

world vision

DECEMBER 1983

ALSO:

Delivering the
goods in Ethiopia

Helping the hungry
in Poland

Crosscultural
relationships
in America



Approaching Christmas
in El Salvador

Feliz Navidad?

Poignant Salvadoran people pictures by an empathizing news photographer page 3

Merry Christmas, Polish brothers and sisters!

Food sharing in a cold, hungry land page 8

Delivering the goods in Ethiopia

A pilot's perspective on the mercy flights to famine victims page 10

The need continues

A closer look at Ethiopians to whom your gifts are ministering page 12

One thing led to another

A housebound mother finds a way to reach out to internationals page 14

Samaritan sampler 16

Have you made room for Jesus? 17

Christmas program (poem) 17

My son teaches me selflessness 19

People & projects 20

Globe at a glance 22

In partnership with you 23

world vision®

Volume 27, number 12
December 1983

Ted W. Engstrom,
president and publisher
Bill Kliever, *executive vice-president*

Martin Lonsdale,
media director

David Olson, *editor*

Paul S. Rees and

Carl F. H. Henry,
contributing editors

Randy Miller,
associate editor

Gene Hart,
assistant editor

Konny Thompson,
editorial assistant

Don Aylard, *art director*

Steven Heassler, *layout*

Jan Dahring, *typesetter*

PHOTO CREDITS

Milton Graham (pages 1-7)
John McMillin (page 8 bottom)
Bob Latta (pages 8 top, 9 top)
Ralph Hamburger (page 9 center)
David Ward (pages 10-13, 22)
Mimi Levine (pages 18, 19)
Tom Wanjala (page 20 top)
Terry Madison (page 20 bottom)
Eric Mooneyham (page 23)

ILLUSTRATIONS

Richard J. Watson (page 14)
Gary Lett (page 16)



WORLD VISION magazine is published monthly by World Vision, a nonprofit Christian humanitarian organization with business offices at 919 West Huntington Drive, Monrovia, California 91016. Subscription is free. Founded by Dr. Bob Pierce in 1950, World Vision is an interdenominational outreach of Christians concerned for the physical and spiritual needs of people throughout the world. It is dedicated to serving God by ministering to children and families, providing emergency aid, developing self-reliance, furthering evangelism, strengthening Christian leadership and challenging Christians to become involved in missions. □ WORLD VISION magazine is a member of the Evangelical Press Association. While the editors are responsible for the contents, viewpoints of authors are not necessarily those of World Vision. The editors assume no responsibility for return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos unless accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Contents of this magazine may be reprinted or excerpted freely unless otherwise noted, but credit to WORLD VISION is requested. □ Send all editorial correspondence and changes of address to WORLD VISION magazine, 919 West Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016. Please send changes of address at least 30 days before you move. Enclose the address label from a current copy and your new address. Copyright © 1983 by World Vision Inc.



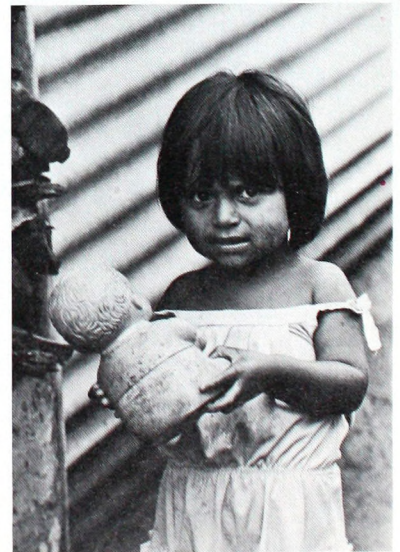
Feliz Navidad?



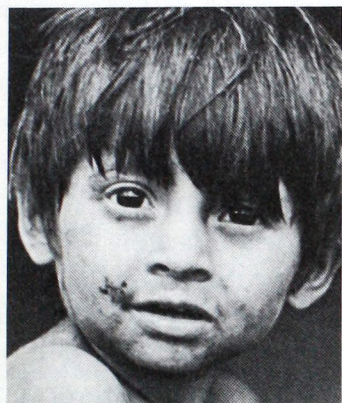
On a recent work-trip to El Salvador, freelance news photographer Milt Graham caught telling glimpses of life as it is lived daily in that war-wracked country. Look at the cover photo. It's one of those. So are all on pages 2-7.

Like Milt, who worked largely unnoticed, you can probably imagine what is on the minds of the people whose faces you see on these pages. The woman in church. The young man who, if he's like many, was inducted at 15. The child whose doll seems to have shared the experiences of her little mama.

Salvadoran guard outside U.S. embassy



Feliz Navidad? At Christmastimes that only the adults and older children can remember, that greeting represented happiness that now seems but a fantasy. What will *this* Christmas be like? What might *next year's*? Will my family ever *see* another Christmas? Where's my daddy? Where's my son? Where is the Prince of Peace?

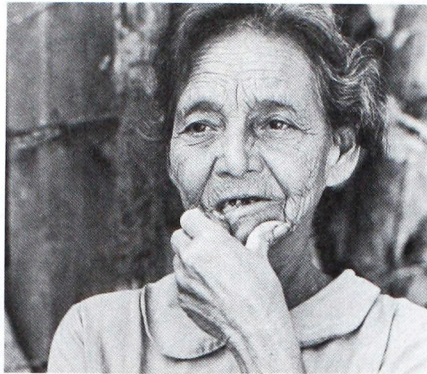




At the church in which the late Archbishop Romero was assassinated, a wary parishioner bears Archbishop Riveria plead for peace and dialogue between the warring parties.



News reporters follow the archbishop almost constantly, to photograph any attempt on his life.



One Californian's question: *Feliz Navidad?* Can my family and I enjoy our festive *Navidad* without taking some moments to weep for those who kill, for those who die, for the bereft, for the bleeding, the hungry, the homeless, the helpless, the hopeless in the nation whose very name means *The Savior?* Prince of Peace, teach me to care and pray more like the One who once lay in a manger and pressed on to Calvary.

David Olson



*San Salvador
slum residents*



Merry Christmas, Polish sisters and brothers!

Polish churches are continuing to provide dairy products to hungry citizens this winter, thanks to large deliveries made to their interchurch council by World Vision. By early November, they had received 600 metric tons each of dried skim milk, cheddar cheese and butter, and 840 metric tons of butter-oil. World Vision had obtained these from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. More will be sent in 1984.

World Vision has also enabled the Polish Bible Society to print thousands of copies of Scripture, which are being eagerly received.

The gifts are a tangible way of saying Merry Christmas to people in special need. Visiting Polish Christian leaders in Warsaw this fall, World Vision President Ted Engstrom found the recipients of both food and Bibles inexpressibly grateful for the timely help from their American sisters and brothers.

As a difficult winter closes in, the edibles and the Scriptures both will put Yuletide joy in homes that otherwise would find a merely verbal greeting rather hollow.

Representatives of the churches come in vehicles of many descriptions to the church council's distribution point in Warsaw. On their visit, Dr. Engstrom and World Vision board member Gordon MacDonald saw for themselves how temporary storage and rapid distribution was handled under the guidance of the Rev. Zdzislaw Pawlik (a Baptist minister), and how transportation was monitored by World Vision staff members Dick Venegoni and Bruce Menser.



Calling on the metropolitan of the Orthodox church, the bishop of the Methodist church and the head of the Polish Bible Society, Engstrom sensed the vitality of Christian faith in both Protestant and Catholic churches today despite the nation's many difficulties. "The spiritual warmth was infectious," he said.

World Vision is one of only three international relief agencies serving Poland. (The others are CARE and Catholic Relief Services.) The Polish government's Minister of Religion expressed high regard for World Vision's integrity and its nonpolitical stance.

In November the churches widely celebrated the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's birth. In December they will universally celebrate the



birth of Jesus Christ. As they approach a new year, they have more reason to be hopeful because of the practical gifts of more fortunate Christians and because of the love those gifts express. They thank God and you deeply for your prayers and for the tangible Merry Christmas. □

On readers' minds and hearts

You can never know

Our family was deeply moved by the story "It was Hee Jin's Day," for a very special reason. Our adopted daughter, Ruth, whose Korean name was Jin Hee, lived in a World Vision orphanage in Korea for two years before she arrived home to us as a school-age child, several years ago. The only English she knew when she got off the plane was, "Mommy, I love you." From the first, she has been a beautiful, loving, generous delight to our family. She adores small children, and her greatest joy is playing with a baby.

We do not know if she was a sponsored child while she lived in the World Vision orphanage, but we would like to thank the thousands of wonderful, caring people contributing to World Vision who may have taken care of our daughter and other children like her around the world. You can never know the total of the good you accomplish. *The Lipton family
Ann Arbor, Michigan*

Timely counsel

I have just read Dr. Engstrom's essay, "Creativity—use it or lose it." It came when I needed it most. Most of us, from time to time, stray from the true power of God. But after all, who knows us better? *Terri Palatka, Florida*

Something special

At a laundry in Glendora I saw a copy of your magazine. I was impressed with it. At a time when it seems everyone is trying to rip off the other guy, a magazine like yours is something special.

*Gary M. Callaban
Glendora, California*

Sounding a note

Thank you for the excellent editorials you are producing in WORLD VISION. You are sounding

a much needed note that needs to be repeated again and again both among liberals and among evangelicals. Keep up the good work.

*Torrey M. Johnson
Boca Raton, Florida*

Upheld in bereavement

To my brothers and sisters, joint-heirs in Christ Jesus. You came to my aid and ministered to my soul far beyond all expectations. In fact, the continuing flow of expressions of love and caring behavior is nearly beyond belief.

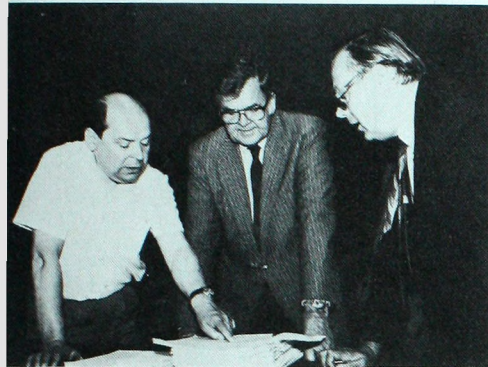
When my wife and son took up their heaven-leave unexpectedly, their abrupt departure left me feeling groundless and my existence without purpose. Even the fashion of their departure, at the hands of drunken drivers, seemed to deny God's active hand. But you, my World Vision colleagues, carefully, compassionately, sensitively and thoroughly were the hands of my Lord and master, restoring me in mind, faith, body, and love. Please know that I shall never forget your profound loving ministry to me.

I continue my first love of working for World Vision International in relief. Peace and happiness continues to infuse my soul. I will try to give back to you, and then through you to all of God's people in need, a true measure of what you have given me. Although my wife and only child are now gone, I choose to press on to the higher call, in collegiality with you, my sisters and brothers of World Vision.

*John McMillin
World Vision International
Acting Director of
Relief and Rehabilitation*

Correction

The number of member organizations in the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability is 250, not 150 as shown in the October magazine.



Main photo: In the town of Mikolow, near Katowice, a truck delivers 55-gallon drums of donated butter-oil to the Lutheran church where volunteers package it for parishioners and neighbors. **Left:** From surrounding areas, church people pick up supplies for their people. **Top to bottom above:** In the basement of a Warsaw church, members fill two-kilo bags with dry milk from 50-pound bags. . . . Warsaw Pastor Senior Jan Walter (at left in photo) shows Dr. Engstrom and Rev. Zdzislaw Paulik his church's record of food distribution. . . . Polish Bible Society head Barbara Narzyska thanked Engstrom and WV board member Gordon MacDonald for World Vision supporters' gift of paper on which thousands of Polish Bibles were printed.



Delivering the goods in Ethiopia

by Terri Owens

“You wouldn’t believe the frustrations we’ve had operating a highly sophisticated airplane in Ethiopia!” notes pilot/mechanic Glen Vogel. His is the voice of experience—after experience—after experience. Vogel, 24, belongs to the four-person Mission Aviation Fellowship team that operates World Vision’s Twin Otter airplane, flying desperately needed relief goods to remote famine areas in Ethiopia.

Recent rains interrupted the drought in Ethiopia long enough for farmers to begin planting crops. But the period between planting and harvest is still a time of severe famine for an estimated three million people. And the rains, welcome as they are, have caused problems for the Twin Otter team members as they deliver relief supplies.

Terri Owens is a staff writer for World Vision International.

“We were delivering grain to a remote town called Arbaya early one afternoon,” remembers Vogel. “But thundershowers earlier in the day had created pockets of mud on the airstrip. As we taxied, the airplane got stuck in a mudhole and the engines couldn’t free it. We took out the jack we carry and were putting rocks on top of the mud to brace it on. But as soon as we would try to jack up a wheel, the rocks would disappear into the mud. We took the straps used to tie down the load and fashioned some ropes. With the help of the only jeep in the area, we began trying to pull the airplane out. But the straps kept breaking and the jeep kept losing traction. Then *another* thundershower moved in and the airplane sank even deeper.”

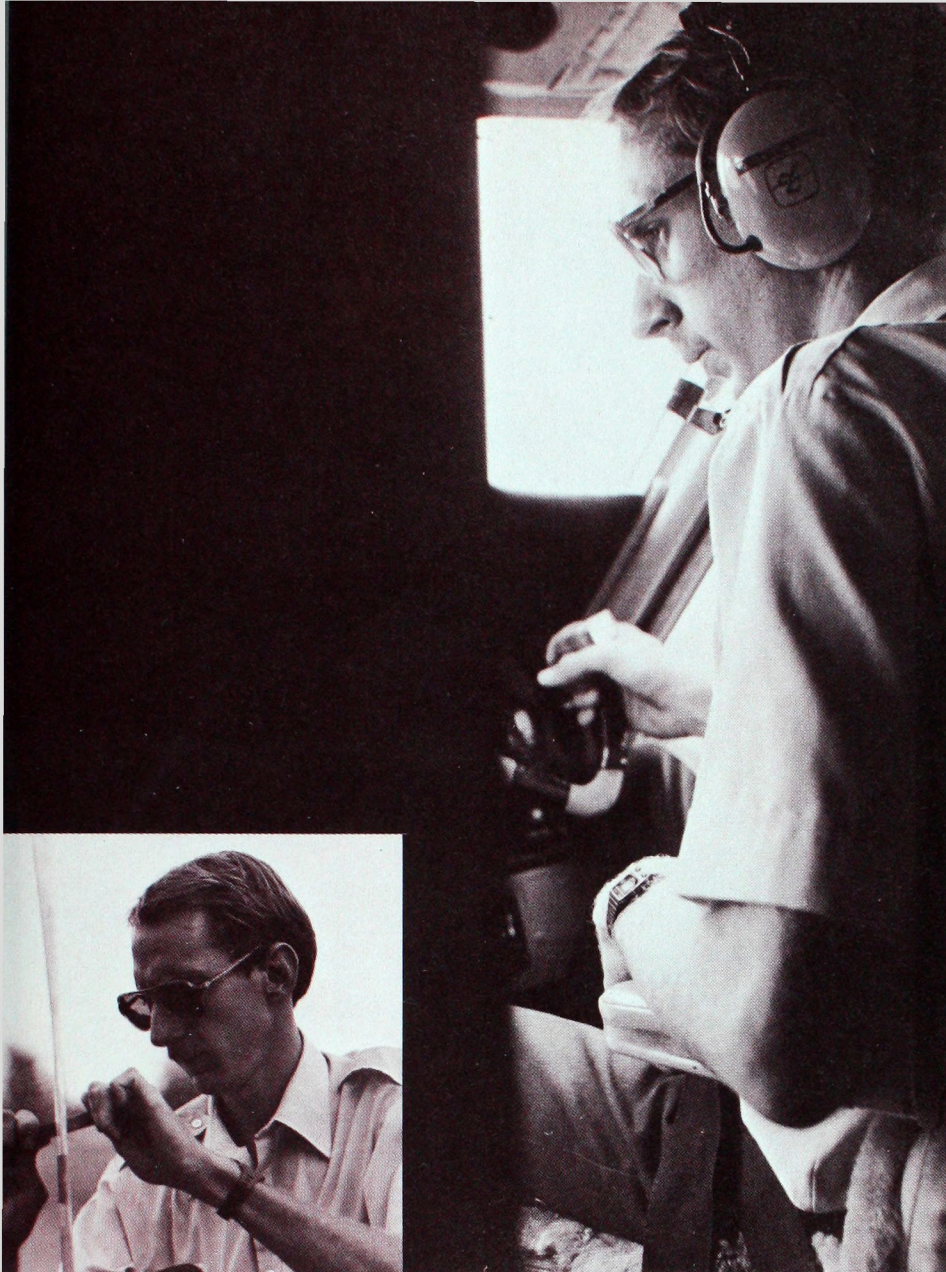
The crew and local Ethiopians weren’t able to free the Twin Otter until almost 10:30 that evening. “We finally took the floorboards out of the plane, dug under the tires and

made ramps,” Vogel explains. “People piled on top of and inside the jeep to weight its wheels down. By pulling with the jeep, and with the pilot using full thrust on the Twin Otter’s engines, at last we were successful.”

Since it was too late to fly back to their base at Gondar Town (neither the Arbaya nor the Gondar airstrips have landing lights), the muddy crew spent the night in the airplane. To make matters worse, the radio had gone dead and they had no way of letting worried friends and co-workers in Gondar know that they were all right.

Even routine maintenance of the

Rain answered our prayers; it also stuck the plane in soft mud.



(opposite page) With no hangar in which to work, pilot/mechanic Glen Vogel is at the mercy of the elements. Here he toils over a faulty engine under the blistering midday sun. (left) Vogel scans the controls from the Twin Otter's co-pilot seat. (left, inset) Every nick left by small stones striking the Twin Otter's propellers must be filed smooth. If left unattended, a stress fracture could develop, causing the propeller to snap in two. (below, left) Vogel replaces a defective fuel boost pump.

Twin Otter is a challenging task. "We mechanics on the team have none of the fancy machinery one finds in a hangar in the western world," says Vogel. "We don't even have a hangar. Basically, all we have are the nuts and bolts out of our tool boxes; if we don't have a tool we need, we make it."

Home for this licensed airplane mechanic is California. In October 1981 Vogel attended a Christian seminar where he recommitted his life to Christ. A month later he applied for work with MAF, and by June 1982 he found himself in Addis Ababa. Currently, he is serving his third half-year term with the program, more than anyone else has served since the Twin Otter began flying relief goods in early 1981.

John Kelly at MAF headquarters in Redlands, California, is among the support staff responsible for seeing that the crew in Ethiopia is well supplied with spare parts. "But," Vogel observes wryly, "there's always *something* you don't have that puts you on the ground."

Even though problems have stretched them to the limit, the crew members have seen the Lord's hand even in frustrating situations. "Earlier this year we were making regular deliveries to a town in the north called Zui Hamusit," notes Vogel. "Then in May the airplane's elevators cracked, grounding us unexpectedly. We were able to ferry to Addis Ababa, where we would have access to heavier equipment for making repairs. While we were in Addis waiting for the elevator repair kit John Kelly was sending us, government and rebel forces clashed at Zui



Hamusit. Had it not been for those cracked elevators, we might have flown into that situation."

Even when the needed parts are on hand, Vogel has learned, the repair process takes place differently in the Ethiopian culture. "Ethiopian Army Aviation has been very helpful to us. We had arranged with the authorities to use a hangar and other facilities in Addis to change a cracked landing gear. It wasn't a

We used the plane's floorboards for ramps. We still needed the jeep's pulling power.

complicated job, so I planned to be done in five days. But when I told an Ethiopian friend about my plans, he said it would probably take two weeks.

"Two weeks! I exclaimed, 'all we're going to do is change the landing gear. Five days is plenty of time.' 'Oh,' he said, 'things don't happen like that around here.' And he was right. In fact, it took *three* weeks. Now when things don't go as our crew has planned, we remind each other, 'Things don't happen like that around here.'"

Vogel feels he has been enriched by the lessons and values he has learned from the Ethiopian people. "In many ways our society is too time and goal oriented, and I'm typical of that. I'm usually in a hurry, and when I want to get something done, I'll run up to the World Vision Ethiopia office and quickly explain what I want. The staff members will say, 'Wait a minute. You didn't say hi. You didn't shake everyone's hand and ask how we're doing. How are *you* doing?' Relationships and concern for the individual are very important to them. I hope I can retain some of that attitude when I return home. So many people are lonely and hurting inside and need someone to reach out to them."

In the meantime, Vogel's attitude of commitment to the Twin Otter program has helped bring desperately needed food to hundreds of thousands of Ethiopians. □



(top photo) This mother awaits treatment for her 18-month-old daughter at the World Vision clinic in Arbaya. (above) A young boy waits his turn for treatment. (right) Crowds gather at the clinic. Those too ill to walk are carried in on litters.

The need continues

Needs in drought-affected areas of Ethiopia remain deep for thousands, as indicated by these photographs taken recently in the village of Arbaya in the Gondar region. While rains have interrupted the dryness in some areas, crops will not be ready to harvest for some time. And the effects of such a pervasive drought cannot be remedied in a few short months. Restoration of normal life to three million drought victims will take several years and ongoing support in the form of relief food, health care and prayer. □



(above) Using a litter made of tree branches, two men carry a seriously ill child to the clinic in Arbaya. A white cloth is draped over the child as protection from the sun; straps hold the child securely to the litter.

One thing led to another

by Pauline Williams

A glance around the table at the plates of our Thanksgiving dinner guests made my eyes bulge. Food pyramids were under construction everywhere. Candied sweet potatoes supported thick turkey slices. Together they trussed up coleslaw clumps and whipped Idaho spuds. Fruit jello, green peas and cranberry sauce topped the heap in festive adornment.

Only moments earlier our family of four, plus my parents, 14 Nigerians and their inner-city friend, had squeezed around two borrowed tables in our living room/kitchen area. We heard a Thanksgiving prayer, then

dug in. It was quite an experience—one that had its origins in a simple announcement I'd posted at a community college a year earlier.

"Experienced typist—for all your typing needs," read my notice. With two toddlers keeping me at home most of the time, typing for college students would be my contact with the outside world, with perhaps the side benefit of earning a few dollars toward my husband's school bills. Come one, come all. Fill the quiet of nap times and evening hours.

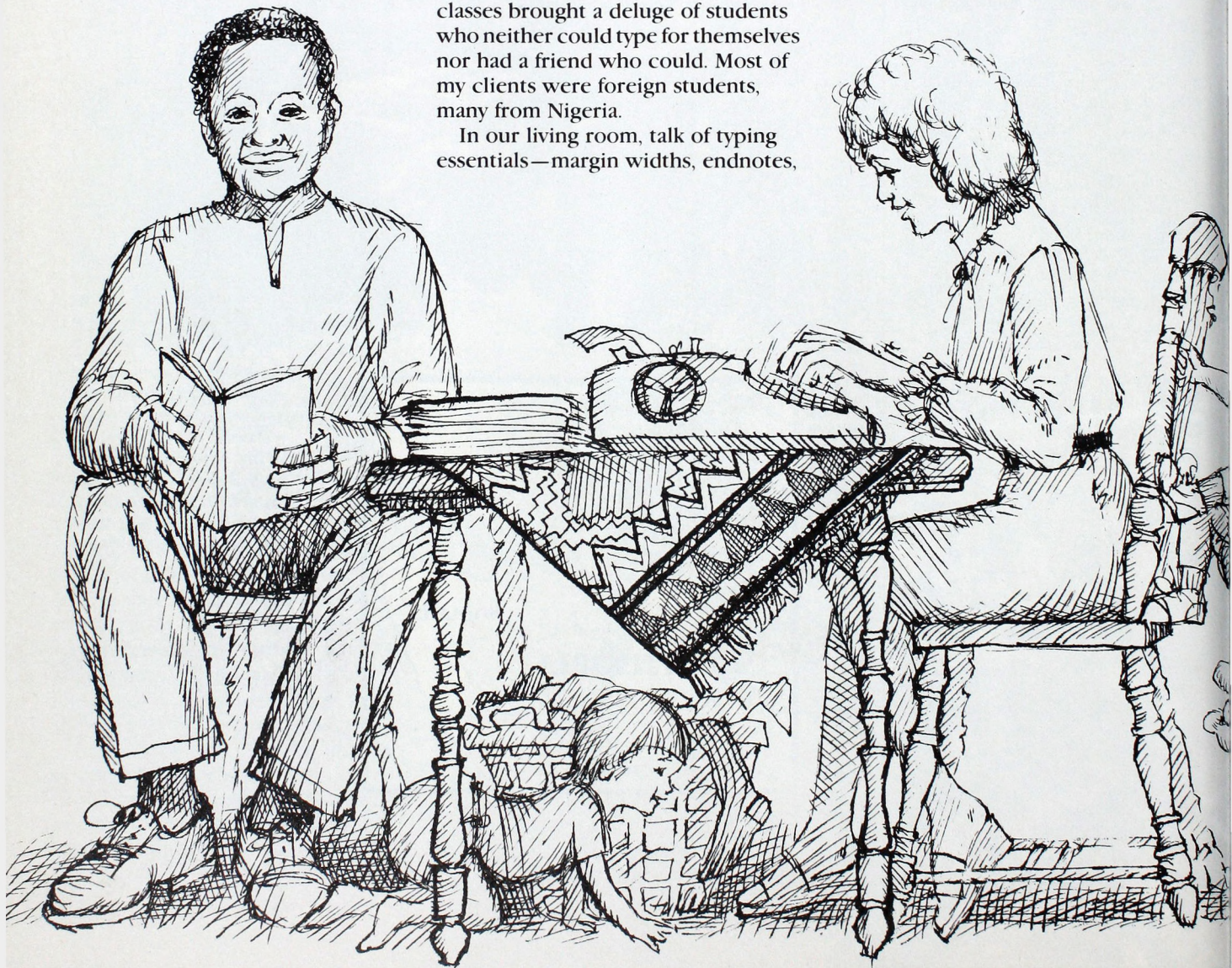
And come they did. They needed term papers, reports and assignments for professors concerned enough for their own eyesight to ask for typed submissions. Mid-semester and final classes brought a deluge of students who neither could type for themselves nor had a friend who could. Most of my clients were foreign students, many from Nigeria.

In our living room, talk of typing essentials—margin widths, endnotes,

bibliographies—gave way to their interests: the grade on the last paper, the purchase of a car, the squeezed job market, a letter from home. Through laughter and tears I reached out to these aching people.

My typing service brought not only a pleasant change of pace and a few dollars, but also people in desperate need. These international students had to cope with the inner tension that arose out of dealing with divergent cultures. And frequently, that also meant dealing with a conflict between contemporary trends and traditional values.

Having lived in Latin America for eight years, I found I could empa-



It was not by mistake that these international students had entered our lives.

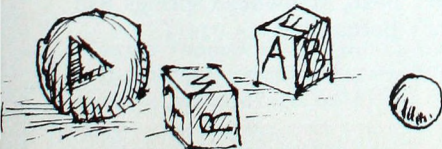
thize with these uprooted young people. I checked to see if others were helping to meet some of their needs. No evangelical organization was working on their campus, and no church had sought out my new foreign friends.

Honestly, neither my husband nor I were looking for an added outreach. Our schedules were filled with activities, perhaps in part because we were missionaries to Guatemala on furlough in southern New Jersey. Heading our list of priorities for this period of stateside living were my care for our two little boys and my husband's 21-hour class load for doctoral studies. Spare moments were given to local church involvement and mission board meetings.

But hadn't we "given ourselves to Him"? That included our agendas. My husband and I reevaluated our schedules. *Could* we fit this group of foreigners into our lives? *Should* we? It was not by mistake that these students had entered our lives. We concluded they were to be a part of us as long as He saw fit.



Pauline Williams and her family, missionaries to Guatemala, were on furlough in Laurel Springs, NJ, when she wrote this article earlier this year.



The fourth Thursday of November was streamlined for us. Samuel, the Nigerian student I saw most often, enthusiastically received our invitation for himself and any of his friends to learn firsthand how and why Americans celebrate Thanksgiving. We assured him that all 15 of them would most certainly be welcomed, for we wanted to share ourselves with them. So, they came. Pouring from their cars in Nigerian garb, our guests offered themselves and their ways to us in delightful ear-tingling British accents.

After our meal, my husband used sketches, flip charts and flannelgraph to illustrate our Thanksgiving heritage and to tell about Christ. Their

quick minds produced probing thoughts and requests for clarification in that spacious realm of religion. In a very natural situation we shared Him with others. International outreach in our stateside home—how exciting!

This morning an Iranian woman needed her computer science paper typed. Perhaps our friendship will allow me to share another Friendship with her.

As developing nations of our world send more and more of their youth to our shores for education and experience, we hope more Christians will look for opportunities to share with them their homes and their eternal hope. □

Foreign students in the U.S.

Last year, over 326,000 foreign students came to America to pursue college/university studies. An estimated additional 423,000 internationals (many of them refugees or permanent residents), are not accounted for in enrollment figures. If the trend continues, the total number could double by 1990, when internationals may account for ten percent of all college students in the U.S.

The largest single group of international students (about 47,000) is from Iran. Taiwan is second with approximately 19,460, followed in order by Nigeria, Japan, Venezuela and Saudi Arabia.

California reports the largest number of foreign students with 52,289 (16 percent), followed by New York (26,059—8 percent) and Texas (23,415—7 percent).

Engineering, business, math and computer science are the areas of focus for most foreign students. More than 17.5 percent of all

engineering students in the U.S. are from foreign countries.

Until recent years, many international students remained in the United States after graduation. The ultimate result for developing countries with students abroad was termed "brain drain"—the loss of professionals who did not return to their countries of origin to work. Currently, however, about 80 percent of the internationals who come to the U.S. for an education return to their home countries, for at least a while.

Percentage breakdown of total foreign student enrollment in the U.S.

South and East Asian	30.4%
Middle East	27.2%
Latin America	16.0%
Africa	12.2%
Europe	8.1%
Other	6.1%



Samaritan's Purse, a worldwide evangelical emergency relief organization, is providing ongoing help to many of the 4000 delegates who attended the International Conference for Itinerant Evangelists last July in Amsterdam. The conference provided participants from around the world with intense training in evangelism. Samaritan's Purse researched the critical ministry needs of evangelists in developing nations and is helping provide the resources to meet those needs.

Plan to celebrate next year's Day of Prayer for World Evangelization, June 10, 1984, with materials from the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization (LCWE). You can order packets from LCWE, P.O. Box 1100, Wheaton, IL 60187.

Mennonite Central Committee's meat canning program is now in its 37th season. With the help of volunteers in 12 states, this year's crew expects to can some 293,000 tins of meat and 55,000 tins of broth in a six-month period. Using a portable canner with stops in 12 states, workers process beef, pork and poultry donated by church members. The food is then distributed to the needy overseas and in the U.S.

Chinese Mission '83, the first North American missions conference for Chinese churches and students, is scheduled for December 26-30, 1983, in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Sponsored by

Ambassadors for Christ Inc., the conference will include workshops, topical messages and displays from other missions organizations. Write for more information to Chinese Mission '83, P.O. Box AFC, Paradise, PA 17562, or call (717) 687-8564.

Oxfam America's tenth Fast for a World Harvest took place November 17, 1983, as some 500,000 Americans engaged in activities ranging from lectures and walks to rocking chair marathons. Oxfam provided participants free kits to help increase world hunger awareness and raise funds to help alleviate this growing problem.

Youth groups can show God's love to the elderly, disabled or poverty-stricken next summer through a GROUP Workcamp. GROUP's week-long summer camps need volunteers to help repair, paint and weatherize homes in Texas, West Virginia, North Carolina and Mexico. More information is available from GROUP Workcamps, Box 481, Loveland, CO 80539.

Family Life Conference offers married or engaged couples practical biblical principles for building depth, excitement and close communication into their relationships. Sponsored by the Family Ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ, it is designed to make a good marriage better or an upcoming marriage all that God intended. For more information contact Family Life Conferences, P.O. Box 55330, Little Rock, AR 72225.

Friends of the Tent-makers has changed its address to 2600 Dwight Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.

San Antonio's "Neighborhoods That Work" project will benefit as Mary Denman, WOAI radio personality, plays Emily in "My Three Angels," at Fiesta Dinner Playhouse, December 27. Tickets are handled by Neighborhoods That Work, (512) 222-8824.

"The Church and Peacemaking in a Nuclear Age," a three-day conference held last May in Pasadena, California, drew 1400 participants from seven countries. Cassette tapes are now available from the conference's 120 plenary and workshop sessions. Ordering information can be obtained from the American Studies Program, 135 Second St. NE, Washington, DC 20002.

The International Conference on Prayer for World Evangelization, sponsored by the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization, is scheduled for June 4-10, 1984, in South Korea. Participants will examine the place of prayer in world evangelism and promote a movement for intercession. The final day of the conference, Pentecost Sunday, has been designated as the International Day of Prayer for World Evangelization. For more information write to Mrs. Vonette Bright, P.O. Box 6826, Arrowhead Springs, San Bernardino, CA 92414.

SALT (Serve and Learn Together) offers young North Americans the opportunity to spend a year living and working with Mennonites in Latin America, Africa or Asia in an effort to promote understanding between international churches. Participants must be between 19 and 27 and must provide half the cost of the year abroad. Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) pays the balance. If interested write MCC, 21 South 12th St., Akron, PA 17501. Applications must be received before February 28, 1984.

Good News for New Readers (GNNR), a special American Bible Society program, provides new literates with the Word of God in forms they can easily comprehend. Available in 448 languages, these specially designed Scripture texts help improve reading skills while teaching about Christ's love. Write to the American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway, New York, NY 10023.

**Christmas Program
North Valley Friends Church, 1979**

Bales of real hay
clump around
the false manger.
The choir files in,
an unheavenly host,
to predestined slots on stage.
I spot David,
my almost angelic son;
our eyes connect;
he grins.
Joseph and Mary arrive.
The mini-Madonna clutches the Babe;
his plastic head sticks out, unsupported,
and does not fall.
"Tough kid," I think.
Pajama-clad animals
mill around the manger.
My small daughter, a miscast lamb,
flops her ears
and bleats to the music, all mischief.
For the next twenty minutes
I strain on the edge of the pew
as bathrobed wise men
and mock shepherds
march in and mumble their lines.
The third wise man sneezes;
Gabriel giggles,
and I suppress my own mirth
when suddenly
I see the Christ,
perceive the glory,
and adore.

by Nancy Thomas

Have you made room for Jesus?

For centuries, the "no vacancy" sign which once hung at the inn in Bethlehem has symbolized a worse tragedy: that Jesus Christ "came unto his own and his own received him not."

Yet, as the Gospel of John points out, many *did* receive Him as Lord and Savior, and to them He gave the power to become children of God.

It's the same today. While many still say to Jesus, "Sorry, no vacancy," others receive Him gladly and in doing so are made more glad.

Have *you* received the Lord Jesus Christ in glad faith and submission? Or will you go through the motions of Christmas once more this year without the relationship that matters most now and forever?

That wonderful relationship will begin to be yours on the day you sincerely ask Him to step into your life as your Savior from sin and your forever Lord.

If you feel that you lack understanding or assurance about this vital matter, here's a pertinent suggestion: Read and reread, today, the first two chapters of Luke. Consider what really happened in Bethlehem. Then open yourself to the entire Gospel of Luke and, above all, to the One whom that God-given book presents with clarity and power.

Trust that One. Give Him the central place in your life and in your home. Seek fellowship with others who know Him. And introduce Him to yet others.

You'll be glad. So will He.

David Olson

For a copy of a helpful booklet called "Becoming a Christian," simply write Editor David Olson at WORLD VISION magazine, 919 W. Huntington Dr., Monrovia, CA 91016. It's free for the asking.

Nancy Thomas and her family are missionaries to the Aymara Indians in Bolivia. This poem is reprinted by permission from Of Deity and Bones, a collection of her poems published this fall by The Barclay Press, Neuberg, Oregon.

My son teaches me selflessness

by Deborah Sanders Standiford

I am spending the night on a cot next to my son's hospital bed. Tomorrow, surgeons will operate on his back for nine-and-a-half hours to correct a 120-degree curve. Nhi (pronounced "Nyee") is from Vietnam. He jokes that his spine is like the dragon shape of the map of his country. Without the spinal fusion operation, his back would continue to curve and eventually crush his lungs.

A day-long operation always brings risks. Nhi will be under anesthesia for many hours. The vulnerable spinal cord inside the vertebrae is easily damaged. If the doctors try to straighten the curve too much, they could injure the spinal cord. During the operation Nhi will lose nine pints of blood; there is the possibility of shock from so much blood loss.

As I sit in the hospital room, my stomach tied in knots, I can think of nothing except tomorrow. But as Nhi's mother, I need to be strong and hopeful for him. I should be relieving his anxieties, not burdening him with mine.

We both shower and get ready for bed. Absentmindedly I flip through the day's mail. I open the just-arrived issue of WORLD VISION magazine and read aloud. A small article says that rain has finally come to some

parched areas of East Africa.

Last month our family sent World Vision money for its work with the hungry and thirsty refugees there. As I read the good news of the rain aloud to Nhi, he clasps his hands together in the air. "Thank you, God! You answer my prayers!" he cries. "Oh, Mom, I have been praying every day for rain in Africa and now God has sent the rain. I am so happy."

My eyes fill with tears. My son teaches me again. Nhi faces an operation that will put him in a half-body cast for three months. His pain will be nonstop the week following surgery. But his prayers and thoughts are with people whose problems are greater than his. I want to feel the kind of abandon toward my own needs that he feels toward his. I want the freedom that kind of selflessness can give me.

I know now that I'm going to be all right because Nhi is all right. His bravery is infectious. We pray together, then we both sleep peacefully.

My husband, Steve, has to wake up when he arrives at the hospital the

next morning. The three of us hold hands and sing and pray. Then a large man in light green surgical garb comes to roll Nhi to the operating room. He lifts Nhi onto an oversized stretcher. We follow Nhi to the entrance to the operating room and hug and kiss him goodbye. Nhi chats cheerfully with the orderly and doctors as he is wheeled through the double doors. He is not afraid; I begin to be brave.

I feel unnaturally at peace during the ten hours I spend in the waiting room. Finally, the head surgeon comes in. "The operation was very successful!" Thank you, God! You answer *my* prayers, too!

Story behind the story:

Deborah and her husband, Steve, both lawyers, first became interested in Vietnamese refugees when World Vision began its Operation Seasweep in the Gulf of Thailand to rescue people fleeing Vietnam. Initially their involvement was only through prayer and donations. In the summer of 1980, they traveled to the Songkhla refugee camp in southern Thailand

Former refugee Nhi knows a lot about pain. And about prayer.

Part of a five-person band which has performed in their high school, Nhi practices with his brother Hy.



In the Standiford kitchen, Nhi prepares Vietnamese-style "spring rolls" for the family's enjoyment. (below) The four enjoy strumming together.



under the auspices of COSIGN, a small voluntary relief agency started by the Church of the Savior in Washington, DC.

There they worked alongside staff members from World Vision and other relief organizations in a camp housing 6000 Vietnamese "boat people." While there, they decided to sponsor and become foster parents to Nhi and his younger brother, Hy, two teenagers in the camp's children's center. Nhi and Hy joined their new parents in Wash-

ington a few months later. They have been growing together as a family since that time. The above article is part of a book they are writing about that experience.

As a result of polio at age one, Nhi's legs are paralyzed. His spine had curved over the years. His successful spinal fusion was in July 1981. Nhi is now fully recovered from his operation and is a senior at Washington-Lee High School in Arlington, Virginia. □



People & projects

Skill development in Egypt

A huge demand for trained men and women exists in Egypt because many skilled workers have been drawn to jobs in neighboring oil-rich countries. Two major needs—vocational training and animal husbandry—are being met through the combined efforts of World Vision and Egypt's Coptic Evangelical Church. Vocational training in carpentry, masonry, electronics and sewing, and instruction in cattle, goat and dairy management are areas of emphasis.

A church of 600 people in the village of Nyangori, Kenya, joined with World Vision to provide training that resulted in local employment opportunities. These three women who completed the training now operate the Ngumi Womens' Tailoring Group Industry. Here they display sweaters they have made. The training included instruction accounting, basic management and Christian leadership.



Village captain Florentino Gulso (third from left) and three other village leaders in Isabela, the Philippines,

examine ipil ipil leaves with Ministry of Agriculture representative Ric Asuncion (far right). They have learned that seeds from the ipil ipil tree are 20

percent protein, and will provide another source of food for Filipinos struggling to recover from the effects of drought.

Aid for Papua New Guinea flood victims

World Vision and the Salvation Army are administering a project to help some of the more than 10,000 victims of Papua New Guinea's worst flooding in five years. The emergency relief fed more than 400 homeless people now living in tents, and provided 84 families living in a government relief center with material for rebuilding their homes. In addition, cooking fuel, utensils and bedding, as well as technical training in the use of block-making machines and mat weaving, are being provided.

Model gardening in Indonesia

Pastor Sudin Mujid and his family have developed a model garden as part of the Society for Gardening Efforts, one of the agricultural improvement efforts in the village of Lumar in West Kalimantan, Indonesia. The garden contains string beans, squash, eggplant and cucumbers. World Vision donors have made possible many improvements in agriculture, health, irrigation and road construction for the 320 Dayak families living in the area.



Studying Korean, attending chapel, communicating in sign language, and learning type styles for printing are some of Joo Soon Lee's daily activities. She is one of 30 children living in the Sung Dong orphanage in Korea being helped by faithful World Vision supporters. World Vision provides part of the cost of education and vocational training for these orphaned and disabled children.

Record-breaking softball game

After playing 94 consecutive hours of softball, a group of Michigan State University students achieved two goals: they raised \$5000 to fight world hunger, and they landed a spot in the *Guinness Book of World Records* for the longest-played softball game. The money raised from the 376-inning game came from sponsor and spectator donations. It was given to World Vision at the game's conclusion.

Drought relief in Bolivia

The lack of rain in Bolivia's Altiplano region has crippled food production and increased livestock losses since late 1982. Some 1.5 million people are affected. World Vision is providing ten water pumps for use in seven communities, and is distributing 100,000 pounds of locally-provided high-altitude seed potatoes and small quantities of vegetable seed.

Please pray for . . .

- Salvadorans** suffering the daily trauma of warfare in their streets.
- Christians ministering** to specially needy families in El Salvador's dangerous environment.
- Polish people** experiencing severe shortages of food and fuel in the face of winter weather.
- Polish church** council members carrying out the responsibility of distributing our gifts of food through the local churches.
- Ethiopia's** famine-plagued people.
- Relief teams** bringing food to starving Ethiopians wherever possible.
- International students** who may feel more lonely than ever this month while many Americans are engrossed in holiday activities.
- Awareness** of opportunities to be a Christian friend to someone from another culture.
- Inquirers** who respond to this magazine's offer of help in coming to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Some 25,000 different drugs—many of them useless or even harmful—consume \$9 billion of the developing world's budget each year, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). The organization says most countries need only 200 drugs to treat the majority of diseases. The glut of drugs in developing countries, says WHO, is due to "promotion activities of the drug manufacturers which have created a demand greater than the actual needs."

South Africa's black women domestics (maids) are possibly the most exploited group in the country. A study by sociologist Jacklyn Cock indicates that the country's 800,000 domestics earn about \$24 a month and work up to 85 hours a week with no vacations.

"Disparities between blacks and whites in the U.S. on measures of income, poverty and unemployment, have not lessened, or have even worsened since 1960," according to a report from the Center for the Study of Social Policy. Median income for a black family in 1981 was 56 percent of that for white families, a one percent gain over the 1960 figure. The study says the income gap is less related to education than to job opportunities.

Nuclear weapons "serve no military purpose whatsoever" and should not be an element of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's defense, said former U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara in a recent article in *Foreign Affairs*. He said he had told both Presidents Kennedy and Johnson that nuclear arms were "totally useless" and that both had agreed never to initiate their use. "I know of nobody that knows how to limit a nuclear war once it starts," he said.

Food prices in Poland are expected to rise as much as 40 percent in the coming year, according to Communist Party official Manfred Gorywoda. The government hopes the higher prices will help combat the country's financial crisis. Such an increase will mean a four percent drop in the standard of living for Poles, said Gorywoda.

Interest and involvement in religion among all levels of U.S. society is on the rise, according to a recent Gallup poll. Six out of ten Americans say they are more interested in religious matters than they were five years ago. Four out of ten say they have participated in one or more activities such as Bible study, prayer groups and evangelism, with Bible study attracting the largest portion: 26 percent. That figure is up from 19 percent in 1978.

"Pollution is strangling the life in America's once-productive saltwater bays and estuaries," authorities say. "Estuaries have become septic tanks for the megalopolis," says Joseph Mihursky, associate director of the University of

Maryland Center for Environmental and Estuarine Studies. Chesapeake Bay, the nation's largest estuary, is an "ecosystem in decline," according to the Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA says the region could lose a seafood industry that brings in \$750 million a year.

Abandoned children in Latin America, numbering up to 40 million, are rapidly becoming a "subrace" whose number may reach 80 million by the year 2000. The problem is most serious in Brazil. A study by Catholic University in Sao Paulo revealed that 80 percent of the prison population is made up of former street children. Every month, more than 100 Brazilian infants are abandoned in police stations, hospitals or city streets by poverty-stricken families with no resources to care for them.



More African refugees are from Ethiopia than any other country. According to the U.S. Committee for Refugees, in 1982 there were 700,000 Ethiopians in Somalia, 350,000 in Sudan and 30,000 in Djibouti. Thousands more are in other African nations and in Western Europe, Canada and the United States.

Displaced Ethiopians: "refugees" in their own country

Pope John Paul II told a group of scientists and international leaders recently that "the future of mankind is in grave danger," and asked for their help in ending the worldwide threat from genetic manipulation, bacteriological weapons and nuclear warfare. "It is not science and technology as such that threaten mankind," he said, "but their disengagement from moral values."

A spiritual renewal in Egypt that began ten years ago is continuing to gain momentum, reports Dr. Samuel Habib, president of the Evangelical Churches of Egypt. All three of Egypt's major denominations (comprised of 19 Protestant denominations) have experienced renewal among lay members, especially the youth. The movement is characterized by a heightened concern for worship.

Americans 65 or older will double in number to 51 million by 2020, and one out of five Americans in 2030 will be elderly, according to a recent Census Bureau report. The report also reveals that the number of people 65 and older increased twice as fast as the rest of the population between 1960 and 1980. Social Security benefits go to 91.2 percent of the aged and are almost the total income of one out of five.

In partnership with you

"BECAUSE OF YOUR PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL"
(Philippians 1:5)

Seven M's for 1984

As we approach a new year I am thinking of seven important M's I have discussed with World Vision colleagues worldwide. Let me share them with you.

Our mission. We simply must continually relate ourselves to the words of our Lord in Matthew 28:19, 20 and Colossians 2:6, 7. An estimated 7 to 7.5 billion people will inhabit our explosive world at the turn of the century—just 16 years from now. What kind of world will we be giving to them? We must spread the gospel, but we dare not have a messianic complex that fosters the feeling that we must be bigger and better than everyone else. We must cooperate with and complement the church and other organizations which, with us, are vitally concerned about the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Our mandate. We must repeatedly review the original mandate of our Lord to both preach (evangelize) and teach (train). In fulfilling our mandate we cannot divorce evangelistic fervor from spiritual nurturing.

Our motivation. Our ministry of motivation must be characterized by a spiritual boldness. The apostle Paul reminds us of a threefold motivational truth when he says, "I am debtor, I am ready and I am not ashamed" (Rom. 1:14-16). We must continually recognize that Christian revelation owes nothing to human wisdom but to God's power only (1 Cor. 2:1-5).

Our manpower. God has always chosen to work through human instrumentality; we must always seek to mobilize the task force of men and women who, having experienced personal salvation through Jesus Christ and a life which brings glory to Him, seek to devote their lives and talents to the outreach of evangelism. In 2 Corinthians 2:14-17 and 4:1-11, guidelines are provided for leadership that stand above culture.

Our means. 2 Corinthians 9:1-13 gives us some help from the apostle on finances. It is a strong reminder to all of us that we cannot separate the means from the message. God has blessed many American Christians financially so magnificently, and we dare not let down our appeal for the generous support of our U.S. Christian population.

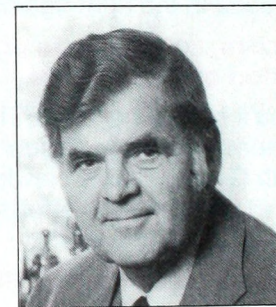
Our methods. A change in method does not require a change in message. Paul again provides a model for us when he says, "I am all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (1 Cor. 9:22). This principle of flexibility was exhibited by Jesus when He taught through parables, demonstration and example. He ministered to individuals, to small groups, at a banquet for 5000, and to the poor as well as the elite.

Our message. Acts 20:26, 27 says, "Wherefore I take you to record this day that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." This must be the foundation stone upon which our ministries are based. We are committed to the

presentation of an unchanging gospel based upon the authority of the Word of God. I believe we must further continually affirm the belief that the local church is God's ordained instrument ratifying the believers and the propagation of the gospel.

These are vitally important M's for all World Vision team members as we serve Christ in partnership with you. Thank you, from the depth of our hearts, for sharing with us in our efforts to live by them in 1983 and now again in 1984.

Ted W. Engstrom
President



This label is to be used on the enclosed envelope.

A Gospel Album That Fights World Hunger?



YES...and here's how!

TOGETHER is an outstanding album of gospel songs created by some of America's most popular Christian artists who donated their talents to World Vision so all proceeds and royalties can be used in the fight against world hunger.

This album is yours, compliments of the recording artists, with your donation of \$20 or more.

With your gift, you'll be joining **TOGETHER** artists Barbara Mandrell, B.J. Thomas, Andrae Crouch, Evie Karllson, Amy Grant, Dino, Keith Green, Walter Hawkins, the Imperials and the Sweet Comfort Band in their efforts to bring health and hope to hungry children in the world.

Order your complimentary TOGETHER album now!

To receive your gift of **TOGETHER**, this coupon must accompany your donation.

YES... I want to join the artists of **TOGETHER** in the fight against world hunger. I understand that my donation of \$20 or more (beyond any current pledge I've made to World Vision) entitles me to a copy of **TOGETHER**, compliments of the artists.

Enclosed is my donation of \$_____.
(One album for each \$20 donation)

Please send: (____) LP records (____) Cassette tapes
Qty. Z71C20/W Qty. Z71C20/B
(Please allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery.)

Name _____

Account no. _____

Street address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Mail today to: **WORLD VISION** • Box O • Pasadena, CA 91109

