas of concern. The mention of money is not wrong. Some have taken the position that tithing, especially storehouse tithing, is an intrusion into personal lives. Others feel the tithe is to be distributed in any way they may choose. Many do not understand that God has already designated the tithe. The tithe is the Lord's and it is His prerogative as to its usage.

I want to quote from an interview the editors of *United Evangelical Action* magazine conducted with Jerry Ballard, president of the World Relief organization: "Mr. Ballard, how does someone with a limited income and tithe determine where to give his money? How does one decide between a relief organization such as World Relief and a primarily evangelistic enterprise? Evangelism and relief are both important. Admittedly we must ask God's direction in prioritizing, but are there other criteria?"

*Answer*—"You seem to have answered your own questions quite well in regard to individual stewardship and determining where to apply tithes. Most pastors would say that the tithe should come to the local church to contribute to the total ministry of the church as determined by the church budget. I tend to support that idea. I firmly believe that if the local church is weakened in its ministry base, all the outreach ministries would ultimately suffer as well. We believe, frankly, that even people with average means can contribute more than 10 percent. The New Testament standard, as I understand it, is that all we have belongs to God and we are stewards of it."

Usually objectors to tithing are those who have never tried it. We do not have options at this point—we are either good stewards or poor stewards.

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"We would like to purchase a weekly program of thirty minutes of silence!"

### COVER

Images of stewardship portray the what and why of Christian management of material resources. (Design by Stan Putman)

### ANTECEDENTS

Let's take a look over our shoulder at 1981. Who captured attention or initiated change?

With a vision for justice, Lech Walesa obtained the united support of workers in Poland, the attention of the world, and the dismay of the Kremlin. With movable plastic cubes within a cube, Erno Rubik hooked the minds and time of American young people. With a strong and deft arm, Fernando Valenzuela won the admiration of sports fans and a piece of the American dream. With cameras and celluloid, Burt Reynolds, Brooke Shields, and Bo Derek detained the eyes of movie goers while taking their dollars and giving little for their minds. With the majority support of voters, a new President commandeered the support of Congress for his budget and its new agenda of priorities. With a presidential nomination and a congressional confirmation, Sandra O'Connor secured a seat on the previously all-male Supreme Court.

And what did Christians capture? More television time, more column inches in the newspaper, more net worth in buildings and property. But how many minds and souls were captured and transformed?

What did we do with the treasure? Not the one in the safety deposit box. I'm talking about the treasure hid in earthen vessels (2 Corinthians 4:7).

What is involved in proper management of the Gospel of Jesus Christ? It is perplexing to see that others have done so much with lesser things. At times I fear we have confined and redefined the biblical mandates, making sure for ourselves that the yoke is easy and the burden is light.

As stewards of God's good news, we will have to give of ourselves totally—mind, body, spirit—if we are to see His kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. —D.L.M.

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# THE LAME STEER

I must have nodded off while I was thinking about the passage—that one in Malachi about cheating God.

Over in a corner away from Deborah, Simon was hunched over something she couldn't see. It was almost as if he didn't want her to see.

"Simon, what are you doing over there in the corner?"

"Oh, nothing. Just thinking."

"About what? Has it anything to do with your not going to synagogue this morning? Is something wrong?"

"No, nothing's wrong. I'm just doing a little calculating. You know . . ."

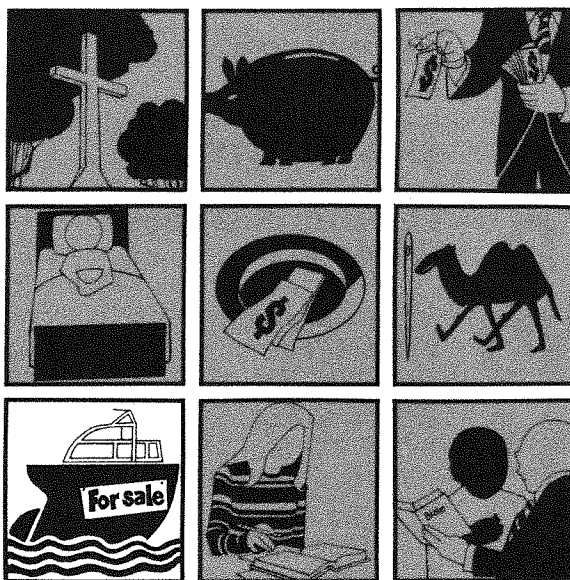
"Calculating? About the farm? On the Sabbath? Simon, why? You never did that sort of thing before. Something *is* wrong."

"I said nothing's wrong. But you know this is the busy time of the year. The Tyrians will be coming next week. I have to get my figures in shape for the bargaining. You know how hard they are. Like leopards. You have to be able to take care of yourself."

"And you are taking care of yourself by staying home from synagogue on the Sabbath and doing your calculating?"

*Lauren King is a former professor at Malone College now retired and living in Norwich, Ohio. He is an active contributing editor of EVANGELICAL FRIEND.*

BY LAUREN KING



"Deborah, you know this is my busiest time of the year. I can't help that. I'm just too busy to get everything in."

"Did you say the Tyrians are coming next week? That's the Week of the Atonement. You'll be in Jerusalem then . . . Or will you? Simon, are you really planning to stay away from Jerusalem this year?"

"Well, next week is when the Tyrians want to come. It's more convenient for them then. I mustn't irritate them. They might not even buy from me if I didn't."

"Oh, Simon. The Day of Atonement! How can God bless us?"

"Well, we've been blessed pretty well this year. It's the best ever."

"If you don't go, who will take the offering? You *are* going to send an offering, aren't you?"

"Of course. What kind of man do you think I am? We'll send it with Joachim. He's sure to be going. And glad to oblige us. Oh, yes, that reminds me. I must tell Hiram to get that steer into the stall."

"You haven't begun the fattening until now? Isn't that late? The steer won't be in really good condition with so little fattening."

"He'll be good enough. No need to be fanatical about it."

"Which steer is it? That beautiful white one? He would make a lovely sacrifice."

"No, not the white one. The solid red one."

"The lame one? Simon! You surely don't mean the lame one."

"The red one will be fine. The priests don't have to get the best of everything. They get too much now. At least for what they do. They don't work for their living the way I have to."

"Oh, Simon, how . . ."

Suddenly I was awake. It had been only a moment's dream. And about a time long ago. Interesting, but it didn't concern me. We don't sacrifice steers nowadays.

## FOR NEW BEGINNINGS . . . A NEW YEAR

BY RUSSELL J. FORNWALT

*Russell Fornwalt is a free-lance writer from New York City.*

IT'S THE START of a New Year! It's the time for a new calendar, a new diary, a new engagement book, a new driver's license, and many other new papers and documents. For some people it's the time for new clothes, a new apartment, a new car, or whatever. For countless others the beginning of a New Year means the ritual of making new resolutions.

In any event, the birth of a New Year drives home the need for, and the importance of, new beginnings, new starts. The beginning of a new year, with its proximity to the glorious celebration of the Nativity, is indeed an appropriate time for the renewal of the spirit of the Christ within each one of us.

As we review the life of Jesus, it seems that the entire thrust of His ministry was in helping people who were defeated, disadvantaged, or discouraged to begin again. The Gospels have numerous accounts of individuals who encountered Jesus and got a new start in life.

One poignant story is about the woman at the well. Departing from his disciples, Jesus went to the well to get some water. There he met a woman whose life was pretty well messed up. As a result of a conversation her life was changed. It was a grand new beginning for the woman as she was caught up in the goodness and strength of Jesus' spirit.

What a new beginning it was, too, for Zaccheus, the despicable tax collector who was really no one's friend and just about everyone's adversary! Zaccheus, making a new beginning, gave up his old ways and promised to pay back fourfold everything that he had taken from others and to give half of what was left to the poor.

\* \* \*

**S**OME PEOPLE have a problem in making a new beginning, such as in the case of repairing a broken-down relationship. John and Susan are an example. Suddenly their marriage of 15 years began to show serious signs of wear and tear. Hostile and spiteful, Susan sought professional help.

"I detest my husband. I can no longer take him," the distraught wife told a therapist. "I'm going to make things as tough for him as I can. What's more, I want out—a divorce, but fast."

Fortunately for Susan, her therapist was not only psychologically adept but well-grounded spiritually. In fact, Susan got the kind of advice she neither anticipated nor bargained for. The therapist told her how to make a new beginning.

"Go home and shower John with love. Cater to his every wish and whim. Yes, even go a *third* mile. Pamper and praise him. Then when he gets to the point where he cannot do without you, sue him for divorce. Then, you'll really *hurt* him since that's your goal."

Months later, Susan met her counselor quite by accident at a social affair. The therapist, possibly with tongue in cheek, asked his former "patient" how the divorce was coming along.

"What divorce?" exclaimed Susan. "John and I would never think of it. We love each other more than ever. Thanks to you, I was able to make a new beginning.

**Y**OU CAN MAKE a new beginning as far as your job or career is concerned.

One young man that I know quit his dead-end job in an auto graveyard. The job paid well, but it was no source of satisfaction, and it provided the young "wrecker" with no opportunity for self-fulfillment. He went back to school to study fashion design and in time "gave birth" to the artist that was within him all the time.

\* \* \*

**W**HETHER YOU are 16, 60, or older makes no difference. You can make a new beginning at *any* age. Ralph Davis, for one, had to give up his position as the superintendent of schools in a small New Jersey town at the age of 62.

But Mr. Davis did not retire to the front porch rocking chair or to a life of idleness. He convinced a social agency working with delinquent boys to hire him as a counselor. He performed well. In fact, he was able to give his teenage clients a perspective and insights of which a younger counselor might not be aware.

When he became 70, the boys' organization "suggested" to Mr. Davis that he might want to retire. He did retire from boys'

work, but he didn't give up. Mr. Davis and a partner opened a highly successful employment agency for teachers, librarians, and school superintendents.

When the demands of running a teachers' agency became too much for him, Mr. Davis rounded out his long and productive life by writing articles for professional magazines.

\* \* \*

**W**HEN I FIRST met Steven P. years ago, the teenager was a confirmed drug addict—a "mainliner" if there ever was one. To sustain his expensive and deadly habit he stole anything and everything from anyone and everyone. Even his own mother could not trust him to be in the house alone.

Finally Steven was caught and sent to prison. At the institution there was a medical facility where he was treated. While serving time he did a lot of reading, including the Bible, a book that had always been in his home but that he had never really read or understood.

As he slowly and painfully emerged from his devastating habit, he "*got closer to God*," to use his own words. Encouraged by the prison chaplain and other inmates, the young man decided to make a new beginning. He became a "*minister*." Steven counseled fellow prisoners, led prayer groups, and occasionally "preached" in the institution's nondenominational chapel.

After his release on parole, Steven affiliated with a "storefront" church in the ghetto of a large city and was duly "ordained" as a clergyman. He made a new beginning in the most unlikely of places and is now using his talents on behalf of a "congregation" made up mostly of potential and ex-addicts.

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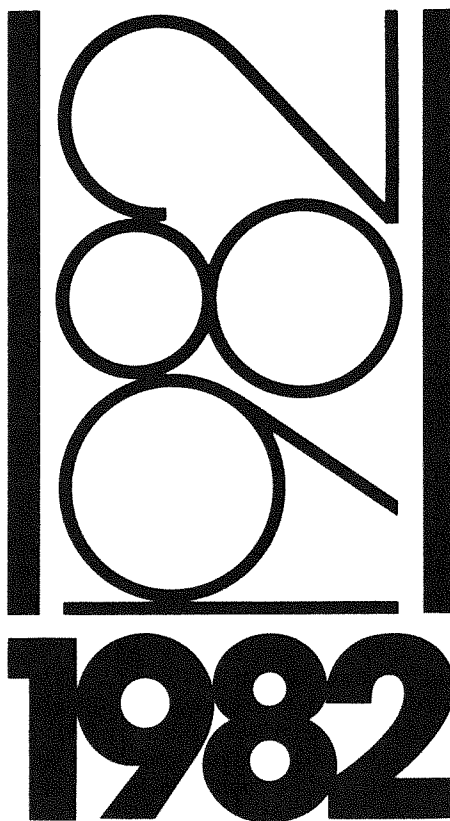
**W**HETHER YOU are in a fragile relationship, a business difficulty, an unhappy marriage, a destructive habit, or any other kind of dilemma makes no difference. You can make a new beginning on January 1, February 13, your birthday, or any other day of the year.

And as you make that new beginning, realize that without God and His guidance, through prayer, you may not be able to create the kind of world you desire. God is love, and the more love that goes into your new beginning the more you are assured of success.

*"A new heart also will I give you,  
and a new spirit will I put within you."*

—Ezekiel 36:26

©







# AN EXQUISITE LOVE



*Ruth Hull Bennett*

BY ANNA NIXON

Claude Bennett couldn't conceal his happiness as his wife-to-be, Ruth Hull (recently returned from India), handed him the cake. It was New Year's Day, 1936, the day they met to make their wedding plans. Everyone was in a festive mood and all eyes were on Claude as he took the cake she had made and gingerly placed it on the table. He couldn't keep a finger out of the frosting, and, being a practical man, he licked it off. Everyone saw his expression change.

"What's wrong?" asked Ruth, who quickly tasted the frosting herself. Ah . . . salt instead of sugar! Someone had put salt in the sugar bowl from which she'd taken her supply when mixing. What a beginning!

But this wasn't actually the beginning. Claude Bennett had met Ruth Hull long before she ever went to India. He had dated her all through college, three years of teaching, and medical school. He had written to her while she did an internship in Boston and two years' medical work at a prison in Massachusetts.

Then in 1928 he had waved her off to India for seven years as a missionary doctor for Ohio Yearly Meeting (now Evangelical

Friends Church—Eastern Region). He had written to her while she was there and heard how she cared for the villagers and for the Maharani (a Hindu princess), how she endured dengue fever and scorpion stings, how she visited a diamond mine and climbed the Himalayas—which reminded her of the Colorado Rockies.

The most exciting news of all came in 1931 when the Chhatarpur mission hospital was opened and Ruth became its first doctor. Her next letter brought news of the high marks of Grace Jones, the first Indian woman of Bundelkhand to enter medical training. Ruth looked forward to having Grace as a co-worker. And naturally Claude Bennett in Colorado wondered if Grace would be prepared to carry on at the hospital at the end of his fiancée's first term. He surely hoped so!

Ruth hoped so, too. But soon after she came home on furlough in August 1935 the Mission Board started urging her to get ready to go back to India in March of 1936. So she had to make a decision. Claude had waited long enough, and she dearly loved him. But she was not yet certain about whether Grace could carry on alone. So she quietly waited before the Lord. The outcome was that on February 17, 1936, in Central City, Nebraska, Ruth Hull, daughter of a Quaker minister and doctor, was joined in holy matrimony with Claude Bennett, an eastern Colorado wheat farmer.

A son, Claude Bennett, was born on December 6, 1936, and the family seemed complete, and life wonderful and settled. But not for long . . . It soon became evident that the hospital in Chhatarpur would have to be closed if an experienced surgeon wasn't found to work alongside Dr. Grace Jones for a few more years. The Mission Board searched frantically for someone, but found no one willing to go . . . except Dr. Ruth Hull Bennett.

So Claude agreed for her to go, taking their young son, for a three-year term. As her husband took her to the train where she proceeded on to New York to get the ship, she turned to him and said, "Oh, Claude, let's go home!" He looked at her tenderly, and then with no less dedication than she, said, "Keep up your courage, Ruth. You have promised, and you should go."

So she went. Arriving in Chhatarpur with her 10-month-old son, she was soon confronted with a woman arriving on a rope bed who was very ill with cholera. Dr. Grace immediately took charge, isolating the patient and taking care of her as a mother would care for a baby. The woman got well and no one else in the hospital area got cholera. "It couldn't have been cholera," said the District Chief Medical Officer, but Dr. Grace had kept the slide to prove it.

Dr. Ruth was proud to see how well this young Indian woman was coping and determined to give her best to training her during

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*Anna Nixon's service as a missionary to India under Friends extends from 1946 to 1980. In this article she shares the story of Ruth Hull Bennett, the first doctor of the Chhatarpur mission hospital in India.*

her three-year term. One way she did this was to push Dr. Grace forward in surgery, acting as her assistant. The two of them, assisted by nurse Alena Calkins and others, made an excellent team, still remembered throughout the district with deep appreciation and affection. When Dr. Ruth returned to the U.S. with her son in 1940, she left behind a very grateful Dr. Grace Jones (Singh), who continued to serve medical needs in that area until she was murdered on November 5, 1980.

After returning to the U.S., Dr. Ruth Bennett lived with her husband in Ovid, Colorado, but practiced medicine in various places. A few times during the winter when farm work could be laid aside, her husband joined her in California, where he did various jobs while she worked in a hospital. Later, after Claude's death in 1975, Ruth retired in Sandy Spring, Maryland, to be near their son and his fami-

ly. Following his father's profession, he works in the Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C.

But one could hardly say that Ruth Bennett, 85, has retired. She is constantly on the go. In 1981 she made a trip to Australia and New Zealand and was part of a team of 10 invited by the Chinese Ministry of Health to observe medical work in China.

They took a 10-day tour via Hong Kong to Canton, Beijing, Sian, and Nanking, where they visited hospitals, saw research centers, and observed Chinese medical services in both rural and urban areas. They saw both indigenous and Western medical services practiced side by side, with amazingly well-equipped clinics. Commenting on acupuncture, Dr. Bennett observed: "If you had seen their faces when the needles went in, you would have known it hurt a little bit," even though it was reputed to be painless.

In August 1981 Dr. Bennett attended Eastern Region Yearly Meeting and the EFA Conference in Canton, Ohio, where she was introduced as the first doctor of the Friends hospital in Chhatarpur.\*

But few have known of the Christian commitment to God and to one another of both Ruth and Claude Bennett—a commitment that led them to wait 20 years for each other. Commenting on it all a few months ago, Ruth said, "I read somewhere that waiting made an ordinary love into an exquisite love, and I would say that was true of us."

And to that dedication and love today in India stands a memorial, the Chhatarpur Christian Hospital, where for 51 years thousands have been relieved of pain. ☐

*\*Dr. W. D. Mategaonker, a surgeon who has served there for 25 years, is now general and medical superintendent of the Chhatarpur hospital.*

## Let's Be Friends

# IMMANUEL

BY HOWARD MACY

Recently Friends University's Drama Department presented a very moving production of Dorothy Sayer's play *The Man Born to Be King*. The audience was quickly drawn into the life of Jesus—gentle, full of humor, proclaiming Truth, intensely devoted to God. We grinned with those who were healed, marveled as we shared bread multiplied to feed the multitudes, and knew for ourselves the wonder-filled bewilderment of the disciples as this glorious life played itself toward tragedy. The pain of the crucifixion appalled us. Its love reached us. Resurrection brought hope.

This experience instantly joined itself to those moments in life that will never be forgotten. Somehow the familiar story had come more intensely alive.

Then the lights came up, the curtain closed, and the audience filed out. Some moved silently, obviously still gripped by what they had just experienced. Others chattered their way out, evaluating actors, gossiping about family and friends. They hurried on to parties, to homework, to romance, even perhaps to prayer.

I stayed on for awhile in the auditorium while the stage crew and the cast began to dismantle the set. Within an hour the forms that had been hills and houses, courtyards, boats, and tombs would be gone, leaving the stage barren and stark.

Melancholy questions came to me: Is it back to business as usual now? Is that the end of the story? As glorious as it was, does the story live today? Or has it become merely a familiar story that each time it treads the path of our hearts packs down the soil even harder so that good seed cannot take root in its thick, crusty surface? After the lights come up and the set is struck, is the story's chief actor still with us?

We might easily long for the glory of yesterdays to burst through gloomy todays. How we would have thrilled to be among the five thousand eating multiplied bread or later in the company of the disciples at prayer when the Holy Spirit fell on them!

We might just as quickly long to see the glory that will brighten some future, to "go on to glory," to join in the final triumph of

God, or, less otherworldly, to come to some dramatic and unusual point in our spiritual growth.

Yet, for all our longing, the glory surrounding us and confronting us in each day may completely escape our notice. We too easily fail to see Immanuel, God-with-us. God's power still triumphs for us in each day's living. The Life-giver still multiplies loaves to feed us and touches broken spirits and bodies to heal us. The *divine love* still reaches us, directly and through the incredible gift of love poured out in friendship. The glorious creation constantly whispers and shouts among its parts, "God-with-us!"

If this is true, if Christ, who said, "I am with you always," is right, then we have wonderful news. The One in whom we have seen God's glory is still with us, and in that *powerful presence* is all that we need for joy, liberty, and wholeness. The Christ of glory remains among us, not relaxing backstage in a dressing room or removed from reality once the makeup has been wiped away.

Our central witness has been that Christ is present in power. When the stage has been struck, the managers folded, the angel wings crumpled and tucked away for another year, let's remember that the *light* still shines and lives among us, bringing glory and hope.

Let's be Friends. ☐

# YOU AND YOUR FINANCES:

# SIMPLICITY

BY MERL KINSER

One of the Quaker queries that was formerly included in many of the yearly meeting *Disciplines* stated: "Do you observe simplicity in your manner of living? Do you frequently inspect your affairs and settle your accounts? Are you careful to live within your income and avoid involving yourself in business beyond your ability to manage? Are you just in your dealings, punctual to your promises, prompt in the payment of your debts and free from defrauding the public revenue?"

In the interest of updating and revising, that Query has been reworded by several yearly meetings and seems to have lost much of its impact. Is it possible that we are afraid to look at that series of questions honestly? Consider the implications of that first question: "Do you observe simplicity in your manner of living?"

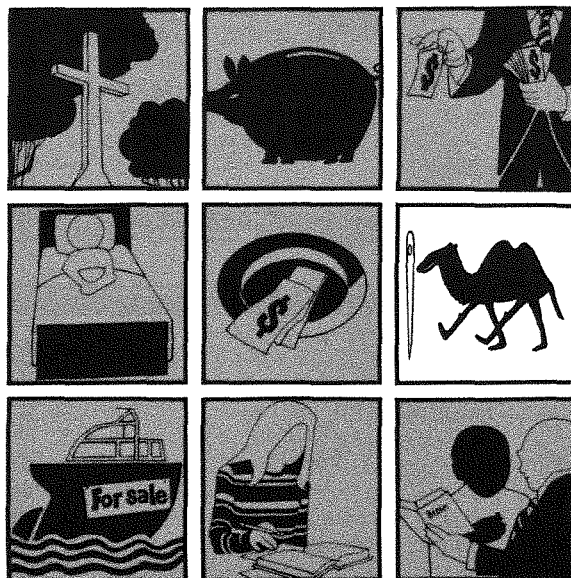
In the affluent culture of American society we have almost completely forgotten simplicity in our manner of living. A casual look at the parking lot of your local Friends meeting on a Sunday morning will give a rather revealing commentary on the observance of simplicity. There is nothing wrong or sinful about a new car, and there may be times when it is the proper thing to purchase a new car.

But some other vital questions need to be asked. How many of those automobiles are being purchased on credit over a three- or four-year period of time, adding approximately 50 percent to the cost of the automobile? How many of those cars were purchased, not because a new car was needed but because of the "keeping up with the Joneses" syndrome?

Now apply those same questions to the homes, appliances, furniture, and electronic gadgetry that control much of our lives. All of us are caught up in this problem, at least to some degree. We are constantly bombarded with the advertising media, which implies that the "good life" is composed of *things*.

*Merl Kinser, pastor of the Enid, Oklahoma, Friends Church, shares the second in a series of three articles regarding "You and Your Finances."*

It is tragic that one of the things being taught in some "Christian" circles tends to equate prosperity and spirituality. In fact, this line of reasoning is upheld by certain "proof" texts, taken out of the context of the whole of Scripture. But there are many other verses that warn of the dangers of riches.



Jesus noted this following His encounter with the rich young ruler. "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God!" (Mark 10:25 NASB) Jesus used an oriental hyperbole. The illustration is really absurd, and many interpretations have been made of what Jesus meant. Even if we are not certain of exact word meanings, there is no question of the general meaning of the statement. If a person gets his attention tied up in money and resources, he will not be interested in God.

In another instance, Jesus said: "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will hold to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and Mammon." (Marginal reading—"Riches"—Matthew 6:24 NASB)

Since our attitude toward resources is so important, we must be careful that we do not allow our resources to control us. It is so easy to get caught up in the pressure of

economic conformity. The emphasis of simplicity is a vital need in our world today.

It is also imperative that we do not develop a new legalism. It would be so simple if we could develop a definition of simplicity that defined exactly how much could be spent for a house or car. But that would not in reality be simplicity but bondage. Also it is imperative that we recognize that we are individuals and that God works with us as individuals.

There should be variety in the levels of simplicity of life-style that are observed. A careful look at God's creation would certainly confirm that God apparently enjoys and expects diversity. There is nothing in the Scriptures that indicates He wants us to be carbon copies in any aspect of life.

Paul further warned young Timothy about the dangers of wealth when he wrote: "But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith, and pierced themselves with many a pang." (1 Timothy 6:9-10 NASB)

There is nothing wrong or sinful about money in itself, but the love of money is extremely dangerous. Interestingly, there is no correlation between the amount of money a person has and whether that person loves money or not. There are many who have very little who dearly love money and what it will purchase. There are also those who have a great deal of money who have learned to put that money in its proper perspective.

This Quaker Query is one that should make all of us examine our own life-style. This is not an easy thing to do in the pressure of our affluent society. Will we be considered odd if we don't conform to the "norms" of society? Is that not exactly what Christ taught us? We are to be in the world but not of the world. If we really want to put Christ first, we must consider the meaning of simplicity and all of its implications upon our lives. "Do you observe simplicity in your manner of living?"





BY JACK L. WILLCUTS

## How to Miss Being Mangled In 1982

Moving along into 1982 is like being caught in heavy traffic on the way to work. We move along or get banged up, stalled, or lost.

A few people miss this mangling prospect of rat-race rush on the freeways; some go by helicopter. Imagine being lifted daily out of one's backyard and whisked across town or countryside to a safe pad on your office building or factory! Or consider Washington bureaucrats. Perhaps being chauffeured seated in a soft backseat, sipping coffee, reading the paper, or studying the day's agenda would make life better. Most readers of the EVANGELICAL FRIEND won't be doing this, but we can fantasize.

It struck me while reading from Acts that the contrast between human propulsion in Christian work and the Spirit's uplifting, miraculous power is as great as the contrasts just described. But we protect ourselves carefully from such dreaming, from expecting the impossible. We have been so stalled, paralyzed, banged up, embarrassed, exhausted, disillusioned, or grown so used to routine religion rat racing that we really don't let our minds dwell on alternatives. Like a dear elder remarking after an enthusiastic church seminar: "But, you don't understand! Friends meetings are always small and struggling."

What if we simply decide to expect God to do something big in our lives and our church in 1982? "Expect a miracle" is a borrowed slogan, but it is something to think about.

We need models. The book of Acts is full of them. Remember Peter? We know him pretty well—too well! His track record through the Gospels is like looking in a mirror. It is a wearisome rerun of too many of us. Blustery, boastful, talkative, chairing too many committees, always on center stage, losing his temper, denying it, weeping, repenting, *running* to the empty tomb. Then, Peter comes out of the Upper Room a different kind of disciple. There is a new solid core in his confidence. *He* became like one speaking with authority—courageous in spite of being prominently placed on the persecutors' hit list, *sleeping* between prison guards instead of swearing at them. This kind of character change is a miracle!

What do we do with miracles? Or the prospect of one happening? Two things: we become a little edgy, defensive, or downright afraid, or, we become bolder and more energetically excited in our faith.

A thing to remember as we, as filled-with-the-Spirit disciples, squeeze into the action, economics, and traffic of 1982 is that He

is both a sanctifier and the One who comes in supernatural power to us. He is *special strength*. The worst that can happen to us may also bring about the best that the Spirit has to give us. Boldness, confidence, adequacy for Christian living and serving result from His taking over our lives. The great features of our faith are our ongoing privilege "unto the end."


Whether or not 1982 will be our end, it is certainly our new beginning. And that is the beauty of having an eternal God; there is no shortage of future for Christians. This realization comes in discovering (rediscovering) that Jesus is adequate for miracle living in 1982. *Only* Jesus is adequate. E. Stanley Jones once put it: "Christ or chaos." "There is no salvation by anyone else, no second name under heaven for us and our salvation." (Acts 4:12 Moffat)

Who is in charge of your life this year? Your church? Our hope is not in people or plans (although God uses both); our hope is in the raw, real power of the Holy Spirit at work among Friends.

It is rather reassuring to know that God's faithful people have always been in trouble. So, you have some problems, burdens, uneasiness? What else is new?

The point is (and this is new, unfortunately) we can deal with the next things in the next year only in the power of God. Several times in Acts we read: "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit . . . and boldness." And, that "filledness" has a special verb form. It means a continuing, ongoing inflow and outgo in direct proportion to being especially equipped for the thing at hand.

Is it irreverent to suggest the Holy Spirit becomes our chauffeur, as we relax weaving our way through the opportunities and crowds of 1982? Crowds, of course, are made up of persons. A word of kindness and love where self-centered inhibitions had taken over . . . A witness to truth where weakness, uncertainty, or timidity prevailed . . . A real reconciliation, restitution performed in spite of pride and procrastination . . . Taking a stand for something right, at work, at home, in society, the world . . .

Picture your deepest need in 1982. Vividly. Then ask for the special filling of the Holy Spirit. Dream a little—1982 might be very different. Let God manage and avoid being mangled this time. 





*"Religion in Review" is provided by the Evangelical Press News Service and is written by its director, Gary Warner.*

## RELIGION IN REVIEW

BY GARY WARNER

1981 was The Year of the Thud.

Not that there weren't important religious events happening in the world. However, in the United States, compared to the mind-blowing highs and the political rush of 1980, the past 12 months had the fervor of a World Council of Churches seminar on evangelism, the drama of an election in Cuba, the effervescence of a WCTU party, and the excitement of a mortician's convention.

Here's the year it was:

### POLITICS

The bloom had barely worn off of 1980 before the reality of 1981 set in. Whereas the Reagan victory had been termed "an act of God" by the Religious Right, it soon appeared that God has a dry sense of humor.

The New Right is still asking the real Ronald Reagan to stand up. Howard Philips, head of the Conservative Caucus, attacked Reagan appointments but still claimed Reagan "will be the best President in my 39 years on this earth." Paul Weyrich, director of the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress, said the Washington strategy was to keep "Moral Majority types" so close to the President "that they can't move their hands." Liberals wished gags had been issued with the handcuffs. Direct mail whiz kid Richard Viguerie said, "I knew conservatives would get the short end of the stick. I just didn't know the stick would be so short."

Even many of the Congressmen boosted by the New Right failed to display the proper lackey qualities. As the year ends, most of the legislation supported by the New Right and the Religious Right is either penned up, pooped out, or headed for extinction in the courts.

Then there was the Falwellian traveling show with its through-the-looking-glass

elixir of politics and faith. Rev. Jerry Falwell urged the President to slash away at the budget and said the churches would aid the poor. He unveiled "a conservative version of the ACLU," jousting with Norman Lear, declined to debate the editor of the *United Methodist Reporter*, said the movement would attack pornography and clean up television next year, said he "erred" in saying he would support the Equal Rights Amendment, and spent a lot of time putting out Moral Majority fires, such as dousing the California MM leader who matter-of-factly called for capital punishment for homosexuals.

### HUMAN RIGHTS

The world awakens to the sound of men in chains. Terror, violence, torture, and death know no boundaries.

The roll call of suffering countries spanned the continents: El Salvador, Kenya, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Uganda, Somalia, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Pakistan . . . Beat the drum slowly.

Elsewhere, besides the four nuns murdered in El Salvador and Chester Bitterman in Colombia, Conservative Mennonite Fellowship missionary John Troyer was killed in September by members of a guerilla organization in Guatemala.

Against this backdrop, the news headlines rolled in weekly: "Quaker groups report potential democratic leaders in Guatemala and El Salvador are being kidnapped, tortured, and murdered"; "churches of all confessions under fire by Yugoslavian communists"; "Bulgarians close Pentecostal churches"; "KGB chairman assails missions organizations"; "Czechoslovakia employs special unit against underground church"; "new wave of Albanian arrests"; "two priests-journalists detained in Bolivia"; "Siberian Seven marks three years in U.S. Embassy in Moscow"; and on and on.

El Salvador became an early focal point for the current administration. Lutheran officials reported violence in El Salvador "up" since the election of President Reagan. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, always in charge, stated that the four nuns murdered by the Salvadoran National Guard had been involved in "radical political activity." By March over 270 church leaders had petitioned and then marched to the White House to express their concern over the nation's human rights policy.

### DENOMINATIONS

Radical changes were urged for the Church of England, mother church of 65 million

*(Continued on page 16)*

## QUAKERISM: A Study Guide

by Leonard S. Kenworthy

"... a welcome addition to Friends reading . . . for pastors or others involved in new members classes, or for youth learning about their Quaker faith and heritage, this will be a most valuable tool . . . this book includes in concise form the most complete picture of Friends that I have seen in one volume . . . accurate, fair and helpful."

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# First Day News

## QUICK QUAKER COMMENTARY

JACK REA has been named the new general superintendent of Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting. He and his family are moving to Colorado Springs this month. Jack and CELESTA have two children and had been missionaries to Taiwan under Evangelical Friends Church--Eastern Region since 1977. Jack is a graduate of George Fox College, Asbury Seminary, and has a doctor of ministry degree from Ashland Theological Seminary. He replaces Olen Ellis, who is resigning after being RMYM superintendent since 1974.

DON CHITTICK, member of Newberg, Oregon, Friends Church and former professor of chemistry at George Fox College, was one of the scientists who testified in Little Rock, Arkansas, at the American Civil Liberties Union challenge to a new state law requiring balanced treatment for evolution and creationism in public schools. The ACLU filed suit to overturn the new law, stating it violates the first amendment's guarantee of separation of church and state. The state insists the creationist theory is scientific, not religious. Chittick was one of the state's prime witnesses supporting the scientific basis of creationism in the field of geophysics.

DWIGHT SPANN-WILSON has moved from general secretary to secretary for nurture for Friends General Conference, headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The new position was created in late October to facilitate expansion of FGC work. Sheila Bach of Baltimore Yearly Meeting is serving as acting general secretary while a search committee is seeking a new general secretary.

Preliminary plans are underway for an administrative visit from Mid-America Yearly Meeting to their mission work in Burundi. Superintendent JOHN ROBINSON and Foreign Missions Board president FRED LITTLEFIELD have been asked to make the trip, that is presently scheduled for late February and early March. (See Mid-America section of "Friends Concerns" for more information.)

DOUGLAS STEERE, professor emeritus of Haverford College, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and author of numerous books on prayer and the spiritual life, has been honored as an outstanding religious leader by the Methodist periodical The Upper Room. A special award ceremony was held October 16 in Philadelphia.

## FRIENDS FOCUS

### CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS--LAMBS TO LADYBUGS

Innovations in Sunday school Christmas programs are reflected in the titles. Some nontraditional Christmas programs included "Mary Had a Little Lamb," at East Whittier Friends in California and Newberg, Oregon, Friends; "Angels and Lambs, Ladybugs and Fireflies," Hayden Lake, Idaho, Friends; "Christmas 2001," First Denver Friends, Colorado; "Christmas Fever," First Friends, Newport News, Virginia; and "365 Days of Christmas Each Year," Sherwood, Oregon, Friends.

### NEWLYWEDS RECEIVE BOOKS

Newly married members of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting are eligible to receive \$15 worth of books. When monthly meeting recorders report a marriage to the Book Services Committee, a letter is sent to the couple with a free grant list enclosed. A total of \$15 worth of books, at list price, may be selected. This is a meaningful wedding present and may be a model for other yearly meetings or local meetings.



GROUPS TRAVEL TO HAITI

Two Friends groups are making visits to the country known as the poorest in the western hemisphere--Haiti. Tony Weber, a student at Friends University and member of Fowler, Kansas, Friends Church, has organized a group of students who are doing some construction and are involved in other mission-related experiences during parts of December and January. In February a work group organized by Friends in Canton, Ohio, will be going to Haiti for two weeks.

FRIENDS RETIREMENT CENTERS LISTED

Informative material about each of the Friends retirement facilities can be found in a newly published edition of the Directory of Friends Retirement Facilities. The directory is available for \$2 by writing to Creative Aging, 101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond, IN 47374.

EARLY QUAKERISM SEEN AS KEY FOR TODAY

The Gospel that the first Friends preached and its relevance for today is the concern of New Foundation Papers. The quarterly paper has been produced for a year now and plans to continue with articles by Lewis Benson, author of Catholic Quakerism, and other contributors from the United States, Canada, and England. The address for New Foundation Papers is P. O. Box 267, Kutztown, PA 19530.

CHURCH INITIATES COMMUNITY PAPER

The small town of Entiat in central Washington now has its own newspaper--Entiat Valley News & Views. The little four-page paper began in December and will be published monthly by the Entiat Friends Church. The paper features news of general interest to residents, carries advertisements for local merchants, and is mailed with no subscription fee. Pastor Dave Fendall edits the paper, which will help the church be recognized as a caring part of the community.

MALONE PLANS 90/25 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

April 26-May 1 has been set as the major celebration week for Malone College's 90/25 anniversary. The Ohio college will hold special activities to commemorate its 90 years of Christian education and 25 years in Canton.

FWCC ANNOUNCES REGIONAL CONFERENCES

The Friends World Committee for Consultation has adopted a plan of regionalization that includes a series of regional conferences. Those presently being planned include "The Immediacy of the Holy Spirit," March 12-14, Camp Robin Haven near Cambridge, Ohio; "The Roots of Violence, A Quaker Perspective," March 26-28, Wilmington College, Wilmington, Ohio; and a preparatory conference for the FWCC Kenya Triennial, May 28-30, Penn Community Center--Sea Islands near Savannah, Georgia.

DISASTER SERVICE REMAINS PREPARED TO SERVE

Friends Disaster Service, an outreach ministry of Friends in Eastern Region, has improved their equipment inventory with the purchase of two trailers for their volunteer work with victims of natural disasters. One will be placed in western Ohio and the other in Michigan. Slide presentations and other information about Friends Disaster Service is available from its coordinator, Dean Johnson, 241 Keena Road, Peninsula, Ohio 44264.



PRESIDENT ADVISED TO PUT AWAY BOMBS

Children at Friends School in Detroit wrote letters to the President of the United States in cooperation with the Children's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. A six-year-old student wrote, "Put away the bombs because by accident the White House might explode."

RESPONSIBILITY INCLUDED IN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Along with signing a statement of faith, potential members of East Whittier Friends Church also sign a statement of responsibility. The statement emphasizes the corporate responsibilities that membership entails and reads, "Upon the acceptance of my application by the East Whittier Friends Church, and with the Lord's help, I will endeavor: To attend the meetings of the church with faithful regularity; To share in the work of the church and its organizations; To support the Master's work through cheerful and regular contributions to the church; To have family and private worship; To accept the California Yearly Meeting 'Faith and Practice' as the guide for my church in policy and practice." Similar statements, sometimes listed as a "covenant of membership," are used among Friends to note the member's commitment to doing as well as believing.

IOWA FRIENDS DEVELOP RETIREMENT CENTER

Property has been purchased and a name selected for the new Friends retirement center in Iowa. A 12-acre parcel of land about one-half mile north of William Penn College in Oskaloosa will be the building site for Three Fountain Village Retirement Center. Mahlon Macy will serve as director of the new center upon completing his present term as superintendent of Iowa Yearly Meeting.

CONTEST INCREASES SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Final score: Salem 120, Alliance 110. First Friends Church, Salem, Ohio, and First Friends in Alliance had a Sunday school attendance contest the five Sundays in November. Score was kept on the basis of percentage of the 1980 attendance for each church.

EARLHAM PRESIDENT SAILS ATLANTIC

Franklin Wallin, president of Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana, spent a month last summer in a 30-foot sailboat named Quest. Wallin, his two sons, and one of their school friends, departed from Cape May, New Jersey. At the Azores Wallin's wife, Florence, joined the cross-Atlantic excursion to the coast of Spain.

'CHRISTIAN LOVE GOES BEYOND JUDGMENT'

In a regular mailer from an Evangelical Friends Alliance church, a member presents her church as an enviable example of love and acceptance. Her message, in part and with the name changed, reads: "In the summer of 1979, I decided to marry John. This decision was met with concern by many of you.

"In the spring of 1981, John and I filed for divorce. I experienced terrible feelings of guilt and of 'letting people down.' I expected everyone to think I was a 'bad' person and say 'I told you it wouldn't work.'

"No one said anything of the kind. I was showered with caring. From many of you came words of support and concern, notes, prayers, and deeds. I am deeply grateful to each one of you who cared and shared, even a word or two. You have shown that Christian love goes beyond judgment to caring for each other. Thank you."



(Continued from page 12)

Anglicans worldwide, when a panel found it to be "middle-aged, male-dominated and shackled by tradition and archaic practices." Charismatics had both good and bad press. One of their most rapidly growing sectors is among Hispanic Roman Catholics in the United States. The chairman of the German Evangelical Alliance, however, warned of the "dogmatization of the experiences of the Holy Spirit" in the charismatic wave sweeping over Europe. The Church of the Nazarene played musical chairs in its heirarchy, and when the music stopped some veteran staffers were hitting the pavement.

#### EVANGELISM

The highlight of the year was the American Festival of Evangelism in Kansas City, Missouri, in July with over 8,000 church leaders praying, singing, "seminaring," and equipping. Boston minister VaCountess Johnson came because she was tired of Christians "talking and squawking about Jesus but missing the point of a committed Christian lifestyle." She said "if 40 million evangelical Christians in America were truly born-again, they would turn this nation around." The turn is still awaited.

Billy Graham visited Poland, crusaded in Mexico, Canada, and elsewhere, and stood firm against the arms race. Luis Palau told Scotland it was "the Bible or the jungle," and in his major San Diego Crusade it was not reported if he told the crowds it was "the Bible or the moors."

Thousands of blacks in South Africa responded to crusade calls. India hosted its largest-ever Christian convention with 120,000 attending individual sessions.

#### MISSIONS

Disease and starvation claimed thousands of victims worldwide. Add to this the people scattered by national and civil wars, the boat people from Vietnam and Haiti, and those uprooted and displaced by nature's temper tantrums, and it's obvious that parachurch and church relief agencies had their usual frantic 12 months.

A growth of house churches was seen as the best means of sustaining Christian community in India. A pastor, out of a reeducation camp in Vietnam, termed the country's economy "hopeless" and said Christians "are discriminated against and live under threat and hindrance." The church in Cuba was reported to be growing but troubled by a shortage of trained leaders and the thorny question of church-

state relations. The Salvation Army, a founding member 33 years ago, withdrew its membership from the World Council of Churches, mainly because of Third World policies.

#### EDUCATION

Religious leaders played choose-up in 1981 over three potentially explosive school-related issues in the church-state sector: the "scientific creationism" movement, school prayer legislation, and tuition tax credits for parents with children in religious schools.

The "scientific creationism" boosters sought to require schools that teach Darwin's theory of evolution to give equal time to the biblical story of creation. A California court case and the Creationism Act in Arkansas established the battle lines.

Fundamentalists and their political cronies continued the push for school prayer legislation against equally as rigid determination from a coalition of opposing forces that see the legislation as a severe abridgment of the separation of church and state.

As for the tuition tax credit package being offered by Senators Bob Packwood (R-Ore.) and Daniel Moynihan (D-N.Y.), religious school proponents called it essential, public school officials claimed it would be the end of the public school system in America, moderate and liberal Christians pointed up the church-state issue, President Reagan came out for it, and parents tended to side with their pocketbooks.

#### LIFE-STYLES

The American family life-style continued to be open to varying pressures and interpretations. The Congressional New Right introduced a revised "Family Protection Act" as a "first step in removing government intrusion from the lives of American families." The plan proposed 30 specific provisions in the areas of parental rights, taxation, federally funded education, school prayer, and rights of religious institutions.

The Assembly of God designated 1981 as the "Year of the Family," and most other denominations, parachurch organizations, and individual religious leaders and evangelists put heavy stress on the need to support and reaffirm the family unit. The biggest problem was to define "family" in a nation where only one of every seven families fits the traditional nuclear family definition.


Futurist Tom Sine told evangelicals "the party's over." He called for the church to

take the lead toward a simplified life-style—"a radical change from most evangelical Christians' life-styles." He claimed we don't need to be worried about secular humanism because "we've already been gobbled up by the religion of America." Meanwhile, First Baptist Church of Dallas (to pick one of too many such examples) announced a \$300 million development program in downtown Dallas to include two 45-story office towers.

#### NEWSMAKERS

Pope John Paul II recovered from an assassination attempt, and Turkish terrorist Mehmet Ali Agca was convicted of the shooting . . . the daughter of Rep. Leo J. Ryan, killed at Jonestown, was following a cult leader in India . . . former Peoples Temple cultist Larry Layton was freed after a mistrial in a case revolving around Ryan's death . . . James Earl Ray, serving 99 years for the slaying of Martin Luther King, had reportedly become a Christian . . . hunger strikers, churchmen, government officials, British soldiers, and innocent bystanders died in Northern Ireland's unholy war . . . Philip Berrigan and seven others in the Plowshares 8 were found guilty of breaking into a General Electric plant and pouring blood on nuclear weapons components and documents . . . and church members were among the black children slain in Atlanta.

#### YEAR OF THE THUD

It took the space shuttle Columbia one abortive attempt and days of delay this fall to finally get off the ground. The rocket of religion should have been so fortunate. America's religious capsule seemed poised for orbit as 1981 approached. But insufficient thrust was generated and the rocket struggled tenaciously for liftoff before thudding back to the gantry and sitting there immobilized. A tuneup is in order. 

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## ONE SMALL MIRACLE

BY NANCY THOMAS

Balofur's timing was perfect. Our slight black cat, bewildered and inexperienced, began giving birth to her first litter of kittens just as the children got home from school. Fascinated, we all sat on the rug to watch and encourage.

Our fascination quickly changed to concern as Balofur struggled with the second birth. She groaned and strained, rested awhile, and tried again, seemingly in vain. Accusation and confusion mingled in the

look she threw me, and somehow I felt personally responsible. The kids were worried, and I certainly didn't know what to do. Finally in desperation I turned cat midwife, gently pulling until kitten number two slid out. Balofur then easily gave birth to the third and last kitten.

The first and third kittens soon began whining and searching for sustenance. Nature seemed to have the situation well in hand. The still-confused mother tentatively pawed and licked, beginning to understand that these ragged pieces of fur belonged to her.

But kitten number two was a pathetic sight. Not a sound found its way from his throat. Not a single movement of spindly limbs groped toward warmth or food. He just lay there, and every few seconds gasped for air, followed by a brief sharp convulsion. Somewhat objective, keeping pity at an adult minimum, I observed to myself, "This cat is not going to make it."

But David and Kristin were far from objective. "Mommy!" Kristin wailed, her blue eyes filling with tears. "Do something!"

Yes, certainly. Do something.

The thought flitted through my brain, "Why don't you pray?"

I immediately rejected it, reasoning, "This kitten is obviously going to die, which really isn't uncommon for a first litter. Besides, if I pray for healing and then the cat dies, what will my kids think of God? What would it do to their faith?"

Just as quickly, the Spirit of God spoke to my spirit: "Nancy, I have not placed my reputation in your hands. I'll take care of your kids' faith. You just obey me. Pray for the kitten."

The kids readily agreed, and we laid fingers on the small corpse-like body. David, not encumbered with my adult common sense and doubts, prayed briefly and simply, asking God to heal the kitty. And that was that.

As the afternoon wore on, the kitten grew weaker. I moved it close to the mother, hoping instinct would prod Balofur to care for it. But she was still too bewildered by all the events of the day to be of much help. In spite of the lack of encouraging signs, I felt good. God's words had touched a deep place in me, and I was free to leave the whole situation in His hands. How silly to think that I was the guardian of the Almighty's reputation—that so much depended on me!

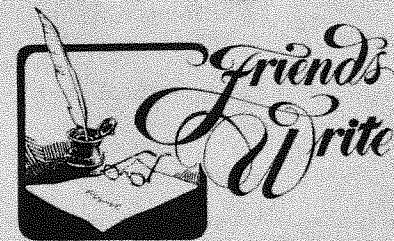
That night we put the four cats in a basket and went to bed.

You've probably guessed the rest of the story. The next morning all three kittens were squealing, sucking, sleeping—doing all the things normal healthy kittens are supposed to do. Balofur seemed resigned to her new responsibilities and was mothering like an old pro. David named kitten number two "Miracle."

Today, some six weeks later, Miracle's vivacity and active mischief remind me that God certainly can take care of His own reputation.

I've thought since of the times we try to protect God. Times we don't boldly claim a promise, just in case it doesn't work. Times we don't pray in a definite positive way for someone else. Times we water down a word of encouragement or fail to speak what God is prodding us to share. Times we hesitate to step out into the Jordan of a new experience or relationship. We protect God from failure.

*"Lord, forgive us. Help us see how ridiculous we are, and enable us to laugh. Then show us yourself, high and lifted up, able to do what You have said. Let us become simpler, able to obey quickly, trusting You with the results. And thank You, Father, for showing me that You're still the God of Miracles."*



## Christ's Words or Doctrine?

■ Jerry Matthieu's defense of "doctrine" ("Friends Write," November) is centered in the doctrine, or teaching, that Christ taught. Great! But that is not what the Argentinian Christian had in mind as producing MANY rather than ONE.

Defined theories or convictions *about* Christ and about how or what God has worked through Him have little to do with His own teaching. In fact, few, if any, evangelical statements of doctrine include an article of belief in what Jesus taught. At present, His teaching seems to be under a cloud.

But when doctrine *about* Christ takes precedence over His own words, strife and divisions occur, just as the Apostle Paul

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warned in 1 Timothy 6:3-4. Friends, of all people, who came into being with "There is One, even Jesus, who can speak to thy condition" and whose name is derived from doing all that He commanded — Friends should be listening to and heeding everything He taught and follow His example, not just pick out "distinctives" over which to be contentious.

MARY K. GEORGE

Tillamook, Oregon

### In Appreciation

■ I have just read your November 1981 issue and wish to commend you for an excellent issue, especially the illuminating articles by Minh Nguyen Kauffman on Indo-Chinese refugees and by Ernest J. Cathcart on racial pluralism among Friends.

As an "unprogrammed Friend," I have long felt pain at the monochromatic aspect of the Religious Society of Friends in the U.S.A., where black and other racially different Friends are noticeably few. Yet I am convinced that all persons, of whatever race, are children of God and that the very first place where that should be reflected is in the Society of Friends and Christian bodies in general.

Thank you for these thought-provoking articles.

JOHN A. SULLIVAN

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

■ I appreciate the EVANGELICAL FRIEND and anticipate every issue.

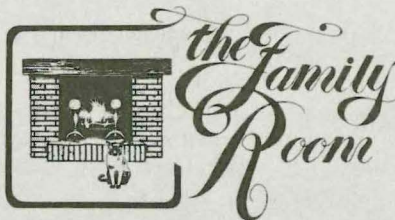
WAYNE L. CONANT

Omaha, Nebraska

*Opinions expressed by writers of articles or letters in the EVANGELICAL FRIEND are not necessarily those of the editors or of the Evangelical Friends Alliance. Due to space limitations, letters may be condensed. Letters should be held to 300 words, preferably much less.*

### EARLHAM SCHOOL OF RELIGION

seeks a faculty person in the area of Applied Theological Studies. Experience in Ministry and ability to supervise field work are essential. Primary teaching responsibilities will be in the areas of pastoral care, Christian education, and theory of faith development. Candidates for the position who are Quaker, skilled in teaching, with significant pastoral experience and a Ph.D., D.Min., or equivalent competency will be given prior consideration. Women are particularly encouraged to apply. Position is available in the fall of 1982. Two-year initial appointment with salary and rank negotiable. Applications will be received until March 15, 1982, in the office of Dean Alan Kolp, Earlham School of Religion, Richmond, Indiana 47374. Earlham School of Religion as part of Earlham College is an Affirmative Action institution.



### LISTENING

BY BECKY ANKENY

My daughter is beginning to babble. She is amusing and precocious, as all firstborn babies are, but because the babble is unintelligible, I tended to tune it out. Then I had a dream not long ago that gave me pause for thought. I dreamed that I had been ignoring Davida's babble for a long time, when suddenly I noticed she was saying real words in sentences. I had no idea, in my dream, how long she had been trying to talk to me without my being courteous enough to listen.

Listening is one behavior that should be under the jurisdiction of the Golden Rule. *Listen to others as you would have them listen to you.* Perhaps many adolescents refuse to listen to their parents because those parents have never listened to them. Perhaps wives ignore what their husbands say as an unconscious or even conscious method of revenge for having never been listened to. Perhaps some of you are like me; I combine an inability to listen quietly with an insistence on being listened to—a particularly offensive combination, it seems to me.

Like most forms of courtesy, listening is a difficult but necessary skill to acquire; it requires self-discipline and a commitment to the other person. One of the significantly helpful concepts of Marriage Encounter is the emphasis on listening with heart and mind to what one's spouse has to say.

There are few gifts we can give that are as heartwarming to another as the gift of listening with serious concentration, and responding carefully and thoughtfully to what he or she says. Everyone needs to be taken seriously at some time.

The best place to begin is for me to take seriously the attempts my daughter makes to communicate and to give my whole attention to the more polished thoughts of my husband. If I cannot listen to those I love whom I can see, how can I learn to listen to God, whom also I love, but cannot see? ☐

## A Will says "I cared,



## about my family, about my church, about the future."

Without a will your family will be caught up in the confusion, delay, and expense of extra legal work; your church will receive none of your property (unless you have a trust or some other contractual agreement), and the future will be left to the discretion of a probate judge who does not know you or your family.

Find out more about why you need a will, and how to get started. Order your free copy of our booklet, "37 Things People 'Know' About Wills That Aren't Really So."

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

Don Worden, Director of Development  
Evangelical Friends Church—  
Eastern Region  
1201 30th Street N.W.  
Canton, Ohio 44709

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

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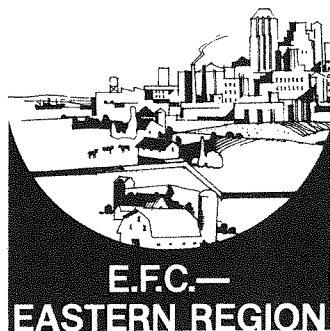
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# FRIENDS CONCERNS



## Eastern Region Happenings

DECEMBER was a good month! Throughout the Eastern Region, our Friends churches called attention once again to the birth of the Christ Child, which happened so many years ago in the humble village of Bethlehem. With the singing of the carols, the lighting of candles, and the hanging of the evergreens, the coming of "Emmanuel: God with Us" was emphasized. The reports of pastors, enthusiastic about the fine work of their choirs, Sunday school teachers, youth carolers, etc., are truly heartwarming. For this we are indeed grateful.

The year 1982 is now upon us! The new year brings with it many unique opportunities—opportunities that must be seized in order to be used. Let us all renew our commitments to God and trust HIM for a meaningful year.

RICHMOND-HANOVER Friends Church at Mechanicsville, Virginia, dedicated the new addition to their church building on November 22. Pastor George Robinson reports that the service was well-attended with 460 present and there was a beautiful spirit of gratitude because the project is completed and is debt free!

TRINITY FRIENDS located in Van Wert, Ohio, will soon need to enlarge

their worship facility. At the special Thanksgiving service there were 495 in attendance, and, according to Pastor Duane Rice, this set a record.

COMMITMENTS to the 1982 Missionary Outreach Budget have now been reported from the majority of the churches. The Finance and Stewardship Board projects a total of \$703,863 in income during 1982, which is 95.67 percent of the budget.

There are 20 "Million Dollar Churches" and these include Gilead, Orange Rd., Mt. Pleasant, Raisin Center, Tecumseh, Beloit, Canton, Damascus, East Goshen, Barberton, Boston Heights, Milan, West Park, Martinsville, New Hope, Newport News, Peniel, Richmond-Hanover, Morningside, and Byhalia.

With optimism and a strong belief in responsible stewardship among Eastern Region churches, the Finance Board faces 1982 and challenges the Yearly Meeting to make it the best yet!

## Focus on Malone

Paul D. Snyder, a 1971 Malone alumnus, has been named Director of Planned Gifts at Malone College. His assignment will include the seeking of financial support—charitable annuities, unitrusts, bequests, and other deferred gifts. Before coming to Malone, Snyder was a State Trooper with the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

The Malone College Chorale toured Costa Rica during the December Term. In addition to giving concerts, the tour members visited Peace Corps sites, Quaker Colony, the Mennonite missionary work, Irazu Volcano, the National Cathedral, and several other points of interest. This was an opportunity for Malone students to become acquainted with another culture while sharing their own culture through music. They were also exposed to the possibilities of foreign service.

Donald R. Murray, associate professor of music at Malone, and his wife, Dorothy, directed the tour.

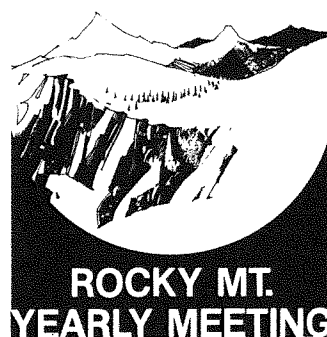
Malone College once again offered a theater tour of New York with three hours of academic credit for one of the selections available for December Term. Two busloads of participants enjoyed the five-day tour, attending an opera, ballet, a musical, a play, and a television taping. The group also took in three major art galleries, Chinatown, and St. Patrick's Cathedral before their return on December 18.

The Randall Campus Center was the site for the Malone M-1000 dinner held in November, at which time Malone's new president, Dr. Gordon Werkema, spoke about the future of the college from his viewpoint. The purpose of M-1000 is to establish a

three-million-dollar endowment fund in order to secure the financial stability of the college.

Students from Syria, Haiti, Thailand, England, Egypt, China, Sweden, Hungary, and many other countries were treated to "An American Thanksgiving Dinner" hosted by the Advisory Board and Women's Advisory Council of Malone College in the Steward Community Room of the Randall Campus Center.

International students from 23 countries and their advisor, Dr. James Stuckey, were guests of honor as Cal Friar, chairman of the Advisory Board, and Edie Batton, president of Women's Advisory Council, extended greetings and officiated at the program that included "Kermit the Frog" portrayed by Malone student Russ Stutler, and Malone Varsity Cheerleaders joining in on some whimsical fun. Speaker for the evening was Malone head basketball coach, Dan Manley.



## RMYM Briefs...

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico—A new youth night Sunday evenings recently started. The meeting consists of games, movies, supper, and a Bible lesson. Volunteers conduct the program. Attendance has been around 25.

BENKELMAN, Nebraska—Bob Harris of North Carolina conducted a week-long series of evangelistic meetings recently. Prayers for the ministry in this part of Nebraska are appreciated.

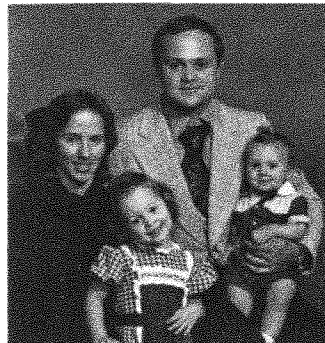
BRIGHTON, Colorado—Members traveled to Rough Rock Friends Mission in November to help work on a solar project. A trip to the South Park meeting in Kansas is planned soon. Church members will conduct a complete Sunday service. Prayers are requested for the youth Bible study and two adult Bible studies. Pray Isaiah 55:11.

FORT COLLINS, Colorado—EFM director James Morris spoke at the November missions conference. During the sessions faith promise pledges were taken.

## New Pastor Takes Over Duties at First Friends

Arden Kinser recently became the new pastor at the Colorado Springs meeting.

Kinser is a graduate of Friends Bible College and Western Evan-

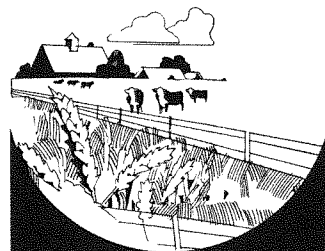


gelical Seminary in Portland, Oregon. He succeeds his father, Ken, who now pastors the Grand Junction meeting.

Kinser and his wife Janet have two daughters, Shannon and Shelly Jo.

Church members welcomed their new pastor with a food "pounding."

Prayers for the church's ministry in Colorado Springs are appreciated.



## MID-AMERICA YEARLY MEETING

### Firstfruits of a Meeting

Twenty-one Friends were received into membership at Friends Community Church of West Wichita after only 14 months of operation.

On Sunday, December 5, a landmark service was held in the beautiful facilities at Maple Gardens, during which the initial group of members was presented by pastor David Hickman for installation as the charter members in the youngest MAYM meeting to receive membership.

In September of 1980, David and Jan Hickman began services in the first of the new Friends churches to be started in the decade of the eighties by the Home Ministries Division of the Outreach Board of Mid-America Yearly Meeting. Immediately there was a warm response from that section of Wichita, a response that has grown steadily. Now with

## CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY

2-3 E. P. & E. Board Meeting  
4-5 Executive Board Meeting  
19-21 Friends Marriage Encounter—Akron

### MARCH

19-21 Super Saver #2 Weekend  
26-28 Friends Marriage Encounter—North Carolina

### APRIL

16-18 Friends Marriage Encounter—Ohio  
26-29 Ministers' Conference, Massanetta Springs, Virginia  
30- Men in Missions Retreat, May 1 Cedar Lake, West Virginia

attendance regularly in the 60's—in borrowed facilities—this first group of members has been received to form the foundation for the vibrant church to come. Northridge Friends, the sister meeting in North Wichita, is serving as the "holding" church for the membership.

Among the new members were the three families, former Friends, that have formed the "core" group during its first months of ministry. They are Pastor David and Jan Hickman and children, Ryan, Darby, and Sarah; James and Barbara Davison and



Craig; Becky and Pamela Ellis; and Ronald and Sue Muhlenbruch and daughter, Marianne.

Others shown in the photograph are Naomi Dahlen, Pattie Dehler, Stephen B. and Marguritte Lee, Joe and Grace Mitchell, and Carl and Mabel Long.

Gerald Teague, associate superintendent, received these "First-fruits" of the meeting on behalf of MAYM and participated in the ceremony with a brief charge and a prayer of dedication. All present shared in the Friends custom of extending the "right hand of fellowship."

May this vine of God's planting bear much more such fruit.

### Administrative Visit to Burundi Planned

Because of the fast-changing events that occur in our mission endeavors, it has become increasingly apparent that an administrative visit to Burundi is a "must" during this church year. Those who know mission work best recommend that such visits occur every year, or certainly every second year. The last visit of this kind was made in 1977 when Superintendent John Robinson and Board President Roscoe Townsend spent several weeks in Burundi meeting with field staff, church leaders, and members.

In his widely accepted report, Charles Mylander recommended that John Robinson and James Morris, executive director of the Evangelical Friends Mission, make a trip to Burundi as soon as possible. Prior commitments will not permit James Morris to be thus involved. The Executive Committee of the Foreign Missions Board has asked that Board President Fred Littlefield and Superintendent John Robinson make this much needed visit.

Preliminary plans are underway to make that sojourn in late February

and early March. Purpose of the trip is at least fourfold:

1. To confer with field staff regarding policies, present and future personnel needs, and to provide pastoral care to each individual and family serving in our stead.

2. To visit among the churches, and to meet with the national leaders in finalizing the Contractual Agreement and to target dates for the Day of Celebration for formally establishing Burundi Yearly Meeting.

3. To assess financial needs in terms of inflation factors that affect our work abroad.

4. To prepare a composite report for the board and the Yearly Meeting.

Further consideration will be given to the above during our midyear board meetings. We covet your prayers as we become your instruments of communication in a more formal but warmly personal way.

—John Robinson

### These Also Serve

In November and December, Clarence and Ferne Cook spent a month in Burundi on another "vacation with a purpose." Ministering personally and vocationally they are enjoying another short term of service while fulfilling personal dreams and providing helping hands to our work and workers.

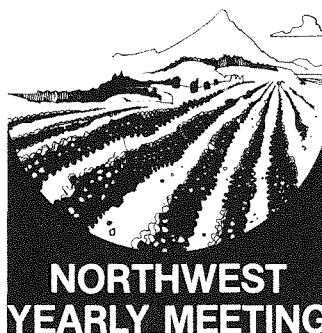
Fred and Frances Walkemeyer and Marian Figgins met the Cooks in the international revolving door as they visited the field during the Christmas and New Year holidays. Time was spent primarily with the David and Mae (Walkemeyer) Kelums and sons Leroy and Kelly at Kwisumo. This is also a repeat visit by Fred and Frances, who were welcomed with much joy and appreciation.

Ferdinand Nzohabonayo, a student at Friends Bible College, returned home during the holiday school break. He is to graduate in May, and plans for him include graduate work in evangelism and church growth. Because his mother passed away several months ago, it seemed wise to allow him to return home to pay respects to other members of the family and to become updated in the current concerns of the church so he will know how to better prepare to minister to his own people when his educational goals in the U.S. are completed. His visit is being underwritten by personal gifts and deputations honoraria.

### Focus on Friends University

The Friends University symphonic choir, the Singing Quakers, will be on tour during the university's week of Spring Break, March 6-14, 1982. Dr. Cecil Riney, conductor of this internationally known choir, will take at least 50 members of Singing Quakers to eastern Colorado this year. In preceding years the choir has toured to California, Chicago, and last year to the Florida region.

For the third year, Friends University will offer a ministry of gratitude to the churches of Mid-America Yearly Meeting. "Sunday with Friends," March 28, 1982, will be a day of visitation by Friends University representatives into the meeting places of MAYM. Faculty, staff, administration, and students will go out to visit, to teach, to perform musically, and to share the gospel message from the pulpit. This is a simple way of expressing the appreciation felt by the university for the many years of faithful support given to Friends by the people of MAYM.



### Did You Know?

■ High school Friends Youth work groups are getting ready for involvement next March 14-20 to assist in church needs using volunteer young people to work in painting, clean-up, landscaping, help in construction, or other activities. "All requests will be considered," says Gayle Beebe, field secretary for Friends Youth, "but

there is no guarantee the one you submit will be the one selected. No job is too big to be considered, so be sure and submit everything." One church will be selected for the project.

■ Hillsboro Friends has approved the purchase of a very attractive building site at the edge of town, a few blocks from where they had considered relocating. The price has been reduced, making it even more attractive.

■ McKinley Hill is a group of Friends a few blocks from McKinley Avenue in Tacoma that meets in homes since they have no building. John and Julia Retherford drive across town to preach and pastor, and they report that homes are not large enough now to handle the increasing attendance. They are considering buying a place soon that can handle 70-80 as the next phase of a developing congregation.

■ Hilltop Friends, for the first time, entertained Area Rally with 162 present in the November meeting. The next Portland Area Rally will be at Cascade Friends in Bend.

■ Clackamas Park Friends held an all-day craft work sale in November to raise money for their new church addition, netting \$1,700 from articles made mostly by members and youth of the church.

### Bauman Chapel/Auditorium Progresses

Construction on the Bauman Chapel/Auditorium at George Fox College is progressing rapidly as work crews from the L. D. Mattson Company of Salem, Oregon, hope to finish the concert hall soon. College officials



have raised about \$2.2 million of the total sum of \$2.5 million. The project is unique because no public tax monies are being used. The current plan is the "Buy-A-Seat" project, being supported by people throughout Northwest Yearly Meeting, as well as Newberg community residents.

This auditorium is unique in all of the western portion of metropolitan Portland and will benefit the greater Newberg area in providing adequate facilities for educational and cultural events. One feature is the pipe organ donated by Milo and Alice Ross. The Bauman Chapel/Auditorium is structurally joined to the present Ross Center.

### Coming Events

#### JANUARY

- 18-22 GFC Missions Conference
- 22,23 NWYM Midyear Board Meetings, Newberg
- 27-30 GFC Homecoming
- 29 "Scrambled Ham"—GFC Theatre, 8:00 p.m. Wood-Mar Auditorium

#### FEBRUARY

- 5,6 "Occasionally Mime," one-man show featuring Michael Ogden
- 8-12 Minority Emphasis Week, GFC
- 12-14 Junior High Jamboree, Twin Rocks
- 14-19 Quaker Emphasis Week, GFC
- 26,27 *The Madwoman of Chaillot*—Winter Drama production, GFC, Wood-Mar Auditorium

#### MARCH

- 5,6 *Madwoman of Chaillot*
- 12-14 NWYM Friends Men's Retreat, Twin Rocks
- 14 "GFC Sunday" in NWYM Friends churches



## Around George Fox College

Along with the rest of Northwest Oregon, George Fox College suffered some damage in the November windstorm with hurricane force winds up to 90 miles an hour recorded in the Willamette Valley. A large fir tree smashed through the pedestrian bridge across Hess Creek Canyon. Roofs were damaged on the Winters Apartments and Wood-Mar, a poplar near Edwards Hall and the tops or major branches of many other trees were lost.

Students and regular maintenance crew members spent most of a week cleaning the campus of debris following the storm, believed to be the second strongest ever recorded in Oregon.

Portland Trail Blazer coach Jack Ramsay was the guest speaker for the 22nd annual George Fox/Newberg Community Dinner in November on campus, which was attended by 200 persons. The program, in cooperation with the city of Newberg, recognizes Newberg's Distinguished Service Award winners for the year.

About 250 parents coming from Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Califor-

nia, and Montana attended the recent Parent Weekend on campus. This featured a program of seminars, tours, entertainment, and worship. Future plans for a Parents' Organization were discussed and a panel discussed the "empty nest," home-sickness, and releasing parental ties; another seminar was on career orientation and the role of parents.

Joseph Bayly, vice-president of the David C. Cook Publishing Co., and best known as the author of *The Gospel Blimp*, was the main speaker of more than 20 leaders involved in a three-day Christian Education Conference on campus. The fifth annual conference, which drew hundreds to the campus, included workshops, general sessions, and exhibits by national and regional organizations involved in Christian education. The conference was sponsored by the college's Department of Christian Ministries and the Office of Church Relations.

Fall term enrollment at George Fox College is 743 plus 82 students enrolled in the college's Independent Study course program for mathematics teachers. This is a correction of the total given in December *Evangelical Friend*.

cian, and Bruce Burch, speaker. Special activities were a carry-in supper on Friday night with a film *Ordinary Guy* shown after the service, a walk-a-thon for missions on Saturday, and the "Life Line" singers in concert after the evening service.

## BELLEVILLE, Kansas

Our church is in the process of being remodeled.

Ralph and Ruth Miller had evening services November 20, with a potluck dinner before the service.

Eight members of our church attended the Northbranch Area Rally.

Our pastor, Beth Shapiro, attended a Pastors' Short Course in Wichita October 26-28.

## BENKELMAN, Nebraska

Benkelman members have seen a variety of programs recently. They include the film *Russia and the Coming Holocaust*, a senior high Halloween party, and the Imperial Valley Holiness Convention held in the church. Church youth are collecting aluminum cans to help the World Hunger Crusade.

## BETHEL, Hugoton, Kansas

Special training classes are being conducted by the pastors, Steve and Marjorie Harmon, using Evangelism Explosion concepts developed by James Kennedy. Ten converts have come from 17 presentations, indicating that quality results are coming from even the early stages of visitation.

Fred and Frances Walkemeyer and Marian Figgins enjoyed a trip to Burundi to visit the David Kellum family over the holidays.

## BOISE, Idaho

Our Music Committee provided leadership for the second annual "Fall Music Round-up," Sunday evening, October 17. Western attire was worn and apple pie a-la-mode was served to everyone in the packed Fellowship Hall, following the program of music and drama.

Fellowship Sunday was observed after church services, October 24, when over 250 members gathered in 21 homes, enjoying a time of food and fellowship together.

Three seminars on "Neighborhood Disciple Strategy" are being conducted this fall and winter under the leadership of David Wilhite, assisted by David Tillstrom. About 30 from our church, and some from other churches, have availed themselves of this opportunity.

Thanksgiving was celebrated by about 350 Boise Friends November 22. There was a special offering of \$500 taken for World Relief, a barrel of food collected for local need, and attention called to a "Day of Prayer among Friends." A bountiful Thanksgiving dinner was served at 4:00 p.m. and 30 "Kids of the Kingdom" gave a musical program with background pictures projected on the wall. Our East Boise Church also served a

Thanksgiving Dinner following a record attendance of 51 at their worship service.

Our minister, Harold Antrim, is preaching inspiring sermons on each book of the Bible. Many are making a collection of 66 valuable Bible-book outlines, which he is making available each week to the congregation.

## CHANDLER, Oklahoma

Gary and Janelle Townsend are giving good leadership to a new venture—Accelerated Christian Education—involving 30 students plus staff in the church-sponsored school program. Pastor David Thornburg and Clerk Glen Mullen report that the church is facing the alternatives now of expanding the church plant on limited acreage or looking for facilities elsewhere.

## DAMASCUS, Ohio

The Awana Club program is off to a great start. Included this year is a new group in the program for four- and five-year olds called CUBBIES. Beginning with 9, they now have 15. At Awana Parents' Night, there were 113 clubbers and leaders and 31 parents!

In connection with the Awana program, a scholarship fund to send a clubber to camp has been established in memory of Mark Coleman, a 15-year-old who was killed in an auto accident.

The Administrative Council held their annual retreat to plan the coming year's events and look back to see where they had been and what had been accomplished.

Rev. Richard Riggs was evangelist for fall revival meetings, with Kenneth Phillips as song leader.

The annual offering for Christmas gifts to missionaries was received November 1.

## GILEAD, Mt. Gilead, Ohio

Phil DeVol of the County Council on Alcohol and Drugs, Inc., shared in an evening service. Also speaking were four girls sponsored by the Quakerdom WCTU.

Gilead Christian School opened for the second year with an enrollment of 26, with kindergarten added this year. A get-acquainted night was held for interested persons.

The Jeremiah 29:11 Retreat was attended by the Administrative Council and others interested in dreaming, planning, and goal setting.

During Missions Month, missionaries Dr. Anna Nixon (India) and Willard and Doris Ferguson (Burundi) spoke. A missions banquet with a menu consisting of food from China, Mexico, and India provided a great time of fellowship and inspiration.

## GREAT BEND, Kansas

Babies and toddlers are enjoying a new nursery; Pastor Paul Snyder gave up his "pastor's study" to provide the much-needed space. Pastors Paul and Linda are leading an

# FRIENDS GATHER

## ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico

Ephesians 2:10 was the theme of a recent church service. Part of the service included members bringing created items to share and display.

College students starting this year are Helen Goebel and Cori Levinson.

## ALUM CREEK, Marengo, Ohio

September was observed by the Education Commission. Each Sunday morning, a talk or skit was given on each of the four age groups: Leanagers (children), Teenagers, In-Between Agers, and Keen-Agers (mature adults), in which activities and personnel of each were promoted.

October Outreach Month featured Jerry Wenger, Jack Rea, Ron Johnson, Russell Stutler, and Susan Reischman, who gave presentations on Malone College, personal commitment, and spiritual vision. Phillip DeVol spoke in promotion of the county program for drug abuse. Special activities during the missionary promotion were a communion service, fellowship dinner, combined men and women's prayer breakfast, and an evening fellowship hour after service.

The Christian Youth Club, in weekly session since June, recessed for the winter in November. About 20 children were enrolled.

## ANGLETON, Texas

Walls are going up for the new Angleton church. As the walls rise, so does the enthusiasm and interest in the congregation. Presently we need about \$3,000 more to build a driveway in from the highway. We also need chairs—if you know of someone who could donate some, we would appreciate knowing this.

## BEAVER-SHANNON, Oklahoma

We recently had Joy and Arden Sanders and sons, missionaries to Papua New Guinea under Wycliffe Bible Translators, speak and show pictures of their work. Arden's parents, Glenn and Cora Sanders, were former pastors of Beaver Friends.

Alfred and Ruth Miller, missionaries on furlough from Burundi, shared with us and showed pictures of their work at Kwisumo, which is our Sister-Church.

## BELOIT, Ohio

Rally Day was celebrated with Earl and Catherine Smith for the entire day with a fellowship supper and singspiration for the evening service.

The youth had a work-a-thon at the church. Money earned will go for missions.

Weekend services sponsored by the youth featured Bruce Bell, musi-

adult class on the Christian marriage. This is a four-week study for all couples. Our congregation was recently challenged in Faith Promise giving by a businessman from Arkansas City. He shared how this had affected the growth, both physically and spiritually, of his church.

#### LA JUNTA, Colorado

The average church attendance is up by four. The pastor and others continue to conduct a nursing home ministry monthly.

#### MIAMI, Oklahoma

Miami Friends are looking forward to the Holy Life Ministry, "Living in the Spirit," with Max and Keith Huffman. Missionaries from Burundi, Africa, Alfred and Ruth Miller and Willard and Doris Ferguson, were speakers at our Missions Seminar. Our total Faith Promise Commitment was \$3,126.00.

Clark and Arbbara McQuigg donated two ceiling fans for the sanctuary, and Jerry Mercer, Clark McQuigg, and Harold Hinshaw installed them. A third bedroom is being built onto the parsonage. It includes a walk-in closet and a pantry for the kitchen. Labor was donated by Marvin and Kevin Cantwell, Jerry and Jason Mercer, Clark McQuigg, and Don Swadley.

#### NORTHBRANCH, Kansas

Our mission emphasis began with the cantata *To Tell the Untold* by Dick Anthony, which was also the theme for the month. Each Sunday special music from the cantata, prayer requests from the mission field and missionary news, and messages from our pastor, Lester Snyder, kept the mission emphasis before us. Ron and Janice Wood shared with us about the Kickapoo Indian Mission, and Alfred and Ruth Miller shared their slide presentation on the Burundi field in Africa.

The mission emphasis was climaxed by a special message from

Alfred Miller, sharing with us and challenging us from John 17:21 and Matthew 28:18-20 that the world would know that Jesus had sent each of us.

#### OLYMPIC VIEW Tacoma, Washington

On Friday, November 20, Olympic View opened the Great Commission Conference with a potluck dinner. We were joined by McKinley Hill, and the guest speaker was James Roberts, on furlough from Bolivia.

Saturday morning James was guest speaker at the Men's Breakfast. Lavonne Gregory was guest speaker at the Ladies Brunch, and were again joined by McKinley Hill.

Saturday afternoon was open house, and representatives from World Concern, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Youth for Christ, and Associated Ministries of Tacoma donated their time to tell of the great work done by these organizations. Ken Comfort represented missions for youth.

This Thanksgiving 10 food baskets were distributed to needy families, and one homeless family was housed and fed and given hope for their future.

Ground breaking for the new extension was an exciting event, and the oldest member (89 years), an in-between, and one of the youngest members shared the honor of lifting the first sod. February 1 is completion date, and Olympic View will be the richer by a sanctuary able to accommodate the growing congregation and the addition of four more Sunday school rooms.

#### PELHAM, Fenwick, Canada

Pelham Evangelical Friends Church in Fenwick, Ontario, had its 182nd Anniversary Crusade of Revival. Services were held October 18 to 21, with James Bon Durant as evangelist. In addition to the Sunday morning service, there was a potluck supper at 5:00 p.m. enjoyed by all.

Services were held Monday through Wednesday nights. We had special music by various church talent. The evangelist had something special each night for the children.

On November 29 we will have a special morning worship hour with Mildred Harris in concert and Ypsilanti Friends Youth in retreat with Pelham youth.

#### PLAINS, Kansas

Preschoolers have a happy learning time in children's church under the supervision of concerned adults and teens.

David Riley and his wife recently presented their plans as missionary appointees to Haiti with World Gospel Mission.

The film *So Many Voices*, which was viewed by our congregation, showed how the media can exercise mind control and what a Christian can do about it. The adult midweek Bible study theme for this winter is "Higher Ground."

New "Morgan-type" units have been placed adjacent to the sanctuary to provide additional educational space.

#### RAISIN VALLEY Adrian, Michigan

Several children ages 4-13 enjoyed a fun time and hay ride sponsored by the senior youth.

October 18 the church celebrated its 150th anniversary of being a Friends church in the same location, with the original structure still being used. Dale Chryst, pastor, spoke in the morning service on the subject "Responding to a Dream," with Acts 16:9-10 as the text. The Sunday school hour was designated as "Birdsall Community Day." It was the last Sunday of the district Sunday school contest, with Raisin Valley placing second.

The afternoon service consisted of a skit depicting the way a monthly business meeting was conducted, with the men and women conducting their business meetings separately, and reenactments of a wedding that took place in 1874 and a quiet meeting.

Former pastors Amos Henry, Roger Wood, and Lawrence Cox shared moments of memories from their time in the church. Several letters were read wishing the church continuous years of service, including one from Howard Moore, missionary to Taiwan, telling of his days of youth in the community and what the church meant to his life and growth.

Artifacts, pictures, and other meaningful items were on display.

The evening service included Amos Henry as guest speaker.

#### RAMONA, Oklahoma

A beautiful candelabra and kneeling bench were given to us in memory of Mrs. Munroe Tucker by William and Theta Gallamore and Kenneth and Irene Miller and their children.

#### RIVERTON, Kansas

Joining Pastor Sheldon Tucker in a team ministry effort is Steve Mullikin, a recent graduate of Friends Bible College.

#### ROSE VALLEY Kelso, Washington

Our home missions project for this year was the HELP program in Cowlitz County. This is a backup program for the Salvation Army and FISH programs in our area.

Our canned food drive was a big success, with food being brought to the church and the teens going door to door in the area for donations. The delivery required a pickup to transport to the Salvation Army for distribution.

The first Christmas Bazaar was held December 4, 5 in the George Bales Gymnasium, with proceeds directed to the gym fund (we are still in the process of rebuilding and finishing the gym after the snow damage). Many people contributed crafts and their time to the success of the bazaar. A delicious ham and baked beans dinner was served Friday night, and a lunch was served on Saturday.

#### SMITHFIELD, Ohio

Homecoming Sunday was observed with many guests, including Charles Ball, pastor of the church from 1938 to 1942.

The Norma Freer Missionary Society sponsored a dinner for the ladies of the church at their initial meeting of the year. The ladies received an award for their "Quaker Heritage" booth at the International Festival at the Ohio Valley Mall.

Parlett Friends Church is observing their first-year anniversary. Norman Anderson serves as pastor, preaching at 9:00 a.m.

#### TULSA, Oklahoma

The Outreach Committee planned and carried out a month of emphasis on Family and the Church, which included workshops on: "TV and the Family," led by John Peightel of Friends University; "Building our Youth," led by Royce Frazier, MAYM youth superintendent; "Building Marriages and Leisure Time," led by Leroy and Ann Willis, Marriage Encounter presenting couple; and "Building New Horizons" with Alfred and Ruth Miller, missionaries from Burundi, Africa, and Ron and Janis Woods and staff from Kickapoo Indian Missions.

#### URBANA, Ohio

A week of revival services with a missionary emphasis conducted by Owen and Ethel Mae Glassburn, who have presented the Gospel in more than 70 countries, was sincerely appreciated. Their ministry to us in sermon, magic with a biblical lesson, music, slides of their missionary travels, and showing and explaining curios gave us a clearer vi-

### FINANCIAL RECORDS STAFF PERSON

Friends World Committee for Consultation—Section of the Americas is seeking a qualified person to handle its financial records and transactions, beginning in February 1982.

**Duties:** Bookkeeping; payroll; billing; preparation of all statements, balance sheets, and records needed by the Finance Committee, auditors, and others. Assistance to other office functions as needed.

**Qualifications:** Accuracy, versatility, experience with modern financial records and office practices. Some experience or training with computerized record keeping desirable. Knowledge of Friends.

Apply by January 22, 1982 to

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1506 Race Street • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102



sion of the physical and spiritual needs of the world.

The Western District Ladies Missionary Retreat at our church was both inspiring and enlightening. Dorothy Picklesimer of Mt. Carmel Church served as emcee, and Anna Boyd Cosand was our guest speaker. She showed slides of her recent visit to Hong Kong and China, and she and Barbara Chess favored us with solos.

#### VILAS, Colorado

Until there may be a possibility of securing a pastor to reside in the community, arrangements have been made with Springfield, on a three-month trial basis, whereby Waylen and Darlene Brown will provide pastoral care to our meeting also.

#### WHITNEY, Boise, Idaho

A summer highlight at Whitney Friends was the internship of Cary Youmans, a Haviland Friends Bible College ministerial student. Cary is a hometown boy, having grown up in Boise; he accepted Christ into his life here at Whitney. His primary focus this summer was working with boys and girls in backyard Bible clubs. Through this ministry many children came to know the Lord. He also assisted in the worship services, helped with DVBS, camps, and filled in for the pastor.

This fall a Back to Bible Study information night was held for all who had attended last year's home Bible studies and for those interested in attending. A local visiting minister spoke and there was a fine display of available materials, also a time of

sharing. Announcement was made of the leaders and the homes open for this year's Bible study groups.

In response to one family's \$300 gift of groceries for our Emergency Food Bank, the Outreach Committee sponsored a turkey dinner at the church basement to help raise a matching amount to purchase other items for the Emergency Bank. This is used to help any distressed or needy family anytime the church is contacted for assistance.

A special community thanksgiving service entitled "Festival of Thanks" was planned by the Outreach Committee. Invitations were circulated throughout the community. The pastor reports a 33 percent increase in attendance at this service over last year's attendance at a similar program.

Our church participated in the Thanksgiving World Relief drive with an offering of more than \$300.

#### WILLIAMSPORT, Pennsylvania

"Family Day" was celebrated at First Friends beginning with special worship service at 5:30 p.m. A covered-dish dinner was enjoyed by 80 members and friends. An hour of music and witness followed.

Members are sporting bumper stickers that read, "You are always welcome at First Friends Church, Williamsport, Pa."

#### WILLOW CREEK Kansas City, Missouri

The church attic is now fully insulated, thanks to faithful giving of money for materials, and labor donated by Tom Keesler and his dad and Pastor Greg Harris.

## FRIENDS RECORD

### BIRTHS

**BARDO**—To Dan and Norma Bardo, a daughter, Erin Danielle, September 15, 1981, Damascus, Ohio.

**CLOSE**—To Tim and Letty Close, a daughter, Amy Jo, September 1, 1981, Beloit, Ohio.

**CURTS**—To Steve and Joanna Curts, a daughter, Adria Maria, September 25, 1981, Mt. Gilead.

**FORTNEY**—To David and Maria Fortney, a daughter, Amanda Sue, September 3, 1981, Beloit, Ohio.

**JAMISON**—A son, Robert Frank, to Dan and Terry Jamison, June 10, 1981, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

**KARPER**—To David and Deb Karper, a son, David Richard, Jr., August 8, 1981, Beloit, Ohio.

**KIM**—To Randy and Janet Kim, a daughter, Amanda Nicole, November 7, 1981, Boise, Idaho.

**KUHN**—A daughter, Christina Ann, to Don and Vicki Kuhn, October 26, 1981, Miami, Oklahoma.

**MARTIN**—A son, Jeremy Richard, to John and Debbie Martin, July 12, 1981, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

**NACE**—To Larry and Sandy Nace, a daughter, Jenna Maurie, November 6, 1981, Boise, Idaho.

**O'CONNOR**—A son, Shawn Eugene, to Kevin and Patty O'Connor, July 26, 1981, Longview, Washington.

**PENNA**—A son, Jesse Ray, to Frank and Janet Penna, May 6, 1981, Denver, Colorado.

**PITTENGER**—To Rick and Anita Pittenger, a daughter, Julia Beth, September 25, 1981, Salem, Ohio.

**ROSS**—A daughter, Michelle Ann, to Gary and Tammie Ross, November 26, 1981, Booker, Texas.

**SCHECHTER**—To Tom and Karen Schechter, a daughter, Stacy Lee, October 9, 1981, Hugoton, Kansas.

**SETIK**—A daughter, Carmen Rosida, to Marc and Anita (Armstrong) Setik, November 16, 1981, Portland, Oregon.

**SKINNER**—A daughter, Amber Kay, to Gary and Sandy Skinner, October 11, 1981, Hugoton, Kansas.

**THOMPSON**—To Dan and Darlene (Antrim) Thompson, of Boise, Idaho, a son, Joshua Douglas, November 12, 1981.

**THOMPSON**—To Mark and Jan Thompson, a daughter, Tallie Anne, November 25, 1981, Newberg, Oregon.

**TUCKER**—To Dale and Deborah Tucker, a daughter, Rachel Dawn, August 28, 1981, Beloit, Ohio.

**WHEELER**—A daughter, Margo Lee, to Lee and Shirley Wheeler, October 21, 1981, Hugoton, Kansas.

**WILLIAMS**—To Kim and Rhonda Williams, a daughter, Stacy Dawn, October 12, 1981, Beloit, Ohio.

**WILLIS**—To Bill and Kathy Willis, a daughter, Lindsay Marie, October 15, 1981, Damascus, Ohio.

### MARRIAGES

**ARMSTRONG-DOUGLAS**. Marilyn Armstrong and Mikel Douglas, November 21, 1981, Lynwood Friends, Portland, Oregon.

**BOYD-COSAND**. Anna Boyd and Watson Cosand, October 10, 1981, Damascus, Ohio.

**FARRAR-ATWELL**. LuAnne Farrar and Art Atwell, November 5, 1981, Boise, Idaho.

**GARLOCK-LEASE**. Sue Garlock and Paul Lease, October 24, 1981, Damascus, Ohio.

**HANSEN-WARD**. Shirley Hansen and Roman Ward, November 27, 1981, Ramona, Oklahoma.

**MEARS-EMRY**. Tammy Mears and Kevin Emry, November 6, 1981, Laramie, Wyoming.

**PRATER-WHITE**. Terry Prater to Phil White, August 8, 1981, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

**RICE-ALTIZER**. Karla Rice and Wayne Altizer, October 17, 1981, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

**ROBINSON-NELSON**. Lori A. Robinson and Paul Dan Nelson, Jr., November 28, 1981, Woodland, Washington.

**STIFFLER-WYSS**. Christine Stiffler and David Wyss, August 1, 1981, Beloit, Ohio.

**TAFFIN-SEALS**. Sheryl Taffin and Mike Seals, October 24, 1981, Bosie, Idaho.

**WILLEY-LIBBY**. Glenna Willey and Matt Libby, December 17, 1981, Ft. Campbell, Kentucky.

**WINN-SLUSS**. Cindy Winn and Charles Sluss, October 31, 1981, Damascus, Ohio.

### DEATHS

**BARTLETT**—Erick Warren Bartlett, 5 months, November 6, 1981, Haviland, Kansas.

**ERVIN**—Paul Morse Ervin, 77, November 6, 1981, Urbana, Ohio.

**GOERKE**—Edmund Goerke, Jr., September 28, 1981, Freehold Township, New Jersey.

**GULLEY**—Zoe Gulley, November 2, 1981, Nampa, Idaho.

**HAMPTON**—Lynn Hampton, October 31, 1981, Newberg, Oregon.

**HARMON**—Walter W. Harmon, October 27, 1981, Springfield, Colorado.

**HARRIS**—Valerie Harris, October 26, 1981, University Friends, Wichita, Kansas.

**HUFF**—Elsie Huff, November 9, 1981, Ramona Friends, Oklahoma.

**HULL**—Ann Hull, September 18, 1981, Mt. Gilead, Ohio.

**KLINK**—Kathryn Klink, October 27, 1981, Bend, Oregon.

**MACY**—Nellie Ratcliff Macy, May 25, 1981, Cottonwood Friends, Emporia, Kansas.

**McCORT**—Waldo McCort, October 26, 1981, Topeka, Kansas.

**SCHENCK**—Elizabeth (Bessie) N. Schenck, November 25, 1981, Tonganoxie, Kansas.

**SMUCK**—Vaughn Smuck, 85, June 8, 1981, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

**SPARKS**—Genevieve Marie, infant daughter of Bud and Marjean Sparks, Northridge Friends, Wichita, Kansas.

**SWETYE**—Ernest Swetye, September 23, 1981, Damascus, Ohio.

**TAYLOR**—Bill Taylor, November 10, 1981, Ramona, Oklahoma.

**WAFER**—Martha Smith Wafier, November 23, 1981, Emporia Friends, Kansas.

**WILCOX**—Orval L. Wilcox, November 17, 1981, Ramona, Oklahoma.

**WOODWARD**—(Mrs.) Oda M. Woodward, July 1981, Benkelman, Nebraska.

### INTERPRETATION STAFF PERSON

Friends World Committee for Consultation—Section of the Americas is seeking a qualified person for a part-time position handling interpretation and publications responsibilities, beginning as soon as possible.

**Duties:** To develop printed, audiovisual, and other interpretive materials; to organize interpretation at yearly meetings; to assist all programs and committees with necessary publications or exhibits; to work closely with the Interpretation Committee and other relevant committees; such other duties as may be assigned.

**Qualifications:** Knowledge of the Religious Society of Friends and interest in interpreting Friends to Friends; writing and editing ability; good taste in layout and design; organizing skill and ability to meet deadlines; speaking skill.

Apply by February 1, 1982 to  
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# 'SOMETHING HAPPENED TO YOU, PETER'

BY CATHERINE CATTELL

Every year it is the same old thing, and here it is again! Faith Promise emphasis, missionary giving; someone is sure to say something about tithing—any time now it will be said publicly what we have already heard, that our outreach giving is lagging far behind our goal.

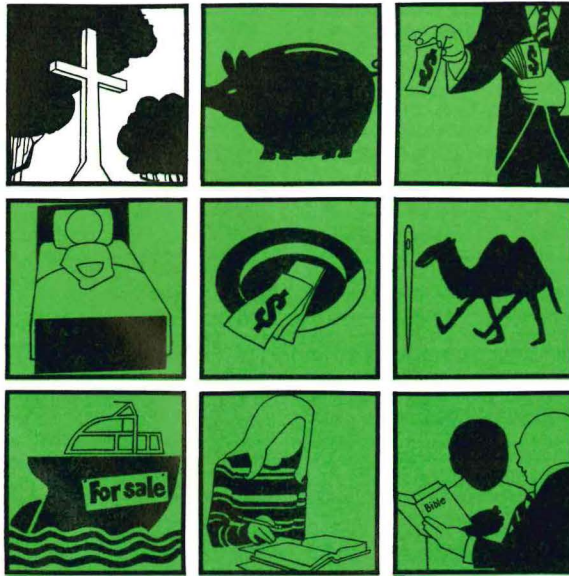
Who sets these goals, I wonder? Why do we have to meet them? The whole subject makes me so miserable when the pressure is on to give, give, give!

Frankly, I do not intend to be pressured this year. I have given all along and at times far beyond the call of duty. I do my part, but this year we just can't give so much. Tell me this: Who is going to help us buy a car? or remodel the kitchen? Not all the needs for money are to be found in South America or Mexico or in the inner city or in the ailing church budget.

Why should I feel so uneasy when I push these concerns out of my mind? Church is so pleasant when things go along normally without my being made to feel responsible for the ills and needs of our outreach program. What concern is it of MINE? NONE, really. None at all. And yet when I say that, I feel so bleak inside and so hard. That is why I dislike this time of year.

Frankly, I don't like sacrifice. I don't like involvement. This constant need bores me, and if the truth were known, I do not honestly care too much. This confession makes me feel like a pagan. I am a Christian, understand. There is no question of my being a church member in good standing. It is just that enough is enough.

Of course, I know that Christ loved the world so much, so very much, that He gave



His life on a cruel cross. And He did so want His disciples to love Him back. He asked Peter three times, "Do you love Me, Peter?"

Peter, I understand you so well. You didn't want to get too involved. The price for discipleship was pretty high when the pressure was on for you. You denied Jesus, too, and pretended you didn't know what the maid was talking about. You wanted to be left alone to watch the great sacrifice without being involved in it. Jesus did not scold you, Peter, did He? He just said, "Feed My sheep." Involve yourself with My concerns. He said, "Feed My lambs." There are the children and youth who need to be fed. Not just mouths with food, but minds with Truth, souls with the Bread of Life. What about the words of Jesus when He said, "Other sheep I have. Them also I must bring." This was the test of Peter's love. Could it be the test of my love, also?

And Peter, I understood you so well when you worried about John right after Jesus asked you if you loved Him. We concern ourselves about others and whether they are going to pick up their crosses and make their sacrifices. It gets our minds

away from His direct question: Do YOU love ME?

But Peter, somewhere I lost you. You changed so much and so soon. What happened inside of you to change your whole personality? How did you find courage and power to preach to thousands when you denied before one? How did you get involved with a crippled beggar at the temple gate? How did you who were so important to yourself get involved in prisons and suffering for Christ's sake? And how did you lose your prejudice against Gentiles and people of other cultures and other nationalities, the "other sheep"? Something happened to you, Peter.


It had something to do with Christ's death and His resurrected life; but more than that, you died to something in yourself and came into the power of a new life. It

was at Pentecost that this new involvement began when Christ seemed actually to live His life in you, bringing an end to selfishness, prejudice, and to the sin of holding back part of the price of discipleship. We are really given no option, no choice, are we? His "go into all the world" was the only way He had of bringing Christ to the nations. So long as there are those who have not heard, the command is "GO." "Feed my sheep." "Preach and heal." "Teach."

We do have one choice: to follow Christ or not to. Are we followers of the lamb, or not? Do we accept His lordship, or not? Well then, if we say "Yes," expect a cross, sacrifice, and a glorious participation in a glorious task. If "No," then, well then, there will be a pagan uneasiness.

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my ALL.

Lord, what wilt Thou have me do? 

*Catherine Cattell and her late husband, Everett, served the Evangelical Friends Church—Eastern Region (Ohio Yearly Meeting) as pastors, missionaries, administrators, educators, and writers. Catherine now lives in Newberg, Oregon.*

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