

Community Ministries: A Plus For Campus Life

For those students who want to get involved in ministering to people outside of RBI's pleasant Christian campus environment, Community Ministries provides several opportunities. At the beginning of the school year, the Pastor of Students and the deans, with input from the staff and faculty, choose a four-member Community Ministries Committee who are responsible for heading up the program throughout the school year. Various students have served on the committee for the first two terms. Presently, the committee is chaired by Gary

Zook, Harrington, DE.

Community Ministries spells excitement and challenge on campus. New sign up sheets are put up every Tuesday for the following Monday. The sheets are usually full — and sometimes there are more willing students than there are openings. This term fifteen students are needed for the Detention Center, six for the Receiving Center, and "the more the merrier" for nursing home visits on Sunday afternoons. Students who are not going on Community Ministries are invited to sign up on a prayer

chain, choosing a slot of time in which they will pray on Mondays for those who are going.

The Detention Center in Marysville, OH is a place for teens during special crisis. They live there from three to thirty-three days as they are waiting trial in juvenile court. A van full of students leaves each Monday evening to spend time with the teens. Activities include singing and testifying as the RBI students sit in a circle with around 20 teens. After the sharing time, they play group games and then number off into two groups who



Ken Leininger visiting in nursing home

then play wiffle ball and table games. A salesman who spoke with Business Manager, Leroy Sommers, during the last year, commented about RBI's ministry at the Detention Center. "The group from RBI has those kids' attention more than any other group does," he said. "Your students break down the kids' defenses and get them to talk. Kids open up who have never opened up."

Excitement mounted during First Term when four of the teens responded to the Gospel message and came to know Christ. RBI students fasted and prayed over lunchtime — and once all day on Tuesday. This term students meet after lunch on Tuesdays to pray for Community Ministries. One volunteer said she enjoys the challenge of binding together as a team to reach out to others. Another said that telling others about who God is and what He does strengthens her own faith. Chairman Gary Zook says, "For me, it helped me open up a lot. In the past I was a little apprehensive about sharing my faith. But the more I share, the easier it gets. My regret about the past is that I didn't work harder."

The Receiving Center near London, OH is a home for young people (ages vary from pre-school through high school) who are waiting for adoption or placement into foster homes. The Center is owned by Madison County, but operated and staffed by Rose-

dale Mennonite Missions. The outreach to the Receiving Center is for the purpose of building one-to-one relationships with the children and becoming somewhat of a stabilizing force in their lives. The evening may include playing a game of checkers, building a bird house, or just chatting with the children about their interests.

The first Saturday night of each month, students have the option of going to City Mission, an outreach to street people in Columbus. A local Mennonite church provides chili for the meal and the students present a 30-minute program. The RBI students enjoy the opportunity to testify, serve the meal, and then talk with people.

Every Sunday afternoon a group of students visits local nursing homes, walking up and down the halls to sing and to stop and talk with the elderly. Their friendly visits provide some cheer in the lives of many lonely people.

Students have also ministered in the community in spontaneous ways. One student responded during First Term to a request to winterize and repair some windows for a deaf family in the community. During Second Term a group of students sang for a Marysville resident who is suffering from a terminal illness. The spirit of caring and sharing for each other — and for people in the community — is a plus for the Rosedale experience.

Self Study Completed

A twelve-month intensive self study of RBI by a five-member committee was completed in December, 1985. The Self Study Committee, appointed by the Board of Directors in the December, 1984 meeting, met for the first time on January 5, 1985 and elected Elmer S. Yoder as Chairman and Lloyd Kauffman as Secretary. Walter Beachy and Alvin Yoder were the other two members. These four then invited Laban Peachey, Goshen, IN, to join them.

The original four members are all closely related to the work at RBI. Elmer Yoder served on the Board of Directors for 12 years; the other three are Administrative Council members. Laban Peachey has his roots in Conservative Conference and his father, Shem Peachey, was a supporter of the Berlin Bible School. Having been Dean of Men and Pastor of Students at Eastern Mennonite College and President of Hesston College, Laban brought with him a background of significant experience in education, administration, and self studies. "I was pleased to be invited to participate," Laban says. "Rosedale is a good school. The staff has a very wholesome attitude of being open to a self review and to growth. The chief value of the study was that in the years since 1952, this is the first time a group sat down and looked in the mirror in an overall way."

The Committee held eight meetings and invited resource persons Leroy Sommers, Willard Mayer, Levi Miller, and J. Lester Brubaker to some of them. The date targeted for completion of their work was August, 1985 or February, 1986. Members were assigned to study designated areas involving all aspects of the school. A total of 23 different areas or topics were carefully studied. The Committee began by using the evaluation guide of the American Association of Bible Colleges, adapted to fit RBI, but soon added their own set of study guides.

Formation of the Self Study Committee was the first serious in-depth attempt at evaluating what has happened, is happening, and should happen in the future of RBI. The idea for a self study had been on the "back burner" for several years, and was brought into focus by the factors of a declining enrollment, financial stress, and questions

about how RBI relates to its diverse constituency. Another catalyst for study was the question of RBI considering development into a Bible College, a concept suggested from a variety of sources throughout the church.

Objectives of the study were:

1. To evaluate the current status of each aspect of school life and administration.
2. To project the expectations and needs of the broader RBI constituency.
3. To evaluate RBI's perception in the minds of prospective students and those in positions of leadership who may have influence on prospective students (church leaders, high school administrators, etc.)
4. To consider the Bible College question.

"The uniqueness of a Bible Institute as a response to educational and nurture needs of young people and pastors in the larger Mennonite Church was noted as a distinct strength."

The study included a questionnaire to ministers of Conservative Conference about all aspects of the school, a questionnaire to students who have transferred to other schools, and a congregational questionnaire for pastors. As the committee evaluated the returns from the questionnaires, reviewed articles about the history of several Christian colleges, and discussed their individual findings of all aspects of the school, they began to focus more on further development of the Institute and less on the possibilities of a Bible College as an immediate option. Strengthening all facets of the Institute program became a priority.

The uniqueness of a Bible Institute as a response to educational and nurture needs of young people and pastors in the larger Mennonite Church was noted as a distinct strength. RBI is the only Mennonite institution of its kind serving in the Old Mennonite framework. Originally designed to give young people the opportunity to participate in some serious Bible study, the program continues to establish students in faith and to equip them for ministry. A predominant theme in the responses from alumni

was that RBI was a major faith-building experience in which the students developed spiritually. The high interest by alumni as evidenced by spontaneous visits and contacts and the stability in faculty turnover speaks to the significance of the RBI experience for both students and faculty. Through the years, the RBI curriculum has been expanded to include some general education courses required for college students, but a high priority on Bible study and related studies remains constant.

RBI appeals not only to college-bound students who plan to transfer credits, but also the 70% of Mennonite youth who do not plan to graduate from college. These "gap persons" are needed by the church and mission boards. Through training at RBI, they can enrich their personal lives and also prepare to be useful in God's kingdom. The new Missions and Church Planting Department is a significant step towards increasing RBI's potential to prepare students for Christian service.

The reports brought to each meeting focused on the strengths (commendations) as well as the weaknesses (recommendations) of the particular area studied. Some of the commendations were: RBI's commitment to improving the quality of its program and facilities, the acceptability of the financial status as a norm for an institution of its size, the effort to strengthen ties and communication with the conference and with alumni, the free Mirror subscriptions, etc. Some of the achievements already noted were the second-floor dormitory renovations for long-term students, intensive work in public relations, and groundwork for an Alumni Association. In response to the areas of recommendation, the administration is formulating a five-year plan of goals for institutional needs.

Commenting on the self study, Elmer Yoder says, "Having had the privilege of serving on this pioneering committee in the RBI experience was enriching and rewarding, although accompanied by some uncertainties that characterize a 'first of its kind.' RBI's willingness to undergo this self examination and the positive conclusions of committee members will remain as highlights in my service to RBI."

1985-86 Student Council



l to r: Galen Sauder, Carolyn Stoltzfus, Al Yoder, Marilyn Blank, Chester Lehman

A Student Council is chosen each year by the students to represent their interests and concerns to the administration. During Second Term a chairman and four other students were elected (two from the below-twenty age bracket and two from twenty-one and over). The Council meets once a week — and more frequently, if necessary — to discuss the suggestions brought to them by students. After determining that a suggestion is worthy to be pursued, the Council takes the issue to the administration for approval. If approved, the Council then makes a decision.

This year, the Council has sponsored a project to type a list of students and their addresses for anyone who is interested. They have also extended chapel periods for an extra ten minutes and planned a bowling night for the student body. The biggest project of the year is a ten-mile walk-a-thon with a goal of raising \$10,000 for carpeting the downstairs dormitory rooms and hallways. They calculate that if 100 students find ten sponsors at \$1.00 per mile, the goal will be reached. Any money above the stated goal will be used for renovations in the student lounge.

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Faculty Viewpoint

Question: Shouldn't a person have a "special call" before going into missions?

It is interesting to observe that nowhere does the New Testament speak of a "special call" as being necessary before going into missions. It is true that some persons did receive such a call in order to overcome deep-seated racial and religious resistance. Examples of such a call would be Peter's vision to prepare him to go to Cornelius and Paul's Damascus road experience. But we dare not make those cases a norm for Christian experience.

Notice that when Christ gave his disciples the Great Commission, He gave it with the whole world in view: go make disciples of all nations. That is the normal call for every Christian. That the twelve disciples understood the commission to be universal is seen in the fact that history and tradition relate that at least six of the twelve died outside their homeland in the fulfillment of that call.

Jesus had promised that the Holy Spirit would come upon them. He would come with the purpose of making them His witnesses, beginning right where they were (Jerusalem), but certainly not stopping there. A normal evidence of the Spirit's fullness is being Christ's witnesses — unto the ends of the earth. The Spirit's power is given with world missions as its goal.

There is a "special call" available for those who insist on having one: 84% of all non-Christians in the world cannot hear the good news about Jesus until some Christian messengers learn a new language and a new culture and go seek them out. (*Penetrating the Last Frontiers*,

What's Going On?

The Red Cross Bloodmobile came to campus on Monday, January 27, to set up their equipment in the gym. During the previous week, a Red Cross representative had shown a film to the students and had explained the procedure and the purpose of donating blood. Ninety-one students, staff, faculty, and a few community people showed up to donate a pint of blood. Of this amount, 81 were accepted, bringing the total pints donated beyond the goal of 71 pints. In addition to the donors, other students volunteered to help with registration, loading and unloading, canteen, paperwork, etc. and to serve as encouragers. Arie Troyer, school nurse, co-ordinated the project.

The ninth annual Music Week End will be held on Feb. 28-Mar. 2. Resource person is Marvin L. Miller, Minister of Music and Christian Education at Bahia Vista Mennonite Church, Sarasota, FL. Special music will be offered by the Harvesters Quartet, Hartville, OH, The Ambassadors Quartet, Irwin, OH, and Laban Miller, Sarasota, FL. Brochures are available upon request.

Alumni are invited to participate in the walk-a-thon sponsored by the Student Council. The school will be happy to furnish names of students from alumni areas and to accept donations apart from direct sponsoring. The office number is 614-857-1311. Monies will be used for carpeting the downstairs dormitories and hallways.

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Editor: Susan Weber
Student Editors: Bob Mullet
Linda Miller
Jolene Miller



Ralph Winter, pp. 12-14). One northern state of India with a population of 110 million has only one Christian congregation for every 2,000 villages! What more special call could one want?

Our insisting on receiving a special call before going into missions may at times be nothing more than an excuse to evade God's call to move out into the unknown, leaving behind our relatives, possessions, comforts, security, and salary. Have we given God a fair chance to call us by informing ourselves about world needs and opportunities for meeting those needs? Or do we manage not to hear any special call by keeping ourselves uninformed and uninterested in the situation of those who have never heard the Gospel?

The call to missions has already been given: "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of harvest . . . to send out workers . . ." And remember, the coming of Christ awaits our response to that call: "This Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached . . . to all nations, and then the end will come." Will you seriously consider the call?

— Allen Roth

Revival, 1986

During Third Term, RBI students met in prayer groups in expectation for the revival meetings scheduled for Jan. 16-19. Roommates in Adelphe Hall and Koinonia Hall and various groups gathered to share, confess, give praise, and to be accountable to each for the commitments that would be made throughout the week end.

George R. Brunk II, Harrisonburg, VA, led the student body, faculty, and staff in a time of reflection, examination, and dedication. He addressed the group Thursday through Sunday evenings, in Friday morning chapel, and in the Sunday morning worship service. Each evening various student groups offered special music.

The meetings began with reflections on Almighty God who, having loved us, sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to pay the price for the broken relationship between ourselves and our Maker. A number of students answered the call for repentance. Brunk also expounded on the Holy Spirit and living the Spirit-filled life. The gift of the Holy Spirit has been given. We need only to ask and claim it in order to be filled with God's Spirit. There was a call to dedication for those who wished to present themselves as living sacrifices to the Lord.

Many students said they experienced a refreshment from God's Word. During the following Monday morning chapel service and in prayer groups, students testified of new insights and new commitments they had made publicly or privately. Some spoke of a new realization of their unworthiness before God and of their acceptance as God sees us through Jesus Christ. Others encouraged each other to follow their commitments through and beyond the Rosedale experience, with a vision to witness in their home communities and to enter into ministry and missions.

Brunk was ordained to the ministry in 1934 and has been known widely for his series of tent revivals in the 1950s. He has also served on the faculty of Eastern Mennonite Seminary and is still active in and concerned for the church.

— John Reeser
Carlock, IL

Missionary to Nicaragua on Faculty

"It was real stuff. You could see soldiers hopping from tree to tree. Bullets were buzzing by and planes were roaring overhead . . ." The voice of Allen Roth raised as the intensity of the story heightened. The incident was true and the class members listened intently, engrossed by the danger of this war-time episode.

Allen's experience came while he was ministering in Nicaragua at a temporary Red Cross shelter set up to accommodate local civilians as the battlefront crossed through the neighborhood. He moved from room to room, reading Scripture and praying for the frightened. The danger of standing while the fighting raged outside did not cross his mind. "I was too dumb to even think of crouching down," Allen laughs.

The Roths had been in Nicaragua only six months when the civil war broke out. The year was 1979 and Allen, Carolyn, and their toddlers, Lanita and Arlin, were a young missionary family in the capital city of Managua under Rosedale Mennonite Missions. They had begun planting a church among Hispanics, but the task was soon complicated by the war.

A decade earlier, Allen would not have imagined himself in such a situation. He had grown up on a small farm in

Oregon in the late fifties and early sixties, and was one of a family of seven children. As a lad, Allen kept busy going to school, working for his father, and attending the activities of his family's church, Hopewell Mennonite. He never imagined himself being a missionary.

By the time Allen graduated from RBI in 1977, his eyes had been opened. In his studies, he read of the great need for missionaries. He sat under the teaching of evangelistic worker Richard Showalter and conversed with missionaries such as Dan Byler. With the earning of his diploma came a craving to share his faith with others. His appetite for cross-cultural missions had been whetted.

It was that craving that led the Roths to Nicaragua in a church-planting venture and what Allen calls "discipleship training." Drawing from Jesus' evangelistic method of closely training the twelve, Allen began praying for a dozen men who could live, eat, and sleep in his home as he disciplined them. "We were training them for the ministry," Allen says. "During that time they helped me start two churches."

Allen directed the men in Bible studies, prayer, and fasting. At times he took the men on week-long preaching trips modeled from Matthew where

Jesus instructed his disciples to ". . . take no bag for the journey, or extra tunic, or sandals or a staff." Other times Allen led the men in door-to-door witnessing.

By the fall of 1986, Carolyn was cooking rice and beans for twenty-five men whom Allen was discipling. A total of three churches had been planted, and several of the men who had lived with the Roths began to start churches themselves.

Now, in the States, Allen's vision for missions burns brighter than ever. "My goal is to train a group in the U.S. for ministry so that by late '87 a team would go into a Muslim ministry," shares Allen. "Most people assume they should do it (mission work) here in the U.S. unless God strikes them with a bolt of lightning on the head. That should be reversed."

Allen is working hard at sharing his vision with his Evangelistic Methodology class. "There's no guarantee in this job that you'll come out alive," he points out. Whatever the cost, Allen still gives the directive he chooses to follow: "You did not choose me, but I chose you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last." (John 15:6).

Kevin Miller
Irwin, OH



Friends for Life

To Elmer Jantzi and Willard Mayer, friendship is a life-long journey. Born and raised on navy bean and sugar beet farms, they both came from similar backgrounds. Their homes were separated by only twenty miles of Saginaw Bay or one hundred miles of Michigan land. Since their churches had a lot in common, there was much interaction, giving the teen-age boys a chance to get to know each other. Then, as adults, they were brought closer when Willard was ordained minister in the fall of 1952 and Elmer was ordained the following summer of 1953.

In a sense, they grew up together in the ministry and became close through this time. They often exchanged sermons between their churches. Later, they were both at Berlin Bible School and commuted on week ends.

Willard was involved at Berlin from its inception in January, 1952. Elmer began teaching in 1958. That experience was the beginning of a twenty-eight year teaching career that has proven their friendship to be lasting. Both mentioned that they treasure the memories of the rides to and from Berlin, the many discussions, and the bond of friendship that was formed.

Elmer and Willard are so distinctly different that one may not guess at first glance the closeness that exists between these two deeply committed Christians. Elmer's zestful appreciation for life and his good humor are readily evident, while Willard emanates more of a quiet rest and contentment. Their personalities, unlike, yet each so likeable, complement each other for a

beautiful relationship.

Willard, when asked what he appreciates about Elmer, commented on Elmer's deep spiritual commitment, his wit and keenness. He said, "I learned a lot from Elmer over the years . . . I suppose that's the reason I gravitated to him." Willard also mentioned that he appreciates the fact that although Elmer had no extensive formal training, he has taught himself well.

Elmer stated that he and Willard could always communicate, and he liked that. He admired Willard's sensitivity, and the fact that Willard was careful not to come across in an offensive way. Elmer said, "In my early teaching career it was Willard who helped me get things lined up." Elmer had a problem with speaking too fast for the often frustrated students taking notes and had to learn to speak half as fast with the annoyance of getting half the knowledge through to the students.

Today they enjoy fishing, golfing, teaching at RBI, and farming in the spring and summer months. (Elmer has a strawberry farm and Willard raises blackberries and a few cash crops.) They are both widely used in speaking engagements in the church. Their houses, built side by side on farmland purchased jointly in 1969, stand solidly, proclaiming their friendship in yet another way. Elmer says, "Interacting as neighbors, borrowing and lending things with a good fine spirit . . . we're always able to do that." And so the friendship lives on.

— Sharon Byler (84,85)
Dover, DE

Faculty Schedule

MARCH

- 1-7 **Allen Roth** at Delaware area churches for winter Bible School.
- 9 **Elmer Lehman** at Cornerstone Menn. Church, Hartville, OH.
- 13-16 **Alvin Yoder** at Bethel Menn. Church, Sarasota, FL.
- 21-24 **Allen Roth** at Calvary Chapel, Mt. Eaton, OH for Missions Emphasis weekend.
- 22,23 **Willard Mayer** at Turkey Run Menn. Church, Bremen, OH.
- 28-30 **Leon Weber** at Pleasant View Menn. Church, Chambersburg, PA.
- 30 **Allen Roth** at Sunnyside Menn. Church, Arthur, IL for Missions Emphasis weekend.

APRIL

- 2-4 **Leon Weber** at Ministers' Fellowship, Glendive, MT.
- 6-13 **Alvin Yoder** at Faith Menn. Church, South Boston, VA.
- 6-13 **Willard Mayer** at East Union Menn. Church, Orrville, OH.
- 6-13 **LeRoy Yoder** at Palm Grove Menn. Church, Sarasota, FL.
- 6-13 **Leon Weber** at Mountain Gospel Fellowship, Victor, MT.
- 15-20 **David Showalter** at First Mennonite Church, El Dorado, AR.
- 16-23 **LeRoy Yoder** at Toto Menn. Church, North Judson, IN.
- 24-27 **Walter Beachy** at Lincoln University Menn. Church, Oxford, PA.
- 25-27 **Willard Mayer** at Sunrise Chapel, Harlen, IN.
- 27-May 4 **LeRoy Yoder** at Cuba Mennonite Church, Grabill, IN.
- 30-May 4 **David Showalter** at Sharon Mennonite Church, Sugar Creek, OH.

MAY

- 3 & 4 **Alvin Yoder** at Grantsville, MD area Mennonite churches.
- 7 & 8 **Elmer Lehman** at Locust Grove Menn. Church, Belleville, PA.
- 17-21 **Elmer Lehman** at Rockville Menn. Church, Honey Brook, PA.

Interview with the Jehovah's Witnesses

The cults. Somehow, though I knew they existed and thrived, I never truly realized the serious threat that they present. I have never had personal contact with cult members which caused my heart to be burdened. Sure, I knew that there were a few "wierdos" who joined strange sects. But certainly my friends, family, neighbors, or acquaintances would never go to such extremes. I see differently now.

For a project in *Study of the Cults*, I participated in an interview with two Jehovah's Witnesses. I was a bit surprised to discover that real "flesh and blood" people believe and practice the things which had been discussed in class. People very much like you and I fall prey to the deception of the cults.

Jehovah's Witnesses deny the deity of Christ — their most serious offense. They also reject the personality of the Holy Spirit, salvation by grace alone, and the existence of hell and eternal torment. They highly anticipate the millenium during which God's kingdom will be established on earth. Their primary focus is on this coming kingdom rather than on Jesus Christ.

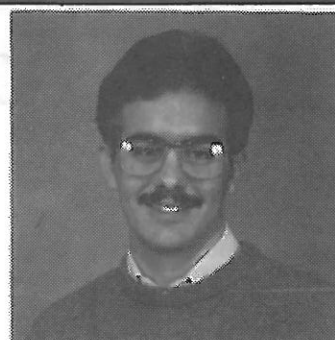
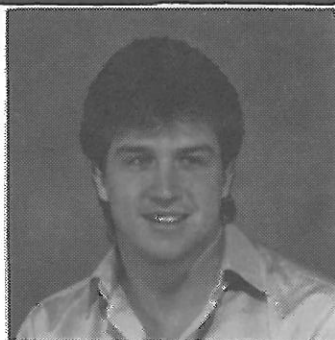
I was particularly impressed with the obvious commitment

and enthusiasm of the Jehovah's Witnesses. Many give their lives for the propagation of their doctrines, false though they are. Should not we who possess the truth be even more zealous in our evangelizing?

The Jehovah's Witnesses are well prepared and equipped for their work. Much time is given for the instruction and training of each individual. They are well acquainted with their beliefs and with the Scriptures that supposedly support their views. The Bible is regularly and diligently studied so that they might not be found lacking in any area. We Christians would do well to do the same.

The interview was a healthy experience for me. I have always taken for granted the basic doctrines of Christianity without knowing a Scriptural basis for them. Preparing for the interview forced me to search the Scriptures and approach the fundamental tenets of my faith from a more Biblical perspective. It is my desire to read, study, and absorb the Word of God more than ever before so that I am prepared to "give an answer to every man."

— Chester Lehman
Hagerstown, MD



"An ingredient of a good friendship is honesty. Both people must be able to share their feelings without being afraid of what the other person will think." — Steve Troyer, Goshen, IN.

"The most important ingredients of a good friendship are trust and acceptance of one another. Good friends can risk telling each other how they really feel." — Mike Shaud, Lebanon, PA.

"A good friendship is made up of many things. A few of the most important are sharing problems and victories together (being open), praying together, and just letting each other know you care." — Lynette Yousey, Castorland, NY.

Photopinion: What are the ingredients of a good friendship?



"A friend is a person you can talk to openly. You can discuss your problems and rejoice with her." — Marsha Widrick, Croghan, NY.



"Friendship is when two people can throw each others' lives into each others' hurts and joys with confidence of each others' trust." — Rodney Howe, Dowington, PA.



"The ingredients of a good friendship are genuine honesty, openness, and an expressed mutual appreciation." — Cheri Helmuth, San Antonio, TX.

Student
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Classroom Response

I don't think most of us knew exactly what we were getting ourselves in to when we signed up for Allen Roth's class in Evangelistic Methodology. But I believe not one of us would have wanted it any different.

We are learning that evangelism is a big part of our lives and without it we will suffer spiritually. Jesus commanded us over and over to "preach the Gospel" and "Go tell the world," but we tend to sit in our comfortable homes, live our lives, and say evangelism is for the missionaries and pastors. "Besides," we say, "I think friendship evangelism is much more effective." But how many of our friends have we won to the Lord? If we won't go out and knock on doors, telling people about the Lord, who will? Can any person we've been in contact with say that no one ever mentioned Jesus to him?

These are just a few of the thought-provoking questions and excuses we've discussed in class. I think most of us are understanding in a deeper way that the very reason God put us here is to win people to Christ — or at least to share and give them a chance to make a decision.

We students go out by twos, carrying little tracts printed with a story that Jesus told. After knocking on the door, we explain to people that we are there on behalf of Jesus Christ and give them the story to read, offering to help them in any of their needs, wants, and questions. We are planting a seed in each of the homes in our territory.

The next week we go back with a different story that Jesus told. As this goes on, we build up an acceptance and trust within the people which leads to friendship and our chance to share Jesus Christ with them. So there it is — friendship evangelism!

Sure, there will be people who say "No" and slam the door in our faces. And who knows what else may happen to us? But isn't it worth it being persecuted for Christ's sake? We should rejoice that we are counted worthy.

I know what you say because I felt the same way. "But I'm scared and people will think I'm crazy," I thought. "I can still get to heaven even if I don't witness." In spite of all our fears, though, Jesus promises to keep us safe and to let the Spirit speak through us. It's not our strength, but Christ's. He has the power and no one can overcome us, not even vicious looking dogs! Satan has his tactics too, and he'll do anything to discourage us because he knows we will be effective and God will work through us in the lives of the lost. That's an encouragement! I know God has great things in store for those who are obedient.

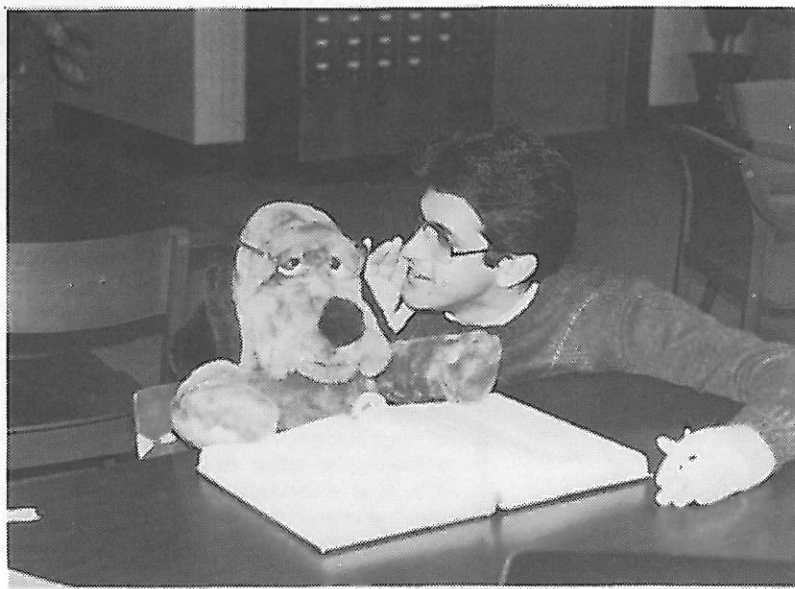
— Stephanie Martin
Ear Falls, Ontario

Photography Contest

Theme: Friendship



Winner: Dave Regier, Irwin, OH. Award: \$5.00 gift certificate to RBI book store. Sponsor: M & W Printers



Honorable Mention: Mary Borntreger, Goshen, IN

Meditation from

Psalm 23

In a shepherding situation, the lot in life of a sheep depends on the type of man who owns it. Under a careless shepherd, a sheep would struggle, suffer hardships, and perhaps starve. Under a caring, gentle shepherd, sheep would flourish and thrive and be content.

It is a great comfort and it gives me real personal worth to know that my Shepherd never stops caring for me, His sheep. He even laid down his life for His "flock." He calls us His own and delights in taking care of us. When He calls, His sheep know His voice and they respond and follow.

Sheep refuse to lie down unless the following four requirements are met: (1) They must be free from all fear. (2) They must be free from friction with others in the flock. (3) They must be free of pests such as flies or parasites. (4) They must be free from hunger.

It is our Lord who makes it possible to have a quiet rest — to be content and quiet. In our uncertain times we can either live in a sense of anxiety and fear, or in a sense of quiet restfulness with our trust in our Shepherd. We cannot have friction in our flock. Rivalry, tension, jealousy, and competition for status cause conflict among us and destroy our peace. The "parasites" are the annoyances and petty frustrations that come into our lives. Our Shepherd brings healing, comfort, and contentment when we ask His assistance in coping with these aggravating experiences. Instead of being hungry, we can be nourished by His word.

The presence of a shepherd quiets a flock of sheep and puts them at ease. Our Good Shepherd is with us constantly, bringing quietness and peace to each of us.

Karen Rutt
East Earl, PA

Keeping in Touch . . . With Alumni

Births

Tiffany Danae was born Nov. 11 to **Phil (79) and Ronda (Gingerich) (81) Gingerich**, Plain City, OH. First child.

Seth Alan was born Oct. 1 to **Lamar (74) and Miriam (Brubaker) (74) Hackman**, Mifflinburg, PA. Third child; second son.

Rachel Beth was born Jan. 4 to **Carl and Deborah (Beachy) (79,80) Martin**, Atmore, AL.

Peter John was born Dec. 26 to **John Ivan (67,68,71,72,75S) and Emily (Alger) (72,75S) Byler**, Greenwood, DE. Fourth child; third son.

Sheri Lynn was born Dec. 14 to **Kervin and Ruth (Borntrager) (78) Hershberger**, Middlebury, IN.

Monice Jenell was born Sept. 22 to **Jerry and Grace (Steiner) (80,81) Unzicker**, Wenona, IL.

Alyssa Ann was born Jan. 2 to **Nevin (74S,75S,78S) and Alta (Byler) (69,70,72,74,75,78S) Nisly**, Dover, DE. Fifth child; fourth daughter.

Lindsey Renae was born Feb. 3 to **John and Jenny (Mast) (76-78,81) Steichen**, Plain City, OH. First child.

Joseph Noah was born to **Wilbur (75-77) and Grace (Hochstetler) (77) Nisly**, Corvallis, MT. Third child; first son.

Abigail Ruth was born Dec. 24 to **Lester (77-79) and Janet (Good) (70,73,75,76,79,81) Swartzentruber**, Au Gres, MI. First child.

Engagements

Mark Gingerich (82,86) Plain City, OH and Shana Yutzy (84-86) West Jefferson, OH.

Linda Hartzler (83) Bainbridge, PA and Ray Haldeman, Chambersburg, PA.

Thelma Beachy (81,82) Salisbury, PA and Michael Lanteigne, Grantsville, MD.

Willard Kauffman (83) Harrington, DE and Tammi Bryfogle (84) Bridgeville, DE.

Bonita Good (81) Mohnton, PA and Gerhard Dueck, Reamstown, PA.

Naomi Yoder (84) Dover, DE and Robert Miller, Hartly, DE

Ministry

Todd Neuschwander (82) was licensed to the ministry at Winston Mennonite Church, Winston, OR on Jan. 26.

Service

Assignments

Kathleen Hess (85) Lititz, PA to Australia in January for a six-month term. She has just completed YES training in Philadelphia, PA.

Death

Marlin Schrock (80), Grantsville, MD was killed in an accident on Dec. 20. He was married to **Norma Jean (Bender) (80)**.

Marriages

Bonnie Good (68-71,75) South Boston, VA and James Moore, Alton, VA were married Oct. 12.

Rosanne Rutt (78,79) Ephrata, PA and Larry Burkholder, Ephrata, PA were married Nov. 30.

Kris Schlabach (84) Sugar-creek, OH and Ken Miller (80,84) Goshen, IN were married Dec. 14.

Shirley Mahoney (83,84) Ephrata, PA and Craig Miller (81-84) Macon, MS were married Dec. 28.

John Ressler (81) N. Lawrence, OH and Roberta Ducharme, Warrensville, IL were married Oct. 5.

James Kanagy (74,79) Belleville, PA and Sharlene Headings, Albany, OR were married Jan. 18.

Rhoda Marie Slabach (84,85) Cluster Springs, VA and Keith J. VanBenschoten were married Nov. 2.

With Rosedale

Mennonite

Missions

Regina Glick (83) Atmore, AL to Louisville, KY for community work.

Fonda Kauffman (80) Greenwood, DE to Jackson, MS.

Zonya Lehman (86) Hagerstown, MD to the RMM office as Secretary.

Merle Miller (78-80) Partridge, KS to San Antonio, TX as a youth worker.

Willard Kauffman (83) Harrington, DE to Jackson, MS as a home repair worker for three months.

Address Updates Requested

When sending in a change of address for yourself or for someone else, please include a married woman's maiden name. Also, be sure to give the entire former address, including the zip code. (Our mailing cards are filed in zip code order.)

Robert Brainard (80) Victor, MT
Mrs. Earl Yoder (75) Apple Creek, OH

James Byler (78) Reedsville, PA
Philip Byler (68) Roanoke, VA
Laurel Clark (75) Nashwauk, MN

Ken Classen (67,68) Atmore, AL
Wilma Coblentz (75) Hartville, OH

Linda Delagrange (76) New Haven, IN
David Detweiler (53) Uniontown, OH

Dale Dickerson (79) Blackville, SC
David Diller (73,79) Brownsville, TX

Miriam Joyce Eby (76) Ladysmith, WI
Merle Eugene Embleton (76,79) Harrington, DE

Sharon (Embleton) Martin (78) Greenwood, DE
Ruth Ann Gehman (75S,77S) Colquitt, GA
Charles Geiser (68-70,73) Apple Creek, OH
Elaine Gingerich (75) Larkspur, CO
Marlinda Jan Gingerich (77) Kalona, IA
Barry (79) and Debra (Mast) (71,72) Graber, Wellman, IA
Galen (74,75) and Doris (Gingerich) (74,75) Hackman, Lititz, PA
Karen Harshaw (?) Bedford Hts., OH
Floyd & Geraldine Henney (76) Spencerville, IN
Anna Grace Hershberger (75,76) Kalona, IA
Irene Hershberger (72) Mt. Gilead, OH
Paul Hershberger (79) Mt. Gilead, OH
Nelson Hochstedler (62,64) Grand Blanc, MI
Eldon Hochstetler (78,79,80) Hamilton, MT
Virgil Hochstetler (73) Hamilton, MT
Dorcas Horst (75) Jackson, MS
Dave Hostetler (78) Millersburg, OH
Linda Hostetler (78S) Hartville, OH
Myra Hostetler (75) Sarasota, FL
Grace Hunsberger (72) Corryton, IN
David Kanagy (73,74,77) Harrisonburg, VA
Larry & Lavina Kauffman (75,76) Nappanee, IN
Richard & Stella Kauffman (78,79,81) Nappanee, IN
Wilbur Kauffman (53) Goshen, IN
David Kaufman (65) Phoenix, AZ
Daniel & Edith Kemp (76,77,77S) Riverside, IA
Judy Kennell (84) Washburn, IL
Rosalie Baer (79) Milverton, Ontario
George D. Aprill (75), Goshen, IN
James Bartlett (73,75) Fort Wayne, IN
Salome Baugher (78S) Baltimore, MD
Dorothy Beachy (?)
Leonard Beachy (?) Fort Thomas, KY
Nevin Beachy (54) Jonesboro, AR
Susan Bechtel (80) Wakarusa, IN
Mrs. Donna Beery (?)
Lorraine Beitzel (76) W. Hyattsville, MD
Cynthia Bender (80) Hartville, OH
Lynn & Barbie Bender (73,74) Kalona, IA
Merwin Bender (78) Kalona, IA
Dan. R. Benner (78) Fresno, OH
Ray and Mary Bergey (76,77) Telford, PA
Cynthia Ann Bixler (80) Orrville, OH
Mrs. Janet (Keller) Blosser (74,75) Dayton, VA
Audrey Marie Boll (76) Lititz, PA
Ezra Bontrager (?)
Fern Bontrager (68,74) Goshen, IN
Melodie Ann Borkholder (77,78S) Louisville, KY. Married to Gary Vitale
Theresa Sue Boyer (78) Indianapolis, IN

1975 Alumni Reunited

Our thanks to Gertrude Slabach who took the time to send us the following information:

"We thought this might be interesting to those alumni of RBI who attended in the 1970's. We four girls roomed together in Hall C, Room 7 the winter of 1975. We separated and have kept in touch since then.

"Our method is a circle letter, which comes around once every 4-8 weeks, depending on you

know what! There have been times when two or three of us have been able to be together for a weekend or a wedding, etc., but never have the four of us been together until this August at the Conservative Conference in Grantsville, Maryland.

"We planned a big reunion and had one, and also posed with Rhoda Showalter, who was our matron at the time we were at RBI. This is the first time we had all been together for ten years."



l to r: Gertrude (Miller) married to Dave Slabach, South Boston, VA. Formerly from Grantsville, MD. No children. Rosanna (Good) married to Mark Slabach, South Boston, VA. Formerly from South Boston. Four daughters. Rhoda Showalter, Plain City, OH. Karen (Auker) married to Carmelo Rodriguez, Terre Hill, PA. Formerly from Blue Ball, PA. One son. Sharon (Ramer) married to Lyle Goss, Sullivan, IL. Formerly from Goshen, IN. Two children.

Chorale Itinerary

MARCH

- 2 RBI Music Weekend
- 9 Huber Mennonite, New Carlisle, OH — a.m.
- 9 Mechanicsburg United Methodist, Mechanicsburg, OH — p.m.
- 15 Bowne Mennonite, Clarks-ville, MI
- 16 North Wayne Mennonite, Dowagiac, MI — a.m.
- 16 Maple City Chapel, Goshen, IN — p.m.
- 21 Kettering Seventh Day Adventist, Kettering, OH
- 22 Pleasant View Mennonite, Berlin, OH
- 23 Sonnenberg Mennonite, Kidron, OH — a.m.
- 23 Cornerstone Mennonite, Hartville, OH — p.m.
- 26 St. Philips Episcopal, Circle-ville, OH
- 30 Church of Christ in Chris-tian Union, Circleville, OH — p.m.

APRIL

- 2 Rosedale Bible Institute, Irwin, OH
- 4 Buffalo Mennonite, Lewis-burg, PA
- 5 Salem Ridge Mennonite, Greencastle, PA
- 6 Diller Mennonite, Newville, PA — a.m.
- 6 East Petersburg Mennonite, East Petersburg, PA — p.m.
- 7 Hopewell Mennonite, Elver-son, PA
- 8 Franconia Mennonite, Fran-conia, PA
- 9 Croghan Mennonite, Croghan, NY
- 10 Alden Mennonite, Alden, NY
- 11 PENDING
- 12 Riverside Mennonite, Au Gres, MI
- 13 Pigeon River Mennonite, Pi-geon, MI — a.m.

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Irwin, OH 43029

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