
Therefore (1972-1997)

Brethren in Christ Church Archives

11-1-1972

Therefore - November/December 1972 - Vol. 1, No. 2

Brethren In Christ Missions

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Recommended Citation

Brethren In Christ Missions, "Therefore - November/December 1972 - Vol. 1, No. 2" (1972). *Therefore (1972-1997)*. 2.

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therefore

As my Father sent me into the world,

so I have sent you.

90 Inpatients, 1000 Outpatients

During the three and one-half years I have been at Mtshabezi Hospital, we have had six doctors. Each change of doctor means adjustments for the staff, as each one differs slightly in procedures and treatments. However, in July we had an entirely new adjustment to make—to that of having no doctor at all!

What's it like to run a hospital averaging 90 inpatients per day and 1,000 outpatients per month, without a doctor? To the surprise of some, we have not seen a decline in the number of patients. For more than a week, the census has been over 100 patients per day.

"I'm so weary until rounds are finished," Evelyn Noel remarks these days, "I'm tired of thinking." Take the *babamkhula* (grandfather) in bed one of the male ward. His symptoms do not fit a pattern and his response to treatment is puzzling. Just what is wrong with him? How shall we treat him? He refuses to go to Bulawayo, to a larger hospital.

Another problem case is the young boy with edema of the face and legs. We know his problem; a urinalysis showed kidney damage. But the textbooks are not specific about treatment or dosage and he has shown no improvement the past week.

A two-pound ten-ounce premature baby, born at home, comes in the middle of rounds. After placing it in the incubator and writing orders for the mother and baby, rounds are resumed. The afternoon bus brings a young girl who had been in a fight the previous day. A sickle was used on her hands and they look like a mass of

ABOUT THE COVER...

For many contemporary Christians, the American city is a hostile, foreboding environment. We wonder if we can follow our Lord to the "Samaritans" of our land.

Can we find encouragement and an example in the Incarnation of our Lord? In His Nativity, He came to a hostile world, a world which would shortly reject and crucify Him. He knew that would happen, and yet He came.

Incarnation love. What does it mean for us in the 1970s?

therefore

Published six times a year by INFORMATION SERVICES, Brethren In Christ Missions, P.O. Box 149, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. Editor: Glen A. Pierce.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$1.00 per year. Please add \$1.00 for subscriptions outside Canada and the U.S.A.

s - No Doctor

by Marilyn Ebersole
Lab Technician

pulp. It takes the nurse an hour to sew them back into a semblance of their former shape. We could mention other instances which have driven us to our knees, and to the textbooks.

Having no doctor is also a financial strain on the hospital. It's an answer to prayer that the government is continuing grants for the present staff to the end of 1972. But the grant adding the most to the budget was the doctor's. Adding to the financial strain is extra trips to Bulawayo with patients. We treat as many as possible, but we can't do Caesarian sections, hip pinnings, or pyelograms, etc.

Having no doctor also adds to the financial problems of the people. After Sunday lunch, we found two young boys waiting to see us. We recognized one who had come to the outpatient department with a fractured arm on Friday. The nurse had written a letter and sent him to Mpilo Hospital in Bulawayo by bus. He came to tell us that a cast was put on his arm and he was to return to Mpilo on Monday. But he did not have bus fare for another trip. Fortunately the doctor who treated him had written a note, and we finished the treatment here.

It is true that we have seen many answers to prayer, and appreciate the many who remember us in prayer these days. God has given extra strength and wisdom to those of us who must assume responsibility above our training. But we cannot suppress the thought in the back of our minds . . . there must be a doctor somewhere, whom the Lord is calling to serve at Mtshabezi Hospital.

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by Harvey Sider

Toward Maturity

Bihari, Uraon, Santal, and Muunda church leaders, with several high school students, attended the fifth annual Banmankhi Bible Institute. Remarks from a cross-section of the group reveal the value of such an Institute, set up so it does not disrupt normal working patterns.



MOONSI MARANDI *Converted six years ago, the first Christian of Jalutola, who helped establish a thriving congregation in his village. He is now an evangelist.*

The things of God are not just ordinary things. The Bible seems like a large ocean. The Bible School helps us be prepared to answer difficult questions people ask, and helps us win souls to Christ.

ISAAC PAUL *The oldest Christian (Benjamin Marandi is older in years), father of Rev. Hem K. Paul. One of the men responsible for Benjamin Marandi starting the work among the Santals.*

Bible School is a way...for us to become strong in our faith. This was started because the need was recognized that more advanced training was necessary. This is also a means of fellowship.



PATROS HEMBROM *Regional superintendent of the Santal church. His son Joel, a high school graduate interested in paramedical training, also attended the Institute.*

Bible School helps us grow spiritually, to have victory over Satan, and to serve the Church. Through this study help, we learn how properly to interpret the Bible.

SOWNA MURMU *A farmer who owns three acres of land, also doing day labor. He is a lay leader at Balwa, the largest of the Santal churches.*

Bible School is important to me because it helps me learn God's Word which I can then teach to my neighbors. Many difficult things are explained and we also receive new knowledge.



Photos by John Sider

Higher Callings?

"Long, long ago there lived a man who was mystical. A halo was placed on his head, with words of praises filled with admiration and wonder. He had said, 'I feel led,' and was sent." (STAFFcom)

"...removal from a board is generally considered in Brethren in Christ circles as a sign of degradation and uselessness, and presence on a board is erroneously associated with power and helpfulness." (Letter to Editor, EVANGELICAL VISITOR)

In these recently-published statements, two specific aspects of the missions task are exposed to the searchlights of Christian concern. That people involved in the mission of Christ can get isolated on pedestals is discomfoting. When this happens, the problems of society with 'big shots' creeps into the fellowship of those who follow the One whose only pedestal was a cross. (Of course, the big-shot syndrome does not affect only missions, but can also be seen in many other aspects of brotherhood life.)

Those early Christians did a good job of overcoming the pedestal syndrome. Take that silver-tongued Apollos. His talent made him an attractive candidate for the missions cause. But it took Priscilla and Aquila to move in and minister to his need, without regard to his 'status.' Only then was he able to move on to Greece, having been saved for useful service.

Barnabas helped a lot in those early days. He paid the price to get close enough to the leadership where he could help keep his brethren 'honest.' He sponsored the brainy radical Paul before the rough-hewn Peter and company, an important first step towards a missions commission. Later on, he sponsored a second-string youngster, John Mark, to that same Paul, who was now obsessed about quality, content, guts, and all the other ingredients so necessary for an 'effective' missionary.

Paul was on the cutting edge, and he knew it. He made trips back to Jerusalem for confirmation of his work and his standing. But when he saw Peter wavering at Antioch, contaminating the mind and attitude of as stable a person as Barnabas, Paul gambled with his own status, confronted Peter as a brother, and strengthened the Christian fellowship.

Defying the social structures, the early believers practiced brotherhood as learned from Jesus. Mary of Bethany was one of the first to capture the essence of genuine relationships. She did a radical thing in deserting her powerful sister Martha to sit at Jesus' feet and listen to Him. Jesus, who was never fooled nor accepted hero worship, did accept Mary's ministry to Him as was evidenced when she later anointed His feet.

Today's Christians can learn from Jesus and take courage from the examples of Mary, Priscilla, Aquila, Barnabas and Paul. Watch out for those pedestals. Better to serve one another in love.

—"James"



JAPAN...

Youth Bib

We thank God for everything which happened to us during Bible Camp, because we know that in it and through it all God has been loving us with an everlasting love.

This Bible Camp was the first one we have ever had for our small group at Yamamoto. When it was suggested by Mr. Thomas we thought it was a good idea, but at the same time we felt unsure whether we could finish it with success. And actually, a big problem happened at the very beginning of the camp.

Arriving at the destination in the evening, we were told that there were no rooms for sleeping, because of a misconnection with Father Horvat (the caretaker of this seaside camp house at Kiyo). If things came to the worst, we knew we would have to give up staying there and go back to Shimonoseki. But fortunately, the other group was also a Christian group. They offered us their room to sleep in, and also shared the breakfast table with us





Photos by Dwight Thomas

Bible Camp

by NORIAKI ODANI

the next morning. This is one of the privileges God gives us. We met them for the first time, and they didn't know us either, but as we were brothers and sisters in Christ we could easily make friends with each other.

In all things God works for good. Through that happening each one of us were strengthened and everyone served God's purpose of making this camp successful. I think the key reason for the camp's success was the fact that everyone involved in it cooperated. Uchida-san and Tojo-san, our lay leaders at Yamanota, led us in the morning Bible study sessions. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas took care of the evening campfire and the recreation. The Baiko High School girls did the cooking for us. And each of us led in a short devotional—reading a passage, singing hymns, giving a short talk, or just talking about some personal problem.

This Bible Camp was only one special event in our lives, but through it we could learn the importance of cooperation. This same attitude should also apply to our church. We must all actively participate in the program of the church, cooperating in every possible way. God gives each of us various suitable gifts, but it is then our Christian responsibility to use these gifts in the Church.

We thank God again, not only for the blessings and enjoyment of the Bible Camp, but we thank Him for everything.

The movement of Christian workers from one field to another is not new. In Acts, the Spirit moved Philip from a thriving preaching mission in Samaria to an isolated witness in the desert. The author here reflects on some of the differences in ministering for many years in Saharsa, India, and then moving to join the staff of the Navajo Mission, New Mexico.

INDIANS:

Bihari / Navajo

by Esther Book

Perhaps I felt a bit like the disciples when Christ was telling them about a future they didn't understand. But all of God's promises were there—"The Holy Spirit will teach you all things"... "The Comforter will abide with you and guide you"... "I give my peace unto you"... "Whatsoever you ask, I will do it"... "I will come to you again"... "Because I live, ye shall live also." What more was needed? He is not disappointing to trusting ones, and He has been very close and real to me as I am adjusting to the Navajo Mission.

The Navajo children seem very different from the children of India. Their patterns of dress and eating, as well as the food, are more American. Their attitudes are different. Once these people were confined and pushed onto reservations, but their spirit has not been captured. They resent aggression. For this reason, silence may be the only answer one receives for too personal a question.

Younger Navajo children cannot easily express themselves in the English language. Because of this difficulty many do not enjoy going to school. This may change if they could be educated in their own vernacular, by Navajo teachers. They do not display an innate respect for their teachers, while children in India for centuries have been taught to respect their *gurus* (though this is beginning to break down in this age).

There is a tendency not to listen attentively to Bible teaching. However, there seems to be some assimilation without evident attention. The boys, especially, do not enjoy repeating verses.

What are they saying? Did you say our boys lost the softball game? "Yes, they skint us," one affirmed. But I understand that we won. Very seriously they chorused, "No-oo!" The more I was 'taken in' the better the joke was. Twice I had to verify that our team had won, by a large margin.

In traditional Navajo culture, names are not used commonly. This is also very true in India where, except for using a name for disrespect, the elders are called the mother, father, or grand-

parents of the oldest child. Children's names usually have beautiful meanings, referring to the abstract, to seasons, to nature, or even to native religious gods.

The Navajo children are shy in the classroom—often unwilling to tell a story or even say a sentence. But outside the classroom they will come up and even begin conversations. They are eager for love and attention, like all children.

Again I'm reminded in a new way that God loves the whole world. He loves the Navajo. He loves the Hindu, Uraon, and Santal. He loves us. We have not always loved, not even our neighbor. But "Jesus, the shape of the Spirit, is terrible purifying love...any transformation ends in a cross—the ultimate shape of the Spirit." [HIS SPIRIT FIRST, by David Shank.]

This Is It!

...the second issue of therefore, that is...and the last issue to be circulated in bulk through the congregations. The next issue (JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1973) will be mailed direct to the homes of subscribers.

In coming issues of therefore we'll be looking at missionary life through the eyes of a young VSer in "When The Way Grows Weary...", seeing the influence of evangelist Maria Tshuma in Salisbury, and feeling the challenge of radio programming with Leoda Buckwalter and FEBA-India...plus many other features you won't want to miss!

Why not stop right now...fill out the subscription blank below, and mail it with \$1.00 so you can receive the next issue without delay. May we suggest you do as others are doing, and subscribe for that son or daughter away at school? At 17¢ per issue—like the man once said—"It's cheap at twice the price."

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therefore

box 149
elizabethtown, pa 17022

Canadian subscribers: please
use coupon on page 10.

I wish to subscribe to therefore, and am enclosing \$1.00 for six issues (one year). Add \$1.00 if outside the U.S.A. and Canada.

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

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I attend the _____ congregation.

[NOTE: Subscriptions begin with the January-February 1973 issue.]

UNEXPECTED RESULTS FROM SPIC

The following letter was received early in November, asking about promotional material on SPIC (Scholarship Program for Indian Children):

Dear Rev. Musser:

I am writing you for friends of ours, who are interested in the SPIC program. They are non-Christians, but feel a need to do something for their fellowman. About two and a half years ago my wife and I were in a similar situation and now find that the Lord used SPIC to draw us to Him. Jesus put His hand on our shoulders and with His grace kept it there until both of us were saved through His wonderful plan, about a year ago. I don't know what the Lord has in store for our friends, but we are praying for a similar experience—that they might find the abundant life.

If you would be so kind, Brother Musser, to mail them a few brochures and information regarding SPIC, we would be very grateful. Their name and address follows.

In closing, we thank you for the wonderful work you are doing for our Lord in His service. We ourselves have known Him now for almost a year and we love Him more than I can write.

In Him, I remain,
(signed)

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therefore

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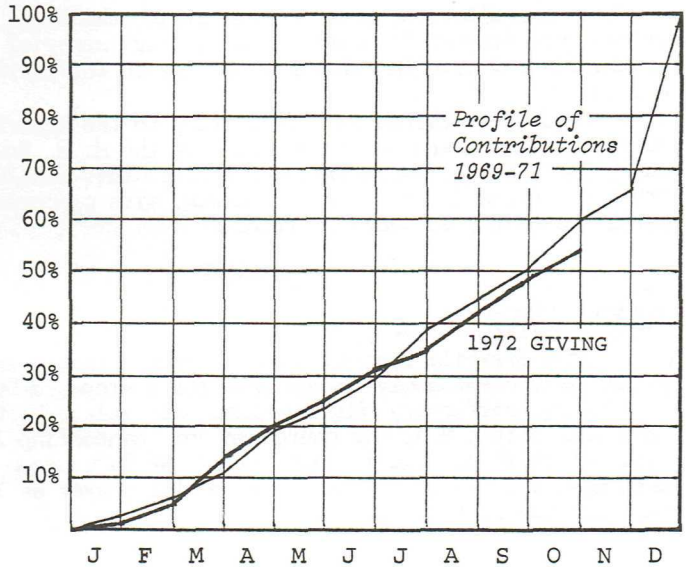
City _____ Province _____

I attend the _____ congregation.

[NOTE: Subscriptions begin with the January-February 1973 issue.]

Year-End Patterns

1972 MISSIONS BUDGET: \$447,090



In recent years, a pattern has emerged in the missions giving in November and December (the final "push" months of our fiscal year). The chart below shows the *percentage* of the *total year's* mission budget which was received in these two months:

	November Receipts	December Receipts
1969	6.65%	33.49%
1970	7.48%	33.10%
1971	7.46%	32.63%
1972	?	?

If the amount of money received in November follows the pattern of the past three years (shown above), the December task would be to raise 38.3% of the year's budget. Translated into dollars, this would mean the raising of \$166,835 in the final month. Of course, if missions giving in November increases, this will lighten the December task accordingly.

Budget posters have been sent to all Brethren in Christ pastors. Your pastor will receive several "updates" as the year comes to a close. The missionaries are on the field... will we continue our support of them?

H. H. BRUBAKER MEMORIAL FUND

In consultation with the family of the late H. H. Brubaker, it has been decided to establish a "living" memorial to our beloved brother, who served the church eminently on two continents for half a century.

People interested in contributing to the Memorial Scholarship Fund may send their contributions to the H. H. Brubaker Memorial Fund, Box 149, Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022. This fund will be held in trust in Africa by the African church, with proceeds being used to assist deserving students in Africa.



TOKYO PRAYER REQUEST

John Graybill reports that the Tokyo church has gathered together sufficient money to buy land for a proposed building, but is now having difficulty finding land for sale. "I've checked with five real estate men, the churchmen are contacting local land owners, but still not one is interested. We have begun special prayer meetings; all the Christians have special prayer at 12:00 noon each day; and the hunt continues."

MEDICAL FURLOUGH

Rev. and Mrs. Luke Keefer, principal of Ekuphileni Bible Institute, Rhodesia, have come home on an early furlough for treatment of his eye condition. Following interim service as pastor at the Free Grace congregation, he will be available from March through July for contacts throughout the church. Please contact the office in Elizabethtown for scheduling of the Keefers.

COMING SOON IN THE EVANGELICAL VISITOR

"Enlightenment at Matopo"...Photo essay on the Rhodesian Regional Conference... "Confessions of a I-W"... just a few of the articles to be in coming issues of the EVANGELICAL VISITOR.

therefore

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