A CHURCH THAT DRAWS IN ITS REFUGEES NEIGHBORS

□ Our commitment to evangelism
□ A new year of hope
February is different

No, it's not Leap Year. But you'll find your February issue of WORLD VISION magazine quite different from the issues that precede or follow it. The whole magazine, not just the usual half or so, will report on World Vision's work. The reason: we want you to share the inspiration of our entire 1982 annual report—an overview of our total six-fold ministry in 86 countries.

It will come complete with the year's financial statement, for those of you interested in that sort of thing, and regional mini-maps indicating where we work. Plus anecdotes and photos.

We think you'll enjoy the special February issue (titled "How You Made 1982 a Time for Healing"), prepared by World Vision's public relations people. And if you miss the magazine's regular features, remember, we'll be back with those again in March.

For our benefit in thinking about the following February's issue, please let us know what you like or don't like about getting one such overview issue per year. And, of course, what you like or don't like about the other eleven.

D.O.
A church that draws in its refugee neighbors
by Don Dorr

From east San Diego's I-805 freeway I drove slowly up a gentle hill, craned my neck and easily found Laurel Street. There I nudged my Chevy toward the curb and scanned the unpretentious church building on the corner. The words "Laurel Bible Chapel" assured me I had found the church I had heard so much about.

Breathing a prayer of thanks for safe travel from Los Angeles on this Sunday morning, I grabbed my
camera and note pad and went in, eager to meet the people God had so obviously blessed in their efforts to reach out to their refugee neighbors. But I never dreamed what joy and challenge I would experience in the two days I would spend with them.

Elder Gary Coombs, whose responsibilities include oversight of the church's refugee ministry, Project New Life, greeted me warmly. Over his shoulder I noticed two men discussing a biblical point. The older man, I learned later, was Ronald Curtin, coordinator of Project New Life, advising Tim Hawthorne, a teacher for one of the refugee Bible classes.

About 100 Laotians of various ages gather in one of the church's assembly rooms each Sunday morning. After zestful spontaneous singing they listen to a message given in Lao by one of several local Laotian leaders. On this particular Sunday, Thong Khammany preached—fervently.

Breaking of bread always follows the sermon. Although I could not understand their language, my heart was moved as I ate and drank with them in remembrance of Him who deeply loves these people whose bodies, minds and spirits have been scarred by human brutality.

After the worship time, Carl Kremer, an American teacher, presents a Sunday school lesson in English, which Inthava Inthisane, a Laotian spiritual leader, translates for them. They had just completed a six-month study of the book of Genesis. Carl was leading them through a review to ensure "that they be grounded in principles of who God is and who we are."

Inthava is more than a verbatim translator. Maturing spiritually under the tutelage of Carl, Ronald and Gary, he communicates the essence of the Bible lessons in the "heart language" of the Laotians and the thought forms indigenous to them.

In another room, Kampuchceans (Cambodians) meet for worship and are then led in biblical instruction by Tim Hawthorne. Most of the students in this class are men. Yuon Cheang, the first Kampuchean in the church, has provided remarkable leadership for this, the chapel's largest refugee group. Sponsored by Donna and Gary Coombs, he lived in their home in 1975. Keenly interested in the things of the Lord, he was eager to study the Bible, to fellowship with other Christians, and to reach other Kampuchceans for Christ.

Yuon now works at General Dynamics as an electronic technician. Along with his wife Meng, he also owns "Meng's Women's Specialty, Jewelry & Tailoring." An expert seamstress, Meng also contracts some power sewing work, making maternity blouses. Models of Christian integrity and of successful adaptation to life in America, the two have earned the respect of their people.

The primary work among the Kampuchceans takes place on Sunday afternoons in facilities of the more centrally located Fairmount Baptist Church. There, about 150 adults gather for singing and Bible teaching, while two children's classes meet. Although they sang in their own language, I recognized all four songs that afternoon and sang along in English: "There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus. No, not one! No, not one! None else could heal all our soul's diseases. No, no t one! No, not one! . . ."

My throat tightened with emotion until I could hardly sing. I thought, when I came to the words "No night

Donald Dorr is a William Carey International University faculty member now on a year's leave of absence to teach in Japan.
Nu Nguyen, a skilled mechanic who once supervised 24 other mechanics in Vietnam, probes the innards of a Volkswagen bus at a garage in downtown San Diego. Tools purchased with a loan from the church have helped him continue in his profession.

Ronald: "You can't give them just cultural Christianity."

Gary and Donna Coombs opened their home to Phi Li, a Vietnamese woman from Laos, when she arrived in San Diego. Phi attended the San Diego adult school and was able to pass the GED (general education diploma) exam after only four months. Now her sights are on a position as a medical assistant.

In its outreach the church has not overlooked the Vietnamese. Early recipients of the church's support were Nu Nguyen and his family. Nu had been a qualified mechanic in Vietnam, with 24 other mechanics under his supervision. The church loaned him the money to buy a set of tools. His competence became apparent as he worked on the church buses and on cars of members who sometimes gave him other badly needed tools in exchange for his conscientious service.

Southeast Asians have not been Project New Life's only focus. Ten years ago, the church demonstrated its concern for Hispanics by establishing a ministry to the Spanish-speaking. Two years ago, the first Cuban refugees were baptized and brought into the fellowship. And returned missionaries Jim and Marion Luster have sponsored 118 of the "unwanted" Cuban men from Fort Chaffee, Arkansas. Serving the Hispanics under the name "Iglesia Evangelica Emmanuel," this ministry is now centered four miles from Laurel Bible Chapel.

While Laurel Bible Chapel provides the primary thrust into the large refugee population in their section of San Diego, other evangelical churches give critical support. Fairmount Baptist opens its doors for the Sunday afternoon Kampuchean meeting at a reduced fee. Trinity Presbyterian provides a bus and a driver. Alliance churches in Los Angeles provide Kampuchean speakers twice a month. College Avenue Baptist provides half the support for Lim Cheang, a dynamic Kampuchean Christian leader and younger brother to Yuon. In all,
GARY: “That’s the most effective way to evangelize: to show a genuine interest in all their needs.”

there’s an informal but systematic networking of concerned churches who link resources in a concerted effort to serve the total needs of the newcomers.

To take appropriate advantage of World Relief support, a public non-profit charitable corporation has been established under the name of Asian Renewal. Through this agency, World Relief’s $120 resettlement grant for each refugee is made available to assist him or her in matters of housing, employment and health. This shows how churches can develop a community-based refugee ministry by pooling resources with the legal and administrative aid of a parachurch organization.

Not only cooperation among churches but leadership training among the refugees themselves is essential for an effective refugee ministry. Project New Life directors have found that the most productive way to reach the Southeast Asians is through those who show a desire and ability for Christian leadership. Potential leaders are identified by first discerning their commitment to the Lord, then by noting their Bible study and their follow-through on personal commitments. These qualities are observed for six months or more before the refugee receives a leadership assignment.

Seeing the breadth and intensity of this church’s refugee ministry, I had to ask, “How did it all begin?” Gary Coombs pegs its beginning on a Sunday in 1975 when a group of adults in a class that was studying prayer began thinking of hindrances to answered prayer. One passage they studied was Proverbs 21:13: “If a man shuts his ears to the cry of the poor, he too will cry out and not be answered.” So Gary’s answer to my question should not have been too surprising.

GARY: “Right at that point (Proverbs 21:13), my thoughts went to Camp Pendleton—to the thousands of refugees who needed to be resettled. They were certainly poor. Who was going to do it? The evangelical churches? Somebody else? This was the time to help people in real need.”

I had more questions. To what extent do you think your ministry to newcomers is replicable?

RONALD: “The people of each church must decide what they see the Scripture teaching about ethnic ministering. They need to decide: Does the Scripture teach that we start a Cambodian church here, a Lao church there, a Spanish one over here, a black church over there, and a white church over here? Or do they feel that the Scripture...
teaches that believers of all nations, wherever they come from, are all part of the local body of Christ when they meet together?"

GARY: "God did not intend for churches to be racially isolated one from the other, but that we should learn to live together, to worship together, to minister to one another's needs. It's true that a Lao can reach a Lao better than a Kampuchean or an American. But in worship the body of Christ needs to demonstrate unity."

If you were starting a newcomer ministry from scratch—in a different congregation—what's the first thing you would do to get the ball rolling?

GARY: "Start out by inviting a refugee into your home. And having someone from the church board meet them in your house. Such personal interaction becomes a pleasant experience. The refugees tell what they faced out on the high seas or wherever, and compassion begins to develop.

"If one family in the church is willing to sponsor a refugee family and then the church agrees to support it and provide for some of the needs, that's an easy way to do it. That's really what happened here. When I sponsored a Kampuchean family myself and started bringing them to church, others wanted to help."

In what order would you rank the felt needs of the newcomers?

RONALD: "Housing, school and the kind of training that will get them a decent job."

GARY: "You've got to minister to the whole person. That's the most effective way to evangelize: to show a genuine interest in all their needs."

How many people are now personally involved with the newcomers?

RONALD: "About 20 in one way or another."

What about the problem of burn-out?

GARY: "You have to mix some common sense with compassion. You can't do everything you'd like. You can't submit yourself to every demand. That would create dependency on yourself rather than teaching them independence."

RONALD: "It's from God's Word and His Spirit that I get my encouragement. Sometimes I can get my eyes on the wrong place, but as Christians we learn as we mature in the faith that we must get our encouragement from the Lord and not from circumstances around us."

What spiritual benefit has this ministry brought to your English-speaking congregation?

RONALD: "It helps us evaluate our system of beliefs in the light of Scripture rather than in the light of tradition. You can't give them just cultural Christianity, American Christianity. You've got to separate your culture from the Bible. "And those who have given of themselves in very practical areas—sewing, preparing blankets—experience a blessing in the fruitfulness of such work. They're producing something, making an impact on lives. We have some elderly people who weren't involved in any particular ministry; they were out on the edges. But now they are finding themselves having tremendous impact on people's lives."

GARY: "Also, it really helps to do things as a family. We've had several refugee families live in our house with us. It's done great things for my own children. About a year ago I asked my daughter, who was 16 at the time, 'Dora, what would you like to do when you grow up?' And she said, 'I'd like to work with refugees.' It's had a real impact in her life. She's developed cross-cultural friendships that have done tremendous things for her. "Even in things like family devotions, it was harder to develop consistency when we didn't have others with us. But it's amazing how much interest there is now that my wife and Dora and I are trying to make the Scriptures clear to others while we're having family devotions. It makes the time more exciting because we're not only sharing the Word together but we're sharing it with others at the table."

When I again found the freeway and headed back north, the sight and sounds of the numerous newcomers in my own community came to mind. I hoped I'd be able to see and hear them the way those at Laurel Bible Chapel see and hear the refugees who live near them. □

For more on what your church can do, see the book reviewed on page 16.
Our commitment to evangelism

by Ted W. Engstrom

Thirty-two years ago, World Vision was founded by an enthusiastic young evangelist, Dr. Bob Pierce. Today, you may wonder where World Vision now stands in its commitment to seeing a lost world reconciled to God through His Son Jesus Christ. Do we provide opportunities for people who suffer great physical need to also become followers of Christ, or do we now simply focus on social and economic needs, hoping that others will come along to lead them to the new life in Christ?

The answer—and I want to emphasize it—is that evangelism is at the heart of all we do and say.

When we try to provide aid for people’s basic needs, we don’t do it just as bait on an evangelistic hook. Rather, love “for our neighbor as ourselves” leads us to sincerely care about alleviating their suffering. But that same love leads us also to verbalize the gospel of Christ whenever and wherever we can and to invite hearers to trust Him personally and to encourage them to become responsible members of His church.

In our approach to people in need, we refuse to erect artificial barriers between evangelism and community services. Rather, we choose to let the Holy Spirit lead us to love God and others with abandon, which leads to a Spirit-motivated combination of words and deeds which He can use to glorify Christ and to draw many people to faith and salvation. Thus, evangelism is, and must always be, an integral feature of all our ministries.

Through our range of ministries we are seeking to fulfill both the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.

The Great Commandment, stressed by Jesus in Matthew 22:37-39, tells us to love God totally, with our full energy, and to care for our neglected neighbors with as much love as we lavish on ourselves. It is our keen desire that every member of our staff, worldwide, be steadily and
eagerly growing in loving devotion to God and in compassion for those "neglected neighbors" all around us whom others may pass by.

The Great Commission, given by our Lord in Matthew 28:18-20, tells us to make disciples everywhere. It is our keen desire that the people we help will choose to place their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and that they become His faithful, lifelong disciples, spreading the fragrance of Christ wherever they go.

This motivation was central in World Vision’s very beginning. Today, too, we want to bend all our efforts—together with God’s people everywhere—toward the goal that every people group on earth shall have a viable opportunity to know and follow Jesus Christ.

Our Lord is worthy of the allegiance of all peoples! He, their Creator, has bought them all with His precious blood. In His resurrection He proved His power over sin and death. Today He wants that same power to be at work in the hearts and lives of people everywhere, and to bring healing, forgiveness, justice, courage and eternal life to all who will respond to Him. This we try to share wherever we are privileged to minister.

Bob Pierce, in his ministry, exemplified this integration of evangelism and practical service. He began his ministry as an itinerant evangelist, first traveling throughout the United States and later throughout Asia. Pierce never lost his zeal to bring people to the Savior. That burning desire permeated everything he did and was a dominant influence in the content and direction of the ministries that others carried out under his leadership.

However, when he saw the crying need and severe poverty among dying refugees and among forgotten people in scores of Asian villages, the love of Christ compelled him to “do something, even if everything can’t be done.” (This later became a motto for World Vision.) For him, to be involved in meeting the severe physical need he witnessed was a natural result of following Christ. The same love that drove Pierce to evangelize people, drove him also to provide relief from their physical suffering. His personal prayer, written inside the cover of his Bible, became the mark of the man: “Let my heart be broken with the things that break the heart of God.”

In defining our approach to evangelism, we emphasize two aspects. One is what could be called spontaneous evangelism. The other is intentional evangelism.

Spontaneous evangelism occurs as the body of Christ naturally expresses its love and spiritual gifts...
in a community and thus naturally attracts others to the Lord. It is just natural for World Vision staff members, wherever they are, to share their faith in Christ through their words and their lives. And it is just natural that others will be attracted to the Savior. Also, wherever we can be related to a local church, we seek to help build a strong and vital congregation through which evangelism occurs naturally.

But we also believe in intentional evangelism. By this we mean planning specific activities with the specific intent that people will be introduced to Jesus Christ and will be drawn to follow Him. This often means first discovering who has the desire and gifts for such outreach, and then encouraging them to do it corporately.

Today, every World Vision project or program is seen as a potential opportunity for announcing the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ, to bring people into the fellowship of Christ's church, and for the establishment of God's kingdom throughout the world. Although ministry projects are not entered into simply as an excuse to do evangelism (since the good things we try to do as Christians are a natural outworking of the Holy Spirit within us), part of the good we attempt to do for others includes sensitive, appropriate sharing of the gospel. It is not a question of if but when.

In 85 countries of the world where we conduct some form of ministry, World Vision is only a part of the total process of evangelization. In some places we may be the only sower; in others we may be just one of a whole crew of sowers whom God is using to draw men, women and children to Himself. We may or may not have the joy of seeing the time of reaping, since ultimately it is the Holy Spirit who convicts the world of sin and opens the hearts of people to receive Christ.

In certain circumstances we may be forced to make our proclamation only through our deeds. Even there, we can at least demonstrate the unconditional love of God through loving acts done in the name of Christ. But we will still attempt to understand God's total intention for those we serve. We attempt to be sensitive to the leading of the Spirit. In all of our caring and sharing, we want also to be careful not to shirk the demands that the gospel makes...
upon those who turn to Christ, including the call to righteousness and equitable living. Fundamental to this is the call to new relationships in Christ-centered community with one another.

World Vision finds itself in a unique and challenging position today. We are firmly committed to helping the estimated 2.5 billion unreached people of the world have a genuine opportunity to know and follow Christ. We are also firmly committed to providing immediate and, where possible, long-term assistance to many of the millions of forgotten and neglected "neighbors" on earth whose suffering must not go unheeded.

In many communities we are ministering to people who are both unreached and physically needy. There we have the privilege of demonstrating the love of Christ to people in the entirety of their needs. In other communities or situations, we are only able (or needed) to provide a portion of the total needs of people. But our commitment to an encompassing and complete demonstration of love for others, including sharing the gospel, is unchanging.

We began this article with the question of whether World Vision was still firmly committed to seeing a lost world reconciled to God through His Son Jesus Christ. The answer, simply put, is that evangelism is at the heart of all we do and say. Both spontaneous and intentional evangelism form an integral part of our involvement in ministry, and we believe evangelism will always closely accompany God-inspired love for one's neighbors.

Evangelism is a sacred responsibility in which we continually strive to keep our sense of urgency, keeping clearly in mind the purpose of Christ's incarnation, death and resurrection. The Apostle Paul says of Christ, "He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died for them and was raised again" (2 Corinthians 5:15).

What a privilege is ours to point men and women to the new life in Jesus Christ which begins with receiving Him by faith, leads to following Him in this life, and continues on into eternity in His presence! To this we at World Vision continue to commit ourselves. □
A new year of hope

Today they laugh. Eat. Learn in safety. Know they're loved.

Not so, just 12 months before these Kampuchean youngsters became members of this loving orphanage home.

Their previous year was one of crying. Hunger. Learning only through stark tragedy. Often feeling hated, because with their own eyes many of them had witnessed the brutal killing of parents, brothers, sisters, playmates.

Their first year in World Vision's care began with apprehension on their part. It became a year of hope. And each succeeding year, as they grow toward maturity, is another year of...
precious hope. Hope made possible by the sharing of people who know the God of all hope.

That hope-sharing continued in their city, Phnom Penh, throughout 1982 and it will continue throughout 1983, thanks to the faithfulness of donors.

Meanwhile, homeless girls and boys in many other war-torn nations, notably in Central American countries.

**Children in Central American countries also need THEIR year of hope.**

(Where the children pictured on these pages live) need their year of hope.

Already, hope-sharing Christians are responding to some of these children's needs, thanks to a growing awareness of their timely opportunity to make a lasting difference in such a child's life. Others of these children, however, still wait.

Approximately 400,000 children receive critically-needed help from sponsors living in World Vision's support countries. Eighteen dollars a month provides for a child's basic needs. To become a child's sponsor, please use the envelope from the center of this magazine.
AN INVALUABLE BOOK FOR YOUR CHURCH: THE REFUGEES AMONG US

Consider your refugee neighbors

A movement is afoot throughout most of the world. It's a movement of 15 million people forced to leave their homes, their countries, their roots.

Fifteen million refugees: each with an individual story, an individual tragedy, though most of them move about in large or small groups with others similar to themselves. Some may eventually return to re-establish their citizenship. Many have left their accustomed culture forever. Willingly or reluctantly, they are adjusting to a radically different lifestyle.

What has the gospel to say to the world's refugees? What has your church to say? What have you to say to those within your reach?

The Refugees Among Us, edited by World Vision International's Ed Dayton and Sam Wilson, not only provides specific information on many refugee groups of the world, but also shows how creative local churches and other Christian agencies are reaching their refugee neighbors with the good news of a new life in Jesus Christ. Included are detailed accounts of the efforts of selected churches such as San Diego's Laurel Bible Chapel. Each shares exciting (though sometimes difficult) lessons its people are learning.

Special consultant for this new book (Volume 5 in MARC's annual Unreached Peoples series) is Burt N. Singleton, director of WVI's research and information division. Singleton speaks not merely from theory but from firsthand experience. He was the operations officer on Seasweep, the first rescue ship that swept the South China Sea to aid boat refugees.

A particularly useful appendix is the 22-page listing of publications on unreached peoples, refugees and ministry to refugees, and the names, addresses and phone numbers of refugee-related organizations including international and U.S. government offices, U.S. resettlement agencies and U.S. aid information organizations.

The clarity, conciseness and completeness of this book (500 pages plus), not to mention its timeliness and its practicality, make it an invaluable guide for outreach-minded leaders of every church in the United States, whether their congregations see a mission field moving into their community yet or not. Your church needs at least one copy for the church library, if not for group discussion and action planning. The book is available at $9 per copy (postpaid if you send your check with your order) from MARC, 919 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016. D.O.

For convenience you may order this book by enclosing your payment (by separate check made out to MARC) in the reply envelope furnished in the center of this magazine.

Start the year with Jesus Christ

As you enter 1983, are you confident about your relationship with God? If you feel a need for greater certainty about God's love and acceptance, you can find immeasurable help in the Gospel of John.

In that book's short opening chapter, for example, John shows that all who entrust themselves to Jesus Christ become God's children through the new birth. And in chapter 20, John says his purpose in writing is "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

If you crave spiritual certainty, we at World Vision urge you to read, with open heart and open mind, the entire Gospel of John.

For a free copy of a helpful booklet called "Becoming a Christian," write the editor of WORLD VISION magazine at 919 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016.
Devotional life is more than “devotions.” Yet it depends on activities, one acts devotionally. If, in your “devotions,” you keep track of the time or the activities, no devotion will result. Yet in your cultivation of your devotional life, time and activity are of the essence. It requires time, effort, the use of Christ’s word, psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. 

It also requires participation with others of God’s people. Too often we North Americans interpret Scripture individualistically. We may think, for example, of Paul’s exhortation to “let the word of Christ dwell in you” as referring primarily to our private devotional times. Certainly personal devotional times are important for us all, but the truth is that personal interpretations of Scripture are dangerous.

There are at least three ways to understand the significance of Peter’s statement: “No Scripture is of any private interpretation.” Perhaps the most common understanding is that every passage should be compared with other passages in order to gather a sense of the whole teaching of the Bible. A second understanding (obvious from the context) is that since the Spirit of God gave the Scripture, we must not try to interpret that Scripture without His help. A third understanding is to see, from Peter’s earlier reference to “a chosen nation, a royal priesthood,” the connection with the corporate life of the church. 

In a city in the highlands of Peru, on one occasion, I was delightfully surprised by joyous mountain flute music filling the air. My pleasure was enhanced when I took in the hilarity of the scene in which the mountain Quechuas were making their music. A group of about 12 were standing in the ring, each with an instrument that consisted of varying lengths of bamboo, hollowed out and bound together. The peculiarity of the music-making was that no one individual could have played the melody. The music was a product of their corporate effort. Each musician played only one note at a time, and then had time to move his lips to another reed of his instrument while others played their notes. In folk fashion, as each reed was blown, the Quechua playing the note bowed and bobbed with the effort.

The sight of that animated calliope stirred the joy in my heart. Biblical devotion and Scripture interpretation are like that. Just as the Indian music could not be played or even practiced by any individual in private, the rich dwelling of the word of Christ that teaches, inspires worship and lifts up psalms, hymns and spiritual songs is corporate. It is impossible apart from fellowship in the body of Christ.

Actually, devotional life requires much more than devotional activity. Real worship, I am convinced, means suffusing all of life with zest in conscious service to Christ as King.

In a department store I overheard a young man saying to a friend, “That way I get to stay home two days.” Implied was his failure to see his work as a meaningful part of his life. But a devoted Christian enjoys doing everything in Jesus’ name and in a spirit of thankfulness. Every facet of life is involved, and is transformed by being invested with devotional meaning. The least important detail becomes significant and zestful when it is part of a life of devotion to Jesus Christ. □

Sam Wilson is director of the Missions Advanced Research and Communication Center (MARC), a ministry of World Vision International.

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Colossians 3:16, 17
HEART (Hunger Elimination Action and Resource Training) is a training program in central Florida which teaches holistic ministry students how to cope with life at a subsistence level. HEART courses include animal husbandry, horticulture, primary health care and community living. Courses on water supply, renewable energy and appropriate technology are being planned. For more information write HEART, Warner-Southern College, Lake Wales, FL 33853.

The Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization publishes a bimonthly Lausanne Communiqué through its Strategy Working Group. The Communiqué builds interaction between the network of Lausanne Associates and other people involved in what is now being called the Lausanne Movement. The focus is on carrying the gospel to all the world while focusing on unreached people groups. For a copy of Lausanne Communiqué write the Strategy Working Group, c/o Edward R. Dayton, 919 W. Huntington Dr., Monrovia, CA 91016.

Christian History is a unique new magazine that makes mission movements and personalities of the past intriguing today. For a copy of its first issue, send $2.50 to its office at P.O. Box 540, Worcester, PA 19490.

Youth With A Mission (YWAM) is a multi-faceted agency whose dream is to personally present Christ to every unreached individual on earth in this generation through evangelism, training and mercy ministries. It aims to place 10,000 short-term volunteers each year. For information: YWAM, Box 4600, Tyler, TX 75712.

Scrum Dendo, a ministry of Language Institute for Evangelism (LIFE), needs Christians to serve in Japan next summer in a ten-week evangelistic mission. Volunteers will join others in Tokyo, Osaka or Nagoya to work in local churches, teach English and share their faith with Japanese students. Application deadline is February 15. If interested, write Debbie Fisher, Summer Program Coordinator, LIFE, P.O. Box 200, Alhambra, CA 91802.

Fourteen churches in Portland, Oregon have begun pooling their energies and resources in a neighborhood "Reach-Out." Two full-time coordinators match community members' needs with services available from church volunteers. Services include car repair, babysitting, carpentry, legal aid, housecleaning, tutoring and transportation. The National Association of Evangelicals is producing a manual describing how other churches can establish similar programs.

The Chinese Church Research Center (CCRC) studies, analyzes and reports to the worldwide Christian community on Christian life in China. CCRC also encourages prayer for China's one billion people through a prayer guide entitled China Prayer Letter. Single copies are available free (multiple copies cost $2 per 100) from Christian Nationals Evangelism Commission, 1470 N. Fourth St., San Jose, CA 95112.

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota is helping young girls, some only nine years old, escape lives of prostitution. The girls are victims rather than as criminals, the agency offers them a place to live, job skill training and job placement. The agency, located in St. Paul, Minnesota, also provides psychological and drug abuse counseling.

A transcultural seminar designed for mission and service workers and college students will take place June 27 to July 8 at Eastern Mennonite College (EMC) in Harrisonburg, Virginia. The seminar offers philosophical studies and technical training in four development areas: tropical agriculture, education, health and nutrition. More details are available from Calvin Shenk, EMC, Harrisonburg, VA 22801.

Residents of Brooklyn, New York are saving ten to fifteen cents a gallon on home heating oil this winter through the Brooklyn Energy Co-op. The cooperative, composed of 33 Protestant and Catholic congregations, is fighting the high cost of fuel by purchasing large quantities at reduced rates. Membership is open to all churches and synagogues.

Operation: Wake-Up is a new program aimed at leading young people to Christ and away from lives of crime. Joseph "Poppa Joe" France and Carlo Maenza, two Christian inmates at Jefferson Community Correctional Center in Gretna, Louisiana, pioneered the program. They speak to kids in local detention centers and area churches about the harsh realities of prison life and the new life they have found in Christ. Poppa Joe plans to continue the ministry full-time after his release.

The Biblical Archaeology Society is offering a $1500 travel fellowship to Jerusalem as the prize in an essay contest. Essays between 3000 and 5000 words must deal with such topics as the use of remains to illuminate the Bible, the history of biblical archaeology, or the early spread of Christianity. Entries must be mailed by September 1, 1983 to BAS Biblical Archaeology Essay Contest, 5400 Greystone St., Chevy Chase, MD 20815.
How stark must the peril of nuclear war become before large numbers of thinking American evangelicals prepare to listen seriously to each others’ diverse views on global peacemaking?

Answer: As stark as it is right now.

In May of this year, up to 2000 people from across the nation will gather in Pasadena, California for a four-day conference, The Church and Peacemaking in the Nuclear Age (CPNA), the first such event attempted by evangelicals on such a scale.

Surely it’s high time to seek more biblical light on the world’s nuclear plight. Time, too, to pray together earnestly for deep unity of spirit, if not of action, on this crucial concern.

The conference’s purpose is not to issue prescriptions to governments. Its purpose is to bring about a mutual sharing of knowledge and insights that can lead to many forms of biblically sound, Christ honoring response to the nuclear-age facts of life and death. The potential for good is immense.

Three questions form CPNA’s framework of inquiry, according to its directors’ statement of purpose:

1. What is the present level of development of nuclear weaponry in the United States and the world?
2. How should we understand the problem of nuclear weapons in the light of biblical teaching on war, peace and human rights?
3. How should we, as individual Christians and as the corporate body of Christ, respond to the situation in light of the biblical insights?

The statement continues: “With the advent of nuclear weapons, there is a crucial need for the church to provide both faithful political reasoning and moral integrity. CPNA] seeks to examine the ministry of peacemaking as it relates to the problem of nuclear weapons. This assembly is designed to foster respect among Christians who hold conflicting political positions, and to identify options for acting in response to the Holy Spirit. The conference will provide a format for the full airing of biblical mandates and political realities, to the end that God will be glorified by the peacemaking efforts of His people.”

The program will include Bible study, worship, forums and more than 100 workshops on such subjects as:

- Christian hope and nuclear holocaust
- Christian views on war and peace
- Disciplemaking and peacemaking
- Draft counseling
- The inner life of peacemaking
- The just war theory
- Lifestyles that make for peace
- The medical effects of nuclear war
- The nature of the Soviet threat
- Pacifism and the arms race
- Parenting for peace and justice
- The theological basis of peacemaking
- The Third World and militarism
- Violence in society
- Waging peace

Sponsored by a coalition of evangelical churches, colleges, seminaries and parachurch organizations, the conference was conceived by recent seminary graduates Susan Baldauf and Chuck Shelton, who found key evangelical leaders more than ready to become board members or program leaders.

Said Conservative Baptist Seminary President Emeritus Vernon Grounds: “No more momentous world issue confronts the church today than that of nuclear war. This conference will provide an opportunity for Christians to think together prayerfully about their common concern as followers of the Prince of Peace.”

Billy Graham, who, like Senator Mark Hatfield, at press time had not yet indicated whether he could accept an invitation to address the conference, said, “Eternal truths have meaning for every situation. That is why this conference is concerned with biblical perspectives and the wisdom of Scripture as it sheds light on matters of war, peace, human rights and the problem of nuclear weapons. Let us remind ourselves of James’ statement that ‘the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peaceloving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness’ ” (James 3:17-18).

David Olson

CPNA’s dates are May 25-28, 1982. With registration costing $39 until March 15 or $49 after that date, not including lodging or meals. For more information write Church and Peacemaking, 1539 E. Howard St., Pasadena, CA 91104.
Sponsored musician

Twenty-year-old Henry Abadier never thought he would someday teach music to a group of sponsored children. But that is exactly what he is doing. Henry, formerly a sponsored child, now leads a group of young rondalla players in his home in the Philippines. He became a Christian five years ago at a World Vision youth camp in Batan, and later received training in diesel mechanics through a World Vision vocational training program. He dreams of one day pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering. Until then, he enjoys serving the Lord as a rondalla instructor.

Flooding in El Salvador

World Vision is assisting some 2000 families affected by severe flooding in El Salvador. Working through local churches, World Vision supplied the families with beans, rice, corn, soap, mattresses and blankets. Wood, tin roofing and other building materials helped 500 families restore damaged housing. A rehabilitation program for replanting lost crops is also underway.

Revitalizing arts

A new World Vision project is helping the School of Fine Arts in Kampuchea rehabilitate the nation's traditional art forms after most of the traditional Khmer artists were killed during the Pol Pot era. Nearly 500 children—mostly orphans—ranging in age from 8 to 20, live at the school. In addition to providing art supplies for the students, the project will encourage the development of self-sufficiency by assisting students and staff members with the raising of crops on school property.

Record drought

The worst drought in 30 years to hit Matebeleland (southern Zimbabwe) is affecting more than 400,000 people in three provinces. Rivers and reservoirs are dry, crops are withering, and people and livestock are dying from starvation and lack of water. World Vision is assisting 12,300 families in the Tsholotsho and Beitbridge provinces by supplying desperately needed maize seed for planting before the rainy season.

Philippine typhoons

Igmedio and Mercy Arganda and their four children came through the recent Philippine typhoons with little more than their lives, only to join some 14,000 other Luzon families also left homeless. A massive landslide buried their bamboo house, destroying almost all their possessions and forcing them to move into an unsteady abandoned shack. They, and hundreds like them, were left with no resources for rebuilding. But with the help of World Vision donors, the Argandas are among some 1050 families receiving assistance in rebuilding houses. For them and many others, despair has been replaced with hope.

Fruit farmers

Fission fruit, papaya and other fruit trees are a source of income for many of the people of Nan-shi, Taiwan. World Vision is providing small loan assistance to help these fruit farmers increase their crops and improve their incomes. Even the Nan-shi primary school received a loan to grow passion fruit trees on school property. The profit from the trees will help students purchase school supplies.
supplies. The project also provides monthly seminars on farming techniques and community health, and furnishes school supplies, scholarships, church assistance, Sunday school teachers’ training and evangelical meetings.

**Holistic help**

Holistic development is probably the best way to describe World Vision’s work in the West Irian area of Indonesia. The church is receiving support through evangelical campaigns; 40 students have been sponsored for high school educations; and vocational training (which includes carpentry, sewing and typing) is helping improve incomes. In addition, communications are improving through the repair and construction of roads; medical help is improving community health; and 22 model farms are demonstating improved farming techniques.

**Helping others to help others**

Women from eight villages in Tanzania are learning marketable skills at the Mennonite Domestic Science Center, located in Musoma. World Vision is helping the center to be more effective by providing sewing machines, ovens, typewriters and a grinding machine for food preparation. Poultry-keeping is also taught at the center as a source of income. Daily Bible teaching provides Christian nurture for the women involved.

**Monsoon hits India**

Monsoon rains which hit India shortly after a hot, dry summer caused extensive flooding which resulted in the loss of lives, homes, crops and livestock. Uttar Pradesh was one of the hardest hit states, with some 11 million people affected throughout 19,000 villages. Over 5000 families were affected in the village of Jaspura alone. In cooperation with the Discipleship Center there, World Vision is providing blankets, clothes and other relief supplies to these 5000 families to help them face the approaching winter.

**Award increased**

The annual Robert W. Pierce Award for Christian Service has been more than doubled. Instead of the $7500 incorrectly reported in last month’s magazine, the amount now is $20,000.

**Is God calling you...**

_to work where your efforts will be directly related to saving lives and spreading the Good News? Consider these areas of service and send your resume to John Spencer, International Human Resources, 919 W. Huntington Dr., Monrovia, CA 91016._

**Associate Director, Human Resources—Personnel/human resources manager to provide generalist background with particular experience in salary administration. Must possess 10 years experience in personnel, college degree and effective communication skills. Experience in computerized human resource systems a plus.**

**Journalist, International Communications—Will research information and write articles on WV ministries. Requires BA in communications-related field. Minimum 5 years journalism experience, preferably Third World setting. Must have excellent writing and photography skills.**

**Training Associate—To design and implement programs for project work and management training worldwide. Requires experience in management training, design of training curriculum, use of media and graphics, and cross-cultural issues.**

**Please pray for...**

- **refugees** now living near enough for you and your church to touch.
- **recognition** of your opportunities to help refugee neighbors.
- **ability** to relate well to refugees now while they most need your help.
- **a rich measure** of the spirit of evangelism.
- **children** subjected to the trauma of warfare before their very eyes.
- **World Vision’s** efforts to help suffering children in many countries.

**For women only**

This column usually addresses both women and men. This month, however, we have information for women only.

It is a fact that women live longer than men. So whether you are single or married, one of your concerns is financial security.

We at World Vision want to help you better understand the complexities of your finances and taxes and how they can be put to work for you and the work of World Vision.

For a free copy of “Women’s Financial Planner,” please complete and mail this coupon.

**World Vision**

919 West Huntington Drive
Monrovia, CA 91016

Name________________________________________
Address__________________________________________________________________________
Phone (___)__________________________________________________________
Birthdate(s) ______/Mo/Day/Year  ______/Mo/Day/Year

For a free copy of "Women’s Financial Planner," please complete and mail this coupon.

PG183
Many Vietnamese persons dead, 290 injured, 194,200 left homeless and 68,980 pneumonia and gastroenteritis top the list. Weakened by the reduction in the rice harvest, the northern provinces is said to have caused a 152,900 hectare homes destroyed. Flooding of rice paddy fields in the sanitation they suffered at the hands of typhoon Nancy. In the range of deadly diseases. Along with measles, broncholack of adequate food, they become highly susceptible to a range of deadly diseases. Along with measles, bronchopneumonia and gastroenteritis top the list.

Anti-personnel bombs in Laos are still a danger to civilians, even though the war there ended eight years ago. Between 1969 and 1974, U.S. planes dropped 400,000 tons of bombs on Xieng Khouang province, and today bombs still litter the countryside. Officials there report 30 deaths annually, in addition to scores of maiming incidents when bombs are accidentally detonated. Despite severe food shortages, many fields lie idle because farmers fear encountering buried bombs when they plow or hoe the soil.

Major General Kermit B. Johnson, retired chief of chaplains for the United States Army, said recently, "The undue reliance on force by both the United States and the Soviet Union is characterized by nuclear overkill, indiscriminate arms peddling, and the wasting of precious human and national resources in an unending arms race." and "There can be no peace in a world whose obsession with security leads to a never-ending arms race."

Violence is the number one health problem in the United States, says Surgeon General C. Everett Koop. People between the ages of 15 and 24 are most affected. More than 15,000 die in auto accidents each year. Suicide is the third leading cause of death among young males and the fourth among young females. Dr. Koop added that family financial problems, isolation and television often lead to violence.

Childhood games and the causes of war may be more closely linked than previously thought. In his extensive review, Childhood Toys, Sporting Games and the Seeds of War, post-war Germanics scholar Alan Frank Keele argues that the nature of childhood play is a critical factor in creating a war mentality. "It is in apparently insignificant customs and institutions ... that the seeds of dictatorship, war and genocide first manifest themselves. The more involved with aggressive games one becomes, the more violence is generated."

"For prisons," says Mark Hatfield, U.S. senator from Oregon, "what we as a people must do is strike a balance that carefully joins elements of punishment and rehabilitation in the best interest of society. Our system of corrections must allow for a healing process between the offender and the community if the released offender is ever to be assimilated into the mainstream of society."

Gambling addicts in the United States number six to nine million, according to Psychology Today writer Johnny Greene. Robert Politzer, director of the Johns Hopkins University Compulsive Gambling Counseling Center, estimates that "each compulsive gambler disrupts the lives of 10 to 17 others, including relatives, creditors and co-workers.

**Globe at a glance**

Starvation is being faced by two million people in southern Africa as drought lays waste a swath including Zimbabwe, Botswana, Mozambique and South Africa. In two southern Zimbabwe provinces, virtually every reservoir has dried up, forcing authorities to slaughter cattle before they die of thirst. Meteorologists consider the situation one of the worst climatic disasters in the region's history.

Russian leader Yuri Andropov, under worldwide scrutiny as he steps to the helm of the Soviet Union, is emerging as a shrewd, tough politician, yet one open to new ideas. He is said to be suspicious of dogmatic approaches and receptive to innovation. Concerning relations with the United States, Andropov seems open to meeting Washington halfway in improving at least the atmosphere of those relations.

In Czechoslovakia, Billy Graham told reporters after his weeklong preaching visit to that country, his "expectations" had been "more than fulfilled." He was able to proclaim the gospel freely and have fellowship with Czech believers. He also voiced hope that he had made a contribution to world peace by pointing out the moral and spiritual implications of the arms race.

Notable recent improvements in the Guatemalan government's treatment of its people under President Rios Montt are described by many of that nation's citizens despite the continuing confusion in various sectors due to the intensity and extent of several years of civil strife.

Measles is the second highest killer in Zimbabwe, some doctors estimate, mainly because of the effects of malnutrition. Children under five suffer the most, accounting for roughly half of all the deaths in that country every year. Weakened by the lack of adequate food, they become highly susceptible to a range of deadly diseases. Along with measles, bronchopneumonia and gastroenteritis top the list.

Many Vietnamese are struggling to recover from the devastation they suffered at the hands of typhoon Nancy. In the Nghe Tinh province, most severely hit by the disaster, UNDRO (United Nations Disaster Relief Organization) reports 70 persons dead, 290 injured, 194,200 left homeless and 68,980 homes destroyed. Flooding of rice paddy fields in the northern provinces is said to have caused a 152,900 hectare reduction in the rice harvest.
You would enjoy knowing the people who direct the World Vision ministries within each of our field countries. I do.

It was my privilege recently to meet with all 34 of our international field directors during a two-week conference held near Sydney, Australia. What a unique blend of personalities, nationalities, training, educational background and spiritual pilgrimages were represented!

It was the first meeting of them all in four years. In fact, 27 of them had not attended the 1978 gathering, simply because they have been appointed since that conference. Many of the directors came to World Vision from highly successful careers in business, education or public service. A good number of them have doctorates in their respective fields.

Some had come to Christ at an early age and had benefited from Christian parenting and spiritual guidance through their formative years. Others had come to Christ in their adulthood and could rejoice over obvious transformations in their lives, attitudes and ambitions. All had been asked to keep a personal spiritual journal through a period of time just prior to the conference so that they could share their lives together more intimately and openly.

The sharing times were precious.

A wide range of needs were represented among these colleagues. Some, from certain of the war-torn countries in Central America, East Africa or the Middle East, had come to the conference nearly exhausted or feeling deep frustration because of tense situations. Others came seeking (and happily finding!) an oasis in which they could express deep, burning questions about whether the body of Christ can minister effectively in a world riddled with crisis and stubborn inequities. All were learning, growing, becoming more effective in ministry.

It is through the leadership and direction of such men and women that the worldwide ministry of World Vision is carried on. Not only do these people carefully utilize over $150 million for ministry annually, but they translate into the "languages" of their respective countries the commitment of World Vision to demonstrate the love of God in action and to call the lost to be reconciled to God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Having met personally with these fine field directors, I feel a continuing confidence in their maturity, experience and ability to provide quality ministry in each place, even under the most adverse conditions. They are superbly qualified not only from the standpoint of skills, but from the standpoint of their love for and commitment to Jesus Christ. It is gratifying to know that they are "spreading His fragrance" wherever they go.

I am pleased to give to you, our partners in ministry, this firsthand report on those who direct World Vision's ministries within the various nations where they serve. Their leadership, stewardship and solid witness for Christ, together with your faithful partnership, provide the kind of concerted team effort needed for the lost and hurting people of today's world. I am extremely grateful for the ministry these field directors carry out in partnership with you.

Ted W. Engstrom, President

Together from around the world: the 34 field directors and several of the international office personnel.
Meet My Friend
John Louie

I met him in a remote mountain village in Haiti.

That little smile you see is rare. John Louie doesn’t have much to smile about. Two other children in his family have already died from disease carried by contaminated water and poor sanitation.

**Poverty is a way of life here.** John Louie’s mother makes about 80 cents a day. There has been no work at all for his father.

**John Louie doesn’t understand poverty.** All he knows is that there is little to ease the hunger that gnaws at his insides day after day. His parents love him very much. But when your child is hungry, hurting and cold... sometimes love is not enough.

But recently, a miracle came to John Louie’s little mountain village. And it came through the World Vision Childcare program.

World Vision Childcare sponsors brought sparkling clean water to John Louie’s village by digging a deep-water well. His father is learning how to raise chickens for a new source of family income.

And the family is also learning to believe in a personal God who loves and cares—and in the process, they’re learning how to love, understand and appreciate each other. Those are things money can’t buy.

If you can sponsor a child for just $18 a month, I hope you will, because, believe me, there are thousands more like my little friend John Louie who desperately need help.

You will receive a brief biography and photo of your child, plus plenty of opportunities to share special times together by exchanging letters and pictures. But more important, you will get the tremendous personal satisfaction of knowing that you’ve really made a difference in someone’s life.

**So please...** fill out the coupon below and mail it today.

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**CLIP AND MAIL TODAY**

YES, I want to sponsor a child.
I will send $18 a month to help provide food, clothing, medical care, education, community development—whatever is necessary to improve my child’s quality of life—and help provide Christian teaching that puts God’s gift of life in the proper perspective.

- Enclosed is my first Childcare sponsorship gift which I will send...
  - annually ($216)
  - quarterly ($54)
  - monthly ($18)

- I cannot be a Childcare sponsor at this time, but I want to do what I can. Here’s my gift of $______ to help a needy child.

Name __________________________
Address __________________________
City/State/Zip __________________________
Telephone (area code) __________

Mail to: WORLD VISION CHILDCARE
Box O • Pasadena, California 91109