

Oct.-Nov.-Dec., 1992 --- Vol. 38 No. 10-11-12

The Apostolic Faith Report



For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called wonderful, counselor, The Mighty, God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

Greetings From The Superintendent

I am excited to be at AFBC this year. We have just completed our **Sunday School Workshop** featuring Kathryn Cornell, Sheri Cook, and Pauline Messner as guest speakers. Over 30 people were in attendance for this event. Several students made cameo appearances explaining the work they have been doing in **Child and Youth Evangelism**. The entire day was wonderful. It was a thrill to be able to give back to our churches a little of what they give to the school all year long.

My desire is to train our young people to work in our churches for the Lord. They should go out equipped, full of the Holy Ghost, and established in God's Holy Word. The curriculum is designed that in a two year period the students will have studied the entire Bible in light of Doctrine, Prophecy, and History. It is my goal for all the graduates to be prepared to work in the areas of Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School Teacher, Youth Worker, VBS Director, Music Director, or perhaps as a Minister or as a Board Member. We want our graduates to work and work hard for the Lord when they return home. Many will soon have homes and families of their own and we want their homes to be Godly and Christlike. The possibilities for our students extend long into the future.

I have briefly explained some of my immediate goals for our school and now I want to share with you two of my goals for the very near future. I want to organize and host two separate events. The first would be called "**Your New Home And Ministry**" and the second would be called "**College On The Weekend**"

I envisioned the "Your New Home and Ministry" seminar as a two day seminar for our young families and our young ministers in the Movement. The sessions would be taught by several of our Senior Ministers and their Wives. This is an attempt to use our Senior Pastors to pass on valuable information and wisdom to our younger families. Various topics could be explored such as:

- "The Christian Home"
- "What Makes A Good Husband"
- "What makes A good Wife"
- "Disciplining Children"
- "Financial Planning"
- "Financial Record and Bookkeeping"
- "What A new Pastor Should/Should No Do"
- "What Is Expected Of A Pastor's Wife"
- "How To Handle Church Conflict"

For the "**College On The Weekend**"

event, everyone who has had a desire to attend the Bible College would get their chance. High School Seniors would be encouraged to attend before they make their future plans. Senior Citizens are encouraged to attend for the possibility of enrollment in the future. Everyone inbetween these two groups would be encouraged to attend to get the thrill, excitement, knowledge, challenge, and the burden of the Apostolic Faith Bible College.

We need our people to really understand what the *Mission* of Apostolic Faith Bible College is all about. I am persuaded, if you would come and stay for a little while at Bible College, that you would know why God desires for this school remain.

By now you should have received a copy of the **Apostolic Faith Bible College Newsletter** containing a financial statement for this year through October 1992 in the mail. For those who have supported the school with your prayers and finances, the Income and Expense breakdowns are for your information. Please notice the school has accumulated a **\$5,000 dollar loss**. This means that over the past 10 months our expenses have exceeded our income. The strength of the school can stand this type of strain for a little while, but not for long. Please ask God to give me the wisdom to manage the finances, so the school will operate according to Godly principles - in black and not in debt.

Your Servant,
Savoy Grimmer

Women's Dorm

Greetings:

I thank the Lord for the privilege to minister in this capacity. This is new to me, but the Lord is helping meet the challenge.

As Dean of Women I am "Dorm Mom", "Nanny for the two young Grimmer children, and I play the piano for the choir.

In the dorm we have had some very special devotions. We share and pray together.

A project has been started to give the rooms a "face lift". Several bathrooms have been painted and papered. They are so pretty. We have a need of new linoleum or carpet on the bathroom floors, and paint for the dorm rooms.

The time is going so fast. "The fields are white unto harvest and the laborers are so few . . .". Let's be faithful doing the Lord's work til He comes.

Ruth Dearing

MEN'S DORM REPORT

This is the first year for me as the Dean of Men. We, (my wife and I), feel that the Lord sent us to work in the Bible School for a purpose and this is the confidence we have that the Lord has called us to be working for Him in this capacity. As well as being Dean of Men I also am the maintenance man and Margaret is the secretary for the school. We are both fairly inexperienced in the jobs we have been called to do. We have found them to be challenging and rewarding in the Lord although not always pleasant. We, therefore, ask sincerely for your prayers for the faculty at the college.

As far as the physical condition of the dorm goes there are some needs that we would like to see met. There are still three rooms without showers and one more needs a shower wall insert due to normal use. Also, the ceiling needs some new tiles and some attention to the gridwork in places. The walls have had holes patched and this has left quite a few untextured spts which could use some professional repairs. The beds are stained and many of them have tears in the box springs as well as the mattresses, these are all old mattresses and most of the damage is due to normal wear and tear which just basically makes it hard to sleep on them for some people. These are a few of the things which could use some attention.

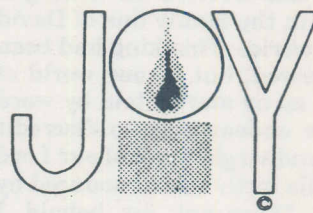
There were, however, several things done to the dorm on work week before school ever started. There were three showers installed in the dorm rooms. This included new shower works and a new shower wall in these three rooms and we hope to see the other three installed by the end of the year. This was done largely by Gary Don Foster and Rev. Paul Clanton, although several others helped. Rev. Joel Dorris helped with the work week as well as doing some painting in the dorm. Rev. Lyndell Arnall painted some outside of the dorms and also patched some of the holes in the walls which were made by installing the showers. Harvey Addleman worked on the outside faucets as well as the inside ones to stop them from leaking. A small amount of left over termite solution was applied under one bathroom where there was evidence of activity in the past.

Since work week there have been some other minor repairs, like the hot water heater cleaned and the elements replaced. Roger Ross donated his time to fix a blower in the heater/A. C. Jay and Sissy Urick have helped clean and paper and paint several rooms in the women's dorm, and also some in the men's dorm. A few small holes have been patched and a student, Glenn Oakes, has started to paint his room. The dorm has a

thorough cleaning in the spare rooms for the Sunday School Workshop, but, we only saw two of them used. Everyone has been busy as you can see, but there is always room for more help in these areas..

We have seen some good spiritual growth among the students and this is very encouraging. There are many services that the students spend quality time afterwards in prayer. There has even been a little shouting on occasion. We saw one student, Sean Carver, baptized on Nov. 15, 1992 and we rejoiced with him as he followed the Lord in obedience and a testimony of the new life that is in Christ. The choir tour was good and each young man testified how the Lord had blessed them in it. The only regret we have is that there are not more young men in the dorm this year. We have three and their lives are appreciated very much. I would encourage anyone to come who really wants to get closer to God and learn about Him. I believe there is much to be gained from a two year study here, and you are welcome to start this spring. Don't wait for a personal invitation, because you may never get one! Just get in touch with A.F.B.C. today and find out what we have to offer.

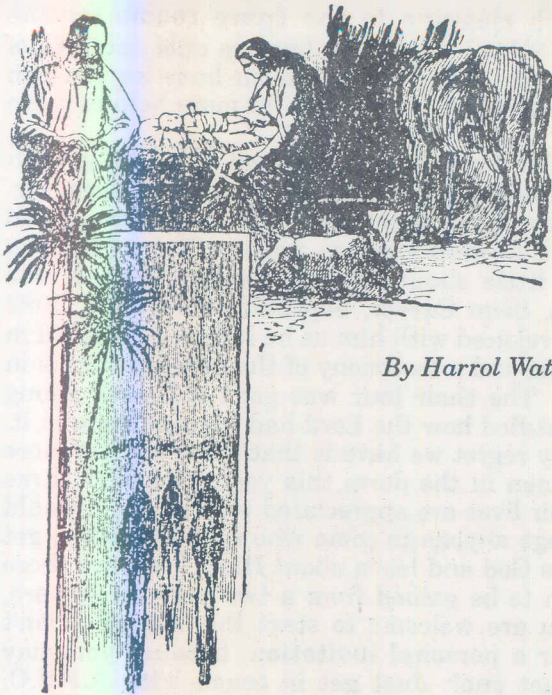
Sincerely,
Paul H. Morrison
Dean of Men



THE WORLD'S SAVIOR

The Christmas Christ is the world's Savior. At this blessed season let us dedicate ourselves anew to the making known a world Savior. We are told that in the city of Madris, India, there is a chapel on the wall of which there is the upper portion of a cross. On one transverse end of the cross there is a pierced hand, the skin of which is brown, after the color of the skin of the people of the East. On the other side of this section is another pierced hand, white, after the people of the West. It is a glorious symbol of a world Christ. The inscriptions on the cross were written in Hebrew and in Latin and in Greek, the languages of the world. The Christmas Christ is a Savior for the whole world. At this Christmas time let us dedicate ourselves anew to the work of making Christ known to the whole world. He is the only Peace-bringer for men and nations.

He Gave Us The Best That He Had



By Harrol Waterbury

Was it merely the son of Joseph and Mary who crossed the world's horizon nineteen hundred years ago? Your own heart must answer.

The Old Testament had foretold the coming of a great and wonderful king in the family line of David who would bless the whole world. This king had been named long before he appeared, but in our world of sin and unbelief, there are many stories told by word of mouth and printed page endeavoring to discredit the miraculous conception and virgin birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. His birth was announced by an Angel of God, who said, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you, Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-12. With this angelic proclamation, the birth of Jesus, the Son of God, was announced. Thus, God gave us the best that he had.

Luke and Matthew both state plainly, explicitly, and unmistakably that Jesus was born of a Virgin. From the beginning, in unbroken sequence, it has been held as a doctrine of the church, till the rise of modern criticism, which is commonly known as modernism. Why not accept it just as God's record states it? Why the high-brow aversion to believing it? If we believe in the Deity of Jesus and His resurrection from the dead, what is gained by discrediting the Virgin Birth? The resurrection is the greatest of miracles. If we do not believe that, why concern ourselves with Christ at all? If we do believe it, then why discredit the other parts of the miraculous story? His supernatural exit from the world presupposes a

supernatural entrance into the world. If he was not born of a virgin, how then was he born? Certainly it ill becomes any Christian to peddle the old Jewish slander that Jesus was an illegitimate child. Such a thing is unthinkable. To say it is nothing less than foulest blasphemy. Jesus was and is the Son of God, the Son of David, the Eternal King, making us assured that God gave us the best that He had. Would it not have been strange that so much supernatural heavenly evidence was given just to announce the birth of a common child? The angel of the Lord appeared unto Joseph in a dream, saying, "Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife; for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for He shall save his people from their sins." Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

The visit of the Wise Men also emphasized the importance of the birth of this babe in Bethlehem. Their visit took place sometime during the first two years of Jesus' life, for Herod, in order to be sure, took the outside limit in the slaughter of the children. It is strange indeed that one who knew that the Christ was to be born, Luke 2:4, would be stupid enough to try to intercept His coming. The Wise Men belonged to the learned class, advisers of kings. Perhaps they were familiar with the Jewish Scriptures, and were expecting the coming Messianic King. No doubt, they knew of Daniel's 70 week's prophecy, and also Balaam's prophecy about "A Star out of Jacob," Numbers 24:17. They were men of high standing, for they had access to Herod. Their arrival in Jerusalem was of importance to stir the entire city. Aside from paying homage to the new-born King and calling attention of Jerusalem that the Christ had arrived, the Wise Men supplied the means, by the presents which they brought, for the escape of Mary and Joseph and the babe into Egypt. They didn't realize this for it was God's way of protecting the Christ, and to fulfill prophecy concerning Him. Also in order to fulfill Scripture, on their return from Egypt, the Angel directed them back to their Galilean home.

Again we draw the line at the bottom and add up the supernatural, wonderful works of God, and we are reassured that God gave us His son—the best that He had.

What joy we share when we once again hear that Angelic Chorus, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2:14.

"Tidings of glory! All the sky aflame, all Heaven hymning one imperial Name! Radiant glimpses of a throne, a crown, all splendor focused on

one little town! Tidings of joy, good tidings of great joy, Supernal ecstasy without alloy! The death of sorrow and the end of pain, the bliss, bliss eternally to reign! News of Salvation! Jesus, Saviour, Christ, bearer of mercy, ample and unpriced, herald of freedom from the chains of sin, come to our hearts, Lord Jesus, enter in! Tidings to all the people, yea to all! To kings and shepherds, to the great and small, to rich and poor, to ignorant and wise, to each his blessing from the liberal skies! O for the ready eye and quickened ear, the Advent light to see, and song to hear! To every man and woman, girl and boy, in all the world, **Good Tidings of Great Joy.**" (A. R. Wells).

Let the One who touched the manger that night in Judea, touch your life and change it. Either he has touched your life and changed it or He has not touched it. Being a Christian means personal contact with the Saviour who was born in Bethlehem. You say that you have had that saving contact with Him? Then make this joyful Christmas season the occasion to put someone else in touch with your transforming Lord, who is Jesus, conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of a Virgin, my soon coming King, the best that God had.

"Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to them for whom nothing is prepared." Neh. 8:10.



WHENCE THE CHRISTMAS CARD

Christmas cards were first printed in London more than 136 years ago, but did not become popular until 119 years ago.

The first Christmas Card was only a visiting card on which was written the greeting, "Merry Christmas", or "A Happy New Year.", snow scenes, holly branches and robins appeared later on embossed cards, probably picturing English Christmas scenery, as the robin is known in England as the Christmas bird, also "The Saviour's bird" because of the legend of the red breast. This bird is still seen on Christmas cards, but not as often as formerly.

THE MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS



As shepherds watched their flocks by night,
an angel did appear.

The shepherds trembled and quaked
with sudden fear.

But the angel had such wonderful news,
as he hovered over the earth;
He told the humble shepherds
of the Christ Child's birth!

Then all heaven came out to sing,
a lovely heavenly choir,

"Peace on earth, good will to men!"

Then hearts burned with desire to see
the Christ Child where He lay,
In a manger full of hay!

On the very same night, far to the east,
the wise men beheld a star,
much bigger, much brighter, than any before.

A great light they could see from afar.
They gathered together gifts for a king
They knew they would surely find.

For heaven had sanctified a great truth
—a rare star— The miracle kind!

When they found Him,
wee precious mite,

They gave Him great gifts untold.
But the three precious one, fit for a King,
Were frankincense, myrrh, and gold!

Frankincense, so rare and sweet
was only for the pure in heart.

And myrrh, so bitter, symbolized, the death
Our Lord was to impart.

The gold, a metal, oh so rare,
when Christ first came to earth,
Was a noble gift that was bestowed
only on those of noble birth!

As the Christmas time draws near,
May Christians over the earth,
Sing, as the heavenly choir sang,
Of Christ Child's birth.

May "Peace on earth, good will to men."

Fill every heart and nation.

May the miracle of Christmas awaken all creation!

—Alberdine Wilhite

NEWS FROM ROMANIA



Graduating students at Bucharest Christian Center

We greet you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ !!!

We would like to apologize for our delay in being in touch with you, but we have been very busy in the work of the Lord — the time is short; therefore, we must redeem it. Even if we were busy, we took time to pray for you.

We are very excited to share with you some of the things God has helped us to accomplish. One of the greatest victories has been the **legal recognition of Bucharest Christian Center**. Our primary focuses are evangelization, Bible courses through our newly-begun school and charity activities. Because it is a non-profit organization, we are able to provide tax deductible receipts for donations which are received.

We have had the opportunity to travel all over the country of Romania **preaching the Gospel**. As a result, many came to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and the message was accompanied with miracles and healings. **For this we give God the glory!** This has placed a special burden on our hearts to plant new churches in the country, but especially in the city of Bucharest.

Our Bible College has an enrollment of **125 students**. By July 25th of this year, **61 students** had already completed 32 credit hours. At graduation, these students received a "Certificate of Religious Studies." This exciting progress with the students has kept us busy translating courses

and grading exams. New classes began in the month of October.

Emilia, my wife, has been involved in **women's ministry** in our local area of Bucharest. Organizing and conducting Bible studies had led to a much greater involvement in other cities as well.

We would like to share with you a few prayer requests:

- * A building for the Bible College.
- * Financial Support for the workers.
- * That God will continue to supply our personal needs (it has been more than a year since I have received a steady salary, but God had been faithful.
- * Ministry Van.
- * Political and economical situation of Romania

We say "Thank You" for your prayers and to those who have given financial support in the past. We would like to hear from you. If God places on your heart to support our ministry, you can make your checks payable to: **Bucharest Christian Center, Oficiul Postal 76 - 132, Bucharest, ROMANIA.**

May God bless you in everything you do!

Ioan & Emilia Ceuta

† IN MEMORIAM †

Sandra Kay Lemmons Rotge

October 5, 1952 — July 31, 1992

Sandra Kay Lemmons Rotge, 39, was born October 5, 1952 in Fowler, Meade County, Kansas to Marion Franklin and Bessie Ruth Walker Lemmons. She went to be with her Lord on Friday, July 31, 1992, from Methodist Hospital in San Antonio, Texas, after much pain, but lots of victory throughout the last two years of her life.

Sandra attended school in Laverne, Oklahoma from the age of 8 years and graduated from Laverne High School in 1970. She attended Apostolic Faith Bible College in 1970, 1971 and 1972.

She moved to Kerrville, Texas in 1972 to attend Schreiner College and become a LVN. She worked at Sid Peterson Memorial Hospital in Kerrville in several capacities, as a doctor's office nurse and at Hospice (home health care for terminal patients) at the time of her death.

Survivors include: her husband Charles; two children, Keri and Karl Crosthwait; Parents, Marion and Bessie Lemmons; one sister, Marilyn Rotge, all of Kerrville. One brother, George Lemmons of Harper, Texas. A number of nieces and nephews and a host of co-workers and friends.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, Aug. 4, 1992 at 2:00 p.m. in Grimes Funeral Chapel, Kerrville, Texas. Rev. Wes Weston and Rev. Roger Baubit officiated at the service. She was laid to rest at Glen Rest Cemetery in Kerrville, to await her Resurrection to meet Jesus.

She no longer has pain but will awake in the morning with a new body. Praise the Lord!

Ennis Russell Pennington

July 12, 1906 — October 11, 1992

Ennis Russell Pennington of Canon City died Oct. 11, 1992, at the age of 86. He was born July 12, 1906, in Hardesty, Okla., to John F. and Lillian (Howe) Pennington.

Mr. Pennington had been a resident of Colorado since moving from Wichita, Kansas in 1953. He lived in Fountain from 1953 to 1969 before moving to Canon City. He had a long, healthy, active life, still snow skiing several times last year. He enjoyed several trips and the satisfaction of completing many days of work. Mr.

Pennington was self-employed.

He was married September 15, 1988, in Fountain to Clara E. Moore, who survives. Also surviving are five children: Max G. Pennington, Wichita, Kansas; William B. "Bill" Pennington, Taneyville, Missouri; Dr. Ennis R. Pennington Jr., Weatherford, Texas; Bobby E. Phillips, Fountain; Lois M. Earl, Chadron, Nebraska. Two sisters: Joyce Hyde, Augusta, Kansas; Ruth Rieron, Leon, Kansas. A brother: Phillip Pennington, Santa Fe, New Mexico. 20 grandchildren and 35 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Pennington was preceded in death by a daughter, Marilyn M. Mahan, and his former wife, Viola M. Pennington.

Services were held Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 2 p.m. at Andrews Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Lonnie McKee officiating. Interment was in Mountain Vale Memory Gardens.

Ennis Pennington was a man who looked for good in every one. He always gave the other person "benefit of the doubt". He was a strong "tie that bound" his family together by letters, phone calls and visits, also promoting the yearly family reunion in Wichita, Kansas. He also had many friends he kept in touch with.

He learned to snow ski at the age of 70 years and enjoyed this several times a year. He was a person who worked very hard all of his life and took pride in a job well done.

He raised a large garden in Canon City, Colorado each year and gave a big part of it away to those unable to have gardens and to the poor.

We will remember him most by his strong "faith in God". We asked him a short time before his death when he told us he was having some trouble with his heart if he had seen a doctor— His answer was "I have talked to my doctor and he assured me it will be alright." He meant Doctor "Jesus".

We saw him off from family reunion on Wednesday and he died Sunday morning from a heart attack, which only lasted a short time. His wife told us he was praying in a heavenly language up until the time he passed from this life. He had asked the Lord to let him go quickly when his time came rather than be in a hospital or with a lingering illness. God granted his prayer.

We — his family and friends will miss him so much, but, we sorrow not as those who have no hope for we can meet him in heaven along with many other loved ones and friends. What a day that will be!

The Art of Fine Art

By Lachelle Yoder and Yvonna Whiteley

Although the first instrument he learned to play was the drums, Lynn Whiteley soon was allowed to pick up his father's trombone which was the instrument of HIS choice. His father, Howard, graduated from JBU with a degree in music. Lynn was to follow graduating from Oklahoma Baptist University with a degree in art.

His first real art teacher was Mrs. Demerita Pletcher when she taught art at AFBC the year Lynn was in the 5th grade. But his art ability had been noted by a 3rd grade teacher at Garrett Elem. while the family lived at Logan, OK. His mother also noted his ability the summer before when he drew free handed perfect what she was trying to trace at a window.

Believing it to be their duty to encourage this gift, the Whiteleys encouraged Lynn in all his art classes and took him to fairs where one year his paintings took 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

While in college Lynn attended Glad Tidings Assembly of God where he furthered his trombone ability though he played in band from 5th grade, was chosen for Kansas State Lion's and International Bands. He has since always involved his music and his art in church work.

"If I could be the artist of my dream, I would be a fantastic air brush artist," he said. His most recent air brush project was the cover for the cassette **CREATED FOR PRAISE** which his church produced a year ago.

In August of 1991 Lachelle, Lynn and soon to be wife, Ute, travelled to Baxter to visit. While there they visited the Precious Moments center and met Sam Butcher, its founder.

"Following the introductions, Mom told him how much we enjoyed the stain glass windows since I also did stain glass work" Lynn said. Mr. Butcher stopped and gave Lynn his full attention explaining that he had been looking for someone to do some more windows for the chapel.

Unbeknownst to any of us Mr. Butcher had been praying for direction concerning the windows. "Mr. Butcher was sharing this story with me later, he told me he knew that day in August I was to do the windows. But he wanted to go back and pray some more, just to be sure."

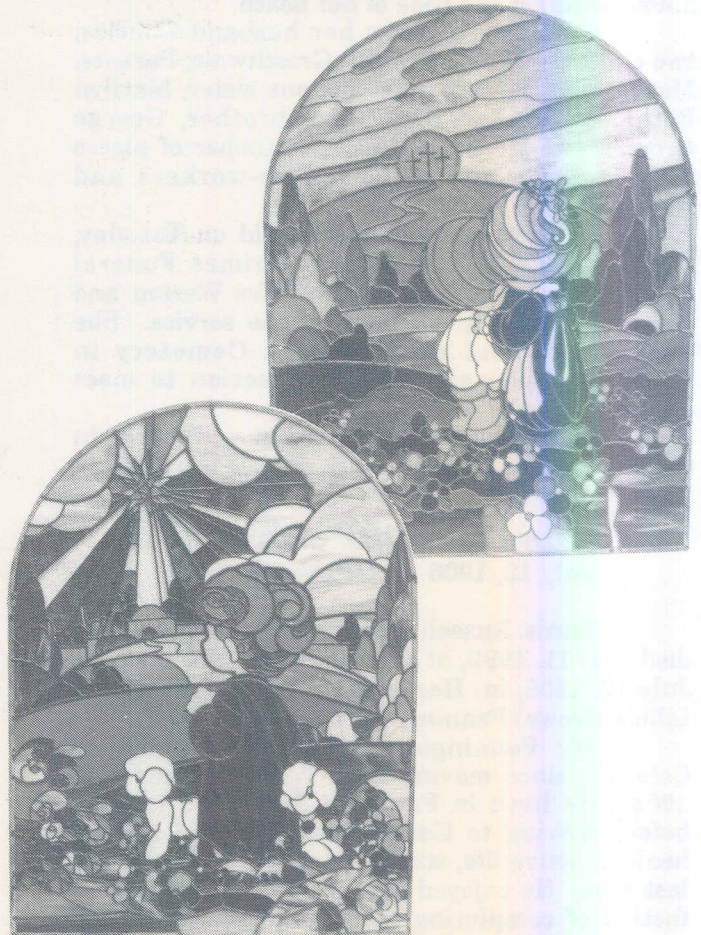
Lynn was offered a contract for the windows in February. "I flew to Missouri the weekend of Feb. 9. Mr. Butcher and I discussed the job and he supplied me with the glass and design for two 2' X 3' windows."

By March 15, all the pieces has been cut and placed for Mr. Butcher to view. "He was in our house only 20 minutes!", Ute said.

The job was completed and the windows were shipped to Carthage May 21st. They were installed in the foyer of the chapel in doors leading to the balcony on August 6th. Lynn's Mother and Granddad, Gene Cornell were at the chapel that afternoon. They received a royal treatment by all the staff and she gave them information on Lynn which they needed for their tour information.

"This contract was one of those opportunities many people only dream of; God has allowed me to go beyond my dream. We were in the middle of Easter rehearsals while I was working on the windows. But my music is another talent given by God. So, I worked it in. Besides, Easter was hot this year. I'm glad I didn't miss it!" he explained.

Lynn continues to do art for his church and just completed two 6' windows for the baptistry in the new sanctuary of the Sterling, Va. Community Church. He also continues to be involved in all drama projects at Manassas Assembly of God. They look forward to the time their own business, "Creation Graphics" becomes full time. This is all done after working on his regular job and returning home about 7:00 each evening. But God blesses those who are faithful to Him and to His work.



MINISTER and GOSPEL WORKERS DIRECTORY

A

Abraham, T. S.
"Philadelphia"
Walker Town
Secunderabad 50025
India

Adair, Marcus
Box 844
2700 4th Ave.
Ph. 806-655-4770

Director:
Faith Bible Education Center
26th and 2nd Ave.
Faith Student Center
2708 4th Ave.
Canyon, TX 79015

Allen, Homer H.
P. O. Box 1447
Imperial Beach, CA 92133
Ph. 619-423-2131

Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
1735 Donax Avenue
San Diego, CA

Anderson, Dorothy
Rt. 4 Box 99
Quitman, MS 39355

Arnall, Frank
Rt. 1 Box 1490
Stella, MO 64867
Ph. 417-628-3995
Pastor:
Union Chapel Church
Anderson, MO

Arnall, Jim
R. 2 Box 385
Ashland, AL 36251
Ph. 205-354-2167
Pastor:
Bethel Community Church
Ph. 205-354-2167

Arnall, Johnny
Box 433
Granby, MO 64844
Ph. 417-472-6976
Pastor:
Trinity Apostolic Faith
Neosho, MO

Arnall, Lyndel
Rt. 1 Box 1977
Neosho, MO 64850
Ph. 417-451-9184
AFBC Faculty
AFBC Board of Trustees

Arnall, Steve
P. O. Box 425
Follett, TX 79034

B

Bachler, Olen
Box 514
Katy, TX 77429-0514
Ph. 713-391-3867
Evangelist

Barker, Keith
Camp Arrowhead Administrator
Glen Rose Star Route
Cleburn, TX 76031
Ph. 817-897-2323

Barker, Raymond
Box 218
1010 Avenue A
Katy, TX 77450
Ph. 713-371-2208

Barker, Ted
P. O. Box 199
Katy, TX 77449
Ph. 713-391-3426
Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
Katy, TX

Barker, Tim
P.O. Box 897
Katy, TX 77492
Ph. 713-391-9076

Barker, Winston
2003 S. Polk St.
Amarillo, TX 79109
Ph. 806-372-7703

Beydler, Dora
428 S W Murphy Rd.
Burlison, TX 76028

Blythe, John W. Sr.
2501 40th Street
Meridan, MS 39301
Ph. 601-693-4887

Boyd, Marvin
P. O. Box 189
Campwood, TX 78833
Ph. 210-597-2137
Pastor:

Trinity Full Gospel Church

Boyd, Marvin. J. Jr.
P. O. Box 508
Leakey, TX 78873
Ph. 210-966-3583

Pastor:
Vanderpool Community
Vanderpool, TX

Brening, Mike
P. O. Box 248
Pine Hill, AL 36769
Ph. 205-963-4742
Pastor:
Pine Hill Chapel

Brening, Ron
611 W. 17th
Roswell, NM 88201
Ph. 505-622-5197
Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
Roswell, NM

Briles, Ross
603 Floyd Avenue
Ph: 209-529-2127
Modesto, CA 95350
Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
505 Floyd Avenue

Brock, Lee
4007 Marfargoa Drive
Ph. 209-465-8376
Stockton, CA 95205
Pastor:
Bethel Wayside Chapel
836 South Drake
Stockton, CA 95205

Brown, James
120 So. Barkley
Spearman, TX 79081
Ph. 806-659-2870
Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
Spearman, TX

Busch, O. A.
1614 Washington
Baxter Springs, KS 66713
Ph. 316-856-2626

Busch, Roland E.
Box 1002
Katy TX 77492
Ph. 713-391-3356
Evangelist

Bushman, Alvin
P. O. Box 286
Cave Springs, AR 72718
Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
Cave Springs, AR
Ph. 501-248-1352

C

Cameron, Erik
 1305 Second St.
 Woodward, OK 73801
 Ph. 405-256-1335
 Pastor:
 Apostolic Faith Church

Carney, Myrtle
 R. 2, Box 345
 Butler, MS 36904
 Ph. 205-398-3132
 Pastor:
 Apostolic Faith Church
 Hinton, AL

Christenson, Elmer
 501 S. Cox
 Joplin, MO
 Ph. 417-782-0131
 R. 3 Box 36
 Bentonville, AR 72712
 Ph. 501-795-2912
 Pastor:
 Original Apostolic Faith
 700 E. 4th
 Joplin, MO 64801

Clanton, Paul A.
 R. 2 Box 346
 Baxter Springs, KS 66713
 Ph. 316--856-5150
 Pastor:
 Apostolic Faith Church
 Baxter Springs, KS
 AFBC Faculty
 AFBC Board of Trustees

Cook, Dorothy
 2728 Indiana
 Joplin, MO 64804
 Ph. 417-623-8718

Cook, Shari
 R. 6 Box 136
 Carthage, MO 64836

Cornell, E. K.
 Box 656
 Laverne, OK 73848
 Ph. 405-921-3608
 Fill In, Revivals

Cornell, Jack
 P. O. Box 237
 Guymon, OK 73942
 Ph. 405-349-2319
 Pastor:
 Panhandle Bible Center
 Ph. 405-338-5515
 Ph. 405-338-5516

Cornell, Kevin
 2850 N. Park Ave.
 Springfield, MO 65803
 Ph. 417-865-9875
 Principle:
 Park Avenue Christian School

Crowhurst, Jerome
 P. O. Box 362
 Hempstead TX 77445
 Ph. 409-826-2528
 Pastor:
 Apostolic Faith Church
 Hempstead, TX

D

Dalton, Randy
 HCR 77 Box 128
 Thornfield, MO 65762
 Evangelist

Day, Tom
 R. 6 Box 552
 Joplin, MO 64801
 Ph. 4177-782-1527

Day, Ronald
 R. 6 Box 573
 Joplin, MO 64801
 Ph. 417-624-3690

Dibbens, Donald
 Box 212
 Vanderpool, TX 78885
 Ph. 512-966-3672

Dorris, Joel
 1811 Main
 Galena, KS 66739
 Ph. 316-783-2433
 Pastor:
 Spring Grove
 Galena, KS

E

Erlich, L. J.
 R. 9 Box 143
 Fayetteville, AR 72703

F

Ferguson A. W.
 3305 Indiana Lot 86
 Joplin, Mo 64804
 Ph. 417-782-6207

Ferry, Opal
 29849 Desert Hills Drive
 Sun City, CA 92381

Fox, Jim
 R. 2 Box 32
 Balco, OK 73931
 Ph. 405-646-3377
 Pastor:
 Apostolic Faith Church

Freeman, Lyford
 R. 1, Box 1080A
 Grandy, MO 64844

Freeman, Wayne
 P. O. Box 373
 Canyon, TX 79015--0
 Campus Ministry
 West Texas State University

G

Gift, Nick
 2506 25th
 Snyder, TX 79549
 Ph. 915-573-8115
 Pastor:
 Apostolic Faith church
 Snyder, TX

Grimmer, Lealand
 913 S. W. 19th
 Perryton,, TX 79070
 Ph. 806-435-5321
 Fill In Ministry

Grimmer, Savoy
 P. O. Box 110
 Baxter Springs, KS 66713
 Ph. 316-856-2831
 Superintendent:
 Apostolic Faith Bible College
 Ph. 316-856-3283

H

Hackett, Steve
 R. 1 Box 329
 Hempstead, TX 77445

Haney, Roland
 Box 278
 Follett, TX 79034
 Ph. 806-653-2801
 Pastor:
 Apostolic Faith Church
 Follett, TX

Hansen, Dwayne
 2321 Joplin St.
 Galena, KS 66739
 Ph. 316-783-2406
 Pastor:
 Purcell Mission

Harris, Amos
R. 2 Box 268
Bayard, NE 69334
Ph. 308-586-1148
Open for Revivals

Harris, Janae
1614 3rd Ave.
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
Ph. 308-635-0174
Music Ministry

Hopson, Jack
Box 568
Butler, AL 36904
Ph. 205-459-3564

Hoskins, Ronnie
215 E. University #9
Weatherford, OK 73096
Ph. 405-774-2923

J

Jackson, George Ted
1524 Galena Ave.
Box 171
Galena, KS 66739
Ph. 316-783-5389

K

Keeling, Kenny
365 W. Davilla
Rockdale, TX 76567
Ph. 512-446-5525
Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
Rockdale, TX

Keeling, Louis
Rt. 3, Box 37A
Kingman, KS 67068
Ph. 316-532-5986
Pastor:

Apostolic Faith Church
Kingman, KS

Kinser, Ollie
Box 133
Hardesty, OK 73944
Ph. 405-888-4278

Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
Hardesty, OK
Ph. 405-888-4555

L

Long, Lowell
Box 735
Laverne, OK 73848
Ph. 405-921-3224

M

Malone, Earl Gene
R. 2
Laverne, OK 73848
Ph. 405-921-5466

Martin, Ronnie
1548 S. Washington
Webb City, MO 64870
Ph. 417-673-2196
Pastor:
Frisco Church

Mathis, Terry
P. O. Box 40398
Houston, TX 77040
Ph. 713-462-3039

Methvin, M. D.
P. O. Box 110
Baxter Springs, Ks 66713
Ph. 316-856-2244
AFBC Faculty

Michner, Edna
R. 1 Box 234
Baxter Springs, Ks 66713
Ph. 316-856-3376

Miller, Gail
116 Pen Mar Dr.
Box 604
Woodward, OK 73801
Ph. 405-256-8096

Morris, Richard
3022 Missouri Ave.
Joplin, MO 64804
Ph. 417-781-9609
Pastor:
Southside Apostolic Faith
Church

N

Nelson, Lee
R. 7 Box 1203
Fervaudina Beach, Fl. 32134

Noble, Ron
628 No. Bivens
Amarillo, TX 79107
Ph. 806-374-0546
Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
Amarillo, TX

Nunn, Onal
Box 296
Granby, MO 64844
Ph. 417-472-3665

P

Parks, Pearl
925 W. Main, No 405
Cottage Grove, OR 97424
Ph. 503-942-4841

Pearson, Donna
R. 2 Box 345
Butler, AL 36904
Gospel Worker

Pennington, Max
521 All Hallows
Wichita, KS 67213
Ph. 316-942-0709
Fill In Work

Priest, Kenneth, Jr.
2527 Garreth Circle
Stockton, CA 95205
Ph. 209-477-8502

Q

Qualls, Andy
Box 28
Hempstead, TX 77445
Ph. 713-826-2290

R

Ragan, Neil
R. 2 Box 165
Logan, OK 73849
Pastor:
Midway Country Church
Logan, OK

Regier, Jacob
1518 S. Drake
Perryton, Tx 79070
Ph. 806-435-4478

Robinson, Danny
Box 205
Granby, MO 64844
Ph. 417-472-6203
Pastor:
Gospel Tabernacle
Granby, MO

Robinson, Danny Mac
Rt. 2, Box 2292
Granby, MO 64844
Ph. 417-472-3406

Routh, James Ray
R. 2 Box 123
Ekins, AR 72727
Ph. 501-643-3491
Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
Crosses, AR

S

Scruggs, John
R. 3 Box 70
Hempstead, TX 77445
Ph. 713-826-1726
Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
Pattison, TX 77446

Seix, Ron
904 W. 7th
Liberal KS 67901
Ph. 316-624-5266
Pastor:
Trinity Faith Church
Liberal, KS

Stanberry, A.B. Sr.
1705 W. Sealy
Alvin, TX 77511
Ph. 713-585-4716

Sutton Louise
4700 S. Virginia # 136
Amarillo, TX 79109
Ph. 806-359-0198

Sutton, Austin
P. O. Box 7
Taneyville, MO 65759
Pastor: Apostolic Faith Church
Taneyville, MO
Ph. 417-546-3382

Sutton, Peggy
1913 Heights
Katy, TX 77493
Ph. 713-391-7221
Fill Inn

T

Taylor, Bob
R. 2 Box 430
Laverne, OK 73848
Ph. 405-921-5502

W

Wallis, James
2305 Monarch Dr.
Austin, TX 787748

Waterbury, Edwin
1405 W. Lang
Alvin, TX 77511
Ph. 713-585-8500
Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
4th and Adou
Alvin, TX 77511
Church Ph. 713-331-0670

Waterbury, Harrol
Box 845
1117 S. Indiana
Perryton, TX 79070
Ph. 806-435-3134
Pastor:
Full Gospel Church
Church Ph. 806-435-2506
2210 S. W. 15th
Perryton, TX 79070

Waterbury, F. E.
486 Gateway
Clovis, CA 93612
Ph. 209-297-1917

Webster, Eugene
Box 68
Hudson, WY 82515
Ph. 307-332-2609
Pastor:
Hudson Community Church

Welch, Larry
734 O'Bryant St.
Bellville, TX 77418
Ph. 409-865-3485

Wheeler, Wayne
R 1 Box 443
Joplin, MO 64801
Ph. 417-673-1567
Pastor:
Apostolic Faith Church
Prosperity, MO

Whitely, Howard
706 E. 15th
Pampa, TX 79065
Ph. 806-665-1579
Pastor:

Pampa Chapel
711 E. Harvester
Ph. 806-669-9635
Pampa, TX 79065

Wiles, Delvin
2148 Shady Grove
Bedford, TX 76021
Ph. 817-283-3921

Wiles, Doyle
R. 3 Box 34 A
Bentonville, AR 72712
Ph. 501-795-4479

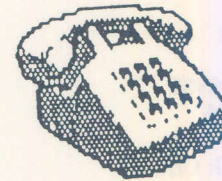
Williams, Cecil and Beth
R. 1 Box 58
Stella, MO 74876
Ph. 417-435-3563
Music Ministry

Wills, Harold
618 Briarwilde Court
Alvin, TX 77511
Ph. 713-331-6301
Evangelist-Bible Teacher

Wilson, Dwight
R. 1 Box 454
Ava, MO 65608
Ph. 417-683-3194

Wisnoski, Alexander
P. O. Box 155
Lovington, N. M. 88260
Ph. 505-396-3840
Weekend Fill Ins &
Evangelistic Services

AFBC Telephone List



- Office.....(316) 856-3283
- Savoy Grimmer(316) 856-2831
- Paul Clanton(316) 856-5100
- M.D. Methwin.....(316) 856-2244
- Lyndell Arnall.....(417) 451-9184
- Beverly Karber.....(417) 781-4639
- Pauline Messner ... (316) 856-3707
- Ruth Dearing.....(316) 856-5802
- Paul Morrison(316) 856-2594
- Report Office(316) 856-5281
- Karen Oakes.....(417) 624-7525

- Boy's Dorm(316) 856-9872
- Girl's Dorm.....(316) 856-9873

The Image of Christ (Based on Rom. 8:29)

I cannot heal the sick as Jesus did, but I can go to hospitals and nursing homes and visit them.

I cannot heal the blind, but I can read them God's Word.

I cannot make deaf ears to hear, but I can show them my love through Jesus.

I cannot make the lame to walk, but I can teach them how to walk with God.

I cannot feed a multitude with two fish and five loaves of bread, but I can give to those who are hungry.

I cannot turn the water into wine, but I can give a cup of water to those who thirst after righteousness for Jesus's sake.

—Mildred Quine Dennis
Home Life Magazine

TRY IT!

"The man who begins to tithes will have at least six genuine surprises. He will be surprised:

1. At the amount of money he has for the Lord's work.
2. At the deepening of his spiritual life in paying the tithe.
3. At his ease in meeting his own obligations with nine-tenths.
4. At his ease in going from one-tenth to larger giving.
5. Over the preparation this gives to be a faithful, wise steward over the nine-tenths that remain.
6. At himself in not adopting the plan sooner.

—Selected

The angels broke into song when Jesus came. So to every life, song comes with the coming of Jesus into it.

DAY STAR AND DAWN

Our fair morning is at hand, the day star is near the rising, and we are not many miles from home, what matter, then of ill-entertainment in the smokey inns of this worthless world? We are not to stay here, and we shall be dearly welcome to Him to whom we are going.

—Samuel Rutherford

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

A number of Ministers were assembled for the discussion of difficult questions. Among others, it was asked how the command "Pray Without Ceasing" could be complied with, various suppositions were started, and at length one of the number was appointed to write an essay on it to be read at the next monthly meeting. This being overheard by a servant, she exclaimed, "What, a whole month to tell the meaning of that text? It is one of the easiest and best texts in the Bible!" "Well, well, Mary," said an old Minister, "What can you say about it? Let us know how you understand it. Can you pray all the time?" "O yes, sir." "What, when you have so many things to do?" "Why sir, the more I have to do the more I can pray." "Indeed. Well, Mary do let us know how it is. Most of us think otherwise."

"Well, Sir," said the girl. "When I first open my eyes in the morning I pray. Lord, open the eyes of my understanding; and while I am dressing, I pray that I may be clothed with the robe of righteousness; when I wash, I ask for the washing of regeneration; as I work, I pray that God's work may revive my soul; as I sweep out the house, I pray that my heart may be cleansed from all its impurities; while preparing and partaking of breakfast, I pray to be fed with the hidden manna and sincere milk of the Word; as I am busy with the children, I look up to God as my Father and pray for the spirit of adoption, that I may be His obedient child, and so on all day. Everything I do furnishes me with a thought for prayer."

Enough! Enough! cried the Minister, "these things are revealed to babes and hid from the wise and prudent." "Go on, Mary," said he, "Pray without Ceasing!" And as for us, my brethern, let us bless the Lord for this exposition and remember that—He has said: "The meek will He guide in judgement; and the meek will He teach His way." Psalm 25:9.

—Selected

WHAT IS HE TO YOU?

To the architect Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone. To the preacher He is the word of God. To the geologist He is the "rock of ages." To the educator He is the great Teacher. To the philanthropist He is the unspeakable gift. To the lawyer He is the judge of all men. To the sinner He is the Savior of the world. To the statesman He is the greatest and noblest patriot of all the ages. What is He to you?

—Selected

NEW YEARS DAY—

CHRISTMAS

By the late Gail Schultz

Days come and go, and another season has passed. At least to me it was swiftly and Christmas is here again with its glow and glory, its warmth and cheer. Everywhere in all Christendom there is a spell of beauty, holiness and worship. Of beauty because the Christ Child was born, our Redemption to bring---of holiness because He is the very way of holy living--and of worship because we must all worship Him in spirit and in truth. The Truth has indeed come to us, and reveals the light that lights the way of all men.

In Luke 2:25-34 there is a most beautiful story of worship and understanding and vision. In the temple of Jerusalem there was a devout man, whose name was Simeon. He was busy waiting for the consolation of Israel. The words of Isa. 40:1-2 were very dear to him. "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that iniquity is pardoned; for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins," We are further told that the Holy Ghost was upon him that he would not die until he saw the Christ child. Here we have a great revelation of God's power and promises. He makes His wishes and will known to man. How wonderful it is to praise God from whom all blessings flow. Simeon "came by the Spirit" to the temple at the right time. When God's appointments are kept, there is no "slip up", everything works out just right, in time and place and event, with all necessary conditions met and parties involved present. Christ came at the appointed time, and brought life and immortality to light. By revelation Simeon knew Christ and so we today can know Him. It is true we have His word, the Bible story and historical facts, but we also have His Spirit. Christmas is not just another day, it is the Birthday of Our Christ, Lord, Savior and King!

In the Scripture under discussion we read the term, "For mine eyes have seen thy Salvation." May we on this Christmas see Jesus, as the only hope of our salvation and know Him by faith and repentance so that with gladness of heart we honor Him. Eyes that see spiritual light are beautiful eyes, ears that hear and understand the words of Jesus are blessed. Hearts that melt under the warm glow of His correction really know the true worth of Christmas. With such an experience

we must give praise to Him and tell others of the real deep meaning of this day. One day the world laid deeply buried in darkness under a hard law, but now its fears are gone--its promised salvation is here. This salvation was prepared before the face of all people and the God who is no respecter of persons is now brought close to the heart of all who accept Him as their trust and portion.

Yes, not only to the Jews, a well chosen and favored people, but to the Gentiles as well. People are only cast off when they turn down the blessings offered or close the opened door. Sin and selfish motives ruin the way He has prepared for us. Now listen to these startling words: "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel."

Here is Jesus, set at the cross roads of each life -- each church -- every interprise and all nations and tongues. His witness is true. He took upon Himself the form of flesh and became the propitiation for our sins. Let us not be foolish nor neglectful and turn away from Jesus. There is no other way of salvation. At Christmas our minds turn to Him, as a Babe, the day of His birth, this we should do, but we must not forget Him at all other times. May our gifts not be marked by the dollar sign but may we give as unto the Lord of love, encourage faith and service to God. May the church be something of worth to us. As the coming year stretches out ahead of us, may it be a greater church year, and let each Sunday morning find us at the House of Worship. If we forget Jesus we shall fall, for He was thus given. If we come to Him, He will in no wise cast us out, but we shall rise again and walk in the beautiful light of God. Christmas is more than just the day, it is a point from which there radiates throughout the whole year, throughout the whole world, this thought and praise, Jesus was born, Jesus is here, and since the day of His birth the world has been different and since the day He came into my heart my life has been different. Praise the Lord, all ye people for Christ and pronounce its real and true and full meaning. **A VERY MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

*"HE COMES TO MAKE HIS BLESSINGS FLOW,
FAR AS THE CURSE IS FOUND."*

→
WHICH IS BETTER?

A LIVING DOG OR A DEAD LION

Life is a Precious Thing, and in its humblest form it is superior to death. This truth is eminently certain in spiritual things. It is better to be the least in the kingdom of heaven than the greatest out of it. The lowest degree of grace is superior to the noblest development of unregenerate nature.

Where the Holy Ghost implants divine life in the soul, there is a precious deposit which none of the refinements of education can equal. The repentant thief on the cross excels Caesar on his throne; Lazarus among the dogs is better than Cicero among the senators; and the most unlettered Christian is in the sight of God superior to Plato. Life is the badge of nobility in the realm of spiritual things, and men without it are only coarser or finer specimens of the same lifeless material, needing to be quickened, for they are dead in trespasses and sins.

A living, loving gospel sermon, however unlearned in matter and uncouth in style, is better than the finest discourse devoid of unction and

power. A living dog keeps better watch than a dead lion and is of more service to his master; and so the poorest spiritual preacher is infinitely to be preferred to the exquisite orator who has no wisdom but that of words, no energy but that of sound.

The like holds good of our prayers and other religious exercises. If we are quickened in them by the Holy Spirit, they are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ, though we may think them to be worthless things; while our grand performances in which our hearts were absent, like dead lions, are mere carrion in the sight of the living God.

O, for living groans, living sighs, living despondencies, rather than lifeless songs and dead calms. Better anything than death. The snarlings of dogs of hell will at least keep us awake, but dead faith and dead profession, what greater curses can a man have? Quicken us, quicken us, oh, Lord!

—Charles H. Spurgeon

Prayer is a shield to the soul, a sacrifice to God and a scourge for Satan. —Bunyan

Thankful to Serve

"Send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared," is a word of exhortation that should not be forgotten at this season. We are so inclined to thank God for what we have and for what we are privileged to enjoy, and we forget those who have nothing to enjoy, in comparison to what they would love to enjoy. We are thankful for the blessings we have received, but are we thankful that we may help someone else to enjoy blessings also? We are thankful for the wealth we are made to share, but are we just as thankful when we are asked to share that wealth with others who have none? Why not sit down and take time to think about those things?

"Selfish people do not know the meaning of the ability to serve. They look out for number one, and that is all the farther they ever think. They can see no sense in serving another. It looks as if there is no point to it. To them it has no significance to spend time in serving another. Those who are inclined, through God's mercy to them, to respond to the call of need from others, in ministering to the wants of their suffering, in giving of bread to the hungry, water to the thirsty, clothing to the naked, shelter to the homeless, find great satisfaction in doing so. They are only too glad that they have wherewith to do these things.

Is there cause for being thankful for the ability of serving others? Yes, there can be no greater reason than the need and the possibility of so doing. There is actual joy in service gladly rendered. Not all may have the means of serving from a material standpoint, but there is a possibility of serving in spiritual lines. God may have saved you and given you the privileges of the Gospel to serve to others. There is blessed satisfaction in serving others on these lines. The pleasure this procures cannot be outweighed. Getting and hoarding from a mere material standpoint is as nothing in comparison to the joy of doing this are missing the best life. Life's greatest joy only comes from gladly serving our fellowmen in some capacity.

Peace and Good Will

By Donald D. Dibbens

The wonderful story, that is old but is ever new, unfolds to us again in carol, poem, hymn, and picture. We bow in grateful humility, as did the Wise Men and Shepherds, and worship the King — the Savior of the world — "Thou shalt call his name Immanuel (God with us)." "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21. What a glorious plan. What a divine revelation. What a precious promise—"He shall save his people from their sins." The only hope for redemption from the curse of sin; the way, the truth, and the life.

We live in a dying world. Men are not living on and on, but hastening to the grave. Another generation takes their place and the cycle will end only when immortal or incorruptible we shall stand in the presence and likeness of the King. This is the only hope of a dying world — a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger. Yes more than this: A savior dying upon a cruel cross between two thieves. Yes more than this; a figure arising from the tomb; with the stone rolled away by angelic hands. Yes more than this: A figure disappearing into a cloud to be at the right hand of God interceding for man. Yes more than this: A King coming in the clouds with power and great glory to subdue the kingdoms of this world and reign in righteousness: ruling the world in Peace. "Righteousness shall be the girdle of the loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins." Isaiah 11:5

There shall be peace in the valley some day.

We live in a world of racial hatred, political mistrust, religious greed, and military lust for power. This swells from the small community through the city, through the county, through the state, through the nation, and across sea and land through the countries of the world. We can also include Space, in this day of mad rush for the lead in conquering space and going to planets.

Where in the Peace? It is not in the large labor unions. It is not at the conferences. It is not in education. It is not in great accomplishments. It is not in riches. It is not in poverty. It is in Jesus. The most peaceful scene is a little babe, wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger. Yes, it is best portrayed in Joseph, Mary, the babe and the humble surroundings of the manger stall that silent night in Bethlehem of Judea. It is further magnified on the Judean hillside as the lowly Shepherds watched their flocks by night; where Angels proclaimed, "And on earth peace, good will toward men." It is further magnified by the Wise Men bringing gifts most costly to lay them at the manger crib as they humbly knelt to

worship and adore this priceless gift of God to a sinful world.

Jesus has not brought peace to the world, and yet Jesus has brought peace to the world. He has made peace available to the individual heart, the humble heart, the contrite heart, the repenting heart. Men fight, kill and war — but a few have found this precious peace by coming to Jesus with their troubled soul. His yoke is easy and His burden is light. He gives hope to the hopeless and life to the lifeless. He enables men to live with peace in their hearts in the midst of greed, lust, sin and hate. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

Where can we find this peace? At the foot of the Old Rugged Cross: with a broken heart and a contrite spirit; with a trust in God and a belief in His only begotten Son; with a will to serve and a determination to be faithful.

The wonderful heralded words, that thrilled the Shepherds that night in Palestine, can flood our hearts today, if we are right with God and love His truth and believe His word — "Peace on earth, and good will toward men."

Christmas Spirit

I am the Christmas Spirit!

I enter the home of poverty, causing palefaced children to open their eyes wide, in pleased wonder.

I cause the miser's clutched hand to relax, and thus paint a bright spot on his soul.

I cause the aged to renew their youth and to laugh in the old glad way.

I keep romance alive in the heart of childhood, and brighten sleep with dreams woven of magic.

I cause eager feet to climb dark stairways with filled baskets, leaving behind hearts amazed at the goodness of the world.

I cause the prodigal to pause a moment on his wild, wasteful way, and send to anxious love some little token that releases glad tears—tears which wash away the hard lines of sorrow.

I enter dark prison cells, reminding scarred manhood of what might have been, and pointing forward to good days yet to be.

I come softly into the still, white home of pain, and lips that are too weak to speak just tremble in silent, eloquent gratitude.

In a thousand ways I cause the wary world to look up into the face of God, and for a little moment forget the things that are small and wretched.

I am the Christmas Spirit!

—E. C. Baird



MY GIFT

Rev. J. C. Macauley

They brought their gifts those
sages from afar,
Of frankincense, and myrrh,
and purest gold,
To grace the King whose birth,
so long foretold,
Was heralded at last by yonder star.

She brought her perfume, liquid
nard, so rare
In alabaster cruse: the house
was filled
With fragrance, as with lavish
love she spilled
Her sweet oblation on His temples fair.

They brought their offering; thorns to
wreath His brow.
Nails for His hands and feet,
a spear to pierce
His heart with sorrow torn,
as loud and fierce
They raised their cry, "This man
we disavow."

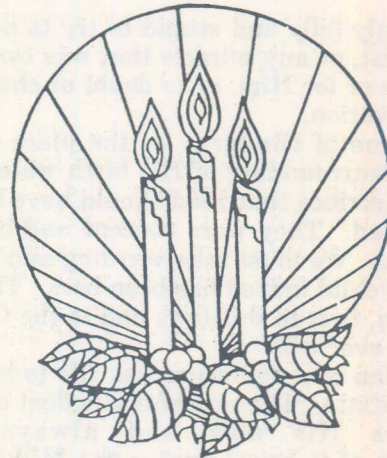
They bring their tribute in the
courts above,
Ascribing to the Lamb who once
was slain.
Salvation, honor, laud and vast
domain,
Wide as the reaches of His
boundless love.

I bring my gift today; a heart
subdued
By love Divine; a life laid
at His feet
In consecration joyous and
complete;
A soul redeemed by Blood, by
grace renewed.

—The S. S. Times

X IN XMAS

The X in Xmas is the Creek form of the letters "ch". As the initial letter of the Greek word for Christ, which is *Xristos*, it has taken the place of the whole word. Some think this abbreviation is of the devil. This is not necessarily so. What is of the devil, however, is the commercialization, the reducing of Christmas to a mere holiday without holiness, and its lack of spiritual significance and meaning in the life of the world and even of many professing Christians. The coming of the Lord Jesus into the world spelled Satan's doom, and it is the devil's business to hide the meaning of that coming from as many as he can. (II Cor. 4: 3-4).



BURNING CHRISTMAS CANDLES

Burning candles at Christmas-tide is the custom derived from the Roman Saturnalia. Not only were candles used for the purpose of illumination during that festival, but they were also exchanged as gifts in token of cheerfulness and good will. It is probable that the employment of candles was derived from the Jewish Feast of the Dedication, which was held about the same time of the year as the Saturnalia and the Yule. The burning of candles was one of the incidents of that feast, and it is not unlikely that at the time of the birth of Jesus thousands of candles were brightly burning throughout Palestine—a fitting, though unintentional, proclamation of the Light that had come into the world. A fact that bears out this supposition is that the Catholics of the Greek Church call Christmas the "Feast of Light."

JESUS THE MIRACLE

The greatest phenomenon of all ages, or of any record is found in the miraculous conception and birth of Jesus. He who ruled the universe and had all power, but the above act took upon Himself the form of man.

In Isa. 9:6-7 we have a most gracious prophecy and promise which reads as follows: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called wonderful, counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."

It is only folly and stupid to try to deny or denounce Christ, or any miracle that was ever performed by him or for Him, or to doubt or challenge the plan of salvation.

The time of His birth — the place of His birth and the surrounding of His birth were all of promise. The scribes that read should have known and investigated. They were content and blinded to be disturbed. We must take warning and be not like they. The child indeed has been born. The Son has been given, first to the Jews and to the Gentile and to who-so-ever will.

The plan of redemption was His to inaugurate and propitiate. The peaceful kingdom of righteousness is His now and always, the consummation of it being during the Millennium when He shall reign from the Throne of David.

Jesus is wonderful, for its beyond compare what He will do for those that call upon His name. To millions He is chief and counselor — not as a high paid lawyer, but as a friend who loves at all times and works miracles, His grace to bestow and His love to show.

He is a mighty God of power to all that call on His name — and a Father to the ones that are His children. No kin-ship is as close as His. He walks with the ones that believe, be that king or priests, or common folk like you and me. The rich need Him, the poor seek Him — they all follow Him and great is their reward now and forever.

We have Christmas because Jesus came to us. His birth changed the world, exalted the low and forgotten, brought to naught the lofty and pretentious. It made paths of righteousness, and broad plains of salvation, with oceans of love to all that follow on to know Him. Waves of healing engulf sick bodies and grace sufficient greets each Believer on the wings of faith and wings of hope.

Justice is His to give — meted out in truth and mercy, with "no respecter of persons" as the yard stick. Boundary lines of race or color or creed cannot bind Him nor change His decisions, for the heart is the seat of His jurisdiction.

How does all this come to us? By the zeal of the Lord — that set times, confounded nations, builded kings, and led prophets to perform His will — so that Jesus might come to us — as Lord and Savior. It makes glad the heart, and strong the will to serve Him and in this 1992 again we can proclaim, Merry Christmas to one and all in His name whose birthday we now celebrate.

The number of miracles Jesus wrought are many and they cover wide range and scope of display of power.

He turned the water into wine (John 2:1-10).

He healed the nobleman's son (John 4:46-54).

He caused the disciples to have a great draught of fishes (Luke 5:1-11).

He healed all manner of diseases (Matt. 4:23, 24; Mark 1:34; Luke 4:40; 6:17-19).

He delivered the demoniac (Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:31-37).

He healed Peter's wife's mother of a violent fever (Matt. 8:14-17; Mark 1:29-34; Luke 1:38-41).

He healed the impotent man (John 5:1-9).

He healed the withered hand (Matt 12:9-14; Mark 3: 1-6); Luke 6:6-11).

He healed the centurion's servant (Matt 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10).

He raised the widow's son (Luke 7:11-17)

He wrought cures before John's messengers (Matt. 11:4,5; Luke 7:21).

He stilled the tempest (Matt. 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:49-55).

He healed a woman from an issue of blood (Matt. 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:43-48).

He gave sight to two blind men (Matt. 9:27-31).

He cast out a demon and healed a dumb man (Matt. 9:32,33).

He fed five thousand (Matt. 14:15-21; Mark 6:34-44; Luke 9:12-17; John 6: 1-13).

He walked upon the water (Matt. 14:24-27; Mark 6:45-51; John 6:19).

He healed the Syrophenician woman's daughter (Matt. 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30).

He cleansed ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19).

He raised Lazarus from the dead after his body had gone to decomposition (John 11:17-44).

He cursed a fig tree (Matt. 21:17-20; Mark 11:12-14,20).

He healed Malchus' ear which Peter cut off (Luke 22:50,51).

By Laws Of The
Apostolic Faith Bible College, Inc.
ARTICLE VII
Doctrine

It is recognized that the true church of Jesus Christ consists of all believers in the saving grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who have accepted Him as their personal Savior. It is recognized and agreed that no organization or man has been granted authority by the Lord to exclude from or accept anyone into the Kingdom of Heaven, as this is done by Jesus Christ only. It is further recognized and agreed that we as Christians are to love all members of the Body of Christ (Christians), and this love and fellowship derives from the unity instilled by the Holy Spirit. Although differences in doctrinal beliefs and interpretations should not influence our love for one another, adherence to similar doctrinal beliefs and modes of worship have bonded together those of the Apostolic Faith Movement as founded by Charles F. Parham in the early 1900's. The scripture teaches us to adhere to the truth and proper doctrine. The common doctrinal beliefs are essentially as follows.

Triune God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Creation and Formation.

Man is basically sinful and in need of Salvation.
Salvation by Grace upon repentance toward God and acceptance of Jesus Christ as one's personal Savior, which is the conception of Spiritual Life.

Sanctification of the Spirit, Soul and Body, A second definite work of Grace by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit; evidenced by the speaking in other languages.

Water Baptism (of all believers) by immersion in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Washing of Feet.

Divine Healing through Jesus Christ for all believers.

Do not condone divorce and remarriage, Matt. 19:8-9.

Destruction of the Wicked.

Conditional Immortality.

Rapture of the Man Child Class.

Return of Jesus Christ to earth again; bodily and visibly.

A ministry supported by tithes and offerings.

These doctrines shall be adhered to in the teaching of the Apostolic Faith Bible College, which in addition to other doctrinal teaching approved by the Board from time to time if they are not in consistent with the above listed basic doctrines.

The Apostolic Faith Report

Karen Oakes, Editor

Post Office Box 653
Baxter Springs, KS 66713

Ph. (316) 856-5281

EDITORIAL BOARD

BILL HOLLIS
436 Cherokee Ave.
Baxter Springs, KS
66713
(316) 856-5301

DENNIE OAKES
Rt. 4, Box 90
Joplin, MO 64804
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Baxter Springs, KS
66713
(316) 856-5100

GAYLON FLORA
R 1, CO.RD. 203
DANBURY, TX 77534
(409) 922-8128

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To each of you that has supported the Apostolic faith Report prayerfully and financially.

To my family for their complete support of my work here at the Report office.

To my home church at Joplin, Mo., for their support.

To each one of you that have sent articles and testimonies the past year.

To our churches that have sent their news and announcements.

To our readers. May God bless them all!

To the Bible College faculty and students for all of their help.

To the Board of Trustees for their help and cooperation in all things.

And most of all, to God for being with me every day, meeting every need for spirit, mind and body.

May you all have a:

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

- Karen Oakes

Convocation 1992

APOSTOLIC FAITH BIBLE COLLEGE
10th & Lincoln
Baxter Springs, Kansas

Tuesday, Dec. 29 1992

7:00 p.m. Evening Service

Wednesday, Dec. 30, 1992

7:00 a.m. Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Prayer Service
10:00 a.m. Morning Service
12:00 Noon Meal
2:30 p.m. Afternoon Service
5:00 p.m. Supper
7:00 p.m. Evening Service

Thursday, Dec. 31, 1992

7:00 a.m. Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Prayer Service
10:00 a.m. Morning Service
12:00 Noon Meal
2:30 p.m. Afternoon Service
5:00 p.m. Supper
7:00 p.m. Evening Service
9:30 p.m. Refreshments
10:30 p.m. Watch Night Service

Rooms are available on a first come basis. Please contact Savoy G. Immer, P.O. Box 110, Baxter Springs, KS 66713 or Phone (316) 856-3283 for reservations.

CAMP MEETING 1993

BAKTER SPRINGS, KANSAS
JULY 26 THRU AUGUST 1

4-STATE YOUTH CAMP

JUNE 13 THRU JUNE 18
BAKTER SPRINGS, KANSAS

Oct. - Nov. - Dec. 1992

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Superintendent

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