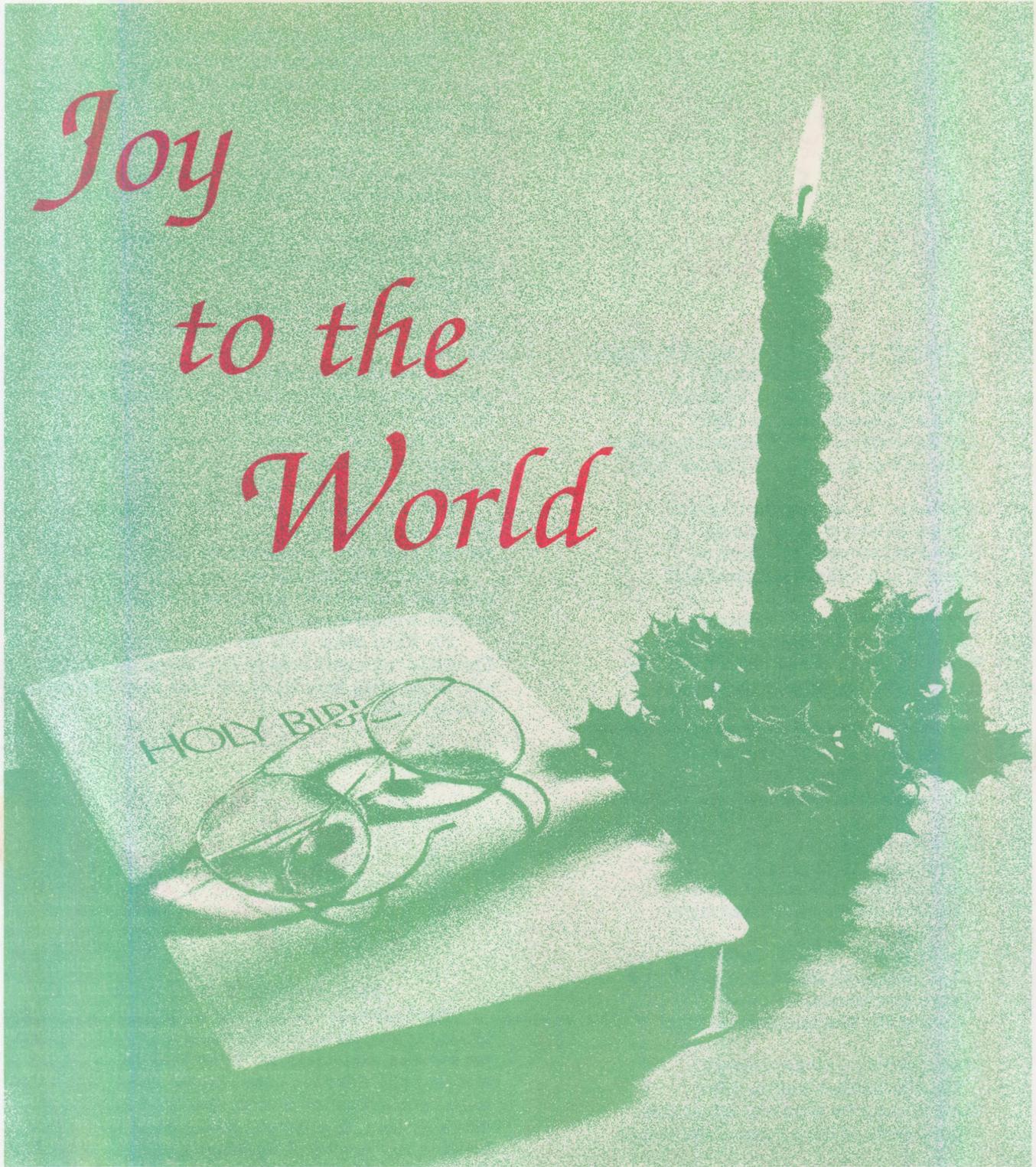


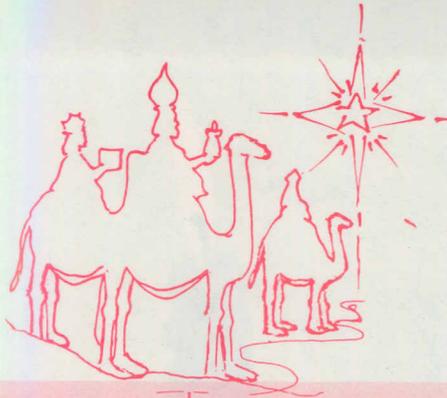
*Joy  
to the  
World*



**The Apostolic Faith Report**

NOV. - DEC. 1988

VOL. 34 NO. 11 & 12



### WHAT IF THERE'D NEVER BEEN CHRISTMAS?

What if there'd never been Christmas?  
 What if there still was no Light?  
 And the world was still swallowed in darkness  
 Like it was on that first Christmas night?

Would there be hope for the hopeless,  
 In a world full of hatred and sin  
 If Jesus had not come to redeem us  
 And give us HIS peace deep within?

What of the sick and the suffering,  
 And those who need help everywhere...  
 Where else would there be balm for healing  
 If the Great Physician did not care?

The good and the perfect gifts of life  
 Come down from the Father above;  
 There is no shadow of turning  
 Or variableness in His love!

So, in His tender loving care,  
 He saw mankind's sad plight  
 And sent His son...His only Son...  
 To us on that first Christmas night!

Now there IS hope for the hopeless,  
 And comfort for those in despair!  
 There is no circumstance so grave  
 But that His love can penetrate there!

Now there IS joy for the children...  
 There IS limitless healing balm,  
 There IS peace for those who accept Him;  
 In the midst of life's storms, there is calm.

And so we thank God there WAS Christmas  
 On that first dark night long ago...  
 That same great Light STILL bids darkness flee,  
 And STILL sets our worlds aglow!

..Barbara Waterbury  
 Christmas 1977-78

### TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS

1. Thou shalt not leave Christ out of Christmas.
2. Thou shalt not value the gifts by their cost, for many shall signify love that is more blessed and beautiful than silver and gold.
3. Thou shalt give thyself with any gift; thy love, thy personality, and thy service shall increase the value of thy gift an hundredfold, and he that receiveth it shall treasure it forever.
4. Thou shalt not let Santa Claus take the place of Christ, lest Christmas become a fairy tale rather than a spiritual reality.
5. Thou shalt not burden thy fellowmen. The shop girl, the mail carrier, and the merchant shall have thy consideration.
6. Thou shalt not neglect thy church. Worship, evangelism, and stewardship shall be preeminent in the Christmas season for thee and thy family.
7. Thou shalt not neglect the needy. Let thy bountiful blessing be shared with the many who will go hungry and cold unless thou art generous at Christmas.
8. Thou shalt be as a little child. Christmas is the day of the Christchild; not until thou hast become childlike in spirit art thou ready to enter into the kingdom of heaven.
9. Thou shalt prepare thy soul for Christmas. Verily, most spend many hours getting other things ready, but few seconds in preparing their souls.
10. Thou shalt give thy heart to Christ. Let thy Christmas list have Christ at the top and thy heart as the gift. In so going thou art as the Wise Men who brought gifts to Christ.



### THE WORLD'S SAVIOUR

The Christmas Christ is the world's Saviour. At this blessed season, let us dedicate ourselves anew to the making known a world Saviour. 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. One 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 color 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 Saviour 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.

# AFBC NEWS

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

It seems this semester just began, but it is almost over! It has been a beautiful fall season here in Baxter Springs. All of us marvel at God's handiwork in changing the color of the trees. It is an inspirational time of the year that soon will usher in winter. Along with winter comes our break for the Christmas holidays. The students and faculty alike, look forward to spending time with their family. It is a good time to "rest up" before the next semester begins. The dates for that semester will be **January 9 - May 12, 1989.**

During October we took the annual fall choir tour. The students enjoyed their visits to the churches and put much effort into each service. The hospitality shown to each one of us was very appreciated. The students already are looking forward to next semester's travels.

We have had a number of visitors this year. Many of the students' families and friends have come to fellowship. Former students have also stopped by to recapture their Bible School days. We always enjoy having visitors, and we encourage others to come by.

I have not accomplished all that I wanted to for this semester, but have done my best in putting forth God's Word and in handling the finances. I trust you are pleased with our labors.

All of us send *warmest wishes* for the holidays, thanking God for people who put Him first in their lives. May God Bless.

Sincerely,  
Lyndel Arnall

## BOY'S DORM

We have enjoyed a good fall semester, I have seen growth in each life spiritually and physically for some. Some of the guys have put on a few pounds. It seems as though that happens quite often around the Bible College. I think lunch is their favorite class. I hope and look forward to an even better semester next year. We are encouraging the young men to strive for deeper depths and higher heights in their walk with the Lord. I am sure we would all agree that the coming of our Lord is drawing nigh. I would like to encourage you, as I have the guys, to make the decisions that would draw you nearer to the Lord.

We at the boy's dorm would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

God Bless You, RON BRENING

## GIRL'S DORM

"Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised." Prov. 31:30.

This fall semester has passed quickly. The young women here in the dorm have each grown closer to the Lord. I am thankful to God for His mighty working power and His great love to each of us.

This semester has been wonderful. We've shared a lot of fun times. Memories that will forever remain etched in our minds. There's nothing like the fellowship of God's people.

We are looking forward to next semester knowing with confidence that the Lord will be present with us. That He will be faithful and answer our prayers.

I Peter 3:12 "For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayers."

Praise God for His great love!

In His Service,  
Kim Mathis



A.F.B.C.

announces the annual

## VALENTINE BANQUET

FOR THE YOUTH OF THE CHURCHES

February 11, 1989

Come celebrate God's love!

(Information to be sent to churches at a later date)





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 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, in-so-much that it was revealed to 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 crossroads of each life - each church - every enterprise 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 it's real and true and full meaning.

#### I MUST GO SHOPPING

One of these days I must go shopping! I am completely out of self-respect...I want to exchange self-righteousness I picked up the other day for some humility, which they say is less expensive and wears better; I want to look at some tolerance which is being used for wraps this season. Someone showed me some pretty samples of peace...,we are a little low on that and one can never have too much of it.

And, by the way, I must try to match some patience that my neighbor wears...it is very becoming to her and I think it might look well on me.

I might try on that little garment of longsuffering they are displaying. I never thought I wanted, but feel myself coming to it.

Also, I must not forget to have my sense of humor mended and look around for some inexpensive everyday goodness. It is surprising how quickly one's stock of goodness is depleted.

Yes, I must go shopping soon.

(Author Unknown)

## NO VICTIMLESS SINS

Or do you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit...and you are not your own? I Cor. 6:19

A newspaper carried an article entitled "Victimless Crimes Get Second Look." The writer stated that practices such as prostitution and gambling are being reevaluated by state and federal authorities. Because laws governing these activities are hard to enforce, some feel they should be legalized. Some states no longer consider drunkenness a crime. And a few have no laws against illicit sexual acts between consenting adults. It's claimed that such behavior is victimless because no one gets hurt.

We must not be fooled by this faulty line of reasoning. Sin always hurts people, the one committing it as well as others. No man is an island, and a society is only as strong as the individuals in it. But pressing deeper into the problem, we see that sin offends a holy God who made us in His image and who tells us what's right and wrong. His commands are always for our good. To disobey them is to miss knowing His best for us.

In the Scripture, Paul said that as Christians we do not belong to ourselves - we are the possession of another. To violate body, mind, and soul through sexual immorality, therefore, is to strike out at God who made us and indwells us by His Spirit.

We may think that some things are harmless. but even when no one else is directly affected, we hurt ourselves and grieve the One who created us. There are no victimless sins! -D.J.D.

*You're bound to touch some other life  
By what you say and do,  
So never think that when you sin  
It injures only you. - D.J.D.*

The sin of one person often brings tragedy to many.  
Submitted by James Hosler

## THINK IT OVER

God made the sun-it gives;  
God made the moon-it gives;  
God made the stars-they give;  
God made the air-it gives;  
God made the clouds-they give;  
God made the earth-it gives;  
God made the sea-it gives;  
God made the trees-they give;  
God made the grass-it gives;  
God made the flowers-they give;  
God made the bees-they give;  
God made the fowls-they give;  
God made the fish-they give;  
God made the beasts-they give;  
God made the plan-He gives;  
God made man-he....?

*Selected*

*Jesus came to save the Lost, the Last, and the Least.*



## 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.

# Over 40 Years

I hardly know where to begin this: I guess about August third, 1905. The little town of Girard, Kansas, discovered that there was another mouth to feed. My daddy was Scotch, Irish and Welsh. Mama was part German. My part of the Durham Tribe had come west with the Boons' when Daniel left Tennessee and Kentucky and headed West. Grandpaw Noah, with some brothers, settled in Eastern Illinois not far from Terra Haute, Indiana. But the Roving spirit was in our blood and Dad was always looking for new territory. So we were constantly on the move, always looking for something better. After I came along, and I was the finis of the family; my first five years were spent in Oklahoma, then a move back to Kansas and in 1911, we moved to Newton County, Missouri, near Neosho.

I was in the first grade at the Jay Bird School, although others think a little differently. I'm sure it was in 1912 or 13 at the most. Two people, man and wife, the Christians, came through our country with a little tent, bed roll and pots and pans to cook on a camp fire. They camped near the school, and were the first in our country to preach the message of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. They were not well received and suffered persecution. Yet they went on after the revival, pushing their little two wheel cart made from cultivator wheels. I was young, but something stuck in my heart. My uncle Luther (Lute) and Aunt Clara eventually accepted the WORD. When I was seventeen, after several moves and eventually in McDonald County, Daddy bought a farm with a Full Gospel Church on it. After receiving the Lord, I began doing what I could, dedicating myself to Him and accepting the cleansing of the BLOOD. I didn't receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit until the fall of 1924. On Easter Sunday of that year I made a commitment to minister whatever? in the Gospel.

I began traveling with my cousin, Floyd Durham and family. After several meetings in Missouri, we went back to where our fathers had homesteaded in Oklahoma. I tried preaching my first message, which was a complete flop, and decided I had made a great mistake and couldn't wait to get back home to get behind the plow again. Well, that didn't work either, for soon the bones were burning. So I announced some services at Oakwood Church near McAlhenny. Well, that was worse then ever, but Floyd came up and bailed me out, I went back home, got behind the plow, and started practicing on that little team, poor things. They got more salvation, hell fire and brimstone that I ever thought could be in the Bible. I thought, if I can do it to them, why can't I preach to people? So I got on my knees, out in the woods, and I asked Him to show me. And He did. My first meeting was at Kings Holler School, most people called it Possum Trot. Six people were saved in twelve nights, and I was on my way.

After I tried starting on my own, Brother Arvel Kidd joined me and helped all he could. There was never a time but what he was ready to go. Be in rain or shine, wet or cold, on foot, horseback. Our second try was at Bunker Hill



School. I felt there was little accomplished, but I was learning all the time to depend on the Lord more. In 1927 I was able to buy an old car, our travel before had been on foot or however we could get a way. We held several meetings in Southwest Missouri, N.E. Oklahoma and North Arkansas. Some are still living and going on with God that were saved in those meetings. We worked with several different ministers; Lester Oakes, Ed Durbin, S.E. Waterbury, Floyd Durham and others.

I met Charles Parham in the summer of 1924 at a camp meeting at Wager Mills, Ar., just south of Cave Springs. Although I had been saved for over a year, I had never heard the word of God explained with such power and the subject dealt with in this manner. In the spring of 1925, he invited me to Baxter Springs for a special meeting to help Fred Campbell with the preparations. We got the seating and everything ready in the Library Park. An afternoon rain sent us inside the building upstairs and at an ordination service, he asked me to come and be ordained, although I felt that uncertainty about it all. Something about it I will always remember; as he prayed with others and bound the sacrifice to the altar. A lot of times I have wondered if it was worth it all. That binding, through the BLOOD OF THE EVERLASTING COVENANT applied by the Holy Spirit, has held. We were privileged to be in different meetings with Brother Parham. Our Durham Quartet sang on his radio programs as well as at this funeral. I have held those truths to be sacred and enduring that God entrusted him with.

On November 17, 1929, Ava Cooper and I were married at her parents' home near McNatt, MO. She had received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit in a camp meeting conducted by Brother Parham and Brother S.E. Waterbury in the summer of 1922. Although just a girl, she began going in meetings and working for the Lord in a more definite way. We had been together a good many times through camp meetings as well as revivals. She had conducted many revivals as well as pastoring churches. Together or separately, we have had services in more than thirty different locations in this county. Sometimes working together and at others conducting individual meetings. On November 1, 1933, we were blessed with a baby boy, Robert Lee. Then in October of '37 another boy, Harold Gene, but the Lord took him home six months later. Robert is now working

for God in a missionary support effort. Many Bibles are being sent in over sixty languages as well as a great many needs to the missionaries. He was ordained to the ministry last February. Ava and I are helping with this work known by ISLAND MISSIONS INC.

Our first pastorate was soon after our marriage at the California Mesa Church, west of Olathe, Colo., in the fall of 1930. The next summer we spent in tents and meeting there in the valley with Brother and Sister Bill Yeakel, who were married at the same time we were.

After the camp meeting at Cheney, Kan., we held a tent meeting in Neosho, MO. Then again in the spring another, where Brother S.E. Waterbury let us set the tent back of a grocery store that he operated. Of course one's work takes you many places and we won't name them all. In the spring of 1938, after a tent meeting with Harold Cooper and Ralph Durham, we took the tent to Bayard, Neb., where the Hintergardts and Perkins' lived at the time.

The Lewis Family came to the Lord and the church was started. The Hintergardts stayed with the work and after our second trip in the fall. We shipped the tent, took the Perkins and went to Palm City and held a tent meeting that was the start of the church there. Of course, we made several trips back. Others built the church and pastored.

The spring of 1950, I took Robert and drove the Alcan Highway and helped some with the Church at Anchorage, and have made three trips since by air, Ava having made one of those with me. She held one meeting there. In 1952, the work was started on South Hillside in Wichita out a tent revival conducted by Tica Tabor and Leonard Carlson. Prayer meetings were started almost immediately. We rented a building, and revival began that has not stopped yet.

After many happenings between, we moved to Joplin in the spring of 1964, and then on to here nine years ago. We went back to Union Chapel after the death of Brother Bob Cooper. This is the community where I was saved and made my commitment to the Lord. We spent fourteen months with the folks there, and it was good to be home again. There is something about the place where you come to the Lord Jesus. If it is real, you never forget. He has never failed or come short. It hasn't been easy all the way. Many times a bed on the floor or at the side of the road. But we have had food and many friends, and now He still provides for our needs. For which we GIVE HIM THANKS. JUST FOR HIM TO BE OUR SAVIOUR AND LORD IS ENOUGH.

Albert and Ava Durham  
Rt. 2 Box 2466  
Anderson, MO 64831

*Christians not only stand FOR something, but they stand BY.*

## THANKFUL TO SERVE

"Send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared," is a word of exhortation that should not be forgotten 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 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?

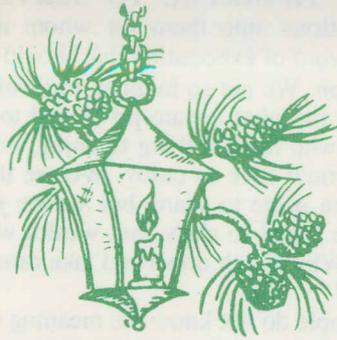
Selfish people do not know the meaning of the ability to serve. They look out for number one, and that is all the farther they ever think. They can see no sense in serving another. It looks as if there is no point to it. To them it has no significance to spend time in serving another. Those who are inclined, 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 serving others in the Gospel. Those who have not the joy of doing this are missing the best of life. It is missing the meaning and the opportunity of life. Life's greatest joy only comes from gladly serving our fellowmen in some capacity.

*Selected*

## BURNING CHRISTMAS CANDLES

Burning candles at Christmas-time 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."



## PEACE AND GOOD WILL

By DONALD D. DIBBENS

The wonderful story, that is old but 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 Saviour 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 saviour 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 is 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, precious, dear, and sweet, wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger. Yes, it is beset 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 pro-

claimed, "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 Pealestine, 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."

### Central District

#### Alumni & Friends

invites you to an inside picnic:

*When?* Feb. 4, 1989

*Where?* Faith Chapel Family Life Center  
6808 E. Harry  
Wichita, Kansas

*Time?* 12:30 p.m.

*Cost?* \$5.00 per adult  
(pay at the door)

The bus will be leaving from A.F.B.C. at 8:00 a.m. for those interested.

For further information contact;

**Barabara Crouse**

Central District Representative

1-(316) 788-4172 or A.F.B.C.

## 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

The children and grandchildren of Henry and Viola Littau hosted a reception in their honor Oct. 2, 1988 at the Victory School House, south of the Midway Country Church, Logan, OK.

Henry and Viola Hoch Peters were united in marriage on Oct. 2, 1938 at Perryton, Texas in the home of Henry's parents, Leonard and Katherine Littau. The Lord blessed them with 6 children. One daughter, Anna Mae, and husband, John Stinson, daughter-in-law Ava Littau, Laverne, Alfred, and wife, Janet, Perryton, TX, Terry and wife, Elaine, Perryton, and 8 grandchildren, Debi and Bill Jean, Laverne, OK., Jeff and Nancy Stinson, Weatherford, OK., Tonya Littau, Newburg, OR., Monika Littau, Perryton, TX., Robert Littau, Amarillo, TX., Stephen Marlin and Micheal Littau, Perryton, TX. and one great-granddaughter, Mandi Jean, Laverne, OK.

The Lord smiled on their special day, and blessed them with many family and friends that will always be a special place in their hearts.



## NEW BABIES

### HAINES

Rene and Fay Haines of Follett, Texas announce the Birth of their daughter Emily Sue on Sept. 23, 1988. She weighed 7 lbs 4 1/2 oz. and was 21 1/2 inches long. Emily has a big brother Daniel Ryan. Grandparents are Don and Frankie Haines of Follett; and Lynn and Sue Carr of Joplin, Mo., Gladys Hill, Shattuck, OK. and Glen Conway of Wellington, KS.

### DORRIS

Charity Dawn and Benjamin Mark Dorris announce the birth of their new sister, Autumn Rachelle on Oct. 12, 1988. She weighed 8 lbs. 15 oz and was 20 1/2 inches long. Autumn's parents are Joel and Tammy Dorris, pastors of the Apostolic Faith Church in Crosses, Ark. Her grandparents are Dennie and Karen Oakes, Joplin, MO. and Joe and Ruth Dorris, Purcell, MO. Great-grandparents are Wanda Allgood, Joplin, MO., Hershel and Glenna Dorris, Galena, KS. Her great-great-grandmother is Faye Allgood, Miami, OK.

### BROWN

James and Lyn Brown Baxter Springs, Ks. have been blessed with a new daughter, Jamie Nicole. She was born Oct. 18, 1988 which also was her mother's and grandmother's birthdays. Jamie weighed 8 lbs 6 oz and was 20 long. Her grandparents are Jimmy and Dorothy Turner, Alexander City, AL. and Harold and Mary Margaret Brown of Centerview, MO.

### Baxter Springs, Ks.

The Baxter Chapel has been home to us for many years. Even before Danny and I were married we felt a part of this church. We appreciate the love and acceptance given us by the people of the Baxter Church. Although we felt the Lord leading us to resign as pastors of the Church, we do not want to resign as members of this Church. We are excited about Bro. Paul and Sis. Bonnie Clanton accepting the position as pastor. We wish to help them as layity of the church to see our church grow and be a thriving church.

The arrival of fall also brings the arrival of the Bible School students and faculty. We welcome them back to worship with us at Baxter. They are a blessing to the church. We enjoyed the concert given by the Bible College Choir and the many other areas of ministry they perform.

Bro. Jacob and Sis. Rosalie Regier held revival services for us the first week in October. The Spirit of the Lord moved in these services. We felt refreshed and uplifted after hearing God's Word.

Doyle Wiles also visited the Baxter Church. He spoke in both Sunday services.

We are looking forward to the Holiday Season. Our young people, as well as the whole church, are planning a special Christmas service. We wish you a Merry Holiday Season.

Rae Mona Robinson - Reporter

## NOTICE!

Thirty cents a time is what the Post Office charges us whenever a copy of the Report is returned with a reader's new address. If you are moving, won't you tell us at once, allowing at least 4 weeks for the change? Send the mailing label from the back page so we will know your old address.

## 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 judgment and 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 not be like them. 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 it's beyond compare that 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 kinship 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, built kings, and led prophets to perform His will-so that Jesus might come to us-as Lord and Saviour. It makes glad the heart, and strong the will to serve Him and in this 1988 again we can proclaim, Merry Christmas to one and all in His name whose birthday we now celebrate.

NOV. - DEC. 1988

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

He turned 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 4:38-41)

He healed a leper (Matt. 8:1-4; Mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:17-26)

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 over to decomposition (John 11:17-44)

He cursed a fig tree (Matt. 21:17-20; Mark 11:12-14, 40)

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

## Annual alumni & friends Banquet

May 12th, 1989

Begin making plans to come now!  
(further information in up coming issue)

Looking ahead is a good way to keep from falling behind.



Our Best Wishes  
to You

#### WHENCE THE CHRISTMAS CARD

Christmas cards were first printed in London more than 130 years ago, but did not become popular until 115 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, and also as "The Saviour's bird" because of the legend of its red breast. This bird is still seen on Christmas cards, but not as often as formerly.

#### I WISH THEE JOY

*I wish thee joy! much joy, around this season;  
Not joys but joy-joy deep and strong and true;  
Joy-inward joy-since surely heart hath reason.  
To taste much joy where He hath made things new.*

*I wish thee joy! the joy of sins forgiven;  
The joy which comes from having Christ as thine;  
The joy of knowing after earth comes heaven,  
For evermore the Father's house devine.*

*I wish thee joy! the joy of His near presence,  
Though shadows fall, and trials tend life's way;  
He is Himself, of joy, the changeless essence,  
Joy ever fresh and new; joy every day.*

*I wish thee joy; yea, something more than gladness,  
That quiet joy the Holy Spirit gives;  
The joy which, e'en through things and days of sad-  
ness,*

*Upsprings within; flows on; sustains and lives!  
-J. Danson Smith in 'Sharing'*



Christmas! The wondrous day of all the year! The day when heavenly life descended to light and lifted this sin-cursed world from the abyss of eternal darkness.

An intense darkness had wrapped itself around the world. Too deep and dense for any human to lift or penetrate. When Adam and Eve in the Garden disobeyed God's one command and their sin made an entrance for this stifling, oppressing darkness-the curse of sin. That first sin opened the door for this eternal night. The world came under the control of Satan, the prince of darkness.

Man's eyes became blinded by sin. It weighed down the heart of man. It crushed the moral, physical and spiritual life of man. Such an intense, dense, impenetrable oppressing and cursing darkness it was. Man was helpless. Impossible for him to save himself. He was unable to walk uprightly without constantly faltering, stumbling and falling. But he loved this darkness because his deeds were evil. "No man sought after the Lord, no not one."

Such was the condition when the Son of Man descended to this earth, as a tiny babe. Christmas-the birthday of the King. The door through which light and life came to this sin oppressed world. Christmas was the beginning which made the end, Calvary, possible.

Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world, came as the greatest Christmas gift the world could ever receive. He left heaven's noonday of brightness for earth's midnight of sin. He left heaven's sweet air of holiness for earth's foul, polluted air of sin. He left the throne for the manger, glory, honor and power for humiliation, poverty and death.

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men." Philippians 2:5-7. He, the matchless Son of God, alone could be the "Light of the world." "The lamp that shineth in the dark." It was the wondrous love of God that sent Him and it was His own wondrous love that enabled Him to suffer all things that we might be saved.

The first Christmas brought "Light" to this dark world. Are you on this Christmas day living in the darkness of sin knowing not the "light of the world"? If the Lord Jesus Christ is not your Saviour from sin and then Master in your life the darkness of sin is still upon your soul, your eyes are still blinded and your life is empty-an empty void. Today-Christmas Day-He says to you, "I am the light of the world, he that followeth me shall have the light of Life." May this Christmas Day be the entrance of light and life into your life.

Evangeline M. Crawley

ANNOUNCING  
CONVOCATION  
DEC 29, 1988 - JAN 1, 1989  
ALVIN, TEXAS

DECEMBER 29  
EVENING SERVICE 7:00 P.M.

DECEMBER 30 - JANUARY 1  
PRAYER SERVICE - 9:00 A.M.  
BIBLE LESSON - 10:30 A.M.  
AFTERNOON SERVICE - 2:00 P.M.  
EVENING SERVICE - 7:00 P.M.

WATCH NIGHT SERVICE  
ON DECEMBER 31, 1988

For Information:  
Rev. Edwin Waterbury  
1405 W. Lang  
Alvin, Texas 77511  
Ph. 713-331-0670

#### 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.

NOV. - DEC. 1988

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