

IBC *Perspectives*

Apostolic Information Service

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Fred Foster: Pioneer Of Growth!

AIS Salutes Apostolic Pioneers

Living in Indianapolis gives a person a tremendous sense of his Pentecostal heritage. Not too far distant is the church founded by G.T. Haywood in the early part of this century. Also, Calvary Tabernacle itself is a testament to the legacy left by our Pentecostal forefathers, not the least of which is Bro. Nathaniel A. Urshan himself.

It was this sense of respect for Pentecost's founding generation that was the impetus for this issue of *Perspectives*. The editors have decided to dedicate this issue as a tribute to our Pentecostal pioneers. Our feature article is about Bro. Fred Foster of West Monroe, LA. Bro. Foster has founded churches, Bible schools and blazed the trail in Pentecost for several outreach methods.

Then, in "Plainly Speaking," we feature a conversation with Bro. J.T. Pugh. Bro. Pugh is a Pentecostal Pioneer who has served the church as a pastor, General Home Missions director and author, as well as many other capacities.

And finally, Bro. O.C. Marler presents his own tribute to our Apostolic forefathers in this month's guest editorial. We hope you enjoy this issue and will see for yourself the debt of gratitude we owe to the veterans of Pentecost.

Speaking of Fred Foster, one of his accomplishments was in making bus ministry a popular outreach in Apostolic churches. For information on improving your own bus outreach, have your modem dial the Apostolic Information Service electronic database at (317)781-7700. Or call voice at (800)8000-AIS.

--Richard C. Brown, Managing Editor



Bro. and Sis. Fred Foster, pastor of First United Pentecostal Church in West Monroe, Louisiana. The Fosters have served the congregation for 24 years, since 1970. During this time, they took the congregation from a size of 375 to nearly a thousand.

Talk about American pioneers and you'll hear names like Daniel Boone or Lewis and Clark mentioned. The pioneering spirit is not limited to the dead, however, as demonstrated by Pastor Fred Foster of West Monroe, LA. For most of his life, Bro. Foster has been blazing new trails within the Apostolic movement.

Consider just a few of accomplishments: He has founded two churches, two Bible schools (including the "Twin Cities University" that he now operates), and was at the forefront of the move to bring bus ministry to Pentecost. Further, in the 24 years of his pastorate at First United Pentecostal Church in West Monroe, he has taken the congregation from about 375 to nearly a thousand in Sunday morning attendance. And even now, at age 67, Foster's pioneering days show no sign of fading away.

Born in 1927, Bro. Foster was the son of an Oklahoma farmer and carpenter. Foster's rugged spirit was forged by the some of the most difficult events of the 20th century. He was raised during the Great Depression and served in the Navy during World War II.

However, it was the events of Foster's

college days which helped propel him into the pioneering ventures that have characterized his life. Foster went to the University of Mexico, (Continued on page three)

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B Y R I C H A R D C . B R O W N



Rex Johnson
Pastor
Austin, TX

Jesus Christ demonstrated our obligation to take the Gospel to the whole world, including the Charismatics. Jesus said, "I must needs go through Samaria." The Samaritans were in that day what I term the Charismatics of our day: They were the half-breeds, half Gentile and half Jew.

This is representative of today's Charismatics, who are Spirit-filled but not baptized in Jesus' name.

So how do we reach them? First, we've got to have better church than we're having. We can't do it with just staid doctrines with not worship accompanying it. We've got to put worship with our doctrine. Furthermore, we've got to see signs, wonders and miracles. In short, there needs to be an old-fashioned revival of prayer break through until the power of God endues us.

Secondly, we've got to maintain our own principles and convictions. We, as a kingly people, don't need to water down what we have. When you start becoming what they are to reach them, you won't pull them out; they will pull you down. Sadly, the UPC has lost some people who have reached out to Charismatics - people who became like the Charismatics to reach them. Remember that a king does not become a pauper just so he can share supper with a pauper.



How Do We Reach The Charismatics?



Janet Trout
Bible College President
Dover, DE

It would be counter-productive to view Charismatics as a group. Instead, it's safer to view them and reach out to them on a personal level. Here are guidelines I would suggest:

First, if we're reaching out, we've got to reach beyond ourselves. I think it's all right for us to go to their events and to be on their radio stations. I'd also like to see our articles and ads for our events in their publications. Who can tell: Maybe they'll attend! I think we in the UPC are far too cloistered. We're viewed as a "cult" because we circulate only among ourselves, and as a result, we've limited our opportunities by creating a wall that really shouldn't be there. Don't misunderstand. I believe Truth, I embrace Truth, I defend Truth. But that doesn't give me a license to pull my holy garments about me and forbid anybody else to come near me or me to go to them.

Second, it's not wise to discount whatever experience these people have had with the Lord. You must affirm the experience that has brought them to this point, and take them from the known to the unknown.

God has blessed us with Truth, but remember that He is not limited in what He can do in this Earth. Let's not seek to limit God to our movement.



James Hobbs
Pastor
Owasso, OK



Wayne McClain
Pastor
Houston, TX



Ken Bolinger
Pastor
Alma, IL



Thomas D. Cardwell
Pastor
Dequincy, LA



James Nations
Pastor
Raymond, MS



Jack Yonts
Pastor
Elgin, IL

There's a tremendous amount of Charismatics in this area, and many of them have backslidden from the truth. So the main tool we should use with them is truth. Primarily, we should focus on the Oneness of God. It used to be that we could focus on the Spirit baptism, since it was unique with us. But we can't do that with the Charismatics.

My personal feeling is that there's only a small percentage of Charismatics that can be reached, because so many of them have closed their minds to Apostolic doctrine. Yes, we should be friends with them, yet without compromising. But it will take a real move of God to convince them of the validity of the Apostolic experience.

We have an obligation to reach out to everyone, including Charismatics. However, we should do so from a position of doctrinal strength on our part. That is, with the understanding that we don't go their way; they go ours.

I don't know of any way to reach Charismatics other than the Bible way of just loving them. It's unwise to just lambast and insult them publicly. You accomplish nothing that way. Don't speak rashly to them, but use good judgment.

The best way to win anybody, including Charismatics, is to first win their confidence. If you can get a person to trust you for who you are, then the truth begins to penetrate his spirit. So I like to first just try to make friends, and go through a friendly channel. I try not to criticize them, but rather, start wherever they are and lead them into the truth.

Most of them are convinced that they're saved, so it's best not to try a hard sell approach. The best approach would probably be the written word, because many of them are readers. Also, you can't confront them. It's like feeding at the table. You put food on the table, and if they want to eat it, they can. If they don't, there's nothing you can do.

Next Month's Topic:
Apostolics And The TV Question
If you would like to give your opinion on this topic, send comments and photo to: A.I.S., P.O. Box 47917, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46247

Fred Foster: Pioneer Of Growth!

(Continued from page one)

pursuing a career in football coaching. But there, Foster met Sis. Foster.

"My wife, who was not my wife at the time, invited me to her church, even though she wasn't saved herself yet. So we both went to Bethel Pentecostal Church that Sunday; both of us came to God that night."

Foster said that he soon came to realize that God did not want him in athletics, but had a special work for him. "So at the end of the semester, I changed to Pentecostal Bible Institute in Tupelo, MS.

"A lot of preachers came from PBI at about that time. People like Eugene McClintock, Edwin Judd, and George Sponsler."

While at Pentecostal Bible Institute, Bro. Foster married his wife. "She worked my way through college," Foster said. And it was there at PBI that the Fosters launched their "pioneer expeditions." Through the years, Foster, who eventually obtained his doctorate degree, has launched churches, Bible schools and unique outreach ministries.

To Cedar Grove

Unlike most Bible college students, Bro. Foster did not wait until graduation to start a church. "While I was in Bible college," Foster said, "we started a new church that is still going at Tupelo. The Cedar Grove Pentecostal Church is still there today.

"We started the church with another couple. We began under a brush arbor in the summer time." Yet by the following January, Foster said, they already had a building with over a hundred in Sunday School. "We averaged between a hundred and two hundred."

To Texas

Foster graduated from PBI in 1951, evangelized for a while, then came back and pastored the Cedar Grove Church for a short period." Then, he started another church. "We went to Albuquerque, my home town, and started a church. That was in 1954."

The Fosters' pioneering exploits continued into the state of Texas. After four years in Albuquerque, they took the pastorate of the church in Orange, TX. It was there that Foster took on one of his most ambitious projects, the founding of a Bible college.

"When I was in my 20s in Albuquerque and building a new work," Foster recalled, "God spoke to me about starting a college. So I did a little research, and I came up with the idea that Houston would be the best place to start a new college. There was no school in that area, yet there were so many churches. I didn't know how God was going to do it. I even talked to the

former Texas superintendent and Sunday school director about it. I was just a kid in their eyes, so as far as they were concerned, it was an impossibility. But then, God opened the Orange, Texas church. That was a miracle, because I was a nobody, and there were a lot of "somebods" who wanted it."

"So while I was in Orange, I started a Saturday morning school for the area preachers. Then, another man and I took a resolution to the Texas District Conference to start a college in Texas. It passed, and we had a board of directors appointed. There were a lot of people on that board: J.T. Pugh, James Kilgore, Arless Glass, and we were all young guys together. We were all in our 30s. It was amazing: Young men doing this together."

The result: The board leased property at 816 Evergreen in Houston, which they later purchased. "We started with 54 students the first year," Foster said. By the fourth year, the school ran about 400 students, a number they held for several years.

To West Monroe

Then things changed. "My commitment to God had been to spend the rest of my life in Christian education and Bible college work. But I came to know that God had something else for me. We began praying for two years. By the first of December, 1969, I heard about West Monroe." According to Foster, Bro. T.F. Tenney was serving as acting pastor of the church, as Pastor E.W. Caughron, Tenney's father-in-law, was in the hospital for heart problems. Bro. Caughron resigned the church, and Tenney was elected foreign missions director, which left the West Monroe church open.

"After a couple of weeks, in 1969, I called Bro. Caughron and told him that I could not get his church out of my mind. He set it up for me to go up there the first Sunday in January, 1970." Foster was voted in the following week, on January 13, as the new pastor.

It was during this decade that Foster began to experience significant growth. The key to much of it: bus ministry. While this outreach had



"New Building Perspective"



Top: The current facilities at West Monroe's First United Pentecostal Church. Middle: Sunday night service at West Monroe. Bottom: Artist's conception of the projected new facilities at First United Pentecostal Church.

been around for years in other denominations, Foster was one of the original pioneers of its use within Apostolic ranks.

"We built our bus ministry in a big way," said Foster. "Some people thought it was maybe the best one in Pentecost at the time. Mark [Foster, his son] and I both preached several bus ministry conferences. We pushed it big."

(Continued on page 14)

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*Bro. and Sis. Kent Thomas
and son Bro. Jeff Thomas*

The Thomas family has designed and built a wide variety of commercial, custom residential, and church projects since 1970. Over the years they began to recognize that churches are better served by a unique approach to planning and construction.

Ω mega Church Consultants, Inc. was founded in 1991 expressly to meet those specific needs. At that time the Thomases decided to devote their experience of the past 21 years toward helping churches to meet the challenges of growth by offering a comprehensive package of services including consulting, architectural design, master planning, renderings, models, financial direction, real estate services, budgeting, and construction management.

Ω mega was created to offer a step by step, "Phased Approach" to take the waste, risk, complexity and unnecessary cost out of the design and building process.

The Thomases view the services that are offered by Ω mega as a six-day-a-week ministry. Since 1981 Bro. and Sis. Thomas have also ministered each Sunday at Carmel Care Convalescent Center in connection with Calvary Tabernacle Church, Indianapolis.

Ω mega retains an architectural staff which at present consists of two architects and two CAD draftsmen with hundreds of church projects to their credit. The Thomases bring vast experience to this ministry. Kent has managed construction projects from West Virginia to Louisiana over the past 25 years. Jeff earned a B.S. in Business Administration in 1981 and became a real estate broker the same year. He also has designed dozens of commercial, residential and church projects since joining the family business thirteen years ago.

Before founding Ω mega Church Consultants, Inc. the Thomases found that the standard practice utilized by many churches was the same as that employed by many commercial clients, i.e. a commercial architect was hired to design the church facility, then bids were solicited from several general contractors. The congregation often would then discover that they had spent a great deal of money for a design they could not afford to build.

The Ω mega system results in less risk and less cost because feasibility and budgets are established before proceeding with construction drawings. In essence, churches are offered an additional and very valuable service, at no cost, when the design is halted at the bid plan stage and the project is bid by subcontractors and suppliers local to the church. This approach results in an accurate building cost estimate before the church makes a commitment to the completion of the construction drawings. This service is included in the low architectural fee. The process also gives the local bidders input into the design, which often results in cost-effective alternative methods and materials.

The Ω mega system is proven and has resulted in significant, verifiable savings to many church clients.

Ω mega has numerous projects in various stages of completion with independent Apostolic church congregations, the United Pentecostal Church International, the Shepherd's Home, the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, and others.



Please contact Ω mega for more information and references.

Ω mega Church Consultants, Inc.

P. O. Box 19773, Indianapolis, IN 46219
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■ LEGAL

Can you explain to me how the issue of minimum wage affects ministries such as the church's Christian school or day-care?

Owen Taylor

The issue of minimum wage and the church (particularly the church's day-care) are governed by the Fair Labor Standards Act. The Act was designed to protect employees from substandard wages and excessive working hours. Basically, the Act states that employers must pay its employees minimum wages, one and one-half wages for over 40 hours. It further requires equal pay for equal work regardless of gender. The Act controls all employers engaged in interstate commerce. The term "interstate commerce" means that the "product" travels over state lines.

In 1966, the Congress made the Act specifically state that it covered "any preschool, elementary or secondary school, or an institution of higher education." This includes such institutions that are operated by churches. Further, the Department of Labor has issued a publication that states that the term "preschool" includes a church-operated child-care facility. Individuals who volunteer their services are not employees, but a volunteer may not be both a volunteer and an employee.

A church, to the extent that it engages in "commerce" must pay those employees minimum wage. For instance, a church engaged in publishing, sending materials outside of its state, has been ruled engaged in commerce and is required to pay minimum wage. Other types of activities may also be "commerce" and subject to minimum wage.

So, church schools, pre-schools and day-care centers are clearly covered, and other activities that can be called interstate commerce which meet certain levels of gross revenues may also be covered and you must pay minimum wage. Concerning issues beyond schools and day-care, seek competent tax or legal advice.



■ MINISTRY

I'm a new pastor. How do you effect change in a church where certain views held by the congregation are different from your own views?

Paul Mooney

Although your question is a real-life question, it's one we are all a bit uncomfortable with and seldom discuss. But at the risk of rushing in where wise men dare not tread, I'll make a comment or two.

Hopefully, congregations and newly-elected pastors have established the absolutes with respect to doctrines and such. Belonging to an organization would indicate to a congregation or church board that you hold certain general (corporate) views. Your own ethical standards and character come into play here. If you accept the pastorate knowing full well that you do not share the basic doctrine that the church has held traditionally, then you have violated personal ethics that should have caused you to step up and reveal this about yourself, whether you were asked or not. If a congregation finds you've been dishonest in this sacred area, you're just marking time. And the congregation's anger would be justified.

On the other hand, there are many things that new leadership may change regarding general views that do not involve absolute doctrinal points. In this case, the new pastor, over time, may bring to bear his arguments that will then affect people's concepts. This is positive and represents good leadership. Being honest, prepared to answer questions, thoughtful and sensitive will help you accomplish much. However, being ruthless, overbearing, demanding, and unwilling to create dialogue privately or publicly will doom your efforts. A word of caution should also be noted: When one draws a line in the sand and calls for a fight over some trivial aspect of church life or disciplines, he runs the risk of losing more than he would gain.



■ FAMILY

I hate to ask a general question, but our problems are so varied, it's hard to narrow down to one question. However, I will ask: When on almost all points there is confusion, who does what?

O. C. Marler

The question is so general and unusual, it makes me want to answer it. I will attempt to do so in a general way - the way in which it was asked. I think you should do the same as businesses do when they don't know where they are. They close down and take inventory, unless they are on some kind of super computer system (and apparently you are not).

One of the first things you must check is the spiritual supply - the inflow and outflow. When are we going to realize that God must have first place in our lives for things to operate properly! God controls the communication lines. And as you know, nothing moves without communication.

You say everything is broken at your house? Obviously you can't just keep using things that are broken. You must fix them. Now, those are general instructions, but they're not so simple to implement.

So read the directions. Go carefully over everything you know about getting along with people. If you put in practice the process of getting along with others, it will work in your home nine times out of ten. We usually treat others better than we do the ones we love.

If you have stopped courting, you are in more trouble than you thought you were. Have you started to cook lately and had to take inventory to see what you needed from the store? (See there! Simple, ain't it?)

Even though I have kidded with you some, I do feel you are overwhelmed and swept away. You must clear your head and heart. The quicker you realize that things are the way they are, and not the way you wish they were, the sooner you can implement action to correct.



■ OUTREACH

Why do some churches grow and others do not? What causes a growing church to stagnate?

T. W. Massengale

In traveling across America, I have observed both growing and stagnating churches. I have found that there are typically seven conditions found in churches that were not growing:

1) *Reaching non-Christians was a low priority.* What should have been the heartbeat of the entire church was diminished enormously as a priority in the minds of its members. The pastor allowed non-outreach activities to continually push evangelism activities aside.

2) *Reaching the lost was a low priority for most of its members.* Very few of the members felt able to share their faith. This was something the pastor was supposed to do.

3) *Most of their evangelism methods were relatively ineffective in winning souls.* The bottom line of any outreach method is this: *Does it bring results?* Are souls being saved? Many churches are seeing little growth as a result of their evangelistic programs, and no effort is made to explore new approaches to evangelism.

4) *Evangelism focused on conversion only, not on making true disciples.* They saw the altar and baptismal tank as the end of their responsibility. They didn't realize that the altar is only the beginning of a process that includes making the convert into a strong Christian able to win others.

5) *There was little or no emphasis on training members for evangelism.* Training in per-

sonal evangelism, home Bible study instruction, visitor follow-up, altar working, bus ministry and other similar instruction is almost never taught to the members.

6) *Conversion was made too simple, with little or no cost involved.* In their desire to see souls saved, they've presented a gospel without cost. When people fail to truly repent and don't have a true conversion, they don't stick.

7) *Evangelism was little discussed and less practiced.* Outreach has taken an "out of sight, out of mind" position. Because of this, no opportunity is provided for the Holy Ghost to convict those who are not involved.

If you would like to send in a question to one of these ministers for their consideration, please address it to:
 News Editor-AIS Perspectives
 P.O. Box 47917
 Indianapolis, IN 46247

■ RELIGION

Churches' Membership Up

Most of the nation's 10 largest Christian denominations either remained stable or increased slightly from 1991 to 1992, according to *The Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches*, released in March. However, the 32 member churches of the National Council of Churches reported a loss of about 0.17 percent during the same time. Other findings according to *The Yearbook*:

Total giving from 1991 to 1992 increased in seven denominations that normally report their contributions. However, giving did not always keep pace with inflation. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the United Church of Christ both saw decreases in giving.

Per member giving as a percentage of per capita disposable income declined between 1968 and 1991.

In constant 1987 dollars, per member contributions to "benevolences" (activities beyond the local congregation) was less in 1991 than it was in 1968. In 1968, per member contributions averaged \$64.14, while in 1991 it averaged \$62.69. This represented a decrease of \$1.45.

■ AMERICAN LIFE

Gambling Hurts Communities

Legalized gambling is gaining steam in communities across the country. But so too is evidence that such gambling is actually more harmful than helpful.

Currently, 34 states have some sort of lottery program in operation, primarily to raise state revenues. In addition, Missouri voted last March to approve riverboat gambling, and similar measures are being considered in Oklahoma and North Carolina.

Yet, according to the April 9 issue of *World* magazine, "Opponents of state-sanctioned gaming are finding enough evidence to show that gambling doesn't live up to its promoters' promises of free money and consequence-free recreation." *World* quoted U.S. Attorney Tom Heffelfinger as saying, "I don't think anybody anticipated the level of theft would be occurring because some are addicted to gambling." He pointed out that Minnesota has suffered an increase in petty thefts, felony embezzlements and hot checks following the state's approval of gambling.

World, quoting from the *Boston Globe*, said: "When the [flow] of lottery ticket purchases slows. . . states ratchet up their advertising or graduate to more hard-core forms of gambling, like video, slot machines or casinos, taking a healthy share of the winnings."



■ MEDIA

TV News Shows Are Anti-Religion

Network news shows generally portray religion or religious values in a negative light, according to a new study by the Media Research Center (MRC).

Researchers from the organization surveyed all four networks' morning, evening and magazine stories on religion and social issues during 1993. According to the results:

Only 212 stories out of many thousands focused on religion. Magazine shows presented only 18 such stories. Most coverage showed an anti-religious bias, focusing on clerical sex abuse, the "religious right," and polls claiming that traditional values are unpopular.

Further, MRC found that most stories on abortion portrayed abortion-rights advocates in a favorable light, while usually showing pro-life activists as violent.

■ SOCIETY

Working Women Increase Divorce

A recent study of married women in Puerto Rico suggests that working outside the home may contribute to an increased divorce rate.

Researchers from the University of Maryland and Washington State University analyzed the relationship between female employment and divorce in the U.S. commonwealth. Demographers there have noted "rapid increases in both the rate of female labor force participation and the rate of divorce" in recent years.

One possible cause that has been suggested for this link: Working women find their time and energy strained, striving to care for their husbands and children while caring for their outside careers at the same time.

■ MORALITY

Florida Flip-Flops On Gay Rights

See if you can follow this: The Florida Supreme Court has said "no" to an initiative that would let voters say "yes" to a law that says "no" to a former law that said "yes" to homosexual rights. Okay, let's try it a little more slowly this time.

In the early 1990s, Tampa, FL enacted a gay rights ordinance that cited homosexuals as being covered by special civil rights protection. Then in 1992, the American Family Association led a successful campaign to strike down the ordinance. The AFA has since been pushing for a constitutional amendment banning any special protection on the basis of "characteristic, trait, status or condition other than race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, ethnic background, marital status or familial status."

The Florida Supreme Court took note of this initiative and decided to take matters into its own hands. They have declared the AFA-sponsored amendment violates the procedures for amending the constitution. According to the court, all initiatives must deal with only one subject, and the summary which appears on the ballot has to clearly summarize the text of the amendment.

Representatives of the AFA aren't buying the court's reasoning, claiming that a pro-gay bias tilted the court this direction. David Caton, president of the Florida AFA said the amendment addresses only one subject, and that the court's decision was "a very politically oriented decision to prevent any kind of a vote by the people of Florida to stop special rights for homosexuals."

■ CHURCH & STATE

Yellow Pages Remove Religion

Two St. Cloud, MN nursing homes will no longer be allowed to use religious symbols in their Yellow Pages ads. That's the decision by the U.S. West telephone company, rendered earlier this spring.

According to the Evangelical Press News Service, St. Benedict's Center and the Good Shepherd Lutheran Home were told that their use of religious symbols violated the federal Fair Housing Act. The Fair Housing Act bans discrimination in housing based on religious preference. St. Benedict's Center has, for several years, used its logo, which is a Christian cross. Good Shepherd Lutheran's Home, on the other hand, was required to remove its shepherd staff logo. Also, both homes were told that they could only use their names once in the ads because of their religious nature.

Total Christian Woman

about their worth as a human being in the kingdom of God, as well as how to overcome problems that are uniquely women's.

Sis. Maracich, wife of Pastor Benjamin Maracich of Utica, NY, first got the vision for Total Christian Woman from her own career. Presently she teaches a "Women In Transition" Course at a local college. She has adapted principles from this class to show Apostolic women that "Jesus Christ wants them to be successful in their choices and decisions."

Among subjects taught in the Total Christian Woman Seminar: Self esteem; Christian communication skills centering on conflict resolution, speaking assertively but not aggressively; body language; decision making and goal setting; time management; and stress management.

Sis. Maracich said she has been troubled by the shallowness of much teaching for Apostolic

ladies. "I have been to many women's conferences and meetings, and as an observer, I have seen women come who were totally distressed. Yet often, if they go to their pastor, they are told to just pray about it. We try to get them to shout a little bit, we lay hands on them, and we tell them to submit some more. It's like the book of James. James said that some people will look at somebody who is hungry, and say, 'Oh, be filled.' But the person walks away still hungry and sick. James said that's shallow religion."

As an extension of Total Christian Woman, Sis. Maracich soon hopes to start a network for professional Apostolic women, that would allow women of like professions to provide support and trade advice back and forth. For information on Total Christian Woman or the network for professional Apostolic women, contact Sis. Maracich at 486 Tryon Road., Utica New York 13502. Or call (315)732-0004.



Becky Maracich

Total Christian Woman: To Sis. Becky Maracich, this is not just the title of a ministry she started less than a year ago. It is, instead, Sis. Maracich's goal for every Apostolic lady.

"We in Apostolic ranks have not allowed our women develop a sense of esteem or to contribute outside of their marriage." Total Christian Woman aims to correct that by helping the Apostolic woman to develop emotionally, spiritually; both in the home and at work. Through her ministry, Sis. Maracich hopes to teach women

Christian Conservatives

Jeff Watts is fighting back. Watts, a youth minister at the Schaumburg (IL) UPC, pastored by Bro. Jack Yonts, hopes to help make a dent in the new wave of anti-Christian values sweeping the nation through his Christian Conservative Network.

Bro. Watts started CCN last year as an attempt to lobby lawmakers for Christian values. "We are an action awareness network," he said. "We're trying to raise the awareness of Christians to the political and social issues that affect Christians and conservatives. We hope to become a very powerful lobby group within our state."



Jeff Watts

Part of CCN's ministry is a monthly newsletter which they started publishing in January. Watts said it's "a way to inform everybody about anti-Christian efforts" such as gay rights, abortion and education.

Bro. Watts said that even though all denominations are welcome to participate in his ministry, he hopes other Apostolics will catch the vision. "The sad thing is that most churches outside of the UPC are getting involved in the political process. But from my experience, UPC churches are reluctant to get involved. That's unfortunate. Every church that cares about what's going on today needs to get involved."

Watts said he hopes to expand the ministry in the future. "We hope to branch out into the Midwest in future years. And we would like, in the far future, to go nationwide."

"Liberalism is destroying the country" Watts commented. "So regardless of how insignificant people may think they're vote is, we still have to stand for what's right." For more information on Christian Conservative Network, write P.O. Box 695, Streamwood, IL 60107.

Mark Foster Appointed Home Missions Secretary

Bro. Mark Foster has been newly-appointed as the UPCI's Home Missions Secretary. Foster, formerly the pastor of Heavenview Tabernacle in Winston-Salem, NC, was appointed on January 11. He moved to his new post in St. Louis following his last service at Heavenview on March 27.

Foster, who had turned down two previous opportunities to serve at World Evangelism Center, fills Bro. Jack Cunningham's position, who was promoted last year to General Home Missions Director.

"I told Bro. Cunningham when he first approached me that if he had to have an answer then, the answer would be no. But I said that I felt good enough about it that if he'd give me a few weeks, I'd go home and pray about it." After praying, the Fosters felt compelled to



Mark Foster

accept the position. "I just felt very strongly that it's the will of God." Bro. Foster said that leaving the Winston-Salem church, where he'd pastored for 13 years, was the hardest thing he's ever done. "But it's in good hands," he said. "Bro. Mark Christian has assumed the pastorate, and he's

doing well."

Foster said he and Bro. Cunningham have a goal of establishing 3,000 new church plants by the year 2000. "That's the way we view them: as plants, because sometimes a plant does not become a church overnight. Right now, we are in the process of meeting with several district boards, and they're formulating plans to plant churches."

For instance, Foster said, the Wisconsin district turned their last district conference into a church growth and church planting conference. "I think that's a first. I don't think anyone's ever had a church growth conference in lieu of a district conference."

"We're wanting to join hands with Foreign Missions to see worldwide revival. In order to send foreign missionaries around the world, we've got to establish more churches at home."

Indiana Bible College maintains a growing electronic database of research and Bible study files to assist pastors, students and church leaders. All files in the database are free to AIS subscribers and can be accessed by modem (dial (317) 781-7700) or by voice telephone (1-800-8000-AIS). When ordering by phone, specify photocopy or computer disk, and have your User ID and Password ready. (A small photocopy/computer disk fee will be added to your monthly statement.)



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| HBAC11A.PCX | 13554 | Church Card - Outside. The outside of a sample promotional card for your church. |
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Membership in this group is available for the low cost of \$10.00 per year to cover postage and printing expenses. If you are interested in being involved in a network such as this, please fill out the information below and send it to: Sis. Rebecca L. Maracich, director.

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■ TOP CHRISTIAN SOFTWARE

Christian Computing magazine recently conducted their first Readers' Choice Awards. The result is a listing of top-quality religious programs that you may want to consider adding to your software library. Here are the winners from each of 17 different categories:

- 1) *Windows Bible Study Software under \$50*: SeedMaster, from White Harvest Software.
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- 4) *DOS Bible Study Software under \$50*: QuickVerse, from Parsons Technology.
- 5) *DOS Bible Study Software between \$50 and \$100*: WORDsearch, from NavPress Software.
- 6) *DOS Bible Study Software over \$100*: PC Study Bible, from Biblesoft.
- 7) *Macintosh Bible Study Software under \$75*: Thompson Chain HyperBible, from Kirkbride Technology.
- 8) *Macintosh Bible Study Software over \$75*: Thompson Chain HyperBible, from Kirkbride Technology.
- 9) *Shareware Bible Study Software*: Online Bible USA, from Online Bible (Available from Apostolic Information Service).
- 10) *Illustration Database Software*: Bible Illustrator, from Parsons Technology.
- 11) *Personal Information Manager Software*: In His Time, from Colonnade Technologies.
- 12) *Christian Clipart for the IBM*: Church Art on Disk, from Communications Resources.
- 13) *Christian Clipart for Macintosh*: ClickART, from T-Maker.
- 14) *Christian Computer Game*: Bible Builder, from Bridgestone Group.
- 15) *Christian Devotional Software*: The One Minute Bible, from Colonnade Technology.
- 16) *Christian Theme Screen Saver*: People Saver, from Online Bible USA.
- 17) *Christian Counseling Software*: MARKET Software.

Check with your local computer software dealer or Christian bookstore for availability of these products. Also, you can call *Christian Computing* at (816)331-3881.

■ PROTECTING YOUR THROAT

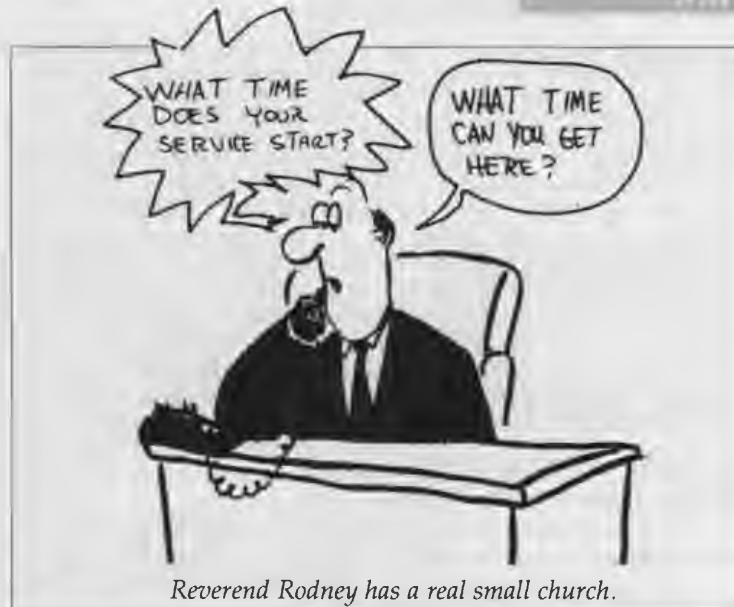
Pentecostal preachers tend to be more vocal during their preaching. The result can be a tremendous strain on their throats. Doctors offer several tips for protecting the throat according to a recent issue of *USA Today*. First, according to speech pathologists, drink lots of water. Also, avoid coughing and clearing your throat while preaching. They also suggest you speak lower, using a microphone to carry your voice. Finally, relax your neck and limit shouting.

■ THE MODEL CHURCH

Four traits characterize the ideal church, according to one author. Don Posterski, co-author of *Where's a Good Church*, suggests that churches develop the following characteristics: 1) doctrine ("in touch with truth"), 2) community ("in touch with the personal needs of people in the church"), relevancy ("in touch with the times"), and outreach ("in touch with the needs of people outside the church"). Posterski came to these conclusions after surveying what he considered healthy churches from 15 mainline and conservative denominations across Canada. However, the author cautions readers not to overemphasize any particular element. Rather, balance is a key factor. For example, focusing too heavily on doctrine can erode relevancy, causing the church to become domineering. On the other hand, focusing too heavily on relevancy can erode doctrinal truth. So instead, according to Posterski, strive for some place in between.

■ AUTO INSURANCE TIPS

Apostolics, particularly those in areas of ministerial leadership, travel a lot. Whether to conferences or to preach a revival or a special seminar, they rapidly put the miles on their vehicles. It's important, therefore, to make sure you have the best - and most affordable - automobile insurance. Here, from Tampa, Florida's *BUSINESSGRAM* are four sure-fire ways to save on the auto-insurance portion of this coverage: 1) Shop around for the lowest rate. Don't assume all insurance companies charge identical premiums. There are at least 3,500 different auto insurers, and it is a very competitive business. You may be able to save hundreds of dollars annually by comparison shopping. 2) Select the largest deductible you can afford. The deductible is the amount you agree to pay out of your pocket before the insurance company pays a claim. Increasing your deductible to \$500 from \$200 could reduce your collision premium as much as 30 percent. 3) Drop collision and comprehensive coverage on older cars. These are optional coverages that may wind up costing you more than you'll ever recover. Collision pays when your car is damaged in a crash, while comprehensive pays if your car is stolen or damaged by fire, flood, hail or wind. If your car is worth less than \$2,000, it probably isn't cost effective to purchase such protection. 4) Buy a large, American-made, four-door car. This is because these cars are usually safer, less expensive to repair, and less attractive to thieves than flashy sports cars or top-of-the-line luxury models. 5) Insure all household cars with the same company. You can save between 15 and 25 percent this way.



Reverend Rodney has a real small church.

Grandma's Advice

Eight-year-old Marcy's grandmother came to spend the week with the family. Poor Marcy soon found that her dear grandmother was becoming a bit strict.

"Don't hang her clothes up for her," Grandma told Mom. "Let her do it herself. She'll never learn anything if you do everything for her."

Time came for Marcy to say grace at the dinner table. She thanked God for everything and for everybody ... everybody, that is, except, for one. "Never mind about Grandmother," she prayed. "She can pray for herself."

Just Teasing

It was the 1960s, and Pentecostal hair-styles were somewhat more dramatic than today. This particular day, a Pentecostal teen-age girl walked out of the bathroom after arranging and spraying her hair into the huge Apostolic style of the times.

Her father met her, and in astonishment asked, "What have you done to your hair?"

"I've just teased it," the young lady replied.

"Teased?" Dad exclaimed. "You've driven it insane!"

Visitation Woes

The aging pastor made a practice each week of stopping by the homes of those who had visited his church the previous Sunday. While trudging around town, he came to a tired, old apartment building. Glancing at his notebook, he decided that he was at the right address. There on the sidewalk, some men were talking. Beside them was a small boy.

The pastor spoke to the boy: "Young man, does Mr. Keating live here in one of these apartments?"

"Yep," the boy replied.

"Where?"

"Way up at the top."

"Well, would you be so kind as to show me to his door if I give you a quarter?" the minister asked patiently.

"Sure thing. Come on," the boy said.

And so, the two of them climbed six long flights of rickety stairs. The pastor soon became exhausted and stopped to catch his breath. Finally, he rang Mr. Keating's door, but nobody answered.

"Mr. Keating appears not to be home," the minister lamented after several minutes.

"Nope," the boy replied. "That was Mr. Keating standing on the doorstep just as we came in the building."



Stormy Weather

Little Priscilla Jones had always been a tad bit frightened by nature's noises, particularly thunder. So one terrifying night, because Priscilla could not sleep, Mother came in to comfort her. "Oh, Sweetheart, don't be afraid. Thunder is just the sound of the angels making their beds."

Though this was a bit far-fetched, little Priscilla accepted it and did her best to go back to sleep. The next morning, though, she exclaimed, "Mommy, I didn't mind the noise when the angels were making their beds, but I was unhappy when they kept turning the lights on and off!"

Triple Play

Pastor Donaldson had just heard the news: The Smith family had new triplets added to the family just last week. The pastor, meeting little Ben Smith in the church parking lot, congratulated him on the arrival of his new little brother.

"Well, Benjamin, I hear the stork has smiled on your home."

"Smiled!" the boy exclaimed. "He laughed out loud!"

Fred Foster: Pioneer Of Revival!

(Continued from page three)

At its peak, Foster's bus ministry ran 18 routes. "We won every age group through bus ministry," Foster said. "We won kids, youth and adults. The theory of bus ministry is to reach the family through the child. You've got to think 'family.'"

Foster said that bus ministry does not work as well today as it once did, because today's children are harder to entice with the promotions that once attracted them. Still, he feels it can be an effective outreach. "Bus ministry makes contacts for you. The prospects with potential are the ones you follow up on and try to get a home Bible study with them." He said the West Monroe church is preparing to get back into bus ministry again "in a big way."

Pioneering New Outreach Programs

More recently, Bro. Foster has helped pioneer a new outreach program called "T.O.U.C.H." (Total Outreach Using Christian Hospitality). Foster developed the program with Bro. Bob Brott of Cross Roads Ministries in West Monroe. "We divide up into several 'hospitality' groups," Foster said. Under the T.O.U.C.H. program, one team visits, writes and telephones outreach prospects. Another team teaches home Bible studies and door-knocking, while yet another team works with new converts. "Hospitality is the basis," he said.

The new ministry that really excites Bro. Foster, though, is the Small Groups Ministry. "We call it CARE, which stands for "Creating A Revival Experience." According to Foster, his church now consists of about 40 small CARE groups. His former Wednesday night Bible study has now been turned into a service for 11 of his small groups. These small-group sessions he holds for three consecutive Wednesdays, with a whole-church rally held on the fourth Wednesday.

"We have something for everybody, from kids to the oldest. We have more people at this than we used to have on Wednesday night when it was just one big service."

He said the theme to his small groups ministry is "Caring, Bearing and Sharing." And Bro. Foster's success with small groups has not gone unnoticed. The Louisiana district has recently created its own district-wide Small Groups Ministry, with Foster as director. Part of the district program has been the development of small groups for the ministers themselves.

"We're dividing our district sections into small groups. For instance, our section is divided into three groups. I have six men in mine, with a leader and an assistant leader." The purpose, Bro. Foster said, is to encourage the section's ministers to support and care for one another. "We've gotten worried that we don't have much contact with some of our preachers."

In addition, Bro. Foster said he teaches seminars on small groups ministry and has a book coming soon on the subject. "It's a fantastic ministry that we are totally sold on," he said.

Yet, ever the innovator, Bro. Foster has still another new outreach program on the drawing board. "We are developing a new approach through our T.O.U.C.H. program to get people out teaching Bible studies. It's a four-week training program called ATTACK. It will equip people who were afraid to go into a friend's home to teach an 'Into His Marvelous Light' Bible study." Foster said the particulars of this program have not been fully developed yet, though it will utilize sales principles to make it easier for people to witness and teach Bible studies.

Preparing For Growth

Bro. Foster is anticipating some substantial growth as a result of his latest evangelistic efforts. In fact, one way he has planned for this growth

was by purchasing land for a new building, although he hasn't yet outgrown the current building.

"Our current attendance is between 900 and 1,000. The current building will seat 1,500. When we first came to West Monroe, the building seated 400. There were not that many people there on Sunday night, so we built gradually. We knocked out walls and built a couple of little balconies, and then moved into our new sanctuary and educational building in 1979." Concerning the projected new facilities, Foster said, "We would have to do a major overhaul of the current building to maintain it well." Thus, he said that they felt it would be more practical to purchase a new building.

"So we've bought one of the hottest corners in the city. We've bought and paid for 8.2 acres next to the Holiday Inn. On that same corner are five motels, and they're getting ready to put in a cafeteria.

"We bought this land three and a half years ago when the economy was depressed. We were some of the only people who had money and who were wanting to invest it. So we got the property at a good price."

Foster said one man gave him advice that any pastor considering a new building should heed. "This man told me, 'Don't build a basement.' Build everything from the ground up so that anyone who goes by can see everything you've got. Make all the impression you can. Also, build it back from the street and park people in the front, because 40 cars in front of a building will look like a hundred when

"The 'Jesus Principle' is to pull a few leaders around you and train them and put your dreams and aspirations in them, and then send them out to pull people around them and train them."

- Fred Foster

people drive by.

"So I'm putting all of this building under one roof. From the freeway, it really makes an impression."

Keys To Growth

Bro. Foster said the growth-conscious pastor should keep in mind his importance to the work of God. "Ask yourself what you're called to do. Remember that you're as important as the Apostle Paul to your generation. Get that in your mind and it will spur you. Number two, my philosophy is to leave people better than I found them. That means that I give them dreams, aspirations, and vision for education and abilities."

Bro. Foster said another key to growth is delegation. "A man can only do so much. There's a 'Jesus Principle' to consider. The 'Jesus Principle' is to pull a few leaders around you and train them and put your dreams and aspirations in them, and then send them out to pull people around them and train them. Before long, you might have a hundred trained people."

Not surprisingly, Foster's leadership training revolves around small groups. "You've got to have a Leadership Care Group," he said. "Plus, in my leadership training, I emphasize how to conduct small CARE groups. I teach three leadership training sessions a week. I teach the same thing three times to ensure that all leaders participate." Bro. Foster said his 70 leaders are free to select which session to attend.

Conclusion

A couple of new generations have come on the scene in Pentecost since Bro. Foster and his contemporaries started such works as Texas Bible College and the Apostolic bus ministry. Increasingly, the reigns of leadership in the church are being turned over to the Baby Boomers' and Baby Busters' generations. And these generations will no doubt make their own mark on the Apostolic movement. Yet there still remain a few of the original Pioneers of Pentecost making their mark. Pioneers such as Fred Foster have shown that they are not content just sitting on the sidelines. Rather, these men continue blazing new trails and helping the church of the 1990s. Bro. Foster and his contemporaries have shown that there is still room for pioneers. ■

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