

Zion's Advocate

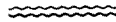
"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day,
for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost;" 1 Nephi 3:187

Vol. 57

Independence, Missouri, June, 1980

No. 6

How To Forget



If you were busy being kind,
Before you knew it you would find
You'd soon forget to think 'twas true
That someone was unkind to you.

If you were busy being glad
And cheering people who were sad,
Although your heart might ache a bit,
You'd soon forget to notice it.

If you were busy being true
To what you know you ought to do,
You would be so busy you'd forget
The blunders of the folks you've met.

If you were busy being right,
You'd find yourself too busy quite
To criticize your neighbor long,
Because he's busy doing wrong.

(J. E. Bozarth, Rebecca Foresman)

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Zion's Advocate

ZION'S ADVOCATE (USPS 699-300)

Official publication of The Church of Christ
Headquarters on the Temple Lot, 200 S. River Blvd.
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PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Temple Lot) 200 S. River Blvd., P. O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051

Second Class Postage Paid At Independence, Missouri

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Subscription rates to members paid from general funds. In bundles of twelve or more for missionary purposes, \$2.00. Non-member rates one year \$4.00. Canadian and all foreign rates, \$1.50.

Send all donations for the Temple Fund, the Storehouse, Consecrations, Tithes, Offerings, and Subscriptions for The Advocate to:

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ORIGINAL ARTICLES

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Editorial . . .

THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

For the past two years we have witnessed rapidly deteriorating conditions throughout our country and the world. A few of the major events of the recent past include the Panama Canal Giveaway, the betrayal of Tiawan, the recognition of Red China, the continuing oil crisis and associated problems in the Middle East involving Iran and Afganistan, and the worsening economic problems of America. Besides these things we hear the rumblings of Soviet military superiority and American unpreparedness.

But in all the somber realities of today what of the little Church of Christ? A hundred and fifty years have passed and our mission still has not been accomplished. The little stone kingdom has not yet begun to roll forth and to fill the whole earth. There is a great work awaiting us. The end is near and the harvest is great but the laborers few.

In Matthew 24 we are told, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14). This gospel has yet to be preached for "this gospel of the kingdom" is the restored gospel of the latter days. It is not some protestant version or some Catholic doctrine, for Joseph Smith was told not only to join none of them but even that their creeds were an abomination to God. Therefore this prophecy must of necessity be fulfilled by those possessing the true gospel and the Melchisedec Priesthood. And that is yet the mission of this Church of Christ.

For this long time our light has largely been hid under a bushel. Only feebly has a little glimmer filtered out into the world. But this is the Lord's work and the time is shortly to come when the servants of God will be endowed with power. Then shall this gospel be preached in power in all nations. But this does not excuse us for slothfulness now. Rather we should be continually engaged in our Father's business.

In the Book of Jacob we have this word: "And it came to pass that the Lord of the vineyard said unto the servant, Let us go to, and hew down the trees of the vineyard, and cast them into the fire, that they shall not cumber the ground of my vineyard: for I have done all; what could I have done more for my vineyard? But behold, the servant said unto the Lord of the vineyard, Spare it a little longer. And the Lord said, Yea. I will spare it a little longer: for it grieveth me that I should lose the trees of my vineyard . . .

"Wherefore, let us go to, and labor with our mights, this last time; for behold the end draweth nigh: and this is for the last time that I shall prune my vineyard. Graft in the branches; begin at the last, that they may be first, and that the first may be last, and dig about the trees, both old and young, the first and the last, and the last and the first, that all may be nourished once again for the last time. Wherefore, dig about them, and prune them, and dung them once more, for the last time: for the end draweth nigh . . .

"And it came to pass that the Lord of the vineyard sent his servant; and the servant went and did as the Lord had commanded him, and brought other servants; and they were few. And the Lord of the vineyard said unto them, Go to, and labor in the vineyard, with your mights . . . And it came to pass that the servants did go, and labor with their mights; and the Lord of the vineyard labored also with them; and they did obey the commandments of the Lord of the vineyard, in all things . . .

"And thus they labored, with all diligence, according to the commandments of the Lord of the vineyard, even until the bad had been cast away out of the vineyard, and the Lord had preserved unto himself, that the trees had become again the natural fruit . . ." (Jacob 3:109-111, 126-128, 136-137, 140 & 143).

This is the specific mission of the Church of Christ. These few servants will not only prune the vineyard in the strength of God but they will be totally obedient to every commandment in carrying out this work. Thus will the vineyard be totally perfected in righteousness. We today have the opportunity to have a part in this great work.

There is evidence in 3rd Nephi that the Gentiles will have one final opportunity to repent before the judgments of God are poured out upon them. In 3 Nephi 9:95 we are informed that when the Indian shall begin to know of these things (the Book of Mormon) that would be a sign to them that the work of the Father had already commenced. It is then that the Lord's marred servant will perform his work among the nations. Then when his testimony is rejected is when the remnant of Jacob will rise up among the Gentiles to destroy them and their many evils.

It is obvious that the time is short and it would seem that the sword of the Lord will not much longer be held in abeyance. Therefore it would seem that the fulfillment of these prophecies must surely now be at the door.

As is certainly evident, the wicked are daily gaining strength and becoming increasingly bold and more and more threatening to overwhelm all that is good. In Luke 17:26-30 we are told, "And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded: But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed."

Up until a few years ago the latter part of this prophecy was not too evident in fulfillment. Today, however, those professing this sin have become very outspoken, boldly and unashamedly proclaiming their

rights. It has been estimated that today one tenth of the entire population of this country are homosexual. In San Francisco it is one out of three. In view of this development we can see that Luke's prophecy is now well along in fulfillment.

Regardless of all these evils and worse that is now being threatened, there is a marvelous promise made to the saints. "Nevertheless, I beheld that the church of the Lamb, who were the saints of God, were also upon all the face of the earth . . . And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; And they were armed with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory . . . THEN AT THAT DAY, THE WORK OF THE FATHER SHALL COMMENCE, IN PREPARING THE WAY FOR THE FULFILLING OF HIS COVENANTS WHICH HE HATH MADE TO HIS PEOPLE, WHO ARE OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL" (1 Nephi 3:227, 230-231 & 237).

The work before us will require much personal preparation, dedication and sacrifice for as we were told in the recent Conference, we today now stand at the crossroads. The time of great trouble is upon us. Let us therefore move forward in the strength of God casting out all fear and confusion and mistrust and the indecision which has for so long been a stumbling-block to us.

H. E. S.

NOTICE

We regret that the cost of printing and mailing "Zion's Advocate" has increased so much we must raise the price for non members to \$4.00 per year, and Canadian and all foreign rates to \$4.50 per year.

While there is no charge for members, we urgently request you support the Advocate with special offerings.

We still send six month complimentary subscription for missionary purposes and the Libraries on request without charge.

Thank you,

C. LeRoy Wheaton, Jr.
Business Manager of
Zion's Advocate

An interesting analysis of the life time of an average person, which appeared in an issue of the LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, revealed the following: 6 years spent in eating; 11 years in working; 5½ years in washing and dressing; 3 years in education; 8 years in amusement; 6 years in walking; 3 years in reading; 3 years in conversation; 24 years in sleeping and just six months in worshipping God!

PRAISE GATHERING - APRIL CONFERENCE 1980

When you hear the words "April Conference" what images does your mind conjure up? Some may picture a series of lack-lustre meetings where people debate and vote on issues that will not bring inspiration or salvation. In an organization other than the Church of Christ this might be true. A legislative assembly is needed in any organized body; even Christ's Church. It may not sound inspiring but it can be. This April there was business to be conducted, resolutions to debate, issues to be voted on, disagreements to be had; but, thank God for His Spirit as it met there with us!

It is not my duty to report in detail on the business sessions; but I must say that the Lord brought us through every perplexing problem. Some things were deferred for later action, but I have confidence that when those issues are faced God will bless and guide us.

One obvious difference in this conference was the outstanding attendance. The chapel on both Friday and Saturday of solemn assembly was filled not only with saints, but also with the Spirit. I was not in attendance on Friday, but I was assured that those present were blessed.

Saturday, April 5, our prayer service seemed to overflow with the Spirit of Christ. Many gave witness of the changing power of Jesus Christ in their lives. We were counseled to call upon Him to do and accomplish all we cannot do for ourselves. Randy Sheldon and Gerald Bryant were called as Elders during this service. There were some among us who gave added witness to the divinity of this calling. Let us remember these two brothers in our prayers that they might gain a personal assurance of God's will for them. One of our sisters was moved by the Spirit of God to ask that the baptismal fount be filled.

In the afternoon we knelt in unity asking God for a blessing upon Jon and Ine Schut's new baby. He was born that morning with a ruptured spleen. Many poured out their hearts audibly, and many silently, that our heavenly Father would heal this baby and bless his parents with peace. There were many names and needs brought to our attention that we remembered in our times of prayer. Our brother Darrin Malone, a victim of a motorcycle accident, was also placed in the Lord's hands with confidence and expectation of a miracle. We were asked to display the fruits of the Spirit in all our doings, and also to go home and read II Peter, Chapter 1:1-11, about those attributes.

I believe the moving of God's Spirit Friday and Saturday, and the eagerness of the saints to praise the Lord, prepared us for Sunday's Sacrament Service.

Sunday was special, as all Sundays are, being the Lord's day. We were happy as Kim and Jane Ann Stan-cil brought their baby, Justin, forward to be blessed. We may never know the accidents and evils that this blessing will shield our children from, but we trust that it does keep them physically and spiritually safe.

There were many prayer requests which shows the confidence our people have in the goodness and power of God. I deeply felt the unity of the Spirit, love and compassion during the season of prayer.

Many stood with testimonies of praise to the Lord, who had heard and answered their prayers. There were "thank you's" for healing, for escapes from serious accidents, and for the changing of hearts.

We all thanked God as we took the emblems of Christ's body, given for us that we might have life abundant and everlasting in His presence. We celebrated the resurrection with rejoicing.

We also received an answer to our prayers. The Schut's baby was out of danger, and they had called to give us the good news. How very thankful we were.

Some were led during this service to give a positive testimony about the Holy Spirit, "We have it! Let's use it to the glory of God. We do not have to live defeated lives, we have the Spirit of God, which means victory for the one who allows it to work.

A precious moment in this service was when we were asked to stand and hug those around us. (sort of a loving intermission).

There are many adjectives I could use to describe this service and not one would tell exactly what it was like. To sum it all up, I'll just say, "the Lord was there, He loved and blessed us, and we loved and praised Him. That says it all."

In commemoration of our one hundred and fifty year anniversary, we paused to reflect and rejoice in the latter-day restoration. In this special service the Temple Lot and East Independence locals choir presented a cantata, entitled "Other Sheep I Have." The effort put into this production was greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all.

All the special music at this conference enhanced our worship. We have so many talented Brothers and Sisters. The fact that they use their talents to God's glory and our edification is a blessing.

Apostle Leon Yates was speaker on Sunday night. His many varied experiences in the Lord's work is always an inspiration. We were admonished not to be faithless, but believing. He retold the story of Thomas the doubting disciple, who believed because he saw with his eyes. John 20:29 seemed to be the theme of this sermon. "... blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed.

Monday morning we began our business sessions, they would start each day at 10:00 a. m., and continue through Friday.

In the afternoon Jim Pennington called the church asking for baptism. He was moved by the Spirit during the Sacrament Service Sunday to make this decision. Others made this same request, they were, Kathy Harris and Benjamin Siebel. Thank God the baptismal fount was full!

Monday evening an official from the Saints' Church, Apostle J. C. Stuart, spoke to us briefly, in a greeting from his church to ours. Our brother, Apostle Robert Jensen, had spoken to their conference earlier in the day.

We had a preaching service Monday evening. Our speaker was Elder Hubert E. Yates, of Phoenix, Arizona. As the Spirit moved upon him he told of our Savior's love. He counseled us to allow that kind of love to flow into our hearts, and show it in the days ahead. He then sang a song with Louise, Joel and Annette Yates, and Gary Housknecht called "His Kind of Love." I know it touched our hearts and opened them up to receive the message of the hour.

From Tuesday to Friday we had prayer service each morning at 8:00 a. m. Those early morning services brought a blessing to each of us who were able to attend. I think they set the pace for the business sessions that followed. Each day prayer and praise was the desire of our hearts. Many miraculous events were recounted. The main theme seemed to be that the Spirit of the Lord is moving upon people. He's touching lives and changing hearts, the greatest miracle of all. One of our brothers put it very well, when he said, "We can pass all kinds of motions, but the fact that God is touching us and drawing people in is what makes conference a success!" Many voiced their excitement about the gospel and the working of the Spirit.

Tuesday evening we were privileged to witness the baptism of Jim Pennington, Kathy Harris and Benjamin Siebel. Outside we were cold and windblown, but inside we were warm with love and gratitude to the Lord. After these three were confirmed we all went forward to extend them the hand of fellowship. I should say, "hug of fellowship", as that would be more accurate in this case. Joy was the expression worn on each face as we welcomed these three into the family.

Several of the women put on a play for us. It was done very well and told us about our Lord's resurrection. It was entitled, "The Women at the Well."

That evening - Apostle Don E. McIndoo of Phoenix, Arizona spoke to us with the power and authority of his calling. The sermon offered courage for the days ahead and also a challenge. We were admonished not to have the spirit of fear, but, the spirit of power. The victory for us is in Jesus Christ. We are blessed to live in the day of the Lord's visitation. We were reminded of the Lord's promise; He will labor with us and we'll have the gifts and power of the Holy Ghost. May the assurance that we're not in this latter-day work alone give the strength and courage to do all God has commanded.

On Wednesday evening at 5:30 we drove to Ridge-wood Acres. The occasion was the baptism of Mike Smith. As we stood around the pond we felt the Spirit moving like the wind among the trees. This service gave us another cause to rejoice. The confirmation took place at the water's edge. We then went forward and welcomed Mike into the fold with hugs, kisses, and

tears of joy.

At the preaching service Wednesday evening Apostle Don W. Housknecht of Phoenix, Arizona delivered the message of the hour. What a timely message it was! He shared with us a vision he was given about our present condition. We, the Church of Christ, are at a crossroads, a point of decision. Indecision, fear, confusion and mistrust are hovering over us. Our brother spoke with the conviction of the Holy Spirit about the spreading of the gospel. We must rid ourselves of attitudes and emotions that hamper this work. There are many details of the vision I do not feel I could write about as my understanding is not complete. I am very thankful that God has seen fit to warn us lest we fall into error.

Thursday morning Elder Hubert E. Yates was ordained an evangelist. Hubert and Louise, his wife, were both given God's assurance that this was His will for them. Let us pray for Hubert and his family that God will lead them. I know that is their sincere desire.

Thursday evening we gathered once again at the baptism fount on the Temple Lot. Charles Pinder had asked for baptism. He was confirmed a short time later in the chapel. As our brothers and sisters went forward to extend the hand of fellowship, I felt deeply moved by the love present in the room. It was a blessing to see this young man put himself in God's hands. It brought us each great joy to see the Spirit move upon him and others. Their commitment to Christ caused us all to pause and praise the Lord. We were also very thankful our sister followed the leading of the Spirit and asked that the baptismal fount be filled.

Apostle Marvin Ely was the speaker on Thursday. He was deeply moved by the Spirit as he looked into our faces and quoted, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." (Rev. 3:20) "That is the message of the Spirit to us tonight." Brother Ely reminded us that Jesus came to bring redemption. We must reach out and partake of salvation. Our lives must radiate the fruits of the Spirit. We have great potential if our trust is in Jesus Christ. We must unite our forces against the enemy of our soul. Brother Ely stressed the importance of unity. He then gave witness to the power of the Spirit as it moved upon each in our prayer services. He said we are on the threshold of great blessing and power, but our trust must be in God. He is our stronghold in a day of trouble.

Friday we had our last morning prayer service of conference. We then got into our last business session. On the last day of conference, a lot of loose ends are tied up. There's an eagerness to finish the business yet a reluctance, because for many of us it means saying good-bye to our loved ones.

I guess that's it! It seems I've shared only bits and pieces of our conference. There was so much more!

Things happened there that cannot be expressed in words. I can't give specifics, but I feel things were set in motion by God's Spirit that will change each one of us and our lives for the better. I feel expectation and excitement about the days and work ahead.

There were good times and some bad times, but the message of hope and encouragement I wish to share in this, "through it all God reigned supreme!" When we needed it most the gift of discernment was among

us. There were times He gathered us up out of our humanness and loved away our fears and heartaches. The fellowship was truly a gift from the Lord as we shared our blessings, hopes, and desires. Love and all its manifestations were in abundance.

To God be the Glory!

Your sister in the Lord,
Jackie Lacy

LETTERS OF OLIVER COWDERY

The following is the second in a series of letters written by Oliver Cowdery and first published in the Messenger and Advocate at Kirtland, Ohio 1834-1835 (condensed for publication).

Letter No. 2

To: W. W. Phelps: Dear Brother:

In the last "Messenger and Advocate" I promised to commence a more particular or minute history of the rise and progress of the church of the Latter Day Saints, and publish, for the benefit of enquirers, and all who are disposed to learn. There are certain facts relative to the works of God worthy the consideration and observance of every individual, and every society: - They are that he never works in the dark - his works are always performed in a clear, intelligent manner; and another point is, that he never works in vain. This is not the case with men; but might it not be? When the Lord works he accomplishes his purposes, and the effect of his power are to be seen afterward.

Common undertakings and plans of men may be overthrown or destroyed by opposition. The systems of this world may be exploded or annihilated by oppression or falsehood; but it is the reverse with pure religion. There is a power attendant on truth that all the arts and designs of men cannot fathom.

Look at pure religion whenever it has had a place on earth and you will always mark the same characteristics in all its features. Look at truth, (without which the former could not exist), and the same peculiarities are apparent. Religion has had its friends and its enemies; its advocates and its opponents. But the thousands of years which have come and gone, have left it unaltered; the millions who have embraced it, and are now enjoying that bliss held forth in its promises, have left its principles unchanged, and its influence upon the honest heart, unweakened.

Since the Apostles fell asleep all men, who profess a belief in the truth of their mission, extol their virtues and celebrate their fame. It seems to have been forgotten that they were men of infirmities and subject to all the feelings, passions, and imperfections.

But in reviewing the lives and acts of men in past generations, whenever we find a righteous man among them, there always were excuses for not giving heed or credence to his testimony. The people could see

his imperfections; or if no imperfections, supposed ones, and were always ready to frame an excuse upon that for not believing. No matter how pure the principles, nor how precious the teachings, an excuse was wanted, and an excuse was had.

The Savior came in form and fashion of a man; he ate, drank, and walked about as a man, and they said: "Behold, a man gluttonous, and a wine-bibber, friend of publicans and sinners." You see an excuse was wanting, but not long wanting till it was found. Who would follow a dissipated leader? or who, among the righteous Pharisees would acknowledge a man who would condescend to eat with publicans and sinners? This was too much - they could not endure it. An individual teaching the doctrines of the kingdom of heaven, and declaring that the kingdom was nigh, or that it had already come, must appear different from others, or he could not be received.

If singularity of appearance, or difference of manners would command respect, certainly John would have been revered and heard. To see one coming from the wilderness, clad with camel's hair, drinking neither wine nor strong drink, nor yet eating common food, must have awakened the curiosity of the curious to the fullest extent. But there was one peculiarity in this man common to every righteous man before him, for which the people hated him, and for which he lost his life - he taught holiness, proclaimed repentance and baptism for the remission of sins, warned the people of the consequences of iniquity, and declared that the kingdom of heaven was at hand. All this was too much.

When looking over the sacred scriptures we seem to forget that they were given through men of imperfections and subject to passions. It is a general belief that the ancient prophets were perfect — that no stain or blemish ever appeared upon their characters while on earth, to be brought forward by the opposer as an excuse for not believing.

You will see that I have made mention of the Messiah, of his mission into the world, and of his walk and outward appearance; but do not understand me as attempting to place him on a level with men, or his mission on a parallel with those of the prophets and apostles — far from this. I view his mission such as none other could fill; that he was offered without spot to God a propitiation for our sins; that he rose triumphant

and victorious over the grave and him that has the power of death. This, man could not do. It required a perfect sacrifice — man is imperfect. It required a spotless offering — man is not spotless. It required an infinite atonement — man is mortal.

I have, then, as you will see, made mention of our Lord, to show that individuals teaching truth, whether perfect or imperfect, have been looked upon as the worst of men. And that even our Savior, the great Shepherd of Israel, was mocked and derided, and placed

on a parallel with the prince of devils; and the prophets and apostles, though at this day, looked upon as perfect as perfection, were considered the basest of the human family by those among whom they lived.

But lest I weary you with too much remarks upon the history of the past, after a few upon the propriety of a narrative of the description I have proposed. I shall proceed.

O. COWDERY

TO SCATTERED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

We hope you enjoyed our last visit in the March issue and that it did encourage you to consider what time it is in your life.

Did you look up the story in the Bible about the ten virgins that were invited to a wedding? If not, read it now and you will find it thought provoking.

In the short period of time that Jesus was here and active in teaching the disciples the message that we so often refer to as the gospel, we note a peculiar phrase that must have been important. It is in the opening verse of the story of the ten virgins. It has one key word, "kingdom."

We also find it in what is commonly called the Lord's prayer. I am persuaded to think that this was given as an example of what we should pray for, and not to be used as some do in unison by a congregation.

It was used many times in the parables of the 13th chapter of Matthew. If you will look closely in the sermon on the mount and all through the sayings of Jesus, the word "kingdom" is in constant use to convey to the minds of all who listened that there was an existing "kingdom of God," Matthew 6:33; "kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:19, and other numerous times in the scriptures.

It is then of prime importance that we think in terms that will be in harmony with this basic concept. We will note that it becomes to be used as expressed "church," especially after Jesus left the regions about. In the 16th chapter of Matthew, verse 18, "And I say unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." We have the conversion of the term by Jesus himself.

It is well that we recognize that the term, "kingdom of heaven," can be said to represent all the souls of those both living and dead who have qualified as obedient to God. Matthew 7:21, "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

It could be said that the church is also constituted in the same sense, a spiritual body of believers, and this understanding may help us evaluate a number of

things we find to be of interest to us as we explore the word of God.

At times we will use the terms as they may seem best in our writing, and the reader may keep in mind the awesomeness of such a government that is in the hands of God, the Father; Jesus Christ, the Son; and the Holy Spirit. We do believe in the Trinity of the God-Head, the divinity of the Son, and the Person sometimes referred to as the Holy Ghost, any one of which can, and has, represented God to man.

The greatness of this thought will boggle the mind, and be more than enough to make us say that we cannot comprehend God.

As a reading for this month, turn to Psalm eight and rejoice as David of old.

Our next letter will take up more of the question of the kingdom of heaven and what the Bible teaches about it for the understanding of all who will consider. As Isaiah wrote in chapter one, verses 18, 19, "Come, let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat of the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

May God bless our minds to receive the truths revealed that shall set us free, that we may find that enrichment of the soul we so desire, and that we too may grow in grace before our God.

Your brother in Christ,
Elder Arthur G. Smith

(Editor's Note: In the March issue of Zion's Advocate, "To Scattered Members and Friends," the first word of the first paragraph should be Time instead of This. Our apologies for that error.)

Life with Christ is an endless hope; without Him it is a hopeless end.

Do not expect God to use you for a lighthouse somewhere else if He cannot use you as a candle where you are.

A SPIRITUAL COMMUNICATION

The following message was given to me in a personal letter from Elder David Cooper, desiring that I should express my discernment concerning the matter. As indicated to him, I have no hesitancy in voicing my conviction, as by the Holy Spirit, that it is of God, and I hereby submit it for prayerful consideration, especially by members of the Church.

Most sincerely,
William A. Sheldon

* * * * *

The Lord has caused me to know that the factions of the Restoration Movement have become intoxicated by the pleasures of the world in these last days; this includes even some of the Church of Christ. The reason is due to many who are unwilling to face the truth of the condition and ultimate direction of this world. It has become much easier to be absorbed into our surroundings than to accept the full challenge of our total commitment to Christ.

As a people, we are called to a depth of humility experienced by only a few in the history of men. The Lord would have us to know He understands the difficulty for us to obtain a humbleness that would allow His Church to function under His full power. This difficulty arises when men express a strong belief toward each other and attempt to pound it in another's life; or because of an understanding one might have, while knowing others have not seen the same light, our words become as violent as the sword Peter raised in defense of his Lord and Savior. This becomes most apparent when we defend those things we feel to be right. Remember, your Lord rebuked Peter for defending Him by the sword. We must not allow our attitudes to take up the sword, but we must recognize the value and power inherent through the nature of humility. Humility becomes a greater and mightier force than anything man might produce against it.

When the nature of presenting our ideals becomes humble, we open the door allowing the power of the Holy Spirit to convince others or even redirect our own thoughts. Men only find failure when they attempt to mold another's life. However, when we learn to step aside, trusting in the power of God, not only do we witness the molding process of the Holy Spirit in another's life, but we ourselves become consumed into this power, thus causing us to be united in the truest form by and within the same Spirit. Under this power we find ourselves consecrated to more and more of the same ideals of God's kingdom.

Speaking specifically to the Church of Christ: the day is coming fast when most men's hope in their God is lost due to the deception of evil. You of the Church have been set aside as the children of God, and by founding your faith in truth, you will be a people who can cause a hope to come alive in those who are lost and desperate.

However, you must exercise caution that you do

not become prideful in your calling. History bears witness that pride has been the biggest force in destroying a movement. Pride divides you, even among yourselves today. Do not allow your attempts to glorify God become a pretense of self-glorification. Satan delights in this type of deception, and brings many into such a darkness that they themselves fail to recognize the mockery they have caused the Lord.

Your strength begins when you become humble, allowing the Spirit to bind you together. Only by this means will you survive the great Tribulation before you. The prophets have spoken of that terrible time now about to befall man, and my children will stand in the strength of their Lord because they will have learned to change division into unity through the greatest of love - humility.

WHO SHALL ABIDE THE DAY

Gentiles, I know your depraved deeds

You profess to know me in your religious creeds,
Yet my statutes are broken.

Heed the warnings, the prophets have spoken;
Your sins blind you of truth

Faithless children who need only proof.
Repent before its too late,

Woe be to the wicked their fate.
A work to spoil by secret combination,

Seek to overthrow the freedom of nations,
How great the fall of this generation!

For gain and power they plunder,
Their abominations divide you asunder.

The sword hangs over both great and small
Be a standard to the world, keep my law.

Reject man's precepts, my word is truth and light;
A lamp upon your feet to walk by faith and not by sight.

In me find peace when wickedness abounds,
The world waxes cold and love is not found.

A voice cries out, prepare the way!
Christ comes to judge the world, and who shall abide
the day?

S. Baumgart

GIVING

"Go, give to the needy,
sweet charity's breed
For giving is living,"
the angel said.

"Must I keep giving —
again and again?"
My peevish, petulant
answer ran,

"Oh, no!" said the angel,
piercing me through.
"Just give till the Master
stops giving to you."

NEWS FROM THE EAST INDEPENDENCE LOCAL CHURCH

Since last we visited you in the Advocate about our local activities the General Conference of the church has convened and become history.

The spiritual growth of our local hasn't been spectacular, but it has been the instrument by which two young men have entered the waters of baptism and put their shoulders to the wheel to help our future growth, Brother James Pennington and Brother Mike Smith. We are so pleased for the addition of these fine young men to our group. Both are married and have young families to raise, and with the help of their good wives, who already were members, guide their children's feet into the Gospel path. How happy these families must be to be so united.

We also have new little buds of promise in our group whose parents have brought them forward to be blessed as Jesus commanded, namely Kevine Wayne McGhee born at 5:30 A. M., February 13th and weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. and was blessed Sunday, March 9th by his uncle, Elder Frank Fann and Apostle Wm. A. Sheldon. Justin David Stancil was blessed Easter Sunday, April 6 by Apostle Robert Jensen and Apostle Leon Yates. How God must smile on these little ones with joy. "Suffer little children to come unto Me," He has told us.

There have been our regular church services: mid week prayer service on Wednesday evening and Sunday School and preaching both in morning and in the evening each Sunday except during Conference when our services were postponed in favor of the general church meetings.

In the evening on April 20th Brother Harry Hutchison was able to occupy in the pulpit and to your reporter a miracle was witnessed. Brother Hutchison suffered a severe stroke several years ago which impaired his ability to think clearly, but on Sunday evening, although his sermon consisted of reading from the Book of Mormon, his selections were so well chosen, they gave a clear understandable story that we feel God truly blessed him in speech and thought. May God continue to bless him and we will be privileged to again hear from our dear brother. His heart is in the work and he truly longs to do God's will.

Our local church business meeting is scheduled for May 6th. Our people need to be made aware of the local activities for it gives added strength to press on when they read of what others are doing in the locals abroad in the land.

May 17th we are planning another evening entitled, "The Gospel In Song." It will be the second such evening held in our local. It combines the talents of the East and Temple Lot locals under the direction of our good choir directors, Martha Bruner and Darl Temple, under the supervision of our pastor, Elder Isaac Brockman, Sr. The old saying, 'music soothes the savage beast' can be turned to read "music inspires the soul to turn to God." Many an individual throughout the

Centuries have been turned from evil to good by such songs as "Nearer My God To Thee" and "What A Friend We Have In Jesus." I'm a music lover and beautiful music has stirred my heart from early childhood. I feel that it has been one factor that has helped me remain true to the covenant I made in the waters of baptism.

May God bless us all throughout this coming year and the spiritual growth be shown by all peoples. Truly we are living in perilous times and we all must turn to God for direction in everything we do, be it work or play. We, ourselves, have learned through the years that the Gospel is a way of life which if we truly follow brings peace and happiness. We all are called upon to pass through trials, but they are tests which when we overcome make us strong.

One thing I'm very happy to report is that the seats in our little building seem to have more persons occupying them at our meetings. That is a good sign for it shows me God is moving upon the hearts of the people urging them to take their place among God's people in the "Little White Church" at the crossroads.

Edna R. Smith

AVA REPORTING

Our meetings continue after several Sundays when weather delayed them; again we rejoice as truths are brought to us in the sermons, study classes and many conversations. Our speakers recently have been Marvin Case, Larry Beem, Eugene Gould and Arthur and Alex Smith.

In John 4:5 to 43 we read of Christ meeting the Samaritan woman at the well. If she had known God's gift to mankind she would have known who Christ was, that is (vs. 10), our Savior and Redeemer, the "living water" which is a "well springing up into everlasting life" within us (vs. 14), and the prophet the elders of her people had looked forward to and long expected.

Then she hastened to the town testifying of all He had said and expounded to her. By her work many came out to hear Him; thus an opening was made through her testimony for Christ to spend two days in Samaria expounding His Word to them, after which many not only believed but knew He was Christ (vs. 41 and 42).

Oh, that our testimony could be so full of Hope!

It wrenches the heart to realize what searing, scathing rebuffs she must have had to face in witnessing Christ in her home town among persons who knew her past history. The lessons in humility come not cheaply, nor easily; we follow a path made by nail pierced feet.

What is God's consuming "fire?"

Is it not this work of the baptism of the Spirit and fire related in Luke 3:16? "John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water;

but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose; he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire."

Let us so yield ourselves to His cleansing "fire" that it may burn or "consume" all evil within and leave only His pure works within, that which cannot be shaken nor burned.

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones (eternal qualities, fruits of the Spirit, Eternal Truths, etc. - d. s.), wood, hay, stubble (treasures desired by our fallen nature to glorify self, where moth and rust do corrupt - d. s.);

"Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it (who is the "day" but He who is all Light? - d. s), because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

"If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

"If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire" (1 Cor. 3:11-16).

"Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

"Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

"And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:13-17).

This speaks not only of the sick and the need of prayers and administration for the healing and forgiveness of sin, but it also speaks of confessing our faults and the healing of these and our afflictions.

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all" (Psalm 34:19).

Is not this a wonderful promise? His promises are true for He will deliver us from all these afflictions! Let us learn the lessons that these afflictions have to teach us, drawing us Godward that He may deliver us out of them, though the way be as pain-filled as was His Cross; His Way being His cleansing "fire."

"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares" (Hebrews 13:2).

Have we not experienced a few times (all too few), when having welcomed strangers that there has been a rapport that cuts across differences so that in communion or conversation, though there be only a few things said, yet it took on a meaningful flow that we never forget, resulting in a deep mutual feeling? Let us open our way, ever within us, for the unity of the

Spirit's control so that we do not meet strangers (or anyone) with an overbearing manner or with a chip-on-the-shoulder air.

For there is a wrong way to present God's blessed Truth and there is a right, Spirit directed Way to present God's healing Truth. In this we need deep fervent prayer so much more than we practice usually.

Darleen Smith

HOUSTON, MO. LOCAL REPORT

Our Brother John Jones spoke to us on the 2nd of March, rehearsing to us why and how our Church of Christ is different. He told us briefly the story of Joseph Smith, the prophet, and of how the gospel was restored with the authority again by an angel. A man is to be called to the ministry by revelation of God through one already in the ministry as was Aaron. Our ministry receive no pay, but must work for their living, preaching and teaching with God's help through the Holy Ghost.

Brother Tony Grzincic spoke to us about how the Lord lifted our burdens. "I will speak only of positive things or points today," he said. We take much for granted and often forget our blessings. We need to make our lives separate from the ways of the world and become new creatures. Brother Tony used many scriptures to show us the path to follow and ended by reminding us of the promise we made when we were baptized . . . that we would walk with Him all the days of our life.

Brother Ikey Medders reminded us to take thought of what we say in our daily lives. Do we give praises to God? How much praise do we give to our loved ones? They need it also. He then gave us many quotes from the scriptures that told us to bridle our tongue, to control it. We need to speak truth with wisdom. A Chinese proverb states that, "Unlucky word dropped from the tongue cannot be brought back with a coach and six horses."

On the 23rd Brother John continued with chapter two in "Why the Church of Christ is Different." Each of us should know the many differences. It is the duty of the ministry to bring to our remembrance all the things we should know and do. When the ministry go out in power preaching God's word, our little church will grow. All things so taught can be proved and checked out in the Bible and the Book of Mormon. We preach, believe and teach Jesus Christ as the head of our Church.

On the last Sunday of March our Brother Virgil Ad-die told us of love, God's love for us. Deut. 6:5 tells us to love the Lord, thy God with all thy soul, might and mind and heart. It behooves us to live so that God knows we love Him. Talk of it to friends and neighbors. Testimony increases the faith of each other. Nothing shall be able to separate us from the love of God and Christ. God is the same today and always. Brother Virgil quoted many scriptures to assure us

of God's love and care and he admonished us to be filled with love toward God and all men.

Mary Addie, reporter

OUR LITTLE GREEN CHURCH

There's a little green church
Where peace and comfort I find
'Twas built long the broad way
Of a dream in a lady's mind.

She envisioned a church home
Where her family could meet
And never, no never more roam
Her joy would be complete.

It was built, you see
By this wee, small band.
All pitched in,
All gave a hand.

Weeks, days, and months they spent,
They sewed and cooked and did bake.
It was not a futile attempt,
As a great many things they did make.

These friends worked hard
The needy funds to raise,
They prayed for success,
To the Lord went the praise.

And now there does stand
Along the broad way
This little green church
For which she did pray.

The dream is come true
Her family all meet
And in that sweet fellowship,
Their joy is complete.

Their prayers went out,
A shepherd was needed
That their flock might grow.
Again, the Lord heeded.

A family came to visit,
Found there love so sweet
They moved to this land,
The Lord's plan to meet.

More called to God's service,
A baptism or two,
Each grows in the Spirit,
As Jesus "lights" us anew.

In the little green church
Christ Jesus does shine,
So won't you come in
And find peace of mind.

(Dedicated to Sister Anna Keeney,
with love by the Houston, Mo. Local)

PURYEAR, TENN. LOCAL NEWS

First of all I would like to say hello to you and hope this finds you in good health and great spirits. Though we haven't been very busy here we have had lots of guests and we also have enjoyed every one. We have had terrific sermons by Brother T. W. Paschall, and we have learned more of the Bible in our study in Sunday School.

Back in January we were glad to have Mr. and Mrs. William Ratton with us at the church. The following weeks we were pleased to have Mrs. Ratton back with us. She used to be with us a lot before her marriage and we were glad to see her back.

In February we had dinner at the church. The members brought different things and we really enjoyed being together in such a way in the house of the Lord. It was the first gathering after a long time. Since my grandmother, the late Mrs. R. R. Robertson, died we have missed the little gatherings she would have at the church. I must say we miss her greatly. There was no one like her. She seemed to know how to get the members together for anything. Because when lots of people are together and talking about our Lord and Master there's nothing else like it.

We really had a special surprise in March. Brother Glen Gill with his wife, Margret, and their three sons, David, Steve and Donald, came down. He gave a wonderful sermon and Margret played the piano for us. The only time it's played is when they come down and she plays it. None of us at the church know how to play. So for that reason we let our voice, or I should say the voice of Sister Elizabeth Paschall, lead us. It's nice when Margret is there to play. With them also was Sister Harris, looking as good as ever.

On Easter we really had a special day and lots of guests that we were pleased to have and hope to have back again. Two of our guests were Sister Jean Tucker and her husband, Everett. Also Brother and Sister Thomas and Beverly Tyler and their sons, Randy and Danny were there. With them also were Brenda Ratton; her husband was unable to be there. We had Carol and Frank Dolliver with their two daughters, Manda and Melissia. This was the first time for Frank and we hope he enjoyed being there. Brother T. W. Paschall blessed the baby, Manda, on this happy day though her crying showed she wasn't very happy about it. Another first time guest to the church was Joe Richardson and we also hope he enjoyed being there. We hope all our guests received some meaning as we hope we all receive something from being at church and hearing the gospel of the Lord.

Before I close I would like to say that in my last report I made a mistake and I promised to fix it. The name of our Assistant Song Selector is Hester Tyler not Hester Paschall though she was a Paschall before she married.

May God bless you and keep you until next time.

Your Sister in Christ, Robin Cox

MISSOURI CAMP FOR ALL AGES

The Missouri Camp For All Ages will be held the weekend of June 20th (evening), 21st, and 22nd at the Coop property in Preston, Missouri. We welcome all to come and enjoy a weekend of fellowship and worship. If you have any questions please contact:

Randy Sheldon (manager)
P. O. Box 63
Grain Valley, Mo. 64029
#229-6712

or

Buz Brickhouse (assistant manager)
7632 Sterling Avenue
Raytown, Mo. 64132
#356-9214

THINK ABOUT IT

There is no law more scientific than the law that if we truly seek God, with all our hearts, in all the ways that are open to us, we surely find Him.

God's law is one law, what we sow we will reap, as inexorable pertaining to the Spiritual as to the natural or physical.

God cannot fail, He will not be too late nor will He move too soon.

All real Christian service rises from and is supported by a personal communion and relationship with God through prayer.

All Christian endeavor is fruitful in direct proportion to the amount and quality of prayer which accompanies it.

No soul has ever completely cast itself in trust on God except apprehension is turned to anticipation.

There is in God - depths of love, mercy, grace and glory, that we have scarcely glimpsed much less entered into in personal experience.

Whatever your relationship with the Lord is, it is exactly according to your true desires, according to what you are willing to give up of whatever it is that is keeping you from a closer relationship.

WEDDING

Darlington - Deewall

Dorothy Ann Darlington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Darlington of Ava, Missouri, was united in marriage to Scott A. Deewall on April 13, 1980. Scott is the son of Mr. Stanley Deewall, Welch, Oklahoma, and Mrs. Dorothy Sherman of Halstead, Kansas.

The wedding was solemnized at the Highway Church of the Nazarene, Ava, Missouri, by Elder Arthur G. Smith, uncle of the bride. A reception for family and friends followed the ceremony.

The couple will make their home in Welch, Oklahoma, where Scott is employed.

A THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It would be nice if we could thank each one of you personally for the help you gave us during the months of Archie's illness, but we're afraid we'd leave some one out.

Our Heavenly Father said He would never leave us alone, and He didn't. Our brothers and sisters followed His family tradition and saw to it that we always knew we weren't alone. With cards and letters, phone calls, prayers and hope, you walked with us all the way. We thank you for that.

Many of you helped us with money, and we thank you for that. Really, all of you helped us in this way. The Church rented an airplane and the necessary equipment. Bro. Alvin Harris, who is a pilot, and Bro. Jerry Case, who is a nurse, flew to Flint, Michigan and brought Archie from the hospital there, "home" to the hospital in Independence. That cost quite a bit. We thank you all very much.

For all your many thoughtful acts, we thank you.

The family of Archie Bell

A THANK YOU

To my dear friends and loved ones: Bert and I are so grateful for your prayers for us when the car crashed into our home, pinning us both underneath it. God has truly granted us a great blessing, for we are getting better each day. I can walk with out help and have only a little limp and I won't have that long! Bert's back and shoulder are much better too, and our life is fast returning to near normal for us.

We are deeply humble to God for our gift of life and truly grateful to each of you for your many prayers for us. May God continue to find us worthy and may He also bless each of you.

Much love to each,

Lorraine and Bert Patterson

THANK YOU

Kathy and I would like to send a special thank you to all of you for your concern, prayers and offers of help during my recent hospitalization. I am doing better, but still have a need for your prayers. We are proud to be part of such a large and caring family. May God bless you all.

David and Kathy Larsen

A handful of pine seed will cover mountains with green majesty of forest. I, too, will set my face to the wind and throw my handful of seed on high.

—Fiona Macleod

COLORADO REUNION NOTICE

Please set aside the weekend of June 13, 14 and 15, 1980 to attend the Colorado Reunion. It will be held at the Orchard Mesa Local Church, 3233 B½ Road, Grand Junction, Colorado.

If you should choose to come this year by public transportation, let us know your time of arrival so we can arrange to pick you up. We have no local buses, and we live several miles from Grand Junction.

The cost of a phone call to us is minimal, and we certainly would appreciate to know you are coming, so we can plan for your housing and food supplies.

John E. Bell, Pastor
572 - 34 Road
Clifton, CO 81520 303-434-7100

Marvin E. Ely
236 - 32 Road 303-434-8149
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Ron W. Church
497 - 30 3/4 Road 303-434-5846
Grand Junction, CO 81501

We welcome all who will be able to come and worship with us.

Enid E. Bell, Secretary

MICHIGAN REUNION

The Michigan Reunion will be held on the 21st and 22nd of June, 1980 at the Bradley, Michigan Local, Bradley, Michigan. For those interested in camping there is camping facilities within two miles of the Church. For further information please contact:

Elder LaVern Lussenden
204 Oak Street
Hopkins, Michigan 49328

MISSOURI REUNION

The Missouri Reunion will be held the weekend of June 27, 28 and 29, 1980 at the Temple Lot Local in Independence, Mo. If housing is needed please notify:

Lawrence D. Beem 737-0686
4400 Blue Ridge Blvd.
Kansas City, Mo. 64133

Alvin L. Harris 833-2779
3405 S. Leslie
Independence, Mo. 64055

William A. Sheldon 461-8956
1011 S. Cottage
Independence, Mo. 64050

DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST (TEMPLE LOT)

(Please notify Robert W. Oldham, General Church Secretary, of any corrections of addresses or other information.)

E. Leon Yates: Appointed in joint charge with Apostle William A. Sheldon of Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, the Maritime Provinces, and the European Field; in joint charge with Apostle Don E. McIndoo of Mexico.

Rt. #1, Box 101B, Mack's Creek, Missouri 65786

Don W. Housknecht: Appointed in charge of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and eastern Canada, east of the 85th longitude to the St. Lawrence River.

1909 East Grover's Avenue. Space 15, Phoenix, Arizona 85022

Robert H. Jensen: Appointed in charge of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Iowa, Manitoba and Ontario, Canada to

the 85th longitude.

2230 Clay, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005

Marvin E. Ely: Appointed in charge of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Alaska, and western Canada, west of a line between Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Rt. #4, 236 32nd Rd., Grand Junction, Co. 81501

William A. Sheldon: Appointed in joint charge with Apostle E. Leon Yates of Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, the Maritime Provinces, and the European Field.

1011 South Cottage, Independence, Missouri 64050

Don E. McIndoo: Appointed in charge of California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana; in joint charge with Apostle E. Leon Yates of Mexico.

18830 North 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85024

OTHER MISSIONARY APPOINTMENTS

James M. Case: Appointed full time under the direction of the Council of Apostles, to be available upon request in any field, and to serve as the General Church Representative in the office.

1106 E. Gudgell, Independence, Missouri 64055

Vincente Poot: Appointed to labor full time under the supervision of Apostle E. Leon Yates and Don E. McIndoo in the Republic of Mexico.

Quintana Roo, Mexico

Placido Koyee Yam: Appointed to labor full time under the supervision of Apostles E. Leon Yates and Don E. McIndoo in the Republic of Mexico.

Yucatan, Mexico

COUNCIL OF BISHOPS:

Leslie P. Case: 8312 Lee's Summit Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64139

Oren A. Caviness: Assistant to the General Church Business Manager. Rt. #1, Box 67, Preston, Missouri 65732

Nicholas F. Denham: Secretary, 4116 S. Cottage, Independence, Missouri 64055

Alvin Harris: 3405 S. Leslie, Independence, Mo. 64055

Edward H. Podhola: 3201 Chandler, Lincoln Park, Michigan 43146

John A. Sweem: 310 N. Burris, Hamilton, Mo. 64644

C. LeRoy Wheaton, Jr.: General Church Business Manager, 412 S. Hocker, Independence, Mo. 64050

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES:

Numbers in Parentheses () indicates the number of years to serve from the 1980 conference.

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General Church Secretary: Robert W. Oldham, 13113 E. 44th Terr., Independence, Missouri 64055

General Church Recorder: Tony Grzincic, 3231 Reynolds, Independence, Missouri 64055

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Committee To Translate Spanish Hymnal: Gary Housknecht, 3008 Norton, Independence, Missouri 64052
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CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1981 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will commence Sunday, April 5, 1981. The business sessions will start at 10:00 A. M. Monday, April 6. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, April 3 and 4, 1981.

The 1980 Minister's Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 20th, 21st and 22nd at Independence, Missouri.

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Articles, sermons, poems, news items, letters, notices, etc. which are appropriate to be printed in this paper are requested by the editorial staff. If possible they should be typewritten on one side of sheet only, double spaced and grammatically corrected. If this is not possible, please send your material anyway. Send all material to one of the members of the editorial staff or to the general church (see title page). The deadline for each month is the 7th of the previous month.

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