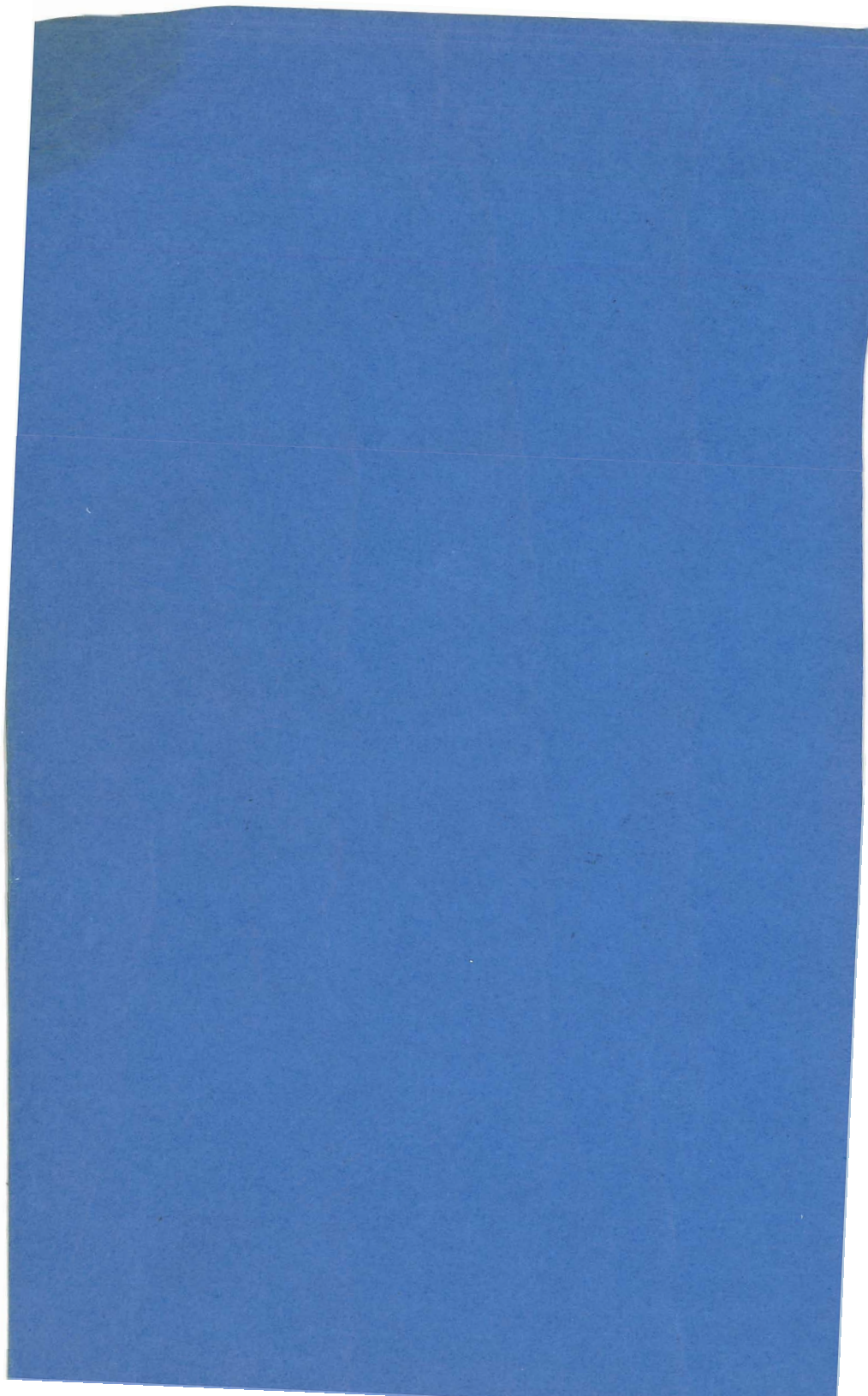


*Bible Fellowship
Church*



Year Book

1967



EIGHTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ADJOURNED SESSION (I) of the 84th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

of the

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Twelfth Meeting

Saturday Morning, January 6, 1968

The meeting was opened with Carl C. Cassel directing the singing of "Lead On, O King Eternal." Frank L. Herb, Jr., led in prayer.

Carl C. Cassel gave the devotional address based upon Joshua 1. Leadership was the subject emphasized. Each leader must be aware of God's commission upon them. Each must in turn respond accordingly to the commission and pass the message on to those who must be led and then they must respond to the God appointed leadership.

The Roll was called.

Resolved, that absent members be excused, and, further, that alternate delegates be seated.

The Committee to study Church Government requested 45 minutes to present three papers relative to the report.

C. E. Kirkwood presented material outlining the background of the report and a brief history of the Committee.

Carl C. Cassel presented the Major thrust of the report.

James A. Beil presented areas of change.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY CHURCH GOVERNMENT (See Report, page 94).

ARTICLE IV MINISTERS

The Lord of the Church has given gifts to men called ministers in His church. The office of the ministry is the first in the church in both dignity and usefulness. The one who fills the office is described in the Scriptures by several terms. As he has the oversight of the flock of Christ, he is termed bishop. As he feeds them with spiritual food, he is termed pastor (shepherd). As he serves Christ in the church, he is termed minister. As it is his duty to be an example to the flock in godliness and to govern well in the church of Christ, he is termed elder. As he is sent to declare the will of God to sinners, and to beseech them to be reconciled to God

through Christ, he is termed an evangelist.

It was adopted.

ARTICLE V ELDERS

In the New Testament church, Christ has provided men called elders whom he has enabled and commissioned to govern with ministers in His church.

Men who bear this office share equally with ministers the authority in and responsibility for the life of the church; but in contrast to ministers, whose primary authority and responsibility is in the Word and doctrine and secondarily in ruling the primary authority and responsibility of elders is ruling and governing and secondarily in the Word and doctrine.

Those who fill this office should be examples to the flock of their sound faith, their blameless life and conduct and their wisdom and discretion.

Elders, as representatives of the people, are chosen by the membership of the church on the basis of Scriptural qualifications.

It was adopted.

Resolved that we adjourn to meet at 1:15 p.m.

Adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Thirteenth Meeting Saturday afternoon, January 6, 1968

ARTICLE VI DEACONS

The office of deacon is presented in the Scriptures as an office not of ruling, but of service. A deacon should be a man of deep spiritual life, exemplary conduct and sound judgment. His office is one of sympathetic service to the church and to the distressed, friendless or sick, after the example of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It was adopted.

ARTICLE VII CHURCH GOVERNMENT

By providing spiritually qualified overseers, called elders, Christ enables each particular church to govern itself.

But though the churches are autonomous, they are not independent because they are a part of a fellowship of churches. The basis of this fellowship is mutual conviction of the body of truth set forth in the Scriptures.

The Authority of the fellowship is secondary, being derived from the particular churches, and is limited to matters which pertain to the churches in fellowship or to common concerns which churches agree to take care of together.

All authority in the church, whether in particular churches or in the denomination, is moral and spiritual, ministerial and declarative; it is moral and spiritual, negatively, in that it is unable to use civil force to compel obedience, and positively, in that obedience is incomplete unless it is inward and real as well as outward and apparent; it is ministerial and declarative in that the Holy Scriptures are the only rule of faith and conduct and therefore all decisions and laws must be understood as being servants of the Word, announcing that which the body believes the Scriptures to teach with the constant recognition that "councils may err" through frailty inseparable from humanity.

It was adopted.

ARTICLE VIII BOARD OF ELDERS

The Board of Elders shall be composed of the Minister and all the active elders of the congregation. The lay elders shall be elected by majority vote of the congregation. They shall be mature men who meet the qualifications of Scripture (I Tim. 3; Titus 1; I Peter 5). The number of elders chosen to serve on the Board shall be established by the congregation by ballot vote upon the recommendation of the Board of Elders.

The Minister shall serve as chairman of the Board of Elders; they shall elect one of their members to serve as Secretary. Two-thirds of the membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

The duty of the Board of Elders is the general oversight of the life and work of the church including the worship, preaching, ordinances, evangelism, visitation, discipline, finances and maintenance of the properties.

Because they are "undershepherds" and not "lords" the elders shall rule the congregation according to the direction of Christ, the Chief Shepherd, as expressed in the Scriptures and the needs of the membership. They shall hold semi-annual congregational meetings to report the status of the work to the congregation; and when they deem it advisable, present recommendations to the congregation. The congregation shall have the power to accept, to suggest changes or to reject such recommendations.

The Board of Elders shall be the channel of communication between the particular church and the fellowship of churches and its organizations. The elders shall nominate from their number and the congregation elect the representative(s) from the particular church to the fellowship-wide level.

It was adopted.

ARTICLE IX ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The church consists of many congregations which need mutual counsel and assistance to preserve soundness of doctrine and discipline, to enter into joint efforts for the advancement of the work of Christ and to prevent infidelity, error and immorality.

From this arises the importance and usefulness of assemblies of particular churches.

The assembly of churches shall represent, in one body, all the particular churches of this denomination and shall be called the Annual Conference of the Bible Fellowship Church.

The Annual Conference shall consist of every ordained minister laboring in direct relationship to the Bible Fellowship Church, every ordained minister who is retired, every probationer who has been called to pastor a church, and one lay elder from every properly constituted church with the membership of two hundred or less and one additional lay elder for two hundred members in excess of the first two hundred. Ordained ministers who retain membership in one of our churches and who are engaged in Christian service not directly related to our Annual Conference, probationers who have not been called to pastor a church and missionaries who hold membership in one of our churches and are under the supervision of the Board of Foreign Missions, shall be advisory members of the Annual Conference. They shall not participate in the deliberations of the sessions except by permission by the chairman.

The Annual Conference shall provide legislation, govern the affairs of the churches on the denominational level and receive appeals, complaints or other references from churches about doctrine or government. It alone shall have the power to amend the FAITH AND ORDER. It shall decide issues as a final court of appeal. Although it is responsible for these duties, it shall not invade the autonomy of the particular churches.

The Annual Conference shall have the power to resolve questions of doctrine or discipline seriously and reasonably proposed; to reprove, warn or bear testimony against error in doctrine or immorality in practice in any church; to examine and license candidates for the ministry; to ordain, install, judge and remove ministers; to examine and approve or censure the records of particular churches; to unite or divide congregations at the request of the people; to provide for supervision of vacant pulpits and to give counsel in calling pastors.

It shall keep and publish a record of the proceedings of its sessions and make them available to the membership of the churches.

Each meeting of the Annual Conference shall be opened and closed with prayer. The business sessions shall be conducted according to the Standing Rules (Business Rules of the Conference). The parliamentary procedure shall be according to Robert's Rules of Order except in places where our legislation provides otherwise.

It was adopted.

Resolved, that Article X be referred back to the Committee on Church Government.

Resolved, that Article XI be referred back to the Committee on Church Government.

Resolved, that we suspend the rules and adjourn. Adjourned at 4:00 p.m. with prayer by Donald T. Kirkwood.

Fourteenth Meeting
Saturday Morning, April 6, 1968

The meeting was opened with the singing of "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" led by Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., and F. B. Hertzog led in prayer.

F. B. Hertzog brought the devotional message. Remarks were based upon Luke 10:16. It was emphasized that compassion, not fear, must be manifested by the servants of God in their work for Him in these times of trouble. Courage is to be derived in knowing that those who hear the messenger (you) hear Jesus Christ (me).

A time of prayer was spent for various conference needs and for our government at this time of national crises.

Resolved, that we accept the excuses of the absent members and seat the alternate delegates in the conference bar.

The following were elected:

Superintendent: A. L. Seifert
Vice Superintendent: John H. Riggall

Whereas, the Nominating Committee and Conference Body have been unable to procure any nominees for the office of Director of Church Extension, therefore,

Resolved, that by use of the Rule of Exception, the Board of Church Extension supervise the work of church extension for the 1968-1969 conference year, and further,

Resolved, that the Board of Church Extension make a study of the office of the Director of Church Extension, its duties and potentiality, and further,

Resolved, that a report be submitted to the 1968 Annual Conference.

The vote was "yes" 63, "no" 15.

The following were elected:

Vice-Chairman of Annual Conference: Carl C. Cassel
Secretary of Annual Conference: Ernest B. Hartman

Robert Eckland, Norman B. Jerome and Donald J. Ritter briefly addressed the conference body.

Resolved, that a nominating committee be elected by using two nominating ballots... one for ministers and one for laymen. From the nominees, the 8 ordained ministers receiving the highest number of votes shall be considered candidates. The 6 laymen

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receiving the highest number of votes shall be considered candidates.

Resolved, that we suspend the rules and adjourn to meet this afternoon.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m. with prayer by Mark T. Smith.

**Fifteenth Meeting
Saturday Afternoon, April 6, 1968**

The meeting was opened at 1:45 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

The Chairman appointed the following:

Committee on Statistics: Willard E. Cassel, Donald T. Kirkwood, LeRoy S. Heller, John Dunn

The following were elected:

Nominating Committee: John H. Riggall, James G. Koch, David E. Thomann, Daniel G. Ziegler, Robert W. Gehret, Horace A. Kauffman, Clyde W. Snyder.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS - Administrative Budget:

The Conference Administrative Budget for the year beginning on October 1, 1968 is presented herewith:

1. Publication and Printing.....	\$ 1,500.00
2. Conference Entertainment.....	640.35
3. Beneficiary Fund.....	800.00
4. District Superintendent:	
(a) Annual Support.....	7,000.00
(b) Travel & Utility Grant	3,400.00
5. District Superintendent's Parsonage.....	4,362.17
6. Ministers' Retirement Fund	5,000.00
7. Moving Fund.....	3,200.00
8. Expenses for Boards and Committees while transacting Conference Business.....	800.00
9. Other Expenses of Board of Directors	290.00
10. Contingencies	500.00
11. Ministerial Convention Expenses	400.00
	\$ 27,892.52

Subscriptions to Administration Budget 1968-1969

Allentown (Bethel)	1,800.	Mount Carmel	696.
Allentown (Cedar Crest)	600.	Nazareth	576.
Allentown (Salem)	350.	Phila. (Calvary)	500.
Bethlehem	2,160.	Phila. (Emmanuel)	376.

Blandon	500.	Paradise	360.
Catasauqua	372.	Quakertown	1,105.
Coopersburg	800.	Reading	1,920.
Denver	350.	Royersford	650.
Easton	450.	Scranton	450.
Emmaus	1,500.	Shamokin	480.
Ephrata	100.	Sinking Spring	216.
Fleetwood	862.	Staten Island	300.
Graterford	650.	Spring City	600.
Harleysville	400.	Stroudsburg	258.
Harrisburg	800.	Sunbury	1,200.
Hatfield	1,280.	Terre Hill	700.
Lancaster	500.	Wallingford	1,200.
Lebanon	380.	York	850.
Lehighton	401.52	Zionsville	300.
Maple Glen	900.	Total	\$ 27,892.52

The Budget was adopted.

Whereas, David Hendershot, who served faithfully as a member of the Youth Fellowship General Committee has submitted his resignation due to other responsibilities,

Resolved, that the members of the adjourned session elect a member to serve the one and one half year unexpired term of Mr. Hendershot.

The following was elected: Benjamin Pattison

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS:

Whereas, Roy Hertzog has served commendably under the Board of Foreign Missions and is recommended by them for ordination, and,

Whereas, the Ministerial Candidate Committee has recommended that he be ordained, and,

Whereas, after examination before this Committee we are convinced that he is in accord with our **Faith and Order**, and is called of God to the Gospel Ministry,

We therefore, Recommend that Roy Hertzog be ordained at a service to be held in Bethel Bible Fellowship Church of Allentown, Pa., on the evening of May 5, 1968.

(C.E. Kirkwood, Frank L. Herb, Jr., A. L. Seifert, John H. Riggall, W. B. Hottel, Committee)

Resolved, that we adjourn to meet Saturday, April 13, at 9:00 a.m. at the Bethel Church, 529 N. 8th Street, Allentown, Pa.

Adjourned with prayer by Carl C. Cassel at 4:30 p.m.

Sixteenth Meeting
Saturday Morning, April 13, 1968

The meeting was opened by James A. Beil, who directed the singing of "The Day of Resurrection" and led in prayer. A devotional meditation based on Acts 15:1-29 was given by Jansen E. Hartman, depicting the life of the Jerusalem church council and its relationship to the present day church.

The roll was taken.

Resolved, that we accept the excuses of absent members, and alternate delegates be seated.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BEREAN BIBLE SCHOOL

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Berean Bible School I submit the following action to the Adjourned Session of the 84th Annual Conference meeting in Bethel Church, Allentown, Pa., on Saturday, April 13, 1968 for ratification:

The election of Rev. Jansen E. Hartman as President of Berean Bible School for the term beginning on June 30, 1968 and ending on June 30, 1969. This action was taken by the Board at a special meeting on Saturday, February 17, 1968.

- Donald R. Knauer, Secretary

The report was accepted and the election ratified.

Resolved, that we adjourn to meet again at 1:30 p. m. to 4:00 p. m.

Seventeenth Meeting
Saturday Afternoon, April 13, 1968

The meeting was opened at 1:30 p. m.

Resolved, that the Annual Conference empower the Board of Directors to negotiate for the purchase of the Bible Conference grounds known as Pinebrook, as well as the adjoining 40 acres and buildings owned by Richard Crawford, and, if a suitable price can be agreed upon, to empower the Board of Directors to make such a purchase.

Resolved, that the above question require a 2/3rd majority for adoption.

The vote was "yes"- 45; "no"- 19.

Resolved, that we extend the time.

REPORT OF THE FIRST CAMP

Chairman: John H. Riggall

Recording Secretary: Willard E. Cassel

Financial Secretary: Donald T. Kirkwood

George E. Herb, Sec.

REPORT OF THE SECOND CAMP

Chairman: James G. Koch

Recording Secretary: Leon K. Overpeck

Financial Secretary: John Dunn

Leon K. Overpeck, Sec.

Chairman of Erection, John H. Riggall

Chairman of Dismantling, William A. Heffner

Resolved, that the Board of Directors shall have, and they hereby are, given authority to arrange for such financing as will be involved in the purchase of Pinebook.

Resolved, that we adjourn.

Adjourned at 4:15 p. m. with prayer by Frank L. Herb, Jr.

EIGHTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ADJOURNED SESSION (2) of the 84th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
of the
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Eighteenth Meeting
Saturday Morning, June 15, 1968

The meeting was opened with the singing of "More Like the Master" led by Norman R. Weiss.

Earl M. Hosler gave a devotional address from Galatians 5:34-26 and Hebrews 10:24. Thoughts were centered on the theme of provoking one another. Negative and positive aspects were presented.

Ronald Jansen and T.D. Gehret led the conference in prayer.

The Roll was called.

Resolved, that the absent members be excused and that alternate delegates be seated.

Resolved, that the representative of the Harleysville church be seated having all the rights and privileges of the delegate.

Resolved, that minutes of the previous adjourned session be approved as circulated.

This special session of Annual Conference was convened at the request of the Committee to Plan the Development of the Bible Fellowship Church Conference Center. The purpose of this session shall be:

1. To consider recommendations from the Conference Center Planning Committee for the future program at Pinebrook.

2. To provide information concerning progress in negotiating the sale of Mizpah Grove and our tract of land in Upper Macungie Township.

A report from the Board of Directors was given by the secretary of that board relative to the pending financial arrangements for the purchase of Pinebrook.

Resolved, that we create a Pinebrook Service Board according to its outline in the proposed by-laws, that its first membership be elected at the 1968 Annual Conference, and that as soon as possible, permanent by-laws be brought to the Annual Conference for its approval.

Resolved, that we create a Pinebrook Bible Conference Board according to the outline in the proposed by-laws, that its first membership be elected at the 1968 Annual Conference, and that as soon as possible, permanent by-laws be brought to the Annual Conference for its approval.

Resolved, that upon the election of the Pinebrook Service Board and the Pinebrook Bible Conference Board, both the Committee to Plan the Development of the Bible Fellowship Church Conference Center and the Board of Mizpah Grove shall be abolished and all monies be transferred to the Pinebrook Bible Conference Board.

Resolved, that A. L. Seifert serve as Bible Conference Director until provision for a permanent director is made. All correspondence concerning use of facilities shall be directed to him until further notification.

Due to his involvement in the Bible Conference Program, attendance at Local Conferences and Sunday services shall be at his discretion in so far as time may permit.

Resolved, that the Board of Mizpah Grove operate Pinebrook until the Pinebrook Service Board and the Pinebrook Bible Conference Board are elected.

Resolved, that the Board of Mizpah Grove, presently constituted, plan the program for the summer of 1969. They shall serve until the new Bible Conference Board is elected.

Time shall be set aside at the two camps this summer in which the District Superintendent shall direct an open discussion among the pastors present to analyze policy and program for future years.

We recommend that all the pastors be brought into the planning for the summer Bible Conference that would bring the greatest degree of participation of pastors and churches.

Resolved, that a committee of three composed of John H. Riggall, Robert W. Gehret and Kermit K. Gehman plan a Labor Day program for 1968 at Pinebrook.

Resolved, that we adjourn.

Adjourned at 1:00 p.m. with prayer by William A. Heffner.

P R O C E E D I N G S

Eighty-Fourth Annual Conference

of the

Bible Fellowship Church

1 9 6 7

Convened in the Bethel Bible Fellowship Church,
526-530 North Eighth Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania

October 9-13, 1967

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Ernest B. Hartman, Editor

Price \$1.00

FAITH'S REWARD



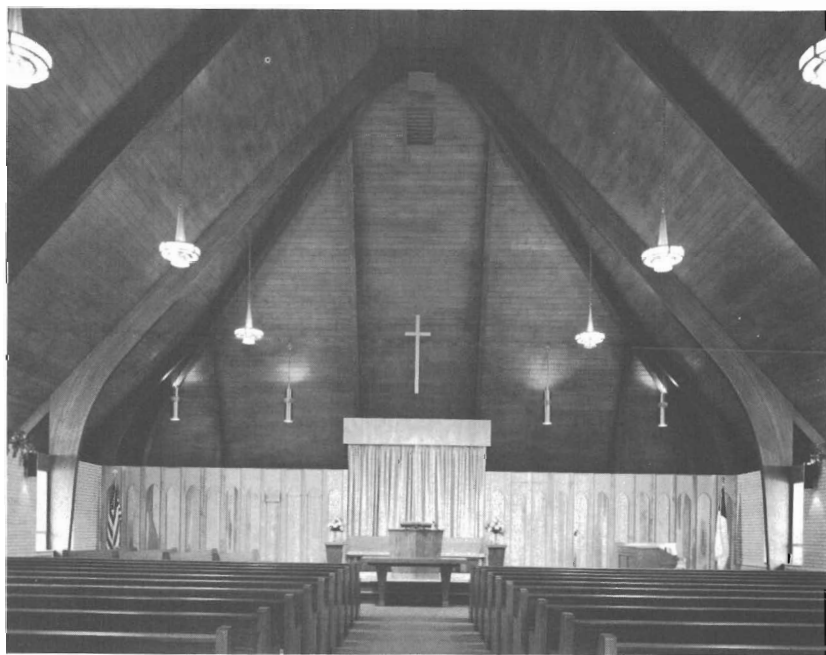
Interior of Church, Allentown (Cedar Crest)



Exterior of Church, Allentown (Cedar Crest)



Exterior of Church, Coopersburg



Interior of Church, Coopersburg

OFFICIAL RECORD

Officers of the Eighty-Fourth Annual Conference

Chairman, A. L. Seifert
 Vice Chairman, C. E. Kirkwood
 Secretary, Ernest B. Hartman

Officers for 1967-1968

Chairman, A. L. Seifert	Secretary, Ernest B. Hartman
Vice Chairman, C. E. Kirkwood	Treasurer, Harold W. Griest

District Superintendent

A. L. Seifert

Vice District Superintendent

John H. Riggall

Director of Church Extension

Earl M. Hosler

President of Berean Bible School

Jansen E. Hartman

BOARDS and COMMITTEES

Board of Directors:

Arlington L. Seifert, 1218 E. Rosemont Drive, Bethlehem, Pa.
 18018, Chairman and President.
 Byron C. Cassel, 747 Hillcrest Avenue, Glenside, Pa. 19038,
 Vice President and Financial Secretary
 Jansen E. Hartman, 1020 S. Hall Street, Allentown, Pa. 18103,
 Secretary
 Harold W. Griest, 23 Thornridge Road, Springfield, Pa. 19064,
 Treasurer
 Carl C. Cassel, 529 N. Eighth Street, Allentown, Pa. 18102
 Frank L. Herb, Jr., 1124 N. Main Street, Bethlehem, Pa. 18018
 Earl M. Hosler, 424 Ridge Street, Emmaus, Pa. 18049
 Kermit K. Gehman, 416 North Third Street, Emmaus, Pa. 18049
 Paul I. Wentz, 1003 S. Jefferson Street, Allentown, Pa. 18103

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Beneficiary Society:

C. E. Kirkwood, President; Ernest B. Hartman, Secretary;
John H. Riggall, Treasurer.

Board of Church Extension:

A. L. Seifert, Earl M. Hosler
Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., James G. Koch, Daniel G. Ziegler, John
L. Deily, Charles G. Hersch

A. L. Seifert, Chairman Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., Secretary

Board of Directors of Berean Bible School:

A. L. Seifert,
(1 year) James A. Beil, Dr. R. Wallace Journey, Robert W.
Gehret, Byron C. Cassel.
(2 years) Jansen E. Hartman, David J. Watkins, Horace A.
Kauffman, Albert L. Wentz.
(3 years) Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., Donald R. Knauer, Carl Rishel,
John M. Stengele.

Board of Directors of the Bible Fellowship Church Home:

(1 year) T. D. Gehret, E. W. Bean, Ernest B. Hartman, Paul H.
Cressman.
(2 years) James A. Beil, A. L. Seifert, Paul I. Wentz.

A. L. Seifert, President E. W. Bean, Secretary
T. D. Gehret, Vice President Paul I. Wentz, Treasurer

Board of Foreign Missions:

A. L. Seifert
T. D. Gehret, Russell T. Allen Willard E. Cassel, James G.
Koch, Robert Breitegam, James G. Cressman, Kermit K.
Gehman, Roy E. Williams

A. L. Seifert, Chairman T. D. Gehret, Secretary

Board of Mizpah Grove:

A. L. Seifert
(1 year) David E. Thomann, Bert N. Brosius, Robert W. Gehret,
Albert L. Wentz.
(2 years) George E. Herb, Robert W. Smock, Harold A. Mann,
Norman W. Granda

A. L. Seifert, Chairman Robert W. Smock, Secretary

Board of Victory Valley:

A. L. Seifert

Carl C. Cassel, Donald R. Knauer, Ronald C. Mahurin, Kermit K. Gehman, Bright Heist, Paul I. Wentz, Jr.

Carl C. Cassel, Chairman Donald R. Knauer, Secretary
Kermit K. Gehman, Treasurer

Committee on Credentials:

C. E. Kirkwood, Chairman; Frank L. Herb, Jr., Secretary; A. L. Seifert, John H. Riggall, W. B. Hottel.

Committee on Ministerial Candidates:

Carl C. Cassel, Chairman; David J. Watkins, Secretary; Russell T. Allen, James A. Beil, Earl M. Hosler

Committee to Publish Fellowship News:

Robert W. Smock, Chairman; William R. Hunsberger, Secretary; Paul T. Rutman, Financial Secretary; David E. Thomann, Editor, R. C. Reichenbach, Business Manager.

Historical Committee:

(1 year) Daniel G. Ziegler, (2 years) Byron C. Cassel, (3 years) Paul H. Cressman

Byron C. Cassel, Chairman Daniel G. Ziegler, Secretary

Sunday School Promotion Committee:

A. L. Seifert, Earl M. Hosler

(1 year) David J. Watkins, Norman L. Reed, William R. Hunsberger

(2 years) James G. Koch, Robert Truett, John Boyle

(3 years) Raymond R. Dotts, Keith E. Plows, James R. Cressman, Glenn W. Sheats

James G. Koch, Chairman Norman L. Reed, Rec. Sec.
William R. Hunsberger, James R. Cressman, Fin. Sec.
Ass't Chairman

Youth Fellowship General Committee:

A. L. Seifert

(1 year) Robert F. Johnson, Barry Kauffman, Harold Shelly, Jr.

(2 years) David J. Watkins, David Hendershot, John Vandegriff

(3 years) Ronald C. Mahurin, Daniel G. Ziegler, Clyde W. Snyder

APPOINTED COMMITTEES

Committee on Agenda:

Willard E. Cassel, Bert N. Brosius, LeRoy S. Heller

Committee on Program for Next Annual Conference:

Russell T. Allen, Donald T. Kirkwood, David J. Watkins

Committee on Publication and Printing:

David E. Thomann, Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., Robert W. Smock

Committee to Examine Annual Conference Minutes:

John H. Riggall, LeRoy S. Heller

Committee to Publish the Year Book:

Robert W. Smock, David E. Thomann, Willard E. Cassel

STUDY COMMITTEES

Committee on Church Government:

C. E. Kirkwood, Willard E. Cassel, Carl C. Cassel, Jansen E. Hartman, Frank L. Herb, Jr., John H. Riggall, James A. Beil

C. E. Kirkwood, Chairman Willard E. Cassel, Secretary

Committee on Pensions:

Constituted of lay members of Board of Directors of the Bible Fellowship Church (Byron C. Cassel, Kermit K. Gehman, Harold W. Griest, Paul I. Wentz.)

Committee to Coordinate Proposed Church Extension Legislation:

Earl M. Hosler, Daniel G. Ziegler, Carl C. Cassel, David J. Watkins, Frank L. Herb, Jr., John H. Riggall, C. E. Kirkwood, Willard E. Cassel, Byron C. Cassel, William A. Heffner

Byron C. Cassel, Chairman Willard E. Cassel, Secretary

Committee to Plan the Development of the Conference Center:

A. L. Seifert

Bert N. Brosius, David E. Thomann, Robert W. Smock, T. D. Gehret, Robert W. Gehret, A. L. Wentz, Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., Kermit K. Gehman, John H. Riggall, Jansen E. Hartman and 3 members of Board of Victory Valley Camp.

A. L. Seifert, Chairman Robert W. Smock, Secretary

Committee to Study Pulpit Supply:

Russell T. Allen, John H. Riggall, William A. Heffner, Carl C. Cassel, Byron C. Cassel, Harold W. Griest, Horace A. Kauffman

Byron C. Cassel, Chairman

Harold W. Griest, Secretary



Exterior of Church, Nazareth



Interior of Church, Nazareth

Business Rules of the Conference

1. Two sessions shall be held daily as follows: From 9:00 a. m. to 12:00 noon and from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

2. The Chairman shall take his seat precisely at the time to which the Conference is to convene, open and conduct the devotional exercises. The Secretary shall call the roll and read the minutes of the preceding session, after which business shall proceed as follows:

(a) Committee Reports, (b) Petitions, (c) Unfinished Business, (d) Miscellaneous Business

3. Anyone wishing to speak shall rise and respectfully address the chair. In case more than one should address the chair at the same time, the Chairman shall decide who is entitled to the floor.

4. No one shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes on any subject unless he receives permission by the Chair.

5. No one shall speak the second time until all who desire have spoken. He shall then ask permission by the Chair.

6. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to preserve order.

7. A Resolution to be effective must appear on the Minutes of the current year's proceedings. Said Resolution must appear on the Minutes for at least three successive years before it can be placed in the Standing Rules of the Conference.

8. Robert's Rules of Order is the basis for our parliamentary procedure.

9. Two copies of the Reports of all Standing Boards and Committees shall be mimeographed and sent to the Pastors one week previous to Annual Conference. Questions may be asked and corrections made before inclusion into the Annual Conference minutes. Reports shall not be read publicly, unless called for from the Conference floor.

10. Any exception to the Standing Rules may be allowed by three-fourth (3/4) of the Annual Conference. The reason for such exception shall be fully spread on the Minutes.

11. All proposals to amend our FAITH & ORDER must pass reading at two Annual Conferences by a two-third vote by ballot before final adoption.

12. The District Superintendent and the delegates of all Stations and Circuits shall constitute the Stationing and Appropiat-

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ing Committee. The Annual Conference may grant the status of a Station to a Mission Church which has contributed a minimum of \$4,200.00 to the Pastor and has petitioned Annual Conference requesting the change declaring that it no longer desires Church Extension appropriation.

If a Station fails to contribute \$4,200.00 to the Pastor, it shall forfeit its voice in the Stationing and Appropriating Committee.

The Stationing and Appropriating Committee shall have the right to revise the above amount annually.

13. At the Adjourned Session of the Annual Conference, a Nominating Committee shall be elected, composed of four ordained ministers and three laymen, to present nominees for the elections of the following year's Annual Conference.

Committees

Committees appointed by the Chairman, subject to the approval of the Conference:

1. Committee on Program (Appointed this year for next year's Conference)
2. Committee on Communications
3. Committee on Finance
4. Committee on Examination of Local Conference Minutes
5. Committee on Resolutions
6. Committee on Auditing

Standing Boards and Committees

(a) Appointed by the Chairman

1. Committee on Publication and Printing
2. Committee on Statistics
3. Committee on Examination of Annual Conference Minutes
4. Committee on Agenda

(b) Elected by Ballot

1. Board of Directors
2. Board of Foreign Missions
3. Board of Church Extension
4. Board of Directors of the Home
5. Board of Directors of Berean Bible School
6. Board of Victory Valley
7. Board of Mizpah Grove
8. Ministerial Candidate Committee
9. Youth Fellowship General Committee
10. Credentials Committee
11. Beneficiary Society (Officers elected by the Society)

12. Sunday School Promotion Committee
13. Historical Committee
14. Nominating Committee

Year Books -- The Secretary of the Annual Conference shall be Editor and Publisher of the Year Book. The official minutes of the Annual Conference shall be published therein.

The Secretary of the Annual Conference shall send Year Books to the Eastern and Western Clergy Bureaus and to any other agencies deemed advisable.

The Church shall be responsible to pay for Year Books within one week after receiving them.

In case a church or parsonage is built or purchased during the year, a photograph of the same shall be taken and a cut inserted in the Year Book next year.

By - Laws

(Special Laws and Resolutions)

Members of the Annual Conference shall be as follows:

1. All ordained ministers of the Bible Fellowship Church laboring under the direction of the Annual Conference.
2. All Probationers who have charge of a Conference appointment under the direction of the Annual Conference.
3. All retired ministers of the Bible Fellowship Church.
4. Lay delegate(s) from each Church or Circuit as provided by the FAITH & ORDER

Advisory members of the Annual Conference shall be as follows:

1. Ordained ministers of the Bible Fellowship Church who retain their membership in one of our local Churches, and who are engaged in Christian service not directly responsible to our Annual Conference.
2. Church Extension Pastors
3. Missionaries who hold membership in one of our Local Churches and are under the supervision of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Bible Fellowship Church.
4. Advisory members shall not be permitted to participate in Conference discussions except by request of the Chairman.

APPLICANTS AND PROBATIONERS

- A. No applicant for the ministry shall be received into the

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Conference as a Probationer who is not willing to submit himself unconditionally to the Stationing and Appropriating Committee.

B. No Probationer shall be ordained who is not fully in accord with our doctrine, with the itinerant plan, and submission to the Conference.

LOCAL CONFERENCE RULES

A. Each Pastor shall see that the Summary Financial Reports are correctly compiled and appended to the proceedings of the last Local Conference of the current year.

B. No person shall be elected to the office of Deacon, Class Leader or Sunday School Superintendent who uses or deals in tobacco.

C. The Local Conference accounts of the Stewards shall be from quarter to quarter, and the reports on the Schedules from October 1 to September 30. In case a Pastor is changed, his allowances shall end with the month of September. The Pastors shall report the amounts received from the Church Extension Fund at the Local Conference.

D. In case a Local Conference desires to sell church property, they must receive the approval of the Board of Directors before conveying title.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

The following Boards and Committees shall, as soon as practicable after their election, elect a President and Secretary: Board of Directors, Board of Foreign Missions, Board of Church Extension, Board of Victory Valley, Board of Mizpah Grove, Committee on Publication & Printing and Sunday School Promotion Committee.

The Annual Conference shall elect a Treasurer annually who shall be the Treasurer for the Board of Directors, Board of Foreign Missions, Board of Church Extension, Board of Victory Valley, Board of Mizpah Grove, Committee on Publication and Printing and Sunday School Promotion Committee.

He shall deposit all the various funds in banks and trust companies approved by the Board of Directors, in the name of the Bible Fellowship Church.....Treasurer. The various Boards shall draw on the Treasurer for the funds needed, using form of voucher check furnished by the Annual Conference. They shall not draw beyond the amount of their respective funds except by permission of the Board of Directors.

The Treasurer shall keep an account of the amounts drawn by each Board in a book furnished by the Annual Conference and report

to the Annual Conference the standing of each fund, and furnish each member of the Board of Directors annually with a statement itemizing the various securities held and the monies on deposit in banks and trust companies.

All Boards and Standing Committees shall submit a full and classified report of their work, financial and otherwise, to the Annual Conference. They shall hold meetings annually or more often.

Board of Directors -- The Annual Conference shall elect a Board of Directors annually consisting of five ordained ministers who are members of the Annual Conference and willing to minister under the direction of our Conference, the FAITH & ORDER and the By-Laws of the Corporation, and four laymen in good standing with their Local Conference, which Board shall then organize by electing the following officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Board of Directors shall transact all the business of the Corporation which was previously taken care of by the Executive Board for the Annual Conference.

All vacancies occurring between Annual Conference sessions shall be filled by the remaining members of the Board.

The Board of Directors shall have charge of all the property belonging to the Corporation including property now held by the Executive Board in trust for the Annual Conference of the Bible Fellowship Church, except where there is a regularly organized class or church that has a local Board of Trustees and where the Annual Conference has otherwise provided for, by electing a separate Board of Trustees.

The Board of Directors shall determine how and where the money of the Corporation shall be deposited, and also have the right to place it on certificate of deposit, or savings deposit, or make other substantial investments.

The Board of Directors shall not buy nor sell any property except by the approval of all the members of the Board or by Annual Conference resolution.

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to sell any property deeded to a local Board of Trustees at places where for any reason there is no longer a local Board, or class, or organized church, and execute and deliver a lawful deed and conveyance, and use the net proceeds of the sale of such property for other church properties as it may deem advisable.

The Board of Directors shall have the right to borrow money and issue mortgages or make loans against any property of the Corporation by the approval of all the members of the Board, or by Annual Conference resolution. The Board shall also authorize the satis-

faction and cancellation of any mortgages as notes fully paid.

It shall have charge of all the old Local Conference records, class records, and all other records that are no longer needed by the various classes, boards or committees.

It shall act as a Board of Advisors to the Pastors and the Board of Church Extension in matters relative to the purchasing of properties for church purposes and the erection of churches and parsonages.

The title to Church property where the Church is incorporated shall be conveyed directly to the Corporation. In cases where the Church is not incorporated the conveyance shall be made to a Board of Trustees duly elected according to the Rules of the Annual Conference (setting forth their names), their successors and assigns. Whether the title is conveyed to a corporation or to a Board of Trustees, said title shall contain a trust clause in the following words:

In trust for the use of the ministry and membership of the...
Church of the Bible Fellowship Church at.....
 subject to the doctrines, laws, usages and ministerial appointments of the Annual Conference of the Bible Fellowship Church of Pennsylvania as from time to time established, made and declared by the lawful authorities of the said church and if the said property shall be sold or encumbered, the proceeds of the sale or encumbrance shall be applied for the use of the aforesaid, subject, however, to the provisions of the law of the church relating to abandoned church properties and of that forbidding mortgaging of real estate for current expenses.

The title to parsonages shall be conveyed in like manner as the churches and shall contain the following clause of trust:

In trust, that said premises shall be kept, maintained and disposed of as a place of residence for the use and occupancy of the preachers of the Bible Fellowship Church who are from time to time duly appointed in said place according to the rules and usages of said church, and if sold, the proceeds to be used according to the rules of said church. If the congregation controlling this property shall be disbanded the property shall be controlled and disposed of according to the rules of the Bible Fellowship Church.

Board of Foreign Missions -- A General Secretary shall be elected annually by ballot by the Annual Conference from among the ordained ministers. By virtue of his office he shall be a member of the Board of Foreign Missions. The Board of Foreign Missions shall be composed of the District Superintendent, General Secretary, three ordained ministers and four laymen. All money contributed throughout the Conference for the cause of Foreign Missions shall be paid into the Annual Conference treasury. They shall disburse the funds that they receive for the spread of the Gospel in heathen lands according as they deem good and proper.

Each Pastor shall hold a Foreign Missionary Service at each appointment annually soon after Annual Conference and speak on foreign missions. At this service a subscription for Foreign Missions shall be taken to be collected before February 1.

The members of the church shall be respectfully recommended to forward their funds for the foreign missionaries through the Board of Foreign Missions and not to the missionaries directly, which would lessen or cause to neglect their contributions in the direct channel provided by Conference for the support pledged to our respective missionaries.

The Pastor shall see that the Superintendent of each Sunday School appoint a "Missionary Day" semi-annually. In this service the necessity of establishing and supporting Foreign Missions shall be impressed upon the minds of the children, and an offering taken for the same.

The Women's Missionary Societies that have been or may be organized in our churches shall be recognized by and report to the Local Conference.

Publication and Printing -- The Chairman shall appoint a committee of three ordained ministers as a Committee on Publication and Printing. This Committee shall have charge of the Publication and Printing Fund.

The Annual Conference shall supply class books, steward books, parsonage fund collector's books, trustee books, and all other account books for the different charges to be paid out of the Publication and Printing Fund. All expenses of materials used by the Secretary of the Annual Conference shall be paid by this Fund.

All expenses of committees of investigation, appointed by the District Superintendent, shall be paid out of the Publication and Printing Fund.

Ministers' Retirement Fund -- This shall be a permanent Fund for the benefit of retired ministers of the Bible Fellowship Church.

The object of this Fund shall be to provide and pay annuities to itinerant ministers of the Bible Fellowship Church who by reason of age are no longer qualified to continue in active service; also to provide and pay annuities to the widows of such itinerant ministers according to the rules hereinafter stated.

The Fund shall be sustained by -- First, from the Annual Conference Administrative Budget.

Second, each Pastor shall pay into this Fund from his salary and from his Church Extension appropriation and each District Superintendent from his salary as follows: one percent of the first thousand dollars or fraction thereof, $1\frac{1}{2}$ percent of the second

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thousand dollars and above. Payments shall be made at the Adjourned Session and at the Annual Conference.

Third this Fund will also welcome gifts, bequests and devises from any sources.

This Retirement Fund shall be deposited with the Treasurer as a separate account and be under the management and control of the Board of Directors of the Annual Conference.

Annuities -- First -- If a minister of the Bible Fellowship Church has attained the age of sixty-five (65) he may retire from the active ministry and dating from the time he received Annual Conference license he shall receive an annuity of thirty dollars and eighty cents (\$30.80) for each year of active service payable in monthly installments.

Second -- The retirement age for District Superintendent and Pastors is established at 72 years.

Third -- Services rendered after the age of seventy-two years shall in no case increase the Annuity. Annuities shall in no case exceed twelve hundred thirty-two dollars per year. If, however, the money in the Retirement Fund at any time should not warrant the payment of the Annuities in full, the Board of Directors shall determine the amount of the monthly installments pro rata.

Fourth -- No minister shall be entitled to the full amount of the Annuities unless he and the congregations that he served shall have paid in full as stipulated in paragraph one, two and three for the period of five years. No exceptions to this rule may be made except by the decision of the Board of Directors.

Fifth -- In case a minister is located by the Annual Conference he ceases to be a member of the Retirement Fund. In this case one-half of the dues he had paid into the Fund shall be refunded to him and he thereby forfeits all further claims upon the Fund. A minister who has given thirty years or more service and desires to change his occupation and be placed on the Local Preachers list shall become an annuitant at the age of seventy years, and receive an annuity for the years of actual service.

Sixth -- Widows of deceased ministers who had complied with the provisions of the fund shall receive annuities beginning at the time of the death of the husband provided that the said widow shall have attained the age of sixty-five years or at the time that she shall attain the age of sixty-five years, and continue until the time of her death or remarriage or her severance from church membership of the Bible Fellowship Church. Widows of ministers who were retired and receiving annuities at the time of the marriage shall in no case receive any annuity. Widows' annuities shall be compiled at the rate of \$15.40 for each year that she was the wife of a minister who was in active service, giving his whole time to

ministry in the Church, but in no case to exceed six hundred sixteen dollars in one year.

The Treasurer shall acknowledge to the various Pastors any contributions which he has received from time to time for this Fund.

SPECIAL SERVICES

A. Matrimony -- Each Pastor shall preach a sermon on Matrimony at each appointment on his charge in the first year.

B. The Lord's Coming -- Believing that the coming of the Lord is rapidly approaching, therefore we recommend our ministers to give still more earnest prominence to this blessed hope of the church as we see the Day approaching.

C. As the scriptures contain a number of instances where children of Godly parents were formally and publicly dedicated to the Lord, (I Sam. 1:24-28; Mark 10:13-16), we heartily encourage our people to dedicate their children to the Lord by prayer and laying on of the hands of the Elders, who shall then furnish proper certificates.

D. Class Meetings -- Each Pastor shall hold a class meeting four times a year in each class, and read the general rules or have them read once a year.

MISCELLANEOUS

A. Transfers -- When a good standing member moves from one class to another, his or her name shall be transferred at once.

B. Each Pastor shall bring an itemized report to the Annual Conference, according to the form of the report of the Financial Secretary.

C. No charge shall be brought against any Annual Conference member which has not been recorded in the Local Conference proceedings of their charge, except such as have been committed or discovered since the last Local Conference.

D. Church Extension Funds -- Whenever any District Superintendent desires any money from the Church Extension Fund, he shall inform the Secretary of the desired amount, who shall then take note of the same and forward the request to the Treasurer, who shall forward the same to the District Superintendent, up to the amount appropriated to him at the Annual Conference.

E. The Pastor, by virtue of his office, shall be counted as an officer of the Sunday School.

F. Annual Conference Minutes -- The Committee on Examination of Annual Conference Minutes shall carefully compare the Annual Year

Book with the Annual Conference Minutes and note any and all errors, make a copy of any and all corrections, omissions or additions and certify in the following form:

We hereby certify that we have examined the Annual Conference Minutes for the Session of.....and found them correct except as follows:.....

Two copies of this certificate shall be made and signed by the Committee and pasted into two copies of the Conference Year Book, one to be held by the Chairman of the Annual Conference and one by the Secretary. These shall serve as the Records of the Annual Conference.

G. The Director of Church Extension shall be recognized as a travelling Elder and is a member of the Board of Church Extension.

H. The Director of Church Extension shall under all circumstances function in cooperation with the District Superintendent, and in all matters of importance act only by the approval of the Board of Church Extension.

I. Two copies of the completed work of the Committee on Church Government shall be submitted to each Pastor by the Secretary of the Committee immediately upon completion.

J. Any Church may use a nominating committee to make nominations for Church officers when this desire is expressed by a Local Conference resolution. The Pastor shall be chairman of this Committee.

K. The Board of Directors shall receive all Local Conference petitions. The Secretary of the Local Conference shall be responsible to give a copy of the petition(s) to the District Superintendent at the Local Conference where the petition(s) was passed. The Secretary of the Board of Directors shall send two copies to each Pastor.

L. All needs for support of missionary work not under the jurisdiction of the Board of Church Extension shall be controlled by the Board of Foreign Missions.

M. The travelling expenses for all official Church business shall be 8¢ per mile.

N. Each Church shall establish its own minimum support that it will pay its Pastor. This action shall be by the Official Board at a meeting held no later than November 1. Report of this action shall be made to the local congregation not later than November 15.

O. The offering for the Home for the Aging shall be paid at the Adjourned Session.

P. The Conference Secretary shall inform in writing all men who are not present at Annual Conference of their election to Boards and Committees.

Q. The Auditing procedure for reporting to the Statistical Committee shall be as follows:

I. The Report of the Official Board to the fourth Local Conference shall be as follows:

a. Annual Report of the Membership Committee:

1. Members as of previous report
2. Received into Church fellowship
3. Received by transfer from Bible Fellowship Churches
4. Total Increase
5. Died
6. Withdrawn
7. Dropped
8. Transferred to other churches
9. Transferred to other Bible Fellowship Churches
10. Total decrease
11. Net increase or decrease
12. Total membership

b. Annual Report of the Benevolence Committee

1. Balance as of last report
2. Receipts
3. Disbursements
4. New balance

II. The following accounts for the Local Church year shall be closed as of the fourth Local Conference

Trustees
 Building Fund Collectors
 Ministers' Retirement Fund
 Sunday School
 Youth Fellowship
 Women's Missionary Society
 Men's or Adult Fellowship
 Membership Committee
 Benevolence Committee
 And any other organizations responsible to the Local Conference

III. The Local Conference accounts of the Stewards shall be from quarter to quarter and the report on the Schedule (PS-2) from October 1 to September 30.

IV. Offerings for Church Extension and Foreign Missions shall be reported for the Conference year and shall be paid to the Con-

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ference Treasurer at Annual Conference.

Reports of these offerings shall be made only to the Finance Committee of Annual Conference on PF-1 and the latter will furnish information with respect to offerings for missions to the Statistical Committee of Annual Conference.

- V. The figures included in the above reports I and II to the fourth Local Conference are the ones to be reported to Annual Conference.
- VI. The Pastor shall send by Certified Mail copies of the Summary Sheet, the fourth Local Conference Minutes and the Pastor's Summary Statistical Report (omitting reports of offerings for Church Extension and Foreign Missions) to the Statistical Committee, c/o Host Church of Annual Conference, by Monday of the week prior to Annual Conference week. These records may be submitted in person by Tuesday of the same week.
- VII. The Delegate and Pastor shall certify the correctness of the Local Conference Minutes, the Local Conference Summary Report Sheet and the Pastor's Summary Statistical Report, prior to the mailing thereof; and shall include a statement of Certification with the reports mailed.
- VIII. The Statistical Committee shall be appointed by the Chairman at the Adjourned Session of Annual Conference. This Committee shall meet on the Thursday prior to Annual Conference.
- R. Should the fourth Local Conference be scheduled after the date established for the taking of the Pastoral Poll, all business pertaining to pulpit supply shall be conducted by the Official Board elect.
- S. Each Board and Committee shall have its records audited by an auditor(s) chosen by the Board or Committee prior to preparing its report for Annual Conference and that the name of the auditor(s) be included in the report to Annual Conference.

(end of By-Laws)

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

1. To be paid at the Adjourned Session

- A -- Ministers' Retirement Fund
Ministers' assessment from receipts since Annual Conference
- B -- The Home -- Annual
Offering for the Home for the Aging

2. To be paid at Annual Conference

C -- Church Extension

Pledges may be received

D -- Ministers' Retirement Fund

Ministers' assessment from receipts since Adjourned Session

3. To be paid as directed

E -- Foreign Missions -- pledges may be received -- to be paid quarterly to the General Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions

F -- Berean Bible School -- make check(s) payable to Berean Bible School and send it to 1020 S. Hall St., Allentown, Pa. 18103

G -- Victory Valley Youth Camp -- to be sent by March 1 to _____, Secretary of the Board of Victory Valley.

H -- Sunday School Promotion Committee -- check to be sent by April 1 to _____ Financial Secretary of the Sunday School Promotion Committee

I -- Youth Fellowship General Committee -- check to be sent by April 1 and made payable to _____, Treasurer of the Youth Fellowship General Committee

J -- Conference Administrative Budget -- annually in advance or one-twelfth of the pledge may be paid on the last day of each month starting October 31. Checks shall be sent to _____, Secretary, Board of Directors

NOTE -- All checks shall be made payable to the BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH except as otherwise noted: See:

Berean Bible School
Youth Fellowship General Committee

ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

1967

The Eighty-Fourth Annual Conference of the Bible Fellowship Church convened in the Bethel Church, Allentown, Pennsylvania.

The Conference opened at 10:00 A.M. October 9, with the singing of "Footprints of Jesus" led by Mr. Clyde W. Snyder. Pastor N.H. Wolf read I Cor. 4:1-5 and led in prayer. The hymn "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" was also sung by the members of Annual Conference. Pastor LeRoy S. Heller sang "O Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done?"

Retiring District Superintendent, T.D. Gehret, addressed the Conference. The text for the address was Matthew 19:27-30. Brother Gehret emphasized "Discipleship". Outlined was the Price, Privilege and Cost of Discipleship.

District Superintendents, T.D. Gehret and A.L. Seifert conducted the Communion Service.

The Chairman, A.L. Seifert, instructed the Secretary, Ernest B. Hartman, to appoint his assistants. James A. Beil, Assistant Secretary and Robert W. Smock, Recording Secretary, were appointed.

The following were enrolled as members of the Conference:

ORDAINED: Russell T. Allen, E. W. Bean, James A. Beil, Bert N. Brosius, Alva C. Cassel, Carl C. Cassel, Willard E. Cassel, John Dunn, Bruce A. Ellingson, Raymond R. Dotts, Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., T. D. Gehret, John E. Golla, Ernest B. Hartman, Jansen E. Hartman, W. W. Hartman, William A. Heffner, LeRoy S. Heller, Frank L. Herb, Jr., George E. Herb, John H. Herb, Earl M. Hosler, W. B. Hottel, Robert F. Johnson, C. E. Kirkwood, Donald T. Kirkwood, Richard H. Kline, Donald R. Knauer, James G. Koch, Ronald C. Mahurin, Leon K. Overpeck, Robert Paul, R. C. Reichenbach, John H. Riggall, A. L. Seifert, Robert W. Smock, David E. Thomann, David J. Watkins, Norman R. Weiss, N. H. Wolf, Daniel G. Ziegler, Paul E. Baer, W. F. Heffner, E. E. Kublic, J. B. Layne, E. J. Rutman, P. T. Stengele, F. B. Hertzog, Donald B. Schaeffer, Reynold D. Gardner.

PROBATIONERS: M. Leslie Campbell, Paul B. Kuder, Keith E. Plows, Mark T. Smith, Paul G. Zimmerman.

DELEGATES:

ALLENTOWN DISTRICT

Allentown (Bethel) - Kermit K. Gehman
 Allentown (Cedar Crest) - R. Paul Schaeffer
 Catasauqua - Arthur W. Deppe
 Graterford - Edward A. Stortz
 Harleysville - H. Phares Mumbauer
 Harrisburg - Walter A. Schlager
 Hatfield - Clyde W. Snyder
 Lancaster - Horace A. Kauffman
 Lebanon - Frank L. Herb, Sr.
 Lehighton - Willard E. Blocker
 Mount Carmel - Roy E. Williams
 Nazareth - Norman W. Granda
 Paradise - George J. Dippner
 Reading - Robert Breitegam
 Royersford - William R. Hunsberger
 Shamokin - T. Lamarn Manney
 Sinking Spring - Paul W. Sensenig
 Spring City - John F. Boyle
 Sunbury - Allan F. Smith
 York - Sterling E. Baer

BETHLEHEM DISTRICT

Allentown (Salem) - Allan C. Palmer
 Bethlehem - Paul H. Cressman
 Blandon - John I. Mengel
 Coopersburg - Harold A. Mann
 Denville - John F. Moran
 Easton - Leonard F. Kessler
 Emmaus - Paul I. Wentz
 Fleetwood - Norman L. Reed
 Maple Glen - Byron C. Cassel
 Philadelphia (Calvary) - Leon H. Naudasher
 Philadelphia (Emmanuel) - Edward J. Dietzman
 Quakertown - Harold P. Shelly, Sr.
 Scranton - Carl H. Kellerman
 Staten Island - Kenneth Cole
 Stroudsburg - George R. Fish
 Terre Hill - J. R. Weber
 Wallingford - Harold W. Griest
 Zionsville - Charles G. Hersh

Written excuses were submitted by J. B. Layne, Paul E. Baer, Jack S. Herb and Harold A. Mann.

Oral excuses were presented concerning W. F. Heffner, Byron C. Cassel and Willard E. Blocker.

Resolved, That the excuses of the absent members be accepted.

Alternate delegates, J.R. Weber of Terre Hill and Frank L. Herb, Sr., of Lebanon, were seated.

New delegates, Paul W. Sensenig of Sinking Spring and Clyde Snyder of Hatfield, were introduced.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM: (See Report, page 23).

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That the first eight pews to the front and right of the Chairman constitute the Conference Bar.

Resolved, That no one be permitted to leave the Conference Bar without permission except the delegate and pastor of the host congregation.

The Chairman appointed the following committees:

Committee on Auditing: Horace A. Kauffman, Donald B. Knauer, Paul H. Cressman, R. Paul Schaeffer, William R. Hunsberger, Norman L. Reed, Raymond R. Dotts.

Committee on Communications: William A. Heffner, Russell T. Allen, Bert N. Brosius, Bruce Ellingson and Harvey J. Fritz, Jr.

Committee on Examination of Local Conference Minutes: E. W. Bean, Frank L. Herb, Jr., Leon K. Overpeck, W. W. Hartman, John H. Herb, W. B. Hottel, A. W. Deppe, Harold A. Mann, Walter A. Schlagel, Allen F. Smith, John F. Boyle, Edward A. Stortz, H. Phares Mumbauer, John I. Mengel, Norman W. Granda, John F. Moran, Leon H. Naudasher, Clyde W. Snyder, Allan C. Palmer and Robert Breitegam.

Committee on Finance: Paul I. Wentz, Sr., Byron C. Cassel, Roy E. Williams, Harold W. Griest, Kermit K. Gehman and Charles G. Hersh.

Committee on Resolutions: C. E. Kirkwood, Carl C. Cassel, Keith E. Plows, R. C. Reichenbach and Earl M. Hosler.

Reporter: Daniel G. Ziegler

Tellers: James G. Koch, George E. Herb, Norman R. Weiss, Robert F. Johnson and Ronald C. Mahurin.

Timekeeper: David J. Watkins.

The above committees were approved.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS Part I
(See Report, page 24).

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That the resignation of John E. Golla be accepted and that his credentials be withdrawn.

Resolved, That Harold C. Weaber and M. Leslie Campbell be ordained during the Thursday evening meeting of this Annual Conference.

The report of the Committee on Agenda was received as a guide for the Conference.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: (See Report, page 25).

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That we suspend the rules and adjourn to meet at 3:00 p.m.

Adjourned with prayer by Harvey J. Fritz, Jr.

Second Meeting Monday Afternoon, October 9, 1967

The meeting was opened at 3:00 p.m. with prayer by Robert F. Johnson.

Pastor Alva C. Cassel spoke briefly of his future plans of assuming a pastorate in Maine, engaging in rural missionary work.

Missionaries Timothy G. Kauffman, Fred Venable and missionary candidate George F. Lee also gave words of greeting and spoke of future plans.

Norman B. Jerome from the American Sunday School Union briefly addressed the Conference.

Resolved, That no nominations be submitted from the Conference floor without having first secured the permission of the person being nominated.

REPORT OF THE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GENERAL COMMITTEE
(See Reports, page 26).

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That each Youth Fellowship remit an offering for the work of the Youth Fellowship General Committee, and that this offering be payable to the treasurer of the Youth Fellowship General

Committee and that it be submitted to the secretary of said committee at the Adjourned Session of this Conference.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION AND PRINTING
(See Report, page 27).

The report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE TREASURER: (See Reports,
page 28).

The report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL PROMOTION COMMITTEE:
(See Report, page 29).

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That every Bible Fellowship Sunday school make a contribution for denominational Sunday school promotion. This contribution should be mailed to the Financial Secretary of the Committee, James R. Cressman, 1128 N. New Street, Bethlehem, Pa., 18018, before April 1, 1968.

REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL CONVENTION: (See Report,
page, 30).

The report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL CANDIDATES:
(See Report, page 31).

The report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO PUBLISH FELLOWSHIP NEWS
(See Report, page 36).

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That the month of January be designated as subscription month for FELLOWSHIP NEWS.

Resolved, That donations to FELLOWSHIP NEWS be given by the following boards and committees: Board of Foreign Missions, \$50.00; Board of Church Extension, \$50.00; Board of Directors of Berean Bible School, \$50.00; Sunday School Promotion Committee \$50.00; and Committee on Publication and Printing \$400. Checks shall be made payable to FELLOWSHIP NEWS and sent to the Treasurer, Mr. Paul T. Rutman, 13 Hunter Lane, Camp Hill, Pa., 17011, no later than February 1, 1968.

The Editor, David E. Thomann, and the Business Manager, R.

C.Reichenbach, gave oral reports.

The following were elected:

Youth Fellowship General Committee: Ronald C. Mahurin, Daniel G. Ziegler and Clyde W. Snyder.

Editor of FELLOWSHIP NEWS: David E. Thomann

Resolved, That Alva C. Cassel be excused from attending the remaining meetings of Annual Conference.

Resolved, That we suspend the rules and adjourn to meet at 8:00 P.M. at Bethel Church.

Adjourned at 5:05 p.m. with prayer by E. W. Bean.

Third Meeting Monday Evening, October 9, 1967

The meeting was opened at 8:05 p.m. with prayer by David J. Watkins.

C. Leslie Miller briefly addressed the Conference.

The following were elected:

Ministerial Candidate Committee: Russell T. Allen, James A. Beil, Carl C. Cassel, Earl M. Hosler and David J. Watkins.

REPORT OF THE ALLENTOWN DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT, T.D. GEHRET (See Report, page 38).

REPORT OF THE BETHLEHEM DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT, A.L. SEIFERT (See Report, page 42).

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHURCH EXTENSION, EARL M. HOSLER: (See Report, page 46).

The above reports were accepted.

Resolved, That we adjourn.

Adjourned at 9:10 P.M. with prayer by C. Leslie Miller.

Fourth Meeting Tuesday Morning, October 10, 1967

The meeting was opened with the singing of "Nothing But the Blood" directed by William R. Hunsberger. Daniel G. Ziegler sang

"Shine on Me, O Lord Jesus".

Scripture, Acts 15:1-11, was read by Charles G. Hersh and Norman W. Grandale in prayer. The hymn "I Am Resolved" was sung followed by the Speaker of the morning, John Deily. I Cor. 2:1-5 was read by the Speaker and he emphasized the necessity of making Christ crucified known so as to satisfy the inner cravings of man's heart.

The minutes of the Monday meetings were read and approved.

Resolved, That probationers having charge of a Conference appointment shall be admitted to the Conference Bar.

Resolved, That J. R. Weber be excused from the Tuesday morning meeting because of employment.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF BEREAN BIBLE SCHOOL (See Report, page 49)

The report was accepted.

The following was elected:

Business Manager of FELLOWSHIP NEWS: R. C. Reichenbach.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BEREAN BIBLE SCHOOL (See Report, page 52)

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That each Church be encouraged to support Berean Bible School at a level equal to 4% of its annual offerings and that this support be remitted to the School in twelve monthly payments. The laymen on the Board of Directors of Berean Bible School shall maintain contact throughout the year with the pastors and official boards of each Church keeping them informed of the work of the School and its needs.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH HOME: (See Report, page 57).

The report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS (See Report, page 60)

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That all Foreign Mission funds be forwarded quarterly to the General Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, Rev. T. D. Gehret, 2340 Union Street, Allentown, Pa. 18104.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MIZPAH GROVE: (See Report, page 70).

The report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VICTORY VALLEY CAMP: (See Report, page 72).

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That each Church make a contribution to Victory Valley Camp. The anticipated budget of the Camp indicates need for contributions of at least \$4,000.00 by the Churches. Checks shall be made payable to Victory Valley Camp and sent to the Secretary of the Board, Rev. Donald R. Knauer, 25 South Third Street, Quakertown, Pa. 18951 before March 1. 1968.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EXAMINATION OF LOCAL CONFERENCE MINUTES (See Report, page 76).

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That the request of the Stroudsburg Bible Fellowship Church be referred to the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee.

Resolved, That the petition of the Catasauqua Bible Fellowship Church be granted and that their delegate be seated in the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee.

Resolved, That the petition of the Lehighon Bible Fellowship Church be granted and that their delegate be seated in the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee.

Resolved, That the petition of the Philadelphia (Emmanuel) Bible Fellowship Church be granted and that their delegate be seated in the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee.

Resolved, That the petition from the Staten Island Bible Fellowship Church be granted and that their delegate be seated in the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee.

The following were elected:

Committee to Publish FELLOWSHIP NEWS: Robert W. Smock, William R. Hunsberger and Paul T. Rutman.

Sunday School Promotion Committee: Raymond R. Dotts, Keith E. Plows.

Resolved, That we adjourn.

Adjourned at 12:00 noon with prayer by Edward J. Dietzman.

Fifth Meeting
Tuesday Afternoon, October 10, 1967

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Walter A. Schlagel.

The following were elected:

Sunday School Promotion Committee: James R. Cressman,
 Glenn W. Sheats.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH (See Report, page 77)

The report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION (See Report, page 89)

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That the recommendation of the Board of Church Extension requesting the Ephrata Bible Fellowship Church be recognized as a station be granted and the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee be requested to assign a pastor.

Resolved, That the second recommendation from the Board of Church Extension regarding the Fund to Assist Pastors and Churches be referred to the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee for further study and to bring in a report.

REPORT OF THE ARCHIVIST (See Report, page 93)

The report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE (See Report, page 94)

The report was accepted.

The following were elected:

Treasurer of Annual Conference: Harold W. Griest.

Board of Directors of the Bible Fellowship Church: Carl C. Cassel, Jansen E. Hartman, Frank L. Herb, Jr., Earl M. Hosler, Byron C. Cassel, Kermit K. Gehman, Harold W. Griest and Paul I. Wentz, Sr.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY CHURCH GOVERNMENT (See Report, page 94)

The report was accepted.

The following was adopted:

The first proposal regarding the format was adopted as presented.

PROPOSAL TWO: THE FORM OF GOVERNMENT

PREAMBLE

The Bible Fellowship Church has adopted this statement of FAITH AND ORDER to declare with clarity and precision its faith and testimony to the glory of God.

The Bible Fellowship Church acknowledges as its sole Head, Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Saviour of men. It submits to the written Word of God and to the presence of the Holy Spirit as its only source of guidance and power in maintaining its redemptive life and work in the world.

The Bible Fellowship Church adopted this FAITH AND ORDER not as a substitute for, but in subordination to, the Word of God. These standards have been received as being based upon the Scriptures; even the elements not drawn directly from the Word have been acknowledged as based upon the general rules and tenor of the Word. These standards seek to provide effective means for the application of the teaching of the Scriptures to the faith, worship, government and discipline of the church. Although these standards have been acknowledged to be of lesser importance than the inspired words of the Scriptures, yet they cannot be neglected without resulting in serious impairment of the life of the Church.

The Bible Fellowship Church acknowledges as brethren all those who share its confession of faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ. It confesses gladly the benefits of the historical and geographical breadth of this fellowship. It acknowledges specifically the benefits derived from similar statements of faith and order devised at many times in the history of the church. It seeks to respond to the responsibilities that these benefits bring by beseeching Almighty God so to indwell it that it may by His grace bring glory to Himself and blessing to men.

ARTICLE I PRELIMINARY PRINCIPLES

1. That in seeking to be founded upon the Word of God in practice as well as doctrine the Bible Fellowship Church sets forth this form of government as that which is in its judgment most clearly in keeping with the Holy Scriptures.

2. That the formulation of faith and practice must be in submission to the Holy Scriptures because God has not bound the conscience to the doctrines and commandments of men when they exceed or contradict His Word.

3. That every union of particular churches shall have the right, in harmony with the preceding principles, to formulate a faith and order which will seek to provide a basis of fellowship always

in submission to the written Word of God.

4. That this form of government shall seek to make of this body a church that operates by written standards, which is not, however, to be understood as being opposed to love or spirit, but rather opposed to disorder and injustices which can so easily pervert right human relationships when authority is personal or when there is no accepted ways of deciding issues that inevitably arise among men, however deeply they may be committed to Jesus Christ and to one another.

5. That our Lord, the Head of the Church, for the edification of the body and the evangelization of the world has appointed officers in the visible church to preach the Gospel, administer the ordinances and exercise discipline.

6. That, though the character, qualifications and authority of church officers are described in the Holy Scriptures, yet the electing of persons to be officer-bearers shall rest with the body.

7. That careful adherence to these principles will contribute to the glory and happiness of the church in that it can own the blessing of our Lord, the Head of the Church universal, and also the approbation of an impartial public.

ARTICLE II THE CHURCH

Jesus Christ has established His rule upon earth in the church. The universal church consists of all those persons, in every nation, who make profession of faith in Christ and yield submission to Him and His rule. Because this multitude cannot meet in one place for worship and fellowship, the Scriptures indicate that these believers shall be divided into many particular churches. A particular church consists of the professing believers voluntarily associated in submission to the Holy Scriptures, for divine worship, godly living, and evangelism. The particular churches seek to demonstrate their participation in the church universal by forming unions with other particular churches which have similar understanding of doctrine and organization.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS

Having called and assembled His church, our Lord provides for the governing of each particular church by conveying authority to officers whom He enables. The continuing officers in the church are ministers, ruling elders and deacons. The endowed man does not create the office nor does the office clothe the man with power, but the Lord endows the man with gifts and qualifications that enable him to fill the office which God Himself has created.

Resolved, That we suspend the rules and adjourn to meet at 8:30 P.M.

Adjourned with prayer by Roy E. Williams.

Sixth Meeting
Tuesday Evening, October 10, 1967

The meeting was opened with prayer by Paul B. Kuder.

The following were elected:

Committee on Credentials: Frank L. Herb, Jr., W. B. Hottel, C. E. Kirkwood and John H. Riggall.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS (Part 2) (See Report, page 105)

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That we accept the resignation of Richard H. Kline and drop his name from our roll of ministers.

Resolved, That we grant the request of Alva C. Cassel to minister in rural church work in the state of Maine and that his name be placed in the listing of Ordained Ministers Working with other Organizations.

Resolved, That the request of Robert Paul for a one year leave-of-absence be granted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATIONING, BOUNDARIES AND APPROPRIATIONS (See Report, page 105)

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That the delegates of the mission churches be advisory members of the Committee on Stationing, Boundaries and Appropriations.

Resolved, That the name of the Committee on Stationing, Boundaries and Appropriations be changed to Committee on Stationing and Appropriations.

Resolved, That the rules relating to Pulpit Supply be changed to eliminate the requirement that matters relating to Pulpit Supply must be handled by certified mail by the striking of the word "certified" wherever it appears in our FAITH AND ORDER in the section covering Pulpit Supply.

Whereas, The use of certified mail in dealing with matters of Pulpit Supply has proven to be cumbersome and difficult for our Delegates, confining to our District Superintendent and unnecessary for our Pastors, therefore,

Resolved, That we avail ourselves of the "Rule of Exception" and discontinue the use as of September 1968.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS (See Report,

page 106)

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That the Annuities paid to retired ministers and to widows of pastors of the Bible Fellowship Church by the Ministers' Retirement Fund be raised 10% for the year beginning October 1, 1967 and, further,

Resolved, That the By-Laws be amended to include this increase.

Resolved, That we adjourn.

Adjourned at 9:25 P.M. with prayer by Keith E. Plows

Seventh Meeting Wednesday Morning, October 11, 1967

Horace A. Kauffman led the Conference in "Like a River Glorious" to open the devotional period. John F. Boyle read I Cor. 3:1-11 for the Scripture lesson and Leon H. Naudasher led in prayer. The hymn "Trust and Obey" was sung and a Pastors' Quartet sang, "Soldiers of Christ Arise".

Harold W. Griest addressed the Conference focusing attention upon "The Indispensable Man", informing each of the necessity of training and preparing others for places of leadership.

The minutes of the Tuesday afternoon and evening meetings were read and approved.

The following were elected:

Board of Foreign Missions: General Secretary, T. D. Gehret, Russell T. Allen, Willard E. Cassel, James G. Koch, Robert Breitegam, James R. Cressman, Kermit K. Gehman and Roy E. Williams.

Resolved, That we suspend the rules and recess to the call of the Chair.

Prayer was offered by Jansen E. Hartman.

The meeting was reconvened at 3:30 P.M.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE (See Report, page 167)

The report was accepted.

The following were elected:

Board of Directors of Berean Bible School: (3 years) Harvey

J. Fritz, Jr., Donald R. Knauer

Whereas, The Adjourned Session of the 1966 Conference declared that an additional minister be elected to fill the vacancy created by the retiring District Superintendent on the Board of Directors of Berean Bible School, therefore,

Resolved, That we elect one minister for a two year term in order to equalize the classes.

The following were elected:

(2 years) David J. Watkins

(3 years) Carl Rishel and John M. Stengele

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE PROCEDURE FOR ORDINATION (See Report, page 112)

The report was adopted.

Resolved, That we suspend the rules and adjourn to the call of the Chair.

Adjourned at 5:00 P.M. with prayer by Timothy G. Kauffman.

Eighth Meeting
Wednesday Evening, October 11, 1967

The meeting was opened with prayer by R. C. Reichenbach.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY DIVORCE (See Report, page 113)

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That the article, Divorce, (Second Reading) be adopted.

Resolved, That the following statement appear under the heading of OFFICERS: Qualifications - Elections - Duties (1957 Yearbook, page 37):

That no person who has been divorced or who has married a divorced person for any reason may be a member of the Official Board. It is not the severity of divorce, but the dignity of the office as detailed in scripture (I Peter 5:1-4; I Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9) that prevents a divorced person or one married to a divorced person from holding office on the Official Board of the Church.

Resolved, That the request of Roy E. Williams to be excused from the Thursday and Friday meetings be granted and that the

alternate delegate be seated.

Resolved, That H. Phares Mumbauer be excused from the Friday meetings.

Resolved, That George J. Dippner be excused from the Thursday and Friday meetings and that the alternate delegate be seated.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATIONING AND APPROPRIATIONS (Part 2) (See Report, page 114)

The report was approved.

The following were elected:

Board of Directors of the Home for the Aging: James A. Beil, A. L. Seifert.

Whereas, A vacancy has been created on the Board of Directors of the Home for the Aging because of the resignation of Richard H. Kline, therefore,

Resolved, That we elect one minister for a one year term in order to fill his unexpired term.

The following were elected:

(One year) Ernest B. Hartman

(Two years) Paul I. Wentz

Resolved, That we adjourn.

Adjourned at 9:45 P.M. with prayer by Paul H. Cressman.

Ninth Meeting Thursday Morning, October 11, 1967

The singing of "Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah", led by Paul H. Cressman opened the meeting. Paul I. Wentz led in prayer after which the hymn, "Hallelujah What A Saviour!" was sung. The Scripture lesson, Psalm 19, was read by George R. Fish. "In the Secret of His Presence" was rendered as a solo by Bert N. Brosius..

The speaker, John Phillips, gave a missionary address to the Conference. The missionary work in three East African states, Somalia, The Republic of Sudan and Ethiopia was outlined. The speaker challenged each one to remember these mission fields with specific prayer requests.

The following were elected:

Board of Church Extension: Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., James G. Koch, Daniel G. Ziegler, John L. Deily and Charles G. Hersch.

The Berean Bible School Budget was presented.

The budget was ratified.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY PULPIT SUPPLY
(See Report, page 115)

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That the report of the Committee to Study Pulpit Supply submitted to the Eighty-Third Annual Conference be accepted and published in the 1967 Yearbook.

Resolved, That the first recommendation:
(No pastoral poll is to be....
...by the Official Board.) (See Reports, page 117)
be referred back to the Committee for further study.

Resolved, That to the standing committees on the Official Board be added a Pastoral relations committee of three men. It shall be appointed by the Pastor. Its duties shall be to improve communications between Board and Pastor; between congregation and Pastor; to work for the improvement of relations between Pastor and congregation; to candidly discuss with the Pastor any problems that may arise.

Resolved, That we suspend the rules and reconvene at 2:30 p.m.

Prayer was offered by John Dunn.

The meeting was reconvened at 3:50 P.M.

The minutes of the Wednesday Evening meeting were read and approved.

The following were elected:

Board of Mizpah Grove: George E. Herb, Robert W. Smock, Harold A. Mann and Norman W. Granda.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS (See Report, pages 157, 168)

The report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AUDITING (See Report, page 159)

The report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS (See Report, page 159)

The report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO PLAN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONFERENCE CENTER (See Report, page 160)

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That the tenure of men elected to study committees created for a specific assignment shall continue until completion of the specific assignment. Vacancies due to death, resignation or other causes shall be filled by further elections.

Resolved, That three members from the Board of Victory Valley Camp be added to the Committee to Plan the Development of the Conference Center.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATIONING AND APPROPRIATIONS - Part III (See Report, page 160).

The report was approved.

Resolved, That Merle LeFever, alternate delegate from Paradise, be excused from the Friday meetings.

Resolved, That we adjourn.

Adjourned with prayer by Russell T. Allen

Tenth Meeting
Friday Morning, October 13, 1967

The opening hymn, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" was led by Harold A. Mann. T. Lamarn Manney read the Scripture lesson from I John 5:1-14 and John F. Moran offered the morning prayer. A solo, "Fill All My Vision, Lord", was sung by Carl C. Cassel. Before the message the hymn, "Breathe on Me, Breath of God", was sung.

A. L. Seifert gave the devotional message. Using Genesis 42:1 as the text, District Superintendent Seifert drew attention to the fact that a famine exists among God's people while there is "corn in Egypt." The blessing was elsewhere because proper fellowships and relationships were lacking. It is necessary for each believer to have a correct Christian fellowship one with another and with Christ as head.

The minutes of the Thursday meeting were read and approved.

Resolved, That the alternate delegate from Harleysville, Clayton Dietz, be seated.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE ANNUAL CONFERENCE MINUTES (See Report, page 162)

The report was accepted.

Resolved, That the former Committee to Study Ordination prepare a suitable form for the ordination service.

The recommendations of the Board of Church Extension were considered.

Resolved, That the Board of Church Extension be composed of the District Superintendent and the Director of Church Extension, by virtue of their offices, and three ordained ministers and three laymen who are elected by ballot by the Annual Conference. The elected members of the Board shall comprise three classes of one minister and one layman, respectively. Each class shall be elected, in turn, for a three-year term. (First Reading)

Resolved, That the material located in the proposals of the Board of Church Extension as follows:

(All mission churches.... of the District Superintendent. See reports, page 92).
be referred back to the Board of Church Extension for further study.

Resolved, That the Board of Church Extension shall, on the basis of standards which it shall determine and publish, recommend mission churches under its care for membership in Annual Conference. A church shall be received into membership by a majority vote of Annual Conference, which shall entitle the church to be represented at sessions of Annual Conference by its pastor and a lay delegate, to participate in the Pulpit Supply procedures, and to all other rights, privileges and responsibilities of membership in Annual Conference. The Board of Church Extension and the Director of Church Extension may counsel and advise the churches under their jurisdiction in matters of pastoral relations and pulpit supply. (First Reading)

The Chair appointed the following:

Committee on Publication and Printing: David E. Thomann, Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., and Robert W. Smock.

Committee on Agenda: Willard E. Cassel, Bert N. Brosius, LeRoy S. Heller.

Committee to Examine Annual Conference Minutes: John H. Riggall and LeRoy S. Heller.

Committee on Program for Next Annual Conference: Russell T. Allen, Donald T. Kirkwood and David J. Watkins.

Committee to Publish Year Book: Robert W. Smock, David E. Thomann and Willard E. Cassel.

The above committees were approved.

Resolved, That a study committee comprised of two representatives elected by each of the following: Board of Church Extension, Credentials Committee, Ministerial Candidate Committee, Committee to Study Pulpit Supply and Committee on Church Government correlate the proposed legislation submitted at this Annual Conference by the Board of Church Extension with legislation proposed by their respective Boards and Committees, and that this committee report at the Adjourned Session of this Annual Conference.

Resolved, That we adjourn.

Adjourned with prayer by Norman R. Weiss.

Eleventh Meeting Friday Afternoon, October 13, 1967

The meeting was opened with prayer by W. B. Hottel

The following were elected:

Board of Victory Valley Camp: Carl C. Cassel, Donald R. Knauer, Ronald C. Mahurin, Kermit K. Gehman, Bright Heist and Paul I. Wentz, Jr.

Richard H. Kline gave a word of greeting to the Conference.

Resolved, That Annual Conference grant the Board of Directors of the Bible Fellowship Church Home their request to elect the said officers, and be it further

Resolved, That the name "Board of Directors of the Home" be deleted from the Year Book as it now appears on page 9, article 4, paragraph 1 and 2. (1965 Year Book) (Second Reading)

Resolved, That the By-Laws governing the Board of Directors of the Home be deleted from the Year Book. (Second Reading)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS (See Report, page 162).

The report was accepted.

Whereas, A vacancy has been created on the Committee on Church Government because of the resignation of Richard H. Kline, therefore

Resolved, That we elect one minister in order to fill his term.

James A. Beil was elected.

The following was elected:

Historical Committee: Paul H. Cressman.

Resolved, That regulation number 11 on page 10 of the published By-Laws and Articles of Faith of the Bible Fellowship Church, October 1960, under Pulpit Supply, Annual Conference Action, which reads, "No Pastor shall serve any church longer than nine (9) consecutive years" be eliminated. (First Reading)

(The above resolution was adopted by a ballot vote with 64 affirmative and 15 negative votes).

The minutes of the Friday morning meeting were read and approved.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION (See Report, page 165).

The Report was accepted.

Resolved, That the Board of Church Extension shall, as part of its annual report, present to Annual Conference for adoption a proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1 of the year following. The budget shall include projected needs for planned new church openings.

After being adopted by Annual Conference, the budget for Church Extension may serve as a guide to the churches in their giving for Church Extension. Each Official Board shall, by June 15, submit to the Board of Church Extension its best estimate of the amount the Church may be expected to remit for Church Extension by Annual Conference. (First Reading)

Resolved, That on January 6, 1968, an Adjourned Session of this Annual Conference be convened at 9:00 A.M. in Bethel Church, Allentown, Pa., to consider the Report of the Committee to Study Church Government.

Whereas, Our experience this year indicates again the problems in our present pulpit supply system, and

Whereas, Interest is being expressed to discuss the pulpit supply proposal submitted in 1966, therefore

Resolved, That the Pulpit Supply Committee prepare a program designed to increase our understanding of the proposal and to promote general discussion of our pulpit supply problems, and further

Resolved, That all pastors and delegates be encouraged to meet at Cedar Crest, Allentown, on Saturday, March 9, 1968 at 9:00 A.M. for this program. No vote shall be taken at this meeting on the proposal.

Resolved, That we adjourn.

Adjourned at 5:35 P.M. with prayer by T.D. Gehret

A. L. Seifert, Chairman Ernest B. Hartman, Secretary



New Parsonage at Lancaster



Christian Educational Building, Allentown (Salem)



New Parsonage at Spring City



Newly purchased Parsonage at Denville, N. J.

REPORTS

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM

Monday, October 9, 1967 - 10:00 a.m.

Song Leader	Clyde Snyder
Solo	Rev. LeRoy S. Heller
Scripture	Rev. N. H. Wolf
Prayer	Rev. N. H. Wolf
Message	Rev. T. D. Gehret, D.S.
Lord's Supper	Rev. T. D. Gehret and Rev. A. L. Seifert

5:30 - 7:30 p.m. - Special Dinner in honor of our Retired and Retiring Pastors.

Tuesday, October 10, 1967 - 9:00 a.m.

Song Leader	William R. Hunsberger
Solo	Rev. Daniel G. Ziegler
Scripture	Charles Hersh
Prayer	Norman W. Granda
Message	John Deily

Wednesday, October 11, 1967 - 9:00 a.m.

Song Leader	Horace A. Kauffman
Music	A Pastors' Quartet
Scripture	John F. Boyle
Prayer	Leon H. Naudasher
Message	Harold Griest

Thursday, October 12, 1967 - 9:00 a.m.

Song Leader	Paul Cressman
Solo	Rev. Bert N. Brosius
Scripture	George R. Fish
Prayer	Paul I. Wentz, Sr.
Message	John Phillips

Evening Conference service open to the public - 7:30 p.m.

Presiding	Rev. Carl C. Cassel, Host Pastor
Music	A Pastors' Quartet
Scripture	Rev. William A. Heffner
Prayer	Rev. Earl M. Hosler
Message	Rev. Frank L. Herb, Jr.

The Chairman of the Credentials Committee to conduct Ordination proceedings.

Friday, October 13, 1967 - 9:00 a.m.

Song Leader	Harold A. Mann
Solo	Rev. Carl C. Cassel
Scripture	T. Lamarn Manney
Prayer	John Moran
Message	Rev. A. L. Seifert, D. S.

Note: Devotional period - 30 minutes (except Monday). Messages 15 minutes. Those who are participating should be on the platform.

(Carl C. Cassel, Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., William A. Heffner, Committee).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS (Part 1)

The Committee on Credentials held five meetings during the year in the performance of its duties.

The Faith and Order questionnaire was sent to each of our ministers holding credentials with us. All of the Brethren signed and returned it having answered all the questions in the affirmative except the following:

1. In some cases Ordained Ministers Working With Other Organizations, Ordained Ministers Retired or on Leave of Absence, and Foreign Missionaries did not answer yes to question four: "Are you willing to serve a church as stationed by the Annual Conference through Pulpit Supply?" The reason for this is obvious and proper.

2. Alva C. Cassel did not answer question four and informed the Committee through his District Superintendent that the reason for this was that he did not desire his name to appear on the availability list since he feels the Lord is directing him into another type of ministry.

The Ministerial Candidate Committee recommends Harold C. Weaver and M. Leslie Campbell for ordination. The Credentials Committee, after an intensive examination of these men believe that they are called of God to the Gospel Ministry.

They have served acceptably during their probationary period within our Conference, and are in accord with the Faith and Order of the Bible Fellowship Church.

We, therefore, Recommend that Harold C. Weaver and M. Leslie Campbell be ordained during the Thursday evening meeting of this Annual Conference.

Whereas, Rev. T. D. Gehret and Rev. N. H. Wolf have reached the established retirement age for District Superintendents and

Pastors, they have been referred to the Board of Directors of the Bible Fellowship Church, and have been placed on the roll of retired ministers so that they will receive annuities from the Retirement Fund as of October 1, 1967.

We are grateful to God for their many years of dedicated service.

The Credentials Committee received favorable reports concerning the Ministers of the Conference from the District Superintendents and the Director of Church Extension. We are grateful to our Lord for giving to the Bible Fellowship Church, Godly, conscientious Ministers.

During the year, John E. Golla resigned from the ministry of the Bible Fellowship Church. The following action is recommended by the Committee:

Whereas, specific charges that he engaged in conversations unbecoming a Minister have been brought against John E. Golla, and,

Whereas, these charges were presented in a Scriptural manner and as prescribed in our Faith and Order, and,

Whereas, these charges have been admitted by John E. Golla, and,

Whereas, as a result of these problems, John E. Golla has resigned from the ministry of the Bible Fellowship Church as of April 1, 1967, therefore,

We recommend that the resignation of John E. Golla be accepted and that his credentials be withdrawn.

(C. E. Kirkwood, Chairman; Frank L. Herb, Jr., Secretary; A. L. Seifert, T. D. Gehret, John H. Riggall, Committee).

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Nominees proposed by the Nominating Committee have been contacted and each person whose name is submitted has agreed to the nomination.

All names will be submitted in alphabetical order.

Lists of proposed nominations will be submitted to the members of Annual Conference at least one session prior to the scheduled election.

We recommend the following to Annual Conference:

Whereas, various members of Annual Conference have been nominated from the floor after the Nominating Committee has submitted nominees, and

Whereas, some of these additional nominees were already members of Boards and Committees that draw heavily on their time and may not desire to take on additional responsibility; therefore be it

Resolved, that no nominations be submitted from the Con-

ference floor without having first secured the permission of the person being nominated.

Resolved, that we add to the end of the first paragraph on standing rules on Page 10 (brown book) concerning election of Conference Boards and Committees, the following sentence: "All retired ministers willing to serve are eligible for elections to Boards and Committees."

(Donald R. Knauer, Chairman; Robert W. Gehret, Secretary; C. E. Kirkwood, John H. Riggall, Daniel G. Ziegler, Harold Griest, William Rapp, Committee).

REPORT OF THE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GENERAL COMMITTEE

Working with young people is a great thrill, a great challenge, and a great responsibility. The ultimate purpose of any group or individual within the Church who is ministering to youth should be to bring each young person to the place of Christian maturity. It is to this task that we as leaders must be committed.

During the past year the Youth Fellowship General Committee met five times in order to plan various programs that would be of spiritual benefit to our constituency.

Daniel G. Ziegler and John Vandegriff served as representatives of this committee in attending the 1967 Youth Seminar in Winona Lake, Indiana, from February 6 through 10. The theme for these days was, "The Church's World-Wide Outreach to Youth."

This committee gladly accepted an invitation extended by the Sunday School Committee to plan with them on a youth emphasis at the Sunday School Convention conducted at Spring City, Pa. A large number of young people were present in each of the youth sessions.

Two Youth Retreats were planned by this committee. From August 25-27 the College-Career Retreat was conducted at Victory Valley Bible Camp with 35 young people in attendance. The theme for the week was entitled, "Witnessing" and Stanley Rock was the guest speaker.

The Jr. -Sr. High Retreat was also conducted at Victory Valley Bible Camp on the week-end of September 8-10 with 100 young people present. Elwin Palmer presented a series of messages on the theme, "Charting Your Course."

The Committee wishes to express its appreciation to each Pastor and Youth Group for their whole-hearted cooperation in the retreat ministry. Your interest and concern was evidenced in a marked increase in retreat enrollment. The Committee would like to acknowledge its gratitude to the Church Extension Board for its vision in helping to subsidize the Jr. -Sr. High Retreat.

In this day of crisis and conflict, Christian youth need to be

faced with the call to consecration and to enlist in the army of the Lord of Hosts. Let us pray to this end.

The Committee recommends the following:

1. That each Youth Fellowship remit an offering for the work of the Youth Fellowship General Committee, and that this offering be payable to the treasurer of the Youth Fellowship General Committee and that it be submitted to the secretary of said committee at the Adjourned Session of this Conference.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Receipts:

Balance, October 1, 1966		\$ 43.50
Retreat Fees	\$ 1,521.50	
Gifts	25.00	
S.S. Promotion Committee	30.00	
Church Extension Board	80.00	
Church Offerings	325.35	
Retreat Offerings	46.51	
Total	<hr/>	\$ 2,071.86

Expenditures:

Mileage	126.55	
Victory Valley Camp	1,050.00	
Mailing	62.49	
1967 Seminar	62.75	
Printing	115.00	
Telephone	12.40	
Retreat:		
Speakers	110.00	
Films	47.05	
Booklets	3.00	
Total	<hr/>	\$ 1,589.24
Balance, October 1, 1967		\$ 482.62

This report was audited and approved by Mr. Clyde H. Snyder.

(Daniel G. Ziegler, Chairman; Robert F. Johnson, Secretary; Clyde Snyder, Treasurer; T. D. Gehret, A. L. Seifert, Ronald C. Mahurin, Harold P. Shelly, Jr., David Watkins, Barry Kauffman, David Hendershot, John Vandegriff, Committee).

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION AND PRINTING

RECEIPTS:

Balance in Treasury 10/1/66		\$ 2,852.31
Sale of Year Books	\$ 1,105.00	

Trans. from Board of Directors Budget	1,330.00	
Total Receipts	\$ 2,435.00	
Grand Total Receipts		\$ 5,287.31

EXPENDITURES:

Honorarium to Con. Secretary	\$ 75.00
Honorarium to Con. Treasurer	75.00
Ballots	100.00
Ordination Programs	12.80
Sunday School Cards	500.00
Sunday School Envelopes	132.74
Stewardship Envelopes (Mizpah)	51.75
Forms	22.00
Minute Book	14.00
Supplies	48.00
1,300 Year Books	1,059.50
Adjourned Session Minutes	23.25
Year Book Editing	171.58
Postage	16.84
Committee Expenses	15.58
Over payment - Entertainment F.	23.00
Total Expenses	\$ 2,341.04

Balance in Treasury 9/26/67 \$ 2,946.27 \$ 5,287.31

(David E. Thomann, Chairman; Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., Secretary; Robert W. Smock, Committee).

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE TREASURER

For Year Ended September 30, 1967

	Balance Oct. 1, 1966	Receipts	Disburse- ments	Balance Oct. 1, 1967
1. Board of Directors	6,996.21	38,129.83	38,708.27	6,417.77
2. Conference Center	32,947.17	206,845.44	249,463.81	(9,671.20)
3. Dormitory Fund	755.00	-	-	755.00
4. Revolving Loan Fund	2,255.13	-	-	2,255.13
5. Ministers' Moving F.	3,016.64	2,200.00	5,109.69	106.95
6. Ministers' Retire. F.	35,279.55	25,247.15	48,756.50	11,770.20
7. Dist. Supt. Homes	3,712.59	2,750.00	4,203.72	2,258.87
8. Foreign Missions	13,407.03	182,110.28	158,372.67	37,144.64
9. Home Board	1,985.80	24,297.38	25,290.04	993.14
10. Publication & Prtg.	2,852.31	2,435.00	2,341.04	2,946.27
11. Church Extension	3,745.06	53,257.69	44,449.33	12,553.42
12. Special Church Ext.	7,577.76	12,230.16	12,035.29	7,772.63
13. Victory Valley	383.78	8,524.49	5,247.13	3,661.14
14. Sunday School Prom.	1,687.89	1,553.12	1,030.46	2,210.55
15. Mizpah Grove	14,110.61	14,613.25	21,582.60	7,141.26
16. Budget, Administ.	-	30,240.32	29,777.55	462.77

Paul I. Wentz, Treasurer

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL PROMOTION COMMITTEE

"Thou crownest the year with thy goodness," (Psalms 65:11). With a sense of gratitude to God for His faithfulness and goodness during the past year, we shall continue to be co-workers in carrying out the Great Commission with the Lord's help. World conditions demand it; Christ's commission commands it.

The Annual Sunday School Convention for the Bible Fellowship Denomination was held in the Faith Bible Fellowship Church, Spring City, Pa., April 29, 1967. Approximately 550 attended, plus 88 children who were in supervised activity groups while their parents attended the sessions. The emphasis was on V.B.S., youth and junior church. The Lord has again been faithful in meeting the financial needs of the convention as well as supplying speakers who shared their knowledge and experience during the workshop and symposium sessions.

Plans are being made for a more diversified type convention which will convene in the Bethlehem and Miller Heights churches, Saturday, April 25, 1968. Details will be available at a later date.

The Visual Aids Library, operated by the Berean Bible School and supported by this Committee, continues to expand its film strip and record library. A newly revised Visual Aids Catalog was prepared and copies given to all our schools. A number of schools have used this service but we wish to take this opportunity to urge each of our Schools to avail themselves of these aids. This service is available without charge because it is supported through your annual offering for Sunday School Promotion.

The Committee is working in various areas of Christian Education so that our Bible Fellowship Sunday Schools will be up-graded to do a more effective work and continue to be God honoring.

We request that the eighty-fourth Annual Conference approve the following recommendation:

1. That every Bible Fellowship Sunday School make a contribution for denominational Sunday School promotion. This contribution should be mailed to the Financial Secretary of the Committee before April 1, 1968.

FINANCES

Balance from previous year:		\$ 1,687.89
<u>Receipts:</u>		
Offerings from Schools	\$ 1,187.37	
Convention Offering	162.00	
Tickets Sales - Convention dinner	203.75	1,553.12
TOTAL receipts and balances		<u>3,241.01</u>

Expenditures:

Convention expenses, including honorariums and mileage for speakers.	670.80	
Postage, phone, stationary and mileage	50.98	
Printing and Promotion	117.00	
Berean-Visual Aids Library	41.68	
Board of Directors-contribution	100.00	
Fellowship News-contribution	50.00	1,030.46
BALANCE in treasury - 9/1/67		\$ 2,210.55

The financial report was audited and approved by H. W. Evans.

(James G. Koch, Chairman; Robert W. Lee, Asst. Chairman; Norman L. Reed, Rec. Secretary; James R. Cressman, Financial Secretary; T. D. Gehret, A. L. Seifert, Earl M. Hosler, Robert W. Smock, David J. Watkins, William R. Hunsberger, Robert Truett, John Boyle, Committee).

REPORT OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MINISTERIAL CONVENTION

The Seventy-Sixth Annual Ministerial Convention convened on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 23 and 24, 1967, at Victory Valley Bible Camp.

The officers of the Convention were: Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., Chairman and Robert F. Johnson, Secretary. The Committee on Program also included James G. Koch, Norman R. Weiss and Richard H. Kline.

On Tuesday morning, the Convention opened with singing and Missionary Austin Shelly lead in prayer. The major theme of the morning was on the subject of Charismatics. Leonard J. Coppes spoke on "Survey of Charismatics in the Bible". Richard H. Kline followed with a paper on "Charismatics in History". Jansen E. Hartman presented the final paper of the morning on "Dangers to be avoided - Truths to be guarded". Each of these papers were followed by a discussion period moderated by Harvey J. Fritz, Jr.

The guest speaker in the Tuesday afternoon meeting was Eric Crichton, Pastor of the Calvary Independent Church, Lancaster, Pa. He presented a challenging word on "The Poverty and Dependence of Jesus."

The Tuesday evening meeting began with singing and prayer. The Pastors, Berean Bible School Professors and Missionaries were privileged to hear Pastor Crichton.

The Wednesday morning session was given to the study of

Ecumenism. The following papers were presented: "The Case For Ecumenism" by Carl C. Cassel, "The Case Against Ecumenism" by George E. Herb, "The Expressions of Ecumenism" by Harold P. Shelly, and "True Ecumenism" by Norman S. Weiss. A discussion followed and James G. Koch served as moderator. The business of the Convention was conducted and the various Committees submitted reports.

A resolution was accepted that the Board of Church Extension serve as the Program Committee and appoint a Chairman and Secretary to serve at the next Ministerial Convention to be held at Victory Valley Camp on May 21 and 22, 1968.

The theme for the Wednesday afternoon session was "The Church in Social Action". Daniel G. Ziegler spoke on "The Case For Integration". David J. Watkins spoke on "The Case For Segregation". C.E. Kirkwood was in charge of a discussion period which followed the presentation of these two papers. Rev. Charles Y. Furness, Chairman of the Department of Social Work, Philadelphia College of the Bible, told of the wide open door to this ministry.

A word of appreciation is expressed for the delicious meals that were prepared and served by the members of the Zionsville Bible Fellowship Church.

(Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., Chairman; Robert F. Johnson, Secretary; James G. Koch, Norman S. Weiss, Richard H. Kline, Committee).

REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL CANDIDATE COMMITTEE

Christ on two occasions sent forth disciples and upon each commission He also enjoined upon them to "Pray ye therefore the Lord of Harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest." (Matthew 9:35 and Luke 10:2) This injunction to pray for labourers must be taken seriously by all who are a part of the Bible Fellowship Church. With difficulty our pulpits are being supplied, but under present circumstances, it is impossible to extend our borders and establish new churches. May we conscientiously covenant in prayer that this great need may be met.

Nine times the Ministerial Candidate Committee has met during the year. Efforts were made to secure candidates for the Christian ministry of the Bible Fellowship Church as well as screening such who have applied to the Church. The Christian experience, God's call to the ministry, preparation for service, and agreement with the Faith and Order of each man under the Committee's care were studied and examined. Prayer is solicited by this Committee so that God's wisdom may be granted for the execution of its duties.

The following were recommended to the Committee on Credentials for examination for ordination: M. Leslie Campbell and Harold C. Weaber.

The Committee recommends recognition of the following men in their respective stages of development:

Probationers:

David L. Branning, Walnutport, Pa.....	1967
Leonard E. Buck, Republic of South Africa	1958
M. Leslie Campbell, Lehighton, Pa.....	1961
Richard J. Gehman, Kenya, East Africa	1964
Roy A. Hertzog, Monte Carlo, Monaco	1959
Ronald Jansen, Finesville, New Jersey.....	1967
Paul B. Kuder, Easton, Pa.	1966
Keith E. Plows, Philadelphia, Pa.....	1966
Theodore R. Shelling, Long Island City, New York.....	1966
Mark T. Smith, Stroudsburg, Pa.	1967
Austin B. Sullivan, Miller Heights, Pa.....	1964
Harold C. Weaver, Millersville, Pa.	1963
Paul G. Zimmerman, Mount Carmel, Pa.....	1966

Candidates:

George Lupold, Allentown, Pa.
David L. Manney, Avoca, New York

Applicants:

William H. Bartron, Stoudsburg, Pa.
Douglas D. Bowne, Staten Island, New York
Arthur H. Frable, Souderton, Pa.
Larry Gradwohl, Nazareth, Pa.
Gary Hoffman, Catasauqua, Pa.
Charles E. Kramer, Spring City, Pa.
George F. Lee, Jr., Emmaus, Pa.
Robert S. Minnig, Glenside, Pa.
Roger Reitz, Shamokin, Pa.
Jonathan D. Reynolds, Thompkinsville, Pa.
Paul Reynolds, Thompkinsville, Pa.
Harold E. Snyder, Crum Lynne, Pa.
Dana E. Weller, Aristes, Pa.
Larry Yerger, Detroit, Michigan
Leonard C. Yerger, Nyack, New York

The Committee previously reported that it was studying and preparing a program of fieldwork to provide practical training and experience under supervision. The following material is submitted for study and evaluation. The Ministerial Candidate Committee desires to have suggestions for improvement and modification, if necessary, of this proposed plan of fieldwork. A revision will then be submitted to a future session of Annual Conference for adoption.

IMPROVING OUR METHOD OF PREPARING MEN FOR THE MINISTRY

Introduction

Any church which takes seriously the command of the Lord to make disciples must train men in the ministry of the Word of God. The Bible Fellowship Church is no exception. Several problems confront us at the present time in the development of our program of training ministers in the Bible Fellowship Church. (1) Formal schooling is a real need for ministers in our generation; but this is not sufficient, we ought also to have some opportunity for a practical experience prior to accepting a pastorate. The total man, not just his intellect, must be prepared for service. (2) Church Extension will always be composed of smaller churches by the nature of the work of beginning; but the question is properly and more frequently asked if these are the places to train men or give them their "baptism of fire." (3) As long as our present system prevails, we have no provision to accept men for service at any time except October and no definite provisions to have them serve in any responsibility other than a pastorate. Could it not be that some well qualified men might be available at some month other than October? While some men may be quite capable of moving from the classroom to the pastorate without a practical training period, could it not be that some might be helped by practical training? Because of these problems we believe that the time has come to begin a new program of practical training for our ministerial candidates.

A Definition of Field Work

The practical or experimental aspect of the preparation of ministers is sometimes called "field work." Field work is the whole process of learning the work for the ministry from actual experience under guidance. It is the functional approach to the work of the ministry; it is "learning by doing." It is the laboratory experience of formal theological training. It can take place during the school term; in the summer between school terms and/or after the completion of formal schooling. It should be intended to bring together, not to separate, the theoretical and the practical.

The Basis of Field Work

Scripture gives foundation for the kind of training that is formal as well as practical. The Lord Jesus worked this way. The disciples heard from His lips wonderful words of instruction and saw in His life His compassionate ministry; but they also were assigned field experience of their own. These assignments were given only after some instruction; they were followed by a return to the Teacher for reports of the work, and for opportunity to be made aware of failures. While this is most clearly seen in the life of our Lord, this practice was common among the Old Testament prophets and was characteristic of the life of the Apostle Paul.

The Purpose of Field Work

Specific purposes for this kind of training could be many; but here we note two primary goals; (1) to acquaint the candidate with

the varied aspects of the work of the ministry and with the skills necessary to do this work; (2) to provide supervision for the candidate in which he is the object of the personal concern of a mature man.

In considering the first goal or purpose the candidate must be made aware that his work includes many areas of responsibility. He must realize that the office of pastor includes the work of preaching, ministering as a shepherd to people, administration of the ordinances, and the conducting of weddings and funerals. He is both confidant and counselor; therefore, he must be able to deal with people individually - especially personal evangelism. He is a Christian educator; therefore, he must know proper educational methods for a teacher and administrator. He is one who works with groups in enlisting workers and leading them in the work; therefore he must develop skills in enlisting, developing and leading his people and organization. He is a community leader; therefore he must learn his responsibilities and the proper way to carry out his responsibilities to the various organizations in the community. One of the purposes of field work is to acquaint the candidate with the breadth of these jobs as well as allowing him to develop skills in each area of responsibility.

A second purpose of field work is to provide proper supervision during such a learning period. Adequate supervision is difficult to define. By supervision must be understood the counseling of students generally accomplished by non-directive, supportive methods. Through skillful questioning the supervisor helps the candidate to see himself clearly in the situation and to interpret his own problems and achieve with the people with whom he is working the objectives desired. Self-supervision is therefore the ultimate goal because constant development is essential to a life-time effectual ministry. Obviously the supervisor must be an individual with efficient maturity to be objective in his dealings with the candidate. He must have a life and ministry that can well be imitated because he must teach by example as well as by actual, direct instruction.

Procedures for Field Work

In the Bible Fellowship Church the Ministerial Candidate Committee is charged with the work of preparing men to minister the Word of God; therefore it should oversee the field work program. Arrangements could be made to provide field work with Berean Bible School and any other school in which men under our care are studying. For men studying in an area where there is a Bible Fellowship Church, the Committee could seek for places where men are desired and discover under what terms a church would be willing to have a candidate. Suggestions could be made by the committee to the candidate regarding the varied types of experience the candidate might profit from at various stages of his training. The committee should take the initiative to promote understanding of the candidate in the church and of the work for

the candidate. Both the church and the candidate must understand the work in order to avoid misunderstanding. Both candidate and the supervisor must understand their relationship that the experience can prove helpful.

Conclusion

The spiritual nature of the work of the ministry makes this kind of program a necessary part of ministerial training today. Men who serve effectively must not only be "trained" but also "prepared".

Suggestions for Legislation to Provide Some Kind of Field Work

I. The Responsibility of the Candidate Committee in a program of Field Work Program.

1. The MCC shall solicit and receive from churches specific openings for training and service.

2. It shall have the right to negotiate between churches and candidates to provide mutually agreeable relationships. It shall supply a written form of agreement between churches and candidates which may be altered to meet special requirements.

3. Both local supervisor (i.e. pastor or other leader) and the Candidate shall understand that the MCC is seeking to train the Candidate and shall therefore have the right to evaluate and suggest changes in the program.

II. The Responsibility of the Churches in a Program of Field Work.

A. Bible Fellowship Churches

1. Any church desiring to enter this program shall inform the MCC.

2. If the responsibilities are of such nature that remuneration is advisable, the church shall determine its own ability to pay the candidate.

3. It shall understand that the MCC may negotiate the arrangements for the Ministerial Candidate.

4. It shall enter written agreement between the candidate and herself for any service and training rendered. This agreement shall include: length of relationship; financial obligation; and duties. It shall inform the MCC of the terms of the original agreement and of subsequent changes.

5. It shall always have the privilege to withdraw from the field work program at its discretion.

6. The pastor or other leader shall accept local responsibility for the supervision of the training in relation to MCC and the candidate.

7. Reports concerning the candidate and his work shall be submitted by the Pastor or other leader to the MCC.

B. Other Churches

1. When a Bible Fellowship Church is not available in which the candidate may serve, other churches may afford opportunities for training and service.

2. The MCC shall be informed of such training by the candidate.

III. The Responsibility of the Candidate in a Program of Field Work.

1. He shall seek some form of training in field work during and/or after his formal schooling.

2. He shall, in consultation with the church, devise mutually agreeable terms of service and training. This agreement shall include: length of relationship; financial obligations; duties. The MCC shall be informed of these arrangements.

3. He shall submit to the pastor or other leader under whom he works for training, advice and evaluation during his field work.

4. He shall accept such training as preparation and as actual service supervised by MCC.

5. He shall submit reports to MCC as requested by the Chairman.

IV. Seminars

1. The MCC shall provide seminars as occasion demands for the training of men under its care.

2. All those under care of the Committee shall be expected to attend; reasonable excuses shall be accepted. Men not under care of the Committee may attend.

(Carl C. Cassel, Chairman; James A. Beil, Secretary; Russell T. Allen, William A. Heffner, Earl M. Hosler, Committee).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO PUBLISH FELLOWSHIP NEWS

The Fellowship News continues to gain the interest of our subscribers and others; this is reflected in our present circulation of

1466, an increase this year of 84. The Fellowship News is now mailed to 33 states, the District of Columbia and 19 foreign countries.

The committee make the following recommendations:

1. The month of January be designated as subscription month.
2. Donations be given by the following boards and committees:

Board of Foreign Missions.....	\$50.00
Board of Church Extension	50.00
Board of Directors of Berean	50.00
Sunday School Promotion Committee	50.00
Committee on Publication & Printing ...	400.00

Checks should be made payable to Fellowship News and sent to the Treasurer of the committee no later than February 1, 1968.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR CONFERENCE YEAR 1966-1967

Balance - Business manager (9/1/66)...	\$ 107.23	
- Treasurer (9/15/66)...	<u>786.17</u>	\$ 893.40

Receipts

Subscriptions.....		2,939.65
Donations: S.S. Promotion Committee; Church		
Ext.; Board, Berean Bible School;		
Board of Foreign Missions...	250.00	
Refund on Freight Payments.....	<u>23.85</u>	273.85
TOTAL		<u>\$ 4,106.90</u>

Expenditures

Printing 12 issues of <u>Fellowship News</u> ...	2,581.39
Business Manager Expenses	127.25
Honorariums for Bus. Mgr. & Editor	175.00
Refunds	20.00
Committee Expenses	24.56
Promotional Expenses	<u>18.10</u>
TOTAL	<u>2,946.30</u>

Balance - Business Manager (8/31/67) ..	107.63
- Treasurer (9/9/67) ...	52.97
- Savings & Loan Account	<u>1,000.00</u>
	<u>1,160.60</u>

TOTAL Expenses and Balances.....	4,106.90
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(Robert W. Smock, Chairman; William R. Hunsberger, Secretary; Paul T. Rutman, Treasurer; David E. Thomann, Editor; R. C. Reichenbach, Business Manager, Committee).

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ALLENTOWN DISTRICT

"When He putteth forth His own sheep, HE GOETH BEFORE them" (John 10:4).

What a blessed fact! How often have we felt the pressure of circumstances; the power and presence of the enemy; our own weakness and insufficiency. But against all this, we have been encouraged by this truth: - "He goeth before." It is because we can say with a clear conviction "The Lord is my Shepherd," that we can add with calm confidence "I shall not want" for "He goeth before." And in His strength and this word of comfort we have gone forward.

"He goeth before" - He who breaks down all barriers and opens closed doors, dissolves the mountains of difficulty, straightens the crooked paths, and makes the rough places plain. Truly He is a "wonderful Saviour." Therefore because "He goeth before" it matters little what lies on ahead. He is "the Lord of Hosts", "The Almighty God", "El Shaddai - The God who is enough." When He is on ahead how insignificant all obstacles appear. How powerless is any attempt to block the way.

How great is the privilege to be "His", to have Him "put us forth," and to let Him "go before." He goes on before us not only occasionally but continually; not only sometimes but all the days. He is with us not only in the large concerns of life, but also in the little things that test and try.

"He goeth before you" was the Master's message on the morning of the resurrection. It was a needed word for the disciples who had become disappointed and despondent at His death. "Go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead: and behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo I have told you" (Matthew 28:7). He put them forth on what to them was a new experience, an untrodden way. In obedience to His word they went forth and they saw Him as He said. It was then that their sphere of service was enlarged, their commission renewed and their equipment promised.

There was a spiritual significance in our Lord's meeting with His disciples at Galilee. Jerusalem was the place of authority, of prominence and of power. Galilee was the place of obscurity, of apparent failure and defeat. Jerusalem must be reached by way of Galilee. Our Galilee may be some uncongenial course, some distasteful duty, some toilsome task. But no matter what it is, the only certainly of "seeing Him" is to get there. The objective was Galilee, it was there that the disciples were to meet and to see Jesus.

It is a source of courage and strength to remember that when he sends us forth, no matter what the task, "He goeth before," and

He will clear the way. Whatever the immediate results may seem, the end is an assured success. We shall see Him, we shall be in His presence.

It is when we have seen Him that the most mean and insignificant act of service is transformed into sincere and genuine service. The common duty, the task that seems but drudgery, now takes on a fresh and a new prospect. It does not matter how weak or how unworthy we may be, if only we are willing to follow in the path of His appointment. He has vouchsafed to us His own, the strength and grace to tread the way.

It is reassuring and comforting to realize that the first appearance of our Lord following the resurrection, was made to some of the weakest of His followers. It was to Mary, the woman out of whom He cast seven demons: to Thomas who doubted, and to Peter who denied Him. In compassion and tenderness He soothed the sorrows of these suffering hearts as He called each by their own personal name - "Mary", "Thomas", "Peter".

With this report our tenure of service in the active work of the ministry in our Conference is terminated. It has been a pleasure to be counted as one of you, and to have been privileged to labor in the vineyard of the Lord. God in His grace has permitted me to serve thirty-two years in the Pastorate and fourteen years as District Superintendent.

My deepest gratitude and thanks to all who have been kind and considerate, and who by prayer and love made our task a pleasant one. We owe a real debt to the hundreds who earnestly prayed for our recovery and restoration following a very serious accident. To God be the glory for answering prayer and granting Divine deliverance.

During the year there have been evidences of the blessing of God upon the work. Our Camp Meeting at Mizpah Grove was indeed a blessed occasion of spiritual refreshing. Evangelist Fred Brown ministered in the power of the Spirit. A number were saved and others brought into a new experience of victory through Christ.

The Pastors of the Allentown District supported the Camp program in a most commendable manner. Their messages were helpful and stimulating. Behind the scenes they rendered valuable and efficient service in maintaining a well ordered Camp.

After many delays in our endeavor to provide a Home for the Aging, ground was broken during the month of July, and the building is now under construction. Brother F. B. Hertzog as Manager of the Home is doing very well in giving oversight to the building program as well as directing the over-all affairs of the Home. When completed, this modern building will provide for twenty-eight persons.

After more than half a century in the ministry in our Conference, Pastor N.H. Wolf has reached the age of retirement, and retires from the active work with the close of this Annual Conference. Through these many years of loyal and devoted service, he has been the instrument in the hand of the Lord to lead many souls to Christ. A faithful shepherd of the flock, he has endeared himself to many. We wish for him God's best in the path that lies ahead.

PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS

ROYERSFORD: On February 15, the congregation voted approval of building plans for their new church. The plans call for a sanctuary seating 240 plus an overflow of 150. Provision is made for 15 Sunday school rooms, a nursery, a church office, choir room and a Pastor's study. The church is to be built on the lot along Lewis Road.

SPRING CITY: A service of dedication was held on June 11 for the newly constructed parsonage. The two-story colonial type house is built on the property of which the recently constructed church stands. Total cost of the parsonage approximates \$22,000.00.

CEDAR CREST: There was cause for rejoicing when finally the new church edifice was ready for occupancy. The first service was held in the new building on Sunday evening, August 13. The church was crowded for this service as members and friends from both Bethel and Cedar Crest gathered for this initial service. The following Sunday, August 20, marked the beginning of full scheduled meetings in both churches. Both churches now have their own Pastor and are completely self-supporting.

Hundreds of people thronged the building for the dedication of this newly erected House of Worship, on Sunday afternoon of September 24, 1967. The service was in charge of Pastor William Heffner. Carl C. Cassel preached the sermon.

LEBANON: A service of dedication for the newly acquired ground was held on Sunday, May 28. The 3.8 acres on which a new church is to be erected was secured for \$7,300.00. According to pledges made, the present debt on the ground will be paid by December 31, 1967. The congregation is concerned with plans for the building of a new church within the near future.

NAZARETH: November 5 and 6 were notable days for this church, as services of dedication were held in their newly constructed building. Three acres of ground were purchased in 1965 at a cost of \$12,000.00. The cost of the new church structure was \$76,000.00. Future plans call for the construction of a Parsonage on the present site, also an extension of the educational building and an enlarged sanctuary.

LANCASTER: A service of dedication was held for the new

Parsonage on May 14, 1967. The new building provides modern facilities for the Pastor's family, as well as adequate room in the basement for Sunday school classes and youth activities.

The Parsonage includes a kitchen-dining area, living room, study and three bedrooms. In addition there is a guest room with private facilities. Total cost of the house was \$22,500.00.

HARLEYSVILLE: This congregation has made excellent progress since they have had their own Pastor. Interest is keen in the plans for the building of a new Church on the land where the present Parsonage stands. The present limitations of this church building are so great that a new building is imperative.

"One step thou seest - Then go forward boldly,
One step is far enough for faith to see;
Take that, and thy next duty shall be told thee,
For step by step thy Lord is leading thee.

Therefore go gladly to the task assigned thee,
Having My promise, needing nothing more,
Than just to know, where'er the future find thee,
In all thy journeying I GO BEFORE."

FINANCIAL

Receipts:

Balance from last year	\$	107.75	
From Church Extension Board		7,410.00	\$ 7,517.75

Expenses:

(A) Appropriations:

Lehighton	\$	300.00	
Catasauqua		480.00	
Sinking Spring		1,200.00	
Paradise		1,680.00	3,660.00

(B) Miscellaneous:

Telephone		225.65	
Specials to Churches		1,634.25	
Specials to Pastors		1,430.10	
Meals & Mileage		103.45	
Postage & Printing		32.90	
Special equipment		185.10	
Special Help		75.00	3,686.45

Balance October 1, 1967		171.30	\$ 7,517.75
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T. D. Gehret, District Superintendent

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

BETHLEHEM DISTRICT

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness -"
Matthew 6:33

In the first major address by our Lord Jesus Christ to His disciples we find this statement which reveals the contrasts between His followers and the men of this world.

The individual who has experienced Christ's redemption is by the nature of that call a revolutionary. His citizenship is in Heaven, his code of conduct the Word of God and his hope centered in Christ's return.

The Apostle Paul writes that the Christian has the mind of Christ which is both gentle and severe. Towards a suffering and perishing world the true Believer reveals a deep compassion and concern which must result in corresponding activity and ministry to meet the need. In the face of bitter opposition and attempts to make the Christian compromise, there must always be strong resistance. Martin Luther before ecclesiastical and political dignitaries proclaims, "Here I stand, I can do no other, so help me God." Martin Niemoeller appearing in the presence of der Fuhrer, Adolph Hitler, unfalteringly announces, "God is my Fuhrer."

The man of God who would effectively shepherd the flock of God must be one who will not shun to declare all the counsel of God and speak the truth in love with conviction. The Spirit-filled minister of the gospel does not stoop to the use of improper methods and unsavory practices to produce professions in an effort to impress people. He will be guided by God's Word and seek to imitate the apostle Paul who said: "This is the ministry which God in His mercy has given us, and nothing can daunt us. We use no clever tricks, no dishonest manipulation of the Word of God. We speak the plain truth and so commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." (2 Corinthians 4:1-2, Phillips Translation)

May God increasingly give us, in our generation, men of God who shall properly minister the Word of God to the people of God that together they may effectively do a work for God.

As we bring another year to a close may we take this opportunity to express thanks to our Heavenly Father for His watchfulness during the many miles of travel. The fellowship with the Pastors, official boards and Believers at the churches has also been a source of rich blessing and encouragement.

District Superintendent, T.D. Gehret has reached the age which makes his retirement mandatory. His ministry as a Pastor in many

of our churches and as District Superintendent throughout our Conference will long be remembered by the Lord's people. Although he was involved in a serious accident this year, we are thankful that the Lord has brought physical restoration, thus enabling him to complete this year of service. We know the Lord's sustaining strength and grace will be his portion as he seeks to honor Him.

Pastor N.H. Wolf has also reached retirement age this year. During his years of service many lives have been influenced through his diligent service. May the Lord's richest blessings bring him added joy and satisfaction in this twilight period of life.

After years of delay and many discouraging trials, our Home for the Aging, to accommodate elderly men and women, is now under construction. It is hoped that this new building can be occupied before next summer. When completed, most of the funds available to the Board of Directors of the Home will have been exhausted. In order to operate the home efficiently, larger contributions will be necessary from our churches and from private individuals.

Due to the reluctance of the township officials to change the zoning regulations on the property purchased for a future Conference Center, it has been impossible to proceed with proposed plans. A study is being made of various alternate sites which could be used for our Bible School and summer conference program. Contributions are required to complete the payments on our original purchase. If, as seems probable, our present property cannot be used for our purposes, the proceeds realized from its sale would be applied towards the development of a new site. Everyone must be aware of the fact that our Berean Bible School must have more suitable facilities if it is to attract and provide for an enlarged enrollment.

The Lord gave us excellent weather and good attendances at Mizpah Grove Camp Meeting this year and we are convinced that a work of grace was done in many hearts. The Allentown school district is planning to purchase all of Mizpah Grove for the construction of a new Junior High School and athletic facilities. The land has been appraised and the school district officials have already begun negotiations with us to obtain our property. We solicit your prayerful interest in this matter that a suitable price might be realized in order that we may continue and enlarge this ministry at a new location.

The staff working on Fellowship News spends many hours each month preparing the copy for our denominational paper. The conference should be grateful for the faithful service of these men. This monthly periodical has become an effective medium to reach our people as well as many not presently members of the Bible Fellowship Church. Efforts should continue to further improve this paper. In addition to items of general interest concerning events at our various churches and brief devotional articles, there must be reports on and evaluations of current religious develop-

ments; such as the Congress on the Church's Worldwide Mission at Wheaton, Illinois, the Vatican Council and other articles covering a wide range of subjects. Penetrating articles on diversified subjects would be very stimulating and extremely helpful to many of the present readers. There are a number of qualified men in our fellowship who could produce material of this type for publication.

The extension of our church's borders is a responsibility that can not continuously be neglected. We have a responsibility to "occupy" at home as well as on the foreign field, and for too many years the Bible Fellowship Church has remained almost entirely in southeastern Pennsylvania. By establishing new churches and strengthening our smaller churches, we will be able to reach many more with the gospel abroad. The Board of Church Extension has spent many many hours this year evaluating our present program, and has studied various methods whereby this vital ministry can be developed and enlarged. The Board is presenting recommendations and proposals to this Annual Conference which, if enacted, could give impetus to the work of opening new churches. It is to be hoped that these suggestions, revealing some departures from our traditional concepts, will be approved by this conference body.

Many improvements have been made to properties by the churches on the Bethlehem District this year and some have constructed new buildings. Some of the major items include the following:

ALLENTOWN (SALEM): A spacious educational wing has been constructed adjoining the original church structure. This addition will provide necessary room to adequately provide for the Sunday school and other educational endeavors.

BETHLEHEM (EBENEZER): Moravian College has offered a good price for the purchase of the properties owned by this church, excluding the parsonage. The congregation has accepted this offer and is presently completing the negotiations which will enable them to obtain over eight acres of land located less than four miles from the present church facilities.

COOPERSBURG (CALVARY): On June 4, 1967, this congregation dedicated to the glory of God their beautiful new church building which includes a large basement for Sunday School and fellowship activities. The cost of the building, including furnishings was slightly more than \$150,000. This has been a very ambitious undertaking for a congregation the size of Calvary Church. The Lord's people, under the leadership of their Pastor, are to be commended for the faith they have exercised and their unusual liberal response to meet the financial obligations involved in this venture.

DENVILLE: This is one of the most progressive congregations in our denomination and the Lord has recently been bringing many new people into their fellowship. This year they purchased a well-constructed split level house for a parsonage at a cost of \$25,600.

The former parsonage has now been converted into Sunday school rooms and a study for the Pastor. Extensive alterations have also been made to the educational facilities in the basement of the church.

EMMAUS (BETHEL): On May 28, 1967, Bethel Church dedicated their fine new educational wing. The structure has three large floors containing many class rooms, large assembly areas and a spacious study for the Pastor. They have also redecorated the sanctuary making their entire building very inviting to those who attend.

PHILADELPHIA (EMMANUEL): Emmanuel Church will celebrate its golden anniversary during the month of November. This year they are reaching another milestone as they are requesting permission to go self-supporting with all the privileges and responsibilities of a conference station. Although many of their finest members have moved to other areas in recent years, the Lord has blessed His work in this place so that their attendances at all services is probably equal to any time in their history. A large lot adjoining the church building was purchased this year to provide additional space for a future building program.

QUAKERTOWN (GRACE): The Lord's people at Grace Church continue to seek the Lord's will concerning future provision for adequate educational facilities. Recently the officers of the church were authorized to purchase a twenty-acre tract of land at the outskirts of Quakertown which was made available to them at a reasonable price. At present no definite plans are completed concerning any future building program.

STATEN ISLAND: The Pastor and congregation of our church in this metropolitan area are rejoicing in the many blessings received this past year. Not the least of these is the faithfulness and unusual testimonies of recent converts who bear witness of the grace of God. After years of difficulty and many discouragements it is wonderful to have them requesting this Annual Conference for recognition as a self-supporting station. They have worked diligently this year to complete renovations and the redecoration of their building which now presents a fine appearance. However, they would like to find a location more suitable for reaching many people with the message of life and solicit your prayers for this need.

STROUDSBURG (BEREAN): Members of this church have worked many hours and given sacrificially this year to improve the church's appearance and also that of the parsonage. Shortly after the conclusion of our last Annual Conference they commenced the project of redecorating and renovating the parsonage. After several months of physical effort and an expenditure of approximately one thousand dollars, the interior was almost completely transformed by these members. They also made much needed repairs on the front of the church building. Good spiritual progress is also in evidence. It is hoped that this group will become a strong

church by the time the immense government sponsored Tock Island Recreational Center becomes a reality in their area.

FINANCIAL

Receipts:

Balance from last year	\$ 778.82		
From Church Extension	<u>9,080.00</u>	\$	9,858.82

Expenditures:

(A) Appropriations:

Phila. (Emmanuel)	\$ 780.00		
Staten Island	600.00		
Stroudsburg	2,100.00		
Zionsville	<u>2,100.00</u>	\$ 5,580.00	

(B) Miscellaneous:

Assistance to Churches	1,446.35		
Assistance to pastors	879.56		
Mileage & meals for pastors	97.26		
Telephone	256.41		
Printing & Letterheads	46.00		
Ministerial Convention	<u>22.02</u>	2,747.60	

Balance, October 6, 1967	\$ <u>1,531.22</u>	\$	9,858.82
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A. L. Seifert, District Superintendent

REPORT OF THE CHURCH EXTENSION DIRECTOR

James 1:5, "If any of you lack wisdom let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Last October, I received the responsibilities of this office with some fear and mixed emotions. I realized anew how much I needed the wisdom of God. The many promises of prayer support then and throughout the year have been a source of encouragement.

At the close of Annual Conference last year, the Church Extension Department was in need of two men. The Lord answered prayers by sending David Branning and Ronald Jansen into our ministry.

As the Church Extension Board met throughout the year, a very cooperative spirit prevailed in each session. Many hours were spent in planning for the future of the Church Extension of our Conference.

It was my privilege to represent Church Extension in twenty-

four of our Bible Fellowship Churches as well as in Berean Bible School. A word of appreciation is due to all the pastors and families for their hospitality shown to the Director and his family. The Board asked me to visit Bible Schools, Colleges (Christian) and Seminaries to interview any men who might be interested in our ministry. I was able to visit three different schools before the term closed. I also had the joy of conducting Soul-Winning Courses in the Miller Heights and Mount Carmel Churches. Our prayer is that the Lord will use these people in a new way.

BELVIDERE, NEW JERSEY

The Church at Belvidere has come through some difficult experiences in her short history, but God is answering prayer as His people keep looking unto Him. Pastor John H. Herb has lead this congregation through another building program. The new living quarters constructed in the rear of the church were finished in August and the pastor and family are settled in this comfortable home. I am happy to report that a number of decisions were made for Christ during the year. A substantial gain was made in the Sunday School and a few added to the church family with more prospects for the future.

EPHRATA, PA.

Space will not permit me to write about all the blessings of God upon this church which organized just one year ago. Pastor Smock and family, with the people of Ephrata, entered into this field with a real burden and much enthusiasm to see God do a work for His glory. The Lord answered prayer in many ways throughout these past months. Souls have been saved and added to the church to the extent that they are petitioning this Conference through the Church Extension Department to be recongnized as a Station. We believe there is a great future for this church.

FINESVILLE, NEW JERSEY

Our church in Finesville, New Jersey, has been pastored this year by one of our new men, Ronald Jansen. He entered into the work wholeheartedly and God has blessed his labor. This group has had some times of testing but again God is able to bring them through victoriously. Let us be in prayer with and for them in the future development of this work.

MACUNGIE, PA.

The small congregation in Macungie has had more than her share in setbacks and this year was no exception. How we thank God for Rev. F. B. Hertzog who took charge of this work so commendably after the resignation of John E. Golla last April. We appreciate the faithful people who stood by the work. Let us pray that God will do a mighty work at Macungie in the salvation of the lost and the building up of this church.

MILLER HEIGHTS, PA.

One of the highlights of this congregation was the very successful Released Time School which gave new contacts for Pastor Sullivan. New carpet was put in the aisles and across the front and rear of the church auditorium which lends to a quieter place of worship. It was my privilege to conduct a Soul-Winning Course during the month of April. We were grateful for the interest shown by the people of this congregation.

MILLERSVILLE, PA.

Three encouraging events in our Millersville church this conference year were the Teen-Week with an average of twenty young people and the Vacation Bible School with a 24% higher average attendance over the previous year. The evangelistic meetings which were held recently resulted in eight young people making professions of faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour.

Pastor Weaver and family have experienced a great deal of sickness this year; yet the Lord has enabled him to make over one-hundred more pastoral calls than the year before. Let us continue to pray for this testimony that God will strengthen the believers and enlarge their borders.

WALNUTPORT, PA.

Walnutport was one of the churches in this department without a pastor last October. Once again God answered prayer and sent us Pastor and Mrs. David Branning who entered into the work with their full ability. The people of this congregation accepted this fine young couple very graciously and there is a real spirit of cooperation. The parsonage was completely renovated as was reported in the Fellowship News. Different pews have been purchased for the sanctuary and the church basement has been painted. I believe Walnutport will have a new day in the future as people and pastor work together.

It is very evident as we see these pastors and their families at work for Christ that the day of sacrifice and dedication is not over. May I remind each of us that it is not just the responsibility of this Department to expand our church but all of us in the Bible Fellowship Church movement should be involved. May God send us capable men to enlarge our ministry which He has given us. Amen!

FINANCIAL

Received October 18, 1966	\$	55.40	
From Church Extension Board		3,908.89	
Miscellaneous		219.00	
			\$ 4,183.39

Expenditures:

	\$	
Special Appropriations		815.00
Assisting Churches		369.99
Director's Travel		966.03
Furnishings		27.72
Equipment		71.77
Postage		29.20
Church Extension Board Meals		67.60
Literature		77.70
Office Supplies		49.19
Electric		144.99
Fuel Oil		364.17
Telephone		217.85
Sewer and Water		100.70
Pastors' Travel		291.25
Oil Burner Service		40.55
Miscellaneous		75.70
	\$	<u>3,709.41</u>
Balance October 5, 1967		473.98
		<u>\$ 4,183.39</u>

Earl M. Hosler, Director

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF BEREAN BIBLE SCHOOL

Berean Bible School is building for the future. Not only the future when the students now attending will assume places of responsibility but the future when Berean shall increase its effectiveness in the field of education for our Lord and Master Jesus Christ. To this end we make this re-affirmation of commitment to the following principles:

To Christian education with spiritual priorities in an age when education has become secular in quest for a humanistic goal. We re-affirm our commitment to Jesus Christ, to His present and future kingdom and the dynamics of life in Jesus Christ.

To Christian education with academic integrity. By this we mean the conducting of the educational disciplines on a sound educational basis, with truth at the center, personified in Jesus Christ, inscribed in the Word of the living God, and revealed in a world created by God; to the truth to be discovered by the guidance provided by the Holy Spirit through diligent study and research; to learning processes structured to develop growth into Christ-likeness.

To Christian education with gospel commitment that goes beyond our own realization of redemption to the compulsive sharing of Christ with others. Ours is the stewardship of the unfinished work of Christ preparatory to His glorious coronation.

To Christian education with social responsibility to the here and now problems of reigning death in our contemporary society. To know and exercise love for neighbor equal to love for self in Christ so that our gospel has as great a present reality as it has a prospective hope for the future, lest the Christ we confess be presented in a confused distorted characterization.

We turn now to observe in retrospect the building process.

Facilities

The present school plant was used to capacity during the past year. The expectation has been that we would soon build on another site so measures were taken to improve our present situation. The indefiniteness at this moment about our ability to relocate the school has given us a pause to re-think the use of our present buildings. Mr. Raymond R. Dotts has provided wise supervision of the facilities. A new policy has made it possible for faculty members to provide their own housing off campus. This has made it possible to allot more space to the library, relieve the overcrowded administrative offices, to provide faculty offices and to add another classroom. These changes have done much to improve the efficiency of the operation of the school.

The acquisition of the home located at 548 Fernwood Street, Emmaus, through a generous contribution has provided housing for one faculty member.

Every effort is being made to make better use of our present facilities until such time as the Lord provides our new campus.

Finances

The continuity of the school depends upon the day to day receiving of the finances required for its maintenance. The faithfulness of God is obvious in the manner in which this need has been supplied. This faithfulness on the part of our Lord is equal to the rising costs of a growing school.

The Bible Fellowship Churches through their gifts contributed \$33.00 over the \$26,000 prescribed by the budget. While the gifts through the Sunday Schools fell short by \$1,313.00, the General Contributions for the school rose to a new high of \$14,337. The prospect of a new school plant inspired gifts of \$2,456.00 even though this capital improvement is being financed at this time through the Forward With Christ campaign.

The budget for this current year, although higher, is one of strict economy. It provides salary increases for the faculty, and funds for much needed repairs in our present plant. The cost of educating each student is still far below that of other institutions of higher learning both as to fees charged and contributions needed.

Enrollment

The enrollment this past year (1966-67) was the largest in the number of registrants. The evening school also showed an increase. The current school year has more full time students and about the same number of registrants. The quality of the dedication of the present student body indicates that God is making provision for leadership in the future.

The enrollment of the school admittedly is one of the greatest problems that causes concern. Efforts have been made to increase our outreach in the area of student recruitment. A greater number of high school students ought to know about the advantages of Berean training and the values of Christian education. One of the factors contributing to our enrollment problem could be the nature of the transition period through which we are passing as we implement two, three and four year programs which were designed to meet the changing educational needs of our constituency.

Faculty

After years of service and making vital contributions to Berean's growth, two of the Faculty members submitted their resignations. They were called by the Lord to serve at another school. God's faithfulness was manifested in the replacements for Mr. Shelly and Mr. Nilsson. Rev. Herbert E. Anderson was appointed Dean and John Pokrywka as Librarian. The pursuit for academic excellence and the building process goes on as capable personnel are added.

Accreditation

While seeking to maintain the Christian concerns that brought Berean into existence efforts continue to gain recognition for Berean by the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges. The Department of Public Instruction of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other colleges. At present Committees are involved in a self-evaluation study prior to an examination by a committee from the Accrediting Association. Consultations with State Officials are continuing with a view toward gaining approval to grant higher honors.

During the past year several colleges issued letters indicating a willingness to recognize work taken at Berean for the transfer of credit. The following schools have issued such letters: Wheaton College, Muhlenberg College, Moravian College and Eastern Mennonite College. Prior to this, other schools such as Covenant College, Bob Jones University, Elizabethtown College, Barrington College, Gordon College, Nyack Missionary College, Baptist Bible Seminary and Eastern Pilgrim College have recognized work taken at Berean as valid for transfer.

Student Aid

One of the most significant gains was in the area of scholarship and student aid programs to assist worthy students.

The Rev. and Mrs. R.C.Reichenbach Scholarship Fund was established by their son, Bruce, to assist a student enrolled in the Pastoral Training course each year. A grant is made annually from this fund.

The Ungerer Student Loan Fund was established this past year to provide financing for those who require a loan to complete their education at a low rate of interest. It is expected to be a revolving fund.

The Scholarship Fund. The Board this year placed in the budget a stated amount to be used as scholarships to be awarded to students on the basis of need, ability and promise of usefulness in the future.

The Student Loan Fund. This fund was established some years ago by interested supporters of Berean to provide money for those who temporarily find it necessary to make a loan.

Memorial Fund. An increasing number of gifts have been received from those who make a donation to the school as a memorial to someone they wish to honor. These gifts are used to buy the permanent fixtures in the Library so that they provide a continuing service.

Ours is the great task of building Berean as a community of Christian disciples who are seeking to impart knowledge, promote spiritual insights and inspire dedication of the total person to God.

Thank you for your fellowship in this ministry.

Jansen E.Hartman, President

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BEREAN BIBLE SCHOOL

"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." I Peter 1:7.

The School has undergone some severe tests during the past year but God has been faithful. The lessons He has taught shall be reflected in the future ministry of the School, and, we believe bring glory to the Name of our Precious Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

President Jansen E.Hartman has served wholeheartedly, the faculty faithfully and the staff efficiently.

There have been several faculty changes this year. Harold P. Shelly and Donal E. Nilsson have asked to be released in order to serve in another field of service. The following have been added to the faculty: Herbert E. Anderson as Academic Dean and Professor of Philosophy, John Pokrywka as Librarian and Instructor in Philosophy, and Mrs. Laura Cassel as part-time Instructor in Music.

The other full-time faculty members are Jansen E. Hartman, Ruth A. Hartman, Raymond R. Dotts, Leonard J. Coppes and Karen Ettinger.

The part-time faculty members are Alva C. Cassel, Willard E. Cassel, Carl C. Cassel, John E. Phillips, Charlene S. Cassel, Mary E. Dotts, Donald R. Knauer and Lenora L. Knauer.

On Monday, June 5, 1967 at 7:30 p.m. in our Bethel Church, Allentown, Pa., four day students and three evening school students were graduated from the School. This brings the total number of graduates to 165 in fifteen years. At the beginning of the 1967-68 school year, 51 have registered in the collegiate division and 24 students in evening school.

The Board has met six times during the year to conduct its business. The various committees have functioned well and carried out the responsibilities placed upon them.

The Board has organized as follows: Chairman: T.D. Gehret
Secretary: W.B. Hottel Treasurer: A.L. Wentz

The Board elected the following committees and they organized as follows:

Committee on Finance: Chairman, Robert W. Gehret; Secretary, Byron C. Cassel; Representative to Executive Committee, A.L. Wentz; John M. Stengele and Jansen E. Hartman.

Committee on Faculty and Instruction: Chairman, A.L. Seifert; Secretary, Horace A. Kauffman; Representative to Executive Committee, Harvey J. Fritz, Jr.; T.D. Gehret and Jansen E. Hartman.

Committee on Promotion: Chairman, W.B. Hottel; Secretary, Carl Rishel; Representative to Executive Committee, W.B. Hottel, R. Wallace Journey, James A. Beil and Jansen E. Hartman.

Executive Committee: Chairman, T.D. Gehret; Secretary, W.B. Hottel; A.L. Seifert, A.L. Wentz and Harvey J. Fritz, Jr.

Committee on Resolutions: Horace A. Kauffman and Harvey J. Fritz, Jr.

Much work has been done to keep the school properties in good condition such as the redecoration of many of the rooms, repairs in the home of the President and a three-ply covering applied on

the roof of the 1018-20 South Hall Street building.

Through the kindness of several donors, the School was given a house located at 548 Fernwood Street, Emmaus, Pa., with the provision it would assume the existing mortgage of \$12,000. This is now used as faculty housing.

We praise the Lord that the School has been able to meet all of its financial obligations through the faithful and sacrificial support of the members and friends of the Bible Fellowship Church. It is interesting to note that the Churches gave slightly more than the amount proposed in the 1966-67 budget. We thank God for all those who pray and give in order to make the ministry of Berean Bible School possible.

The Board of Directors of Berean Bible School recommends to the Annual Conference meeting in the Bethel Church, Allentown, Pa., on Monday, October 9, 1967:

That the following procedure for meeting the needs of Berean Bible School this coming year shall be:

That each Church be encouraged to support Berean Bible School at a level equal to 4% of its annual offerings and that this support be remitted to the School in twelve monthly payments. The laymen on the Board of Directors of Berean Bible School shall maintain contact throughout the year with the pastors and official boards of each Church, keeping them informed of the work of the School and its needs.

FINANCIAL REPORT Balance Sheet, June 30, 1967

Exhibit A

ASSETS

I. Current Funds

General:

Cash	\$	(2,211.99)
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Accounts Receivable:

Fees - Current	156.07	
Fees - Previous Students	1,477.54	
Bookroom	475.06	
	2,108.67	

Less:

Allowance for Uncollectible Accounts	1,415.00	693.67
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Inventories:

Food	750.65	
Supplies	818.21	
Fuel Oil	448.08	
Bookroom	6,102.00	8,118.94
Prepaid Insurance		544.00

Total Current Funds - General (Exhibit A)	<u>7,144.62</u>
Restricted - Cash	2,024.74
II. Loan Funds	
Cash	310.71
Loans - Receivable	<u>2,009.95</u>
	2,320.66
III. Endowments and Other Non-Expendable Funds - Funds subject to Annuity Agreements Institutional Property	1,235.33
IV. Plant Fund	182,840.95
V. Agency Funds	<u>2,074.78</u>
Total Assets	\$ 197,641.08

LIABILITIES

I. Current Funds				
Liabilities		840.30		
Surplus				
Restricted	\$ 2,024.74			
Unappropriated	<u>6,304.32</u>	8,329.06	\$	9,169.36
II. Loan Funds				
Principal of Funds				2,320.66
III. Endowments and Other Non-Expendable Funds				
Funds subject to Annuity Agreements				
Unrestricted Principal				1,235.33
IV. Plant Fund				
Invested in Plant				
Liabilities - Mortgages Payable		16,487.26		
From Gifts and Current Funds		<u>166,353.69</u>		182,840.95
V. Agency Funds				
Balance of Funds Due to Others				<u>2,074.78</u>
Total Liabilities			\$	197,641.08

Exhibit B

Condensed Statement of Current Income and Expenditures
For the Year Ended June 30, 1967

INCOME

Educational and General -	
Student Fees	\$ 14,746.76

Gifts and Grants:		
Unrestricted	42,420.03	
Restricted	31,447.96	
General	<u>720.00</u>	\$ 89,334.75
Auxiliary Enterprises		27,200.32
Other Non-Educational Income		<u>40.00</u>
Total Income		\$ 116,575.07

EXPENDITURES

Educational and General -		
Administration	\$ 17,962.65	
General Expenses	13,526.28	
Instruction	14,220.50	
Library	4,769.57	
Operation and Maintenance of		
Physical Plant	<u>12,098.94</u>	\$ 62,577.94
Auxiliary Enterprises		21,611.40
Other Non-Educational Expenses		<u>19,913.44</u>
Total Expenditures		<u>\$ 104,102.78</u>
Excess of Income over Expenditures -		
Educational and General	26,756.81	
Auxiliary Enterprises	5,588.92	
Other Non-Educational Trans.	<u>(19,873.44)</u>	
Net Excess of Income over Expenditures (Exhibit C)		<u>\$ 12,472.29</u>

Exhibit C

Statement of Current Funds Surplus
For the Year Ended June 30, 1967

Balance, June 30, 1966		\$ 11,026.34
Addition:		
Excess of income over expenditures.		
for the Period (Exhibit B)	\$ 12,472.29	
Adjustment for Rev.R.C.		
Reichenbach Scholar-		
ship Fund - Prior years		
transfer to Saving Account		
plus interest earned	<u>152.13</u>	12,624.42
		<u>\$ 23,650.76</u>

Deductions:

Current funds transferred to plant fund:	
For acquisition of assets	12,555.94
For retirement of debt	554.73
	<u>13,110.67</u>
Current funds trans.to Loan fund	<u>2,211.03</u>
	15,321.70
Balance, June 30, 1967	\$ <u>8,329.06</u>
Consisting of:	
Restricted Surplus	\$ 2,024.74
Unappropriated Surplus	<u>6,304.32</u>
Total, Current Funds Surplus (Exhibit A)	\$ 8,329.06

(T. D. Gehret, Chairman; W. B. Hottel, Secretary; A. L. Wentz, Treasurer; A. L. Seifert, Jansen E. Hartman, Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., James A. Beil, Byron C. Cassel, Horace A. Kauffman, Robert W. Gehret, John M. Stengele, R. Wallace Journey, Carl Rishel, Board).

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH HOME

Sixty-two years have passed since the Annual Conference authorized the purchase of a property for the care of the aged. A Home was provided and a considerable number of Christian aged, who otherwise would have had no one to care for them, have had a place to live their remaining days in dignity and serenity. Doing this work has been a real pleasure and source of satisfaction in Christian service.

In the Bible Fellowship Church Home there is much accomplished every day that goes unnoticed. The value of this spiritual ministry cannot be measured by ordinary standards, but will only be fully revealed in eternity. The Matron, Clara Messner, her assistant, Kathryn Rosencranz, and each employee have looked after the interest of the Home and the comfort of the guests. There are many hands needed to do all the tasks in the nursing, house-keeping, dietary, and maintenance departments. Each employee has a special task to perform which contributes to the happiness of the guests, and we appreciate the services rendered by the employees. All glory belongs to the One we serve.

We as a Board are grateful for the help we have received from the Churches and the Women's Missionary Societies in the way of finances and volunteer help. We also received the following donations: groceries valued at \$600.00, linens valued at \$45.00, clothing valued at \$100.00 and household items valued at \$175.00.

The Administrator, Rev. F. B. Hertzog, has worked hard and long during the year for progress on the erection of a new facility. On July 22, 1967, excavation was begun at 7 South New Street,

Nazareth, Pa., for the new Bible Fellowship Church Home. The plans call for a one story brick building 171 feet in length and 44 feet in width with a basement 45 by 44 feet under the east end of the building. Also, a wing 44 feet in length and 50 feet in width on the south side will provide space for the kitchen and dining area. This new building will provide for 28 guests, a nurse's station, therapy room, laundry facilities and offices. The tentative date of completion is February 28, 1968.

The total cost of the construction will be \$160,470.00. This includes \$132,850.00 for general construction, \$14,270.00 for plumbing, \$5,500.00 for heating and \$7,800.00 for electrical work. The cost of kitchen and laundry appliances and room furnishings have not been included in this total cost estimate. There are various items, such as these appliances and room furnishings, which church groups or individuals might want to purchase for the Home. For a listing of these items, write the chairman of the Board at 7 South New Street, Nazareth, Pennsylvania 18064.

The continued support of the churches will be most essential in realizing our goal for providing better facilities and services for our people. Also the Home has been the recipient of legacies from a number of wills. Legacies of real estate, stocks, bonds and cash will continue to play an important role in the expansion and maintenance of the Home through the years. (Offerings for support of the Home are not included in the Conference budget). Why not consider the Bible Fellowship Church Home in your will? The Home is planning to set up an endowment program and trust funds to enhance the program to serve the church.

If you are interested in becoming a resident of the Home, write to the administrator, in care of the Home, 7 South New Street, Nazareth, Pennsylvania 18064 and ask for information and an application blank.

FINANCIAL REPORT

September 1, 1966 - August 31, 1967

CREDITS:

Balance in Checking Account, . 9/66		\$	1,985.80
Matrons Working Capital, 9/66			1,538.40
Contributions from Churches	\$	1,756.83	
Dividends and Interest		8,096.63	
Insurance		764.30	
Payments on Investments		931.80	
Social Security, Pensions, Public Assistance		4,384.81	
Miscellaneous		605.73	
Transfer from Savings Account			16,540.10
Total		\$	<u>11,371.54</u>
			31,435.84

DISBURSEMENTS:

Improvements for Administrator's			
Apartment	6,713.37		
Food	1,045.56		
Fuel	1,840.07		
Funeral	937.51		
Furniture	324.28		
Guests Monthly Allowances	554.89		
Medical	1,370.17		
Laundry	101.46		
Construction - New Building	3,961.15		
Public Utilities	1,265.81		
Repairs	390.36		
Wages	10,261.51		
Miscellaneous	227.85	\$	28,993.99
<hr/>			
Matron's Working Capital, 8/31/67		\$	1,448.71
Balance in Checking Account, 8/31/67			993.14
<hr/>			
Total		\$	31,435.84

INVENTORY

August 31, 1967

PROPERTY:

Home Property			
38 South New Street,	\$	38,000.00	
Home Property			
7 South New Street,		35,000.00	\$ 73,000.00

MISCELLANEOUS:

Furniture	2,000.00		
Appliances and Equipment	800.00		
Office Equipment	100.00		
Provisions	150.00		3,050.00

SECURITIES:

Investments and Savings	174,188.30		
Loans:			
Board of Directors	16,000.00		
Lancaster Church	2,353.82		
Emmanuel, Phila.	3,068.99		
Matrons Working Capital	1,448.71		
Balance in Checking Account	993.14		198,052.96
<hr/>			
Total		\$	274,102.96

(T.D.Gehret, President; A.L.Seifert, Vice-President; Paul I. Wentz, Treasurer; E. W. Bean, Secretary; Paul Cressman, Richard Kline, Ernest B.Hartman, Board).

The Home Board Accounts and this Report have been audited by Robert Ringler.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

"He said unto them, Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer, and rise again from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name unto all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. Ye are witness of these things." (Luke 24:46-48 ASV)

The above verses are a statement of the Great Commission that is not often used in missionary meetings. But it gives the whole statement of the missionary emphasis of the Bible Fellowship Church. Note: If Christ had not suffered, died and rose again the third day, there would be no message of repentance and remission of sins to preach.

This message is to be preached to all nations in the name of Christ. We are to begin at our Jerusalem which is our locale and then to reach to the uttermost part of the earth. Are we doing this? We, as a Board, appreciate the renewed emphasis and planning by the Board of Church Extension. The only way that the work in the regions beyond can be enhanced is to strive for a larger base of operation here in the homeland.

Maybe the reason we have been so slow to take up the challenge of the Great Commission is found in verse 48: "Ye are witnesses of these things." Have we truly experienced repentance and the remission of sins? We are also witnesses of the living Christ for we sing: "I know He lives, for He lives within my heart."

Naturally speaking we are fighting a losing battle. Statistics from the census bureaus tell us there are more souls being born naturally daily than are being born again by the Spirit of God. But we are fighting the battle of the Lord and He eventually will be victor.

Let us get on with the work of MISSIONS!

BOARD ACTIVITIES

The Board of Foreign Missions met five times during the year to carry out the work committed to it. A budget of \$112,000.00 for the calendar year of 1967 was established in November, 1966. We deeply appreciate the prayer and financial support of the Churches and Sunday Schools. We need to remind you that the cost of doing missionary work is increasing faster than the cost of living in the States. We spoke above of the battle in which we are engaged and this can only be increased as we annually see an increase in the

financial support of the Churches. The financial section of this report reflects that we have gained over \$4,000.00 in interest as we invested funds that were not immediately needed. This was made possible because many of the Churches prepaid their Foreign Mission contributions quarterly during the year. We thank each church for their prompt handling of this matter.

CANDIDATES

Mr. and Mrs. George Lee, Jr. of Mt. Carmel have completed their time at Missionary Internship and have been formally accepted by the Orinoco River Mission. They are looking to the Lord for His provision to leave for language school by December, 1967.

Mr. and Mrs. David L. Manney of Shamokin have been accepted by our Board and the World Radio Missionary Fellowship for work at radio station HCJB in Quito, Ecuador. They too, expect to leave for language school by the end of this calendar year.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Zuck of Quakertown are being processed as candidates.

FURLOUGHED MISSIONARIES

Mr. and Mrs. Timothy G. Kauffman returned in January, 1967 from a term in France. They were engaged for the past 18 months in the printing and distribution of literature. Their second daughter, Brenda Gayle, was born August 30, 1967.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Venable arrived from Liberia on March 24, 1967. After a few months in Florida with Fred's parents, they are living in the annex of our Hatfield Church, 51 W. Broad Street, Hatfield, Pa. 19440

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Poysti were in the States for a three month furlough. This short furlough was necessitated because of the schooling of their children. The European schools do not recognize any work done in the States.

RESIGNATIONS

Miss Frances Yonce, after spending a few months in Costa Rica in language school, felt led of the Lord to resign from the Board and return home.

David K. Lilley withdrew his candidacy for foreign service and the Board accepted his resignation at their September, 1967 meeting.

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

The women of the Bible Fellowship Churches are doing a fine

work in behalf of our missionaries. A great interest in shown by the various churches when their missionary is home on furlough. Most of the churches have organized societies and they have met semi-annually in regional rallies. The names and addresses of the regional officers are attached to this report.

The Conference-Wide W.M.S.Rally was held in Ebenezer Church, Bethlehem on May 11, 1967. Our missionaries home on furlough participated in the program.

MISCELLANEOUS

Attached to this report are the names and addresses of all the supervising mission boards under which our missionaries are serving. If you desire to send a cash gift to any missionary, (birthday, Christmas, project, etc.) please be advised NOT to send a personal check or money order directly to the missionary. There is always the possibility of theft, loss or the inability of the missionary to cash the check. Please send your check, made payable to the board under which the missionary is working, to that board and specifically designate that this is a special gift for your missionary. There will be no deductions made by the mission board. Birthday and Christmas gifts are NOT deductible for income tax purposes.

The Board signed a yearly lease for 419 Elm Street, Emmaus, Pa. for a home for furloughed missionaries and candidates.

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS RECOMMENDS THAT ALL FOREIGN MISSION FUNDS BE FORWARDED QUARTERLY TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

- Willard E. Cassel, General Secretary

FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME:

Balance in Treas. 9/30/66	\$	9,662.51	
Received from Churches		86,379.42	
Received from Sunday Schools		19,073.97	
Interest		4,138.25	
Contributions		710.00	
Refunds		502.55	\$120,466.70

EXPENDITURES:

Africa Inland Mission	14,040.00
Christian & Missionary Alliance	10,160.28
Central America Mission	700.00
Greater Europe Mission	9,237.00
High School Evangelism, Inc.	2,400.00
Latin America Mission	8,880.00

Navigators	1,680.00	
North Africa Mission	4,000.00	
Orinoco River Mission	12,780.00	
Overseas Missionary Fellowship	6,600.00	
Scripture Union	3,200.00	
The Evangelical Alliance Mission	11,388.00	
Trans World Radio	9,260.00	
Unevangelized Fields Mission	1,980.00	
West Indies Mission	3,804.00	
World-Wide Evangelization Crusade	4,000.00	
Wycliffe Bible Translators	1,500.00	
Fares and Meals	377.61	
Postage	198.12	
Telephone	77.16	
Year Books	38.00	
Office Supplies	97.13	
Special Donations:		
Travel - Kassay	250.00	
Travel - Yonce	250.00	
Medical - Harley	350.00	
Tape Recorder	150.00	
General Secretary's Honorarium	300.00	
Medical - Bigley	250.00	
Hatton Stamp Project	100.00	
Mr. & Mrs. George F. Lee, Jr.	1,500.00	
Mr. & Mrs. Hubert Fisher	17.00	
Miscellaneous donations	152.36	
Camp Expenses	174.01	
Rent	1,890.00	
Office Machine Maintenance	38.50	
Fellowship News	112.00	
Printing	84.00	
Medical Expenses - Frame	75.00	
Secretarial Help	41.15	
Missions Encyclopedia	17.00	
Moving of furniture	142.50	
Insurance	27.00	
Utilities and Water	41.38	
Miscellaneous	13.47	
Balance in treasury, 9/39/67		112,372.67
		8,094.03
		<u>\$ 120,466.70</u>
Loaned to the Board of Directors	7,000.00	

We have received from the Churches and Sunday Schools for use in the 1967-1968 fiscal year - \$75,050.61 which is on Certificate of Deposit with the Fidelity-Phila., Trust Co., at 5% interest.

(C.E. Kirkwood, Chairman; Willard E. Cassel, General Secretary; T.D. Gehret, A.L. Seifert, David E. Thomann, James R. Cressman, Kermit K. Gehman, Harold W. Griest, Roy E. Williams, Board).

The accounts of the Board of Foreign Missions were audited by Raymond R. Dotts.

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY THE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCHES

- BAKER, Mr. & Mrs. Sterling, Africa Inland Mission, Kijabe, Kenya
 BIGLEY, Mr. & Mrs. James, Litein via Kericho, Kenya
 BUCK, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard, P. O. Box 3255, Johannesburg, TVL, S. Africa
 CAMPBELL, Dr. William F., 43 Marsman, Tangiers, Morocco
 CHAPONNIERE, Mr. & Mrs. Paul, B. P. 4242, Kinshasa, Rep. of Congo
 DYKE, Mr. & Mrs. C. Herbert, Mission House, Murdizapur, Akola District, Maharashtra, India
 FISHER, Mr. & Mrs. Hubert, 730 Shin Koton Machi, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan
 GEHMAN, Mr. & Mrs. Richard, P. O. Box 49, Machakos, Kenya
 GORDON, Mr. & Mrs. Robert, Box 576, Apartado, Cucuta, Colombia
 HARLEY, Mr. & Mrs. J. Barclay, Apartado 75, Ciudad Bolivar, Venezuela
 HATTON, Mr. & Mrs. Howard, Thailand Bible House, 150 N. Sathorn Rd., Bangkok, Thailand
 HERTZOG, Mr. & Mrs. Roy, Box 141, Monte Carlo, Monaco
 HOFFMAN, Mrs. Aaron, P. O. Ukarumpa, E.H.D., Territory of New Guinea
 HOPKINS, Mr. Robert, 623 Echo Lane, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80904
 HOYLE, Mr. & Mrs. Ron, 2 rue des Francs Muriers, Amiens, Somme, France
 KASSAY, Miss Harriet, Apartado 1307, San Jose, Costa Rica
 KAUFFMAN, Mr. Timothy G., 16 E. Minor St., Emmaus, Pa. 18049
 LEE, Mr. & Mrs. George F., Jr., 419 Elm St., Emmaus, Pa. 18049
 MANNEY, Mr. & Mrs. David L., Box 348, Avoca, N. Y. 14809
 MOYER, Mr. & Mrs. Edward, 7 cite des Filao, Capesterre, Guadeloupe, F.W.I.
 POYSTI, Mr. Earl F., Box 141, Monte Carlo, Monaco
 RAWN, Miss Olive, Private Bag, AIM, Kasese, Uganda, E. Africa
 RITTER, Mr. & Mrs. Donald J., Vastra Bangatan 53A, Marsta, Sweden
 SHELLING, Mr. Ted, % International Students, Inc., 2109 E St. N. W., Washington, D. C. 20037
 SHELLY, Mr. & Mrs. Austin, Institutio Biblico Las Delicias Caribe, Monagas, Venezuela
 SNYDER, Mrs. Phoebe, 335 Mission Rd., Glendale, Calif. 91205
 SOLT, Mr. & Mrs. David, Box 855, San Salvador, El Salvador
 STENGELE, Mr. & Mrs. Laird, P. O. Box 5, Akola, Maharashtra, India
 VENABLE, Mr. & Mrs. Fred, 51 W. Broad St., Hatfield, Pa. 19440

MISSIONARY ASSIGNMENTS TO CHURCHES

Allentown (Bethel)-----Roy Hertzog
 Daniel
 Mrs. Aaron Hoffman
 Mrs. Donald Ritter
 Ted Shelling

Mr. & Mrs. Austin Shelly
 Susanne
 Joanne
 David Paul
 Carole Sue Stengele
 Donald Lauren Stengele

Allentown (Cedar Crest)-----Mrs. Ron Hoyle
 Mr. & Mrs. Laird Stengele

Bethlehem-----Mr. & Mrs. James Bigley
 James
 Joel
 Jon
 Mr. & Mrs. Hubert Fisher
 Harriet Kassay
 Earl Poysti

Coopersburg-----Mrs. Leonard Buck

Emmaus-----Dr. William Campbell
 Timothy G. Kauffman
 Jeanne

Easton-----Mrs. C. Herbert Dyke
 Nancy
 Bruce
 Elaine

Fleetwood

Quakertown-----Leonard Buck
 Mrs. David Solt
 Lois

Lancaster

Philadelphia (Emmanuel)-----Donald Ritter

Blandon

Lebanon-----Howard Hatton

Hatfield-----Olive Rawn
 David Solt
 Mr. & Mrs. Fred Venable

Maple Glen

Philadelphia (Calvary)-----J. Barclay Harley
 Linda
 John
 Mrs. Phoebe Snyder

Mt. Carmel-----Mr. & Mrs. George Lee

Reading-----Robert Hopkins

Paul Chaponniere
 Paulette
 John
 Marianna
 Marc

Shamokin
 Wallingford-----Mr. & Mrs. Richard Gehman
 Mr. & Mrs. David Manney

York-----Mr. & Mrs. Sterling Baker
 Robert Gordon
 Robert, Jr.
 Stanley

Zionsville
 Allentown (Salem)
 Scranton-----Mrs. Roy Hertzog

Royersford
 Spring City-----Mr. & Mrs. Edward Moyer

Sunbury-----Mrs. J. Barclay Harley
 Susan Cae

Nazareth-----Herbert Dyke
 Joyce

Terre Hill-----Mrs. Howard Hatton

Graterford
 Harleysville-----Ron Hoyle

Catasauqua
 Walnutport
 Lehighton
 Stroudsburg
 Finesville, N. J.
 Paradise
 Belvidere, N. J.
 Staten Island, N. Y.
 Miller Heights-----Mrs. Robert Gordon
 David

MISSION BOARDS AND MISSIONARIES

AFRICA INLAND MISSION, 253 Henry Street., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11201

Mr. & Mrs. Sterling Baker (2)
 Mr. & Mrs. James Bigley (4)
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Gehman
 Miss Olive Rawn

CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE, 260 W. 44th St., New York, N. Y.
10036

Mr. & Mrs. C. Herbert Dyke (4)
Mrs. Phoebe Snyder
Mr. & Mrs. Laird Stengele (3)

GREATER EUROPE MISSION, 214 N. Hale St., Wheaton, Ill. 60187

Mr. & Mrs. Ron Hoyle (1)
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Ritter

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, INC. 2109 E. St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
20037

Mr. Ted Shelling

LATIN AMERICA MISSION, 285 Orchard Terrace, Bogota, N. J. 07603

Miss Harriet Kassay
Mr. & Mrs. David Solt (2)

NORTH AFRICA MISSION, 241 Fairfield Ave., Upper Darby, Pa. 19082

Dr. William Campbell (1)

ORINOCO RIVER MISSION, P. O. Box 611, S. Pasadena, Calif. 91030

Mr. & Mrs. J. Barclay Harley (4)
Mr. & Mrs. George Lee, Jr., (1)
Mr. & Mrs. Austin Shelly (3)

OVERSEAS MISSIONARY FELLOWSHIP, 237 W. School Lane, Phila., Pa.
19144

Mr. & Mrs. Hubert Fisher
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Hatton

SCRIPTURE UNION, 239 Fairfield Ave., Upper Darby, Pa. 19082

Mr. Paul Chaponniere (4)

THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE MISSION, P. O. Box 969, Wheaton, Ill.
60187

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Buck (1)
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Gordon (3)

THE WORLD RADIO MISSIONARY FELLOWSHIP, P. O. Box 691, Miami,
Florida 33147

Mr. & Mrs. David Manney (2)

TRANS WORLD RADIO, 354 Main St., Chatham, N. J. 07928

Mr. & Mrs. Roy Hertzog (2)
Mr. Earl Poysti

UNEVANGELIZED FIELDS MISSION, Box 306, Bala Cynwyd, Pa. 19004

Mr. Timothy G. Kauffman (1)

WEST INDIES MISSION, R. D. #1, Homer City, Pa. 15748

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Moyer (1)

WORLD-WIDE EVANGELIZATION CRUSADE, Box A, Fort Washington, Pa.
19034

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Venable (4)

WYCLIFFE BIBLE TRANSLATORS, Box 1960, Santa Ana, Calif. 92703

Mrs. Aaron Hoffman

(Number following names designates the number of children in family supported by the Board of Foreign Missions.)

MISSIONARIES ON EXTENDED FURLOUGH

Mr. Robert Hopkins

Dr. & Mrs. Robert Schoffstall

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

General Committee Officers

President	- Mrs. William Hunsberger, 417 N. 7th Ave., Royersford, Pa. 19468
Vice President	- Mrs. Hiram Ware, 1023 Price St., Chester, Pa. 19013
Secretary	- Miss Kathlyne Stortz, 666 Chestnut St., Emmaus, Pa. 18049
Treasurer	- Mrs. David E. Thomann, 78 E. Harleysville Pike, Harleysville, Pa. 19438

Spring Conference-Wide Rally - the second Thursday of May

REGION #1 Harrisburg, Lancaster, Lebanon, Millersville, Paradise, Terre Hill, York

President	- Mrs. Clair Bupp, 243 Walnut St., York, Pa. 17403
Vice President	- Mrs. William F. Heffner, 6103 Ann St., Harrisburg, Pa. 17111
Secretary	- Mrs. W. B. Hottel, 404 Main St., Terre Hill, Pa. 17581
Treasurer	- Mrs. Richard Matthews, 170 S. Eastland Drive, Lancaster, Pa. 17602

Meetings the last Monday of March & September

- REGION #2 Mt. Carmel, Shamokin, Sunbury
- President - Mrs. Guy Weller, Box 144, Aristes, Pa. 17930
- Vice President - Mrs. LeRoy Brosious, 881 S. 2nd St., Sunbury, Pa.
17801
- Secretary - Mrs. Norman Zellars, R. D. #3, Sunbury, Pa. 17801
- Treasurer - Mrs. Chester Reitz, Box 920, R. D. #2, Catawissa,
Pa. 17820
- Meetings the fourth Wednesday of February & September
- REGION #3 Blandon, Fleetwood, Graterford, Harleysville, Hat-
field, Quakertown, Reading, Royersford, Sinking
Spring, Spring City
- President - Mrs. John Stengele, 4th & Park Ave., Perkasie,
Pa. 18944
- Vice President - Mrs. Clayton Weber, R. D. #1, Oley, Pa. 19547
- Secretary - Mrs. Evelyn Krick, Wenrich Ave., Wernersville,
Pa. 19565
- Treasurer - Mrs. Roger Detwiler, Evansburg Rd., Skippack,
Pa. 19474
- Meeting the fourth Tuesday of February & September
- REGION #4 Allentown (Bethel), Allentown (Cedar Crest), Cat-
asauqua, Emmaus, Lehighon, Nazareth, Macungie,
Walnutport, Zionsville
- President - Mrs. Arthur Deppe, 323 9th St., Northampton,
Pa. 18067
- Vice President - Mrs. David Weller, R. D. #1, Macungie, Pa.
18062
- Secretary - Miss Kathlyne Stortz, 666 Chestnut St., Emmaus,
Pa. 18049
- Treasurer - Mrs. Roy Hoffman, 605 St. John St., Catasauqua,
Pa. 18032
- Meetings the fourth Friday of March & September
- REGION #5 Allentown (Salem), Belvidere, Bethlehem, Coopers-
burg, Denville, Easton, Finesville, Miller Heights,
Scranton, Staten Island, Stroudsburg
- President - Mrs. Charles L. Mann, Jr. 1047 Doylestown Pike,
Quakertown, Pa. 18951
- Vice President - Mrs. Glenn Sheats, 1353 Ridge Trail, Easton, Pa.
18042
- Secretary - Mrs. Ronald C. Mahurin, 263 Diamond Spring Rd.
Denville, N. J. 07834
- Treasurer - Mrs. Arthur Fable, R. D. #3, Box 27, Moscow, Pa.
18444
- Meetings the third Thursday of March & September

REGION #6	Maple Glen, Phila., (Calvary), Phila., (Emmanuel), Wallingford
President	- Mrs. Hiram Ware, 1032 Price St., Chester, Pa. 19013
Vice President	- Mrs. Mark Messner, 1210 Nolen Rd., Roslyn, Pa. 19001
Secretary	- Mrs. Arthur Carpenter, 1318 Powell Rd., Chester, Pa. 19015
Treasurer	- Mrs. Robert Carboni, 701 Hilltop Rd., Cinnamison, N. J. 08077
Meetings	the third Friday of March & September

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MIZPAH GROVE

Like each of the camps of years past, Mizpah 1967 reflects the potentials of the future. In the case of many who attended, hearts were truly stirred to decisions which will bring forth fruit in years to come.

The Bethlehem District met July 1 to 9 with 191 tents occupied. The Allentown District convened July 15 through 23 with 232 tents in use.

Among the highlights of the camp was the closing service in which recognition was given to retiring pastors, T.D. Gehret and N.H. Wolf. The Board of Mizpah Grove, in like manner, wishes to express appreciation to these men for their loyal devotion to the work of Mizpah Grove.

The Board gratefully acknowledges the excellent services of Mr. Harry Bailey as manager of the cafeteria as well as the most cooperative cafeteria staff.

The cooperation of our ministering brethren was unquestionably a source of success in the summer program.

In the light of the Forward with Christ program, no major repairs or improvements were made during the year.

The books were audited by Walter A. Davis.

The Board announces the following:

1. There will two camp meetings in 1968.

The first camp shall be composed of the following churches: Allentown (Salem), Belvidere, Bethlehem, Blandon, Coopersburg, Denville, Easton, Emmaus, Finesville, Fleetwood, Macungie, Maple Glen, Miller Heights, Philadelphia (Calvary), Philadelphia (Emmanuel), Quakertown, Scranton, Stroudsburg, Terre Hill, Wallingford, York and Zionsville.

The camp will be held at Mizpah Grove, Allentown, June 29 to July 7, 1968.

The second camp shall be composed of the following churches: Allentown(Bethel), Cedar Crest, Catasauqua, Ephrata, Graterford, Harleysville, Harrisburg, Hatfield, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Millersville, Mount Carmel, Nazareth, Paradise, Reading, Royersford, Shamokin, Sinking Spring, Spring City, Staten Island, Sunbury and Walnutport.

This camp will be held at Mizpah Grove, Allentown, July 13 to 21, 1968.

Evening services will be held Wednesday through Friday of the week between camps. (July 10-12)

2. The rental of tents shall be \$10.00 per camp meeting. One (\$1.00) dollar registration fee (not refundable) shall accompany each tent order; the balance shall be paid at the camp.

3. All tent orders shall be properly filled in and signed by the persons placing the tent order and sent to the Secretary of the Board of Mizpah Grove, Registrar, Rev. Robert W. Smock, 111 E. Chestnut Street, Ephrata, Pa. 17522, no later than June 17, 1968. Orders received by the registrar after this date shall be assigned to the "third choice" category.

4. Rental for trailers shall be five (\$5.00) dollars including the one (\$1.00) dollar registration.

FINANCIAL			
Income			
Balance 9/8/66			\$ 14,110.61
Bethlehem District Camp:			
Income	\$ 6,139.46		
Expended	<u>1,903.73</u>	4,235.73	4,235.73
Refund-Bethlehem Dist.			300.00
Allentown District Camp:			
Income	7,001.08		
Expended	<u>2,038.35</u>	4,962.73	4,962.73
Cafeteria & Store:			
Income	11,953.48		
Expended	<u>11,249.22</u>		
	704.26	704.26	704.26
Cafeteria Refund			2,000.00
Sale of Hymn Books		206.90	206.90
Telephone Refunds		3.63	3.63
Loan from Board of Directors			2,000.00
Income during the year	\$ 10,113.25		
Total			\$ 28,523.86

Expenditures

Improvements	\$	91.72	
Repairs		927.01	
Insurance		1,030.00	
Electric		492.93	
Telephone		253.66	
Taxes, Water, Sewer		297.34	
Ground Maintenance		349.50	
Equipment		422.46	
Care of Trees		420.00	
Printing and Publicity		68.50	
Fares		166.54	
Meals		59.07	
Contractors and Fence Work		1,056.55	
Use of trucks		163.16	
Forwarded to Caf. and Beth. Camp		2,300.00	
Hardware		108.44	
Postage		34.50	
Purchase 1000 Hymnals		500.00	
Sand		16.22	
Rental of Sound System		220.00	
Garbage Removal		180.00	
Rental of Prayer Tent		75.00	
Moving of Organ		50.00	
Rental of Organ		100.00	
Repayment of loan - Board of Dir.		2,000.00	
Donation - Forward with Christ Pro.		10,000.00	
	\$	21,382.60	
Balance 9/16/67		7,141.26	\$ 28,523.86

(T.D. Gehret, Chairman; Robert W. Smock, Secretary; James A. Beil, A.L. Seifert, Bert N. Brosius, David E. Thomann, George Kriger, Robert W. Gehret, Albert Wentz, Board).

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VICTORY VALLEY CAMP

Victory Valley Camp with 352 campers, 41 staff members, 7 counselors-in-training became by the grace of God a place where individuals confronted, explored, and in many cases found new faith in Jesus Christ. It is our sincere hope that everyone who was present at camp this year will continue to grow until Christ be formed in them.

The Lord provided an excellent staff. Don Nilsson served as Business Manager, Donald Knauer and Karen Ettinger as Program Directors, Harold Snyder as Assistant Program Director and Lenora Knauer as Counselor-In-Training Director. Many fine counselors and junior counselors served throughout the season, lending their abilities toward making the program and camper relationship very acceptable. Mrs. Faye Schmoyer, a 4-H supervisor, directed the horsemanship program; Miss Rita Cressmen directed the Red Cross swim instruction; Harold Snyder developed

the new nature trail; and Cecil H. Good developed a course in pioneering as well as sparking the camp craft program. William Belli, Cook, and Astrid Ensminger, Assistant Cook, did it again by providing tasty meals for the season.

Two lovely 12' by 18' cabin tents were purchased with special gifts for the program directors' housing. Board member, Bright Heist, handcrafted solid tongue and groove floors for these tents. We believe our people ought to know that the horsemanship program was provided to the camp again this year by board member, Paul I. Wentz, Jr.; his son and daughter gave the horses daily care throughout the season.

A used dishwasher is to be installed this fall enabling our kitchen staff to complete its work more efficiently. The cost is \$1,100.00.

The seven counselors-in-training were involved in a program of instruction and experience. They also completed two much-appreciated projects: The Victory Valley sign which hangs at the entrance to the camp property; the new look for the Snak Shak. They also participated in a camping trip to the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon near Wellsboro.

A review of our reports over the last several years indicates progress in the financial condition of the Camp. This year the Board is able to make a payment of \$500.00 on one of the notes held by the Board of Directors. We express our appreciation for the gifts from the churches and support from campers that have made this possible; we pray that continued and increased support will enable us to make regular reductions in our debts. Also this year's report shows all bills paid and a cash balance of \$1,181.14; we believe that this much is needed to carry the expenses between this month and the time when the offerings from the churches begin to arrive.

We seek to have a program of development for the camp. Presently this is a three-phase project; first, we seek to eliminate the present indebtedness on the properties which amount to \$21,000.00; second, we have discussed with the Lehigh County Soil and Conservation personnel the construction of a two and one half acre pond for boating and fishing at a cost of just under \$10,000.00; third we seek to improve our food service by constructing an area for storage and walk-in refrigeration (cost of this 9'x25' addition to the kitchen have not now been determined). Gifts for these projects will be gladly received by the secretary of the Board; progress will be made in each area as money is available.

The camp season for the summer of 1968 will be as follows:

June 29 - July 6	Girls 8-14 years, grades 2-8
July 6 - July 13	Girls 8-14 years, grades 2-8
July 13 - July 20	Girls 8-14 years, grades 2-8

July 20 - July 27	Boys 8-14 years, grades 2-8
July 27 - Aug. 3	Boys 8-14 years, grades 2-8
Aug. 3 - Aug. 10	Co-ed camp for Junior High
Aug. 10 - Aug. 17	Co-ed camp for Senior High

A choice will be given girls and boys in seventh and eighth grades to continue in Girls or Boys camps, respectively, or select Junior High camp involving a co-ed situation, according to their preference.

We make the following recommendation:

That each church make a contribution to Victory Valley Camp. The anticipated budget of the Camp indicates need for contributions of at least \$4,000.00 by the churches. Checks shall be made payable to Victory Valley Camp and sent to the secretary of the Board before March 1, 1968.

FINANCIAL Income

Camp Operation:

Camp Fees and registrations	\$11,601.00	
Offerings	221.42	
Handcraft	314.14	
Snak Shak Sales	<u>658.22</u>	12,794.78

General:

Contributions from:

Churches	2,969.30	
Groups (rentals)	1,628.50	
Special	2,290.00	
Other	<u>5.00</u>	6,892.80
Total Income		<u>\$ 19,687.58</u>

EXPENDITURES

Camp Operation:

Fuel and Power	\$ 1,108.93
Food Purchased	3,334.05
Handcraft	420.45
Kitchen Supplies	209.52
Medical	26.58
Postage & Office Supplies	174.37
Publicity	283.19
Program	547.18
Swimming Pool Maintenance	758.48
Small Tools	10.73
Snak Shak	596.27
Sports	132.76
Telephone	180.06
Truck and Tractor	195.31
Wages	<u>4,820.00</u>

Miscellaneous	59.63	
Insurance for Campers	<u>145.00</u>	\$ 13,002.51

General Administration:

Fuel and Power	\$ 197.44	
Insurance	440.00	
Interest	1,160.00	

Maintenance & Repairs:

Building	122.76	
Equipment	1,199.83	
Grounds	192.96	

Membership & Conventions	220.50	
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Taxes	<u>344.22</u>	
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Total Expenses		<u>3,877.71</u>
		\$ 16,890.22

BALANCE SHEET

Assets:

Cash	\$ 3,661.14	
Swimming Pool	24,110.54	
Furniture & Fixtures	5,377.06	
Real Estate	75,572.59	
Engineering Expense in Suspense	<u>495.80</u>	
Total		\$ 109,217.13

Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	\$ 2,480.00	
Notes payable (Board of Directors)	4,500.00	
Notes payable (Board of Home)	16,000.00	
Net Worth \$ 83,439.77		
Gain	2,797.36	
	<u>86,237.13</u>	
		\$ 109,217.13

Carl C. Cassel, Chairman;

LeRoy S. Heller, Secretary,

Kermit Gehman,

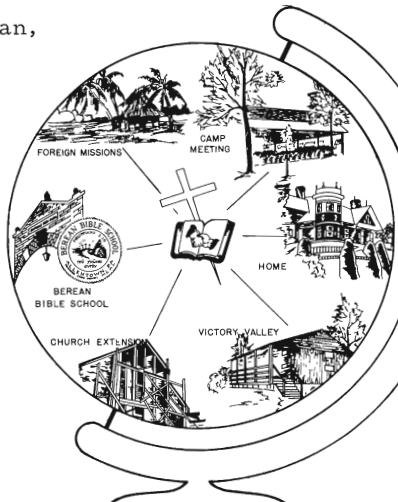
Paul I. Wentz, Jr.,

T.D. Gehret,

Bright Heist,

A. L. Seifert,

Board



REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE LOCAL CONFERENCE MINUTES

We have examined the Local Conference Records and have found them correct except for a few omissions and minor errors which were corrected by the pastors involved.

The following request was found in the minutes of the Stroudsburg Bible Fellowship Church:

Resolved, That the 84th Annual Conference at Bethel Church, Allentown, Penna., be requested to reduce the appropriation for the pastor at Stroudsburg by \$500.00, as the congregation has increased the pastor's salary in their budget by this figure.

The following petitions were found:

Petition from the Staten Island Bible Fellowship Church:

Whereas, the Lord in His grace has been building the Bible Fellowship Church of Staten Island, adding to our number and, through the faithful stewardship of His saints, supplying our financial needs; and

Whereas, The Bible Fellowship Church of Staten Island, in view of the urgency of our Gospel and our times, desires to do all we can to commit maximum resources with dispatch to new church planting; therefore,

Resolved, That we, the congregation of the Bible Fellowship Church of Staten Island, hereby petition the Eighty-Fourth Annual Conference of the Bible Fellowship Church, convened in Allentown, Pennsylvania on October 9, in the year of our Lord 1967, to terminate all Church Extension appropriations to us as of this Conference, and to recognize the Bible Fellowship Church of Staten Island as a self-supporting Station, with all the rights and privileges that pertain to such status; and further,

Resolved, That we the Bible Fellowship Church of Staten Island, express our gratitude to our brethren in the Bible Fellowship Churches for their patient and faithful financial assistance through the years and to our God for raising up and strengthening in our urban location this testimony to His grace and for His glory.

Petition from the Philadelphia Emmanuel Church:

Whereas, the Lord has blessed our congregation in many ways, including an increased realization of our obligation to HIM, as stewards of our substance; and

Whereas, this has resulted in an increase of approximately four thousand dollars in our total annual offering, over and above our total annual offerings of three years ago; and

Whereas, our total offerings of the last conference year were higher than the total respective offerings of five stations in our conference and only slightly lower than three other stations; and,

Whereas, we expect, God willing, to celebrate, in November of this year, the Golden Anniversary of the opening of our Mission in West Philadelphia and consider the time to be propitious to operate on the unified budget system, therefore, be it,

Resolved, that the congregation of the Emmanuel Bible Fellowship Church of West Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at its third Local Conference, held on Tuesday, April 11, 1967, petition the 84th Annual Conference of the Bible Fellowship Church, convening in Allentown, Pennsylvania, on October 9, 1967; that we be permitted to become a self-supporting congregation and therefore a station with the privileges thereof, effective at this Conference.

Petition from the Lehighon Bible Fellowship Church:

We, the congregation of Salem Bible Fellowship Church in Lehighon, Penna., petition the 84th Annual Conference of the Bible Fellowship Churches convening on Monday, October 9, 1967 in Allentown, Penna., that this church be recognized as a station, self-supporting, with all the rights and privileges thereof.

Petition from Bethany Bible Fellowship Church of Catasauqua, Pa:

Whereas, The Lord has provided for us financially during the past year of 1966-1967 and that full support for our pastor has been written into our budget, and

Whereas, On August 8, 1967 during the fourth Local Conference of the Catasauqua Bible Fellowship Church a vote was taken of the membership which supported this action.

Resolved, That the Catasauqua Bible Fellowship Church become a self-supporting station with all privileges.

(E.W.Bean, Frank L.Herb, Jr., Leon K.Overpeck, W.W.Hartman, John H.Herb, W.B.Hottel, A.W.Deppe, Harold A.Mann, Walter A.Schlagel, Allen F.Smith, John F.Boyle, Edward A.Stortz, H. Phares Mumbauer, John I.Mengel, Norman W.Granda, John F.Moran, Leon H.Naudasher, Clyde W.Snyder, Allan C.Palmer, Robert Breitegam, Committee).

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

The Board of Directors of the Bible Fellowship Church held eight meetings during the past year, beginning on October 1, 1966 and ending September 30, 1967. The officers of the Corporation elected for the year were: President and Chairman, Timothy D. Gehret; Vice-President, Arlington L.Seifert; Secretary, Jansen E.Hartman; Treasurer, Paul I.Wentz.

The Board working in conjunction with the Committee on Minister's Pensions supervised the investments of the Ministers Retirement Fund. Mrs.Dora N.Gehman, widow of the late R. H.Gehman became eligible to receive annuities and was added in November of 1966. The Credentials Committee informed the Board

of the resignation of John E. Golla from the ministry of the Bible Fellowship Church. His name has been removed from the list of those who are participants. Donald B. Schaeffer requested and received a return of \$270.90 representing one-half of the amount he paid into the Ministers Retirement Fund. The Credentials Committee also informed the Board of the retirement of Timothy D. Gehret and N. H. Wolf. They were added to the list of annuitants beginning on October 1, 1967.

The following recommendation was passed at the September 21, 1967 meeting of the Board for consideration by the 84th Annual Conference meeting in Bethel Bible Fellowship Church, Allentown, Pa., on October 9, 1967.

Resolved, that the Annuities paid to retired ministers and to widows of pastors of the Bible Fellowship Church by the Ministers Retirement Fund (pages I and J, 1966 Yearbook) be raised 10% for the year beginning October 1, 1967, further be it resolved that the By-Laws be amended to include this increase.

The Board authorized a loan to be made to the Denville Bible Fellowship Church for \$11,000 at 4% interest from the Fund to Promote Church Extension for the purchase of a parsonage. This money had already been loaned to the Denville Congregation at the time of the construction of their new church, and was refinanced.

Under the Conference regulation concerning Churches no longer used for worship by the Bible Fellowship Church, the Board sold the church property at No. 5 Rutherford Street, Binghamton, N. Y. The sale was made to the Church of God in Christ with the price of the sale being \$12,000.00. The Board is holding a mortgage in behalf of the Fund to Promote Church Extension of \$9,200 at 6% interest to be amortized over a ten (10) year period.

Since the Annual Conference meeting in Reading in October of 1966 voted to eliminate one of the offices of District Superintendent, consideration was given to the sale of the parsonage of the District Superintendent located at 2340 Union Street with its present occupant, the Reverend T. D. Gehret for the price of \$18,000.00. Taxes and costs of settlement are to be divided equally between the seller and purchaser.

The Allentown School District through its solicitor informed the Board of interest on its part to purchase Mizpah Grove and contiguous properties. After informing the Board of Mizpah Grove a resolution from that Board was returned encouraging the Board to proceed with the negotiations for the sale of Mizpah Grove. To date appraisals prepared by professional licensed real estate appraisers have been received on the land and buildings. A preliminary meeting has been held with our Officers and representatives of the Allentown School District but no price has been set. We were informed that while the School District as a part of the City government has the right to take condemnation proceedings

there is no disposition at this time on their part to take such action. The School District intends to begin to build a Junior High School in the area by 1972. They are seeking an agreement of sale as soon as possible with the possibility of our retaining use and occupancy for a number of years.

At the request of the Board of Church Extension the following action was taken. A collateral mortgage bond was delivered to American Bank and Trust Company of Pa., Reading, Pa., in connection with the financing of the church property at 111 East Chestnut Street, Ephrata, Pa. Approval was given for the addition to be constructed on the church building in Belvidere, N.J., to serve as a parsonage for the present with an additional \$11,000 in financing secured through the Valley Federal Savings and Loan Association of Easton, Pa. A lot was purchased and financing secured for a new church site for the Finesville Bible Fellowship Church, located in the Township of Holland, Hunterdon County, New Jersey. The cost of this land was \$10,000. An indebtedness of \$8,000 remains on this property.

The Board took title to a property located at 548 Fernwood Street, Emmaus designated for the ministry of Berean Bible School. The appraised value of the property is twenty-two thousand dollars (\$22,000). Approximately ten thousand dollars of this amount is a gift. The school has assumed responsibility for the care and upkeep of the property and the eleven thousand one hundred fifty dollar mortgage.

Advice and consultation was sought by the Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church of Bethlehem on the sale of their present property and the prospective site for a new church, Faith Bible Fellowship Church of Spring City on the construction of a new parsonage and the Planning Committee for the Development of the Conference Center.

The Board took the necessary action to take title to the house and land which was termed "tract B" as the second part of the Agreement of Sale entered into with the Estate of Earl A. Adams. The total cost of the stone house and barn with over one acre of land was \$18,095.30. A hundred and thirty acres of the farm land was rented to a neighboring farmer. The stone house also has been rented to a tenant.

A total of \$55,365.44 was received for the Conference Center. The total indebtedness on the property of \$152,171.20 includes the mortgage to the First National Bank of Allentown and our funds.

An application to build an educational plant and a Church center was filed with the Zoning Officer of Upper Macungie Township. This application was denied on the basis that the Zoning regulations of that Township prohibited such usage of our property. An attorney has been engaged to represent us in preparing an appeal to the ruling of the Zoning Officers. We are awaiting further development

both in respect to actual development in the area and municipal action respecting township planning.

The Board wishes to note with our commendations the completion of the term of office of our President, Timothy D. Gehret. May the Lord make these coming years the crowning time of his life.

The Conference Administrative Budget for the year beginning on October 1, 1968 is presented herewith:

1. Publication and Printing	\$ 1,500.00
2. Conference Entertainment	640.35
3. Beneficiary Fund	800.00
4. District Superintendent:	
(a) Annual Support	7,000.00
(b) Travel & Utility Grant	3,400.00
5. District Superintendent's Parsonage	5,215.35
6. Ministers' Retirement Fund	5,000.00
7. Moving Fund	3,200.00
8. Expenses for Boards and Committees while transacting Conference Business	800.00
9. Other Expenses of Board of Directors	290.00
10. Contingencies	500.00
11. Ministerial Convention Expenses	400.00
	<u>\$ 28,746.00</u>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Balance Sheet
October 1, 1967 compared with October 1, 1966

ASSETS	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
<u>General Fund</u>		
Cash - Board of Directors \$	5,949.74	\$ 7,309.08
Cash - Dist. Supt. Parsonages	2,258.87	3,712.59
Cash - Dormitory Fund	755.00	755.00
Cash - Moving Fund	106.95	3,016.64
Cash - Truck Fund	94.20	338.97
Cash - Budget	462.77	-
\$	<u>9,627.53</u>	<u>\$ 15,132.28</u>
Notes Receivable - Victory Valley	5,000.00	5,000.00
Accounts Receivable - 1966-67		
Administration Budget:		
Allentown (Bethel)	241.63	-
Hatfield	251.95	-
Nazareth	124.60	-
Paradise	30.00	-
Staten Island	25.00	-

Terre Hill	255.00	-
Wallingford	221.35	-
Zionsville	95.00	-
	<u>1,244.53</u>	
Accounts Receivable -S.S. Taxes, Etc.	17.78	-
Accounts Receivable -Berean B.S.	1,647.45	-
Furnishings and Equipment:		
Mizpah Grove	1,448.89	1,448.89
Dist.Supt. Parsonages	457.75	457.75
	<u>1,906.64</u>	<u>1,906.64</u>
Real Estate:		
Berean Bible School	138,470.20	116,000.00
Dist.Supt. Parsonages:		
Allentown Dist. (Net Equity)	7,556.93	7,556.93
Bethlehem Dist.	21,807.86	21,807.86
Church Ext. Director's Parsonage	16,000.00	16,000.00
Mizpah Grove	90,984.00	90,984.00
Victory Valley	67,489.01	67,489.01
Option to Purchase Fogelsville Land	-	1,000.00
	<u>342,308.00</u>	<u>320,837.80</u>
Total Assets in General Fund	\$ 361,751.93	\$ 342,876.72

1967 1966

FUND TO PROMOTE CHURCH EXTENSION

Cash - For Promotion	\$ 10,772.63	\$ 7,610.75
Cash - Sinking Spring Church	(3,000.00)	(3,205.31)
	<u>7,772.63</u>	<u>4,405.44</u>
Notes Receivable:		
Board of Church Ext. Denville	\$ 10,757.23	\$ 11,000.00
Belvidere B.F.C.	11,000.00	11,000.00
Macungie B.F.C.	1,000.00	1,000.00
Miller Heights B.F.C.	1,893.23	1,967.01
	<u>24,650.46</u>	<u>24,967.01</u>
Mortgage Receivable:		
Binghamton B.F.C.	-	3,967.71
First Newborn Tab. Inc. Newark	5,463.98	6,203.47
Finesville B.F.C.	3,931.35	4,070.42
Mt. Nebo Church of God in Christ,		
Binghamton, N. Y.	9,087.44	-
	<u>18,482.77</u>	<u>14,241.60</u>
Real Estate		
Sinking Spring B.F.C.	43,884.69	43,884.67
Total Assets of Fund to Promote		
Church Extension	\$ 94,790.55	\$ 87,498.72

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH CONFERENCE CENTER

Cash	(9,671.20)	32,947.17
Real Estate - Fogelsville	236,003.74	-
Total Assets of Conference Center \$	226,332.54	\$ 32,947.17

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION FUND

Cash	373.83	2,520.48
Notes Receivable - Miller Heights B.F.C.	6,626.27	6,884.52
Total Assets of Special Contributions	7,000.10	9,405.00

REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Cash	\$ 2,255.13	\$ 2,255.13
Dist. Supt. Parsonage (Int. free loan until Oct. 1, 1973)	11,244.87	11,244.87
Total Assets in Revolving Loan Fund	13,500.00	13,500.00

SUMMARY OF ASSETS

General Fund	\$ 361,751.93	\$ 342,876.72
Fund to Promote Church Extension	94,790.55	87,498.72
B. F. C. Conference Center	226,332.54	32,947.17
Special Contribution Fund	7,000.10	9,405.00
Revolving Loan Fund	13,500.00	13,500.00
TOTAL ASSETS	703,375.12	486,227.61

19671966

LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH

General Fund

Accrued Payroll Taxes - \$ (17.68)

Notes Payable:

Board Foreign Missions	7,000.00	7,000.00
Berean Bible School Contract	5,000.00	5,000.00
Board of Home (V. Valley)	16,000.00	16,000.00
M. R. F. (D. S. Parsonage)	13,000.00	16,000.00
A Friend (Victory Valley)	5,000.00	5,000.00
	46,000.00	49,000.00

Accounts Payable:

Minister's Retirement Fund	1,724.53	-
Bethel B. F. C. Emmaus	462.77	2,187.30

Mortgage Payable:

L. V. Trust Co. (548 Fernwood St. Emmaus, Pa.)	11,050.00	
First National (B. B. S.)	4,587.26	5,141.99
	15,637.26	5,141.99

Deferred Credit			
Downpayment on sale of D/S			
Allentown, Parsonage	500.00	-	
New Worth, Oct. 1, 1966	288,752.41		
Gain transferred from			
Statement B	<u>8,674.96</u>		
Net Worth, October 1, 1967-66		297,427.37	288,752.41
Liabilities and Net Worth of Fund \$		361,751.93	342,876.72

FUND TO PROMOTE CHURCH EXTENSION

Notes Payable -Sinking Spring			
Loan	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Mortgage Payable:			
People's Bank & Trust Co.			
Reading, Pa. (Sinking			
Spring Church)	25,888.25		26,818.13
Funds for Sinking Spring in			
Trust	<u>11,314.55</u>		<u>10,179.36</u>
		37,202.80	36,997.49
Reserve to Promote Church Extension			
Oct. 1, 1966	47,501.25		
Gain in 1966-67 from State-			
ment B	<u>7,086.50</u>		
Net Worth, Oct. 1, 1967-66		<u>54,587.75</u>	<u>47,501.23</u>
Liabilities and Net Worth of Fund to			
Promote Church Extension	\$	94,790.55	\$ 87,498.72

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH CONFERENCE CENTER

Notes Payable -First Nat'l Bank			
of Allentown Pa.	142,500.00		-
Reserve for Conf. Center,			
Oct. 1, 1966	32,947.17		
1966-67 Gain			
trans. from			
Statement B	<u>49,885.37</u>		
	<u>82,832.54</u>		
Plus option on Fogels-			
ville transferred from			
General Fund	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>83,832.54</u>	<u>32,947.17</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Worth			
of Conf. Center	\$	226,332.54	226,332.54 32,947.17

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION FUND

Reserve for Special Cont.Fund			
Oct. 1, 1966	9,405.00		
Reduction in Fund trans. from			
Statement B	2,404.90		
Net Worth of Fund		7,000.10	9,405.00
		<u>7,000.10</u>	<u>9,405.00</u>

REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Reserve for Revolving Loan Fund			
Oct. 1, 1966	13,500.00	13,500.00	

SUMMARY OF LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH

General Fund	\$ 361,751.93	\$ 342,876.72
Fund to Promote Church Ext.	94,790.55	87,498.72
Bible Fellowship Church Con. C.	226,332.54	32,947.17
Special Contribution Fund	7,000.10	9,405.00
Revolving Loan Fund	<u>13,500.00</u>	<u>13,500.00</u>
Total Liabilities & Net Worth	\$ 703,375.12	\$ 486,227.61

STATEMENT B

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE
Year ended October 1, 1967 compared with October 1, 1966

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
<u>MIZPAH GROVE</u>		
Income:		
Truck Fund	25.00	298.70
Expenses:		
Truck Maint.&Repairs	<u>269.77</u>	<u>517.32</u>
Net Gain		(244.77) <u>(218.62)</u>
<u>DIST. SUPT. PARSONAGES</u>		
Income:		
From Churches	2,100.00	1,790.72
From Churches (1966)	<u>150.00</u>	<u>-</u>
	\$ <u>2,250.00</u>	\$ <u>1,790.72</u>
Expenses:		
Allentown District:		
Maintenance & Repairs	345.57	-
Insurance	-	74.00
Taxes, Water, Sewer Rental	461.59	325.53
Legal Fees	<u>50.00</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenses	<u>857.16</u>	<u>399.53</u>

Bethlehem District:

Interest	480.00		480.00
Maintenance & Repairs	136.47		253.86
Taxes, Water, Sewer Rental	132.09		137.65
Insurance	78.00		-
	<u>826.56</u>	<u>1,683.72</u>	<u>871.51</u>
Income over Expenses		566.28	519.68

MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS

Income:

Administration Income		100.00	850.00
Donation-Frick Transfer Co.		176.92	
Administration Budget:			
Publication & Printing	1,330.00		
Conf. Entertainment	630.00		
Beneficiary Fund	730.00		
Dist. Superintendents:			
Salaries	13,000.00		
Allowance for Travel & Utilities	4,800.00		
Minister's Retire. F	4,942.08		
Moving Fund	2,200.00		3,206.00
Boards & Com. Fares etc.	700.00		
Board of Directors Ex.	290.00		
Ministerial Convention	<u>300.00</u>	28,922.08	
Berean -Reduction of Indebt.		1,874.93	439.57
Gift of Equity in a residence of 548 Fernwood St.		10,100.00	
Interest, General		528.50	403.70
Total Income		<u>41,702.43</u>	<u>4,899.27</u>

Expenses:

Administration Budget:			
Publication & Printing	1,330.00		
Bethel Church, Allentown (Conference Enter.)	630.00		
Beneficiary Funds	730.00		
Dist. Supt. Salaries	13,000.00		
Allowance-travel etc.	4,800.00		
Ministers' Retire. Fund	<u>4,942.08</u>	25,432.08	

Boards and Committee Fares:

Board of Directors	78.24	124.37
Ministerial Candidate	196.46	289.50
Pulpit Supply Com.	52.65	201.40
Church Forms	52.05	171.37
Ministerial Convention	-	29.90
Statistical & Agenda	24.38	52.96
Credentials Com.	69.67	162.00
Com. to Study Divorce	-	11.20
Youth Fellowship General	90.32	34.40
Government Com.	483.93	411.07

Nominating Com.	116.31		92.09
Com. Church Membership	<u>26.45</u>	1,190.46	
Other Board of Directors Exp.			
Attorney Fees	236.72		144.00
Stationery, Printing etc.	189.65		266.93
Insurance, Workmen's Com.	185.38		44.40
Safe Deposit Box Rental	<u>5.00</u>	616.75	5.00
Moving Expenses		<u>5,109.69</u>	<u>942.50</u>
Total Expenses		<u>32,348.98</u>	<u>2,983.09</u>
Gain		<u>9,353.45</u>	<u>1,916.18</u>
Gains or (Losses) transferred to Statement			
A. Net Worth-General Funds			
Mizpah Grove Truck Fund	(244.77)		(218.62)
Dist. Supt. Parsonages	566.28		519.68
Misc. Accounts	<u>9,353.45</u>		<u>1,916.18</u>
Gross Gain of General Funds	\$ <u>9,674.96</u>		\$ <u>2,217.24</u>
Less: Transfer of Option on purchase of Fogelsville to Conf. Center Fund	<u>1,000.00</u>		
Gain of General Funds Transferred to Net Worth on Statement A	\$ 8,674.96	\$ 2,217.24	

FUND TO PROMOTE CHURCH EXTENSION

Income:

Interest on Loans made out of the Fund to Promote Church Extension	626.61		40.42
Proceeds from Sale of Trenton Church			15,877.17
Sinking Spring Church, Reduction of Indebtedness			681.87
Proceeds from Sale of Binghamton N. Y. Church	<u>12,090.78</u>		-
	\$ <u>12,717.39</u>	\$	<u>16,599.46</u>

Expenses:

Liquidation of Binghamton Property	1,663.18		
Satisfaction of Mortgage on Binghamton	3,967.71		
Macungie B. F. C.			1,000.00
Trenton Liquidation			1,178.50
Sinking Spring B. F. C.			70.00
Miller Heights B. F. C.			<u>1,500.00</u>
	\$ <u>5,630.89</u>	\$	<u>3,748.50</u>
Gain in Fund to Promote Church Extension Transferred to Reserve on Statement A	\$ 7,086.50	\$	12,850.96

FUND TO PROMOTE BEREAN BIBLE SCHOOL

Income:		
Rent from Lower Macungie Property		674.19
Expenses:		
Maintenance & Repairs		338.99
Liquidation Expenses		995.40
Loss on Sale of Lower Macungie Real Estate		10,832.52
		<u>12,166.91</u>
Net Loss		11,492.72
Loss transferred to Fund to Promote		
Berean Bible School on Statement A	\$	11,492.72

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH CONFERENCE CENTER

Income		
Contributions Received	55,365.44	23,410.61
Rental of Farm Land	1,400.00	-
Rental of Farm House	80.00	-
	<u>\$ 56,845.44</u>	<u>\$ 23,410.61</u>
Expenses:		
Fund Campaign Expenses		4,049.44
Com. Fares & Meals		164.38
Taxes on Fogelsville Prop.	900.85	-
Interest on Indebtedness	4,125.00	-
Postage & Printing	1,713.74	-
Fares & Meals , Planning Com.	101.40	
Maintenance & Repairs	119.08	
	<u>6,960.07</u>	<u>4,213.82</u>
Gain Trans.to Reserve on		
Statement A	\$	49,885.37 \$ 19,196.79

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FUND

Income:		
Gifts Received	<u>10,000.00</u>	10,500.00
		10,000.00
Distributions:		
To Berean	6,904.90	2,825.00
To Victory Valley	500.00	2,600.00
To Dist. Supt.	-	1,670.00
Trans.to General Fund	<u>5,000.00</u>	-
Total Distributions		<u>12,404.90</u>
Reduction in fund trans.		7,195.00
to Reserve on Statement A		2,404.90

STATEMENT C

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Minister's Retirement Fund
Balance Sheet, October 1, 1967-1966

ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 11,770.20	35,279.55
Accrued Interest Income	1,020.00	-
Stocks, Bonds, Certificates of Deposit (see foot note)	79,147.04	48,740.45
Notes Receivable:		
Board of Directors Beth.		
Dist. Supt. home. . . .	13,000.00	16,000.00
Lancaster B. F. C.	2,950.00	2,950.00
Paradise B. F. C.	6,596.58	6,987.25
Catasauqua B. F. C.	1,329.49	2,453.12
Accounts Receivable:		
Administration Budget	1,244.53	-
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 117,057.84	\$ 112,410.37

LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH		
Net Worth, Oct. 1, 1966	112,410.37	
Gain Trans. from Statement D	4,647.47	117,057.84 / 112,410.37

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET
WORTH

117,057.84 112,410.37

Note - Book Value of this portfolio is as follows:	21,536.81
200 shares of Penn. Power & Light Co. preferred. Annual Dividend \$4. 50	21,536.81
25 U.S. Treasury Bonds (2 1/2% due '69)	22,610.23
75 Shares Red Hill Savings & Loan - 5%	15,000.00
4 Certificates of Deposit First Pa. Bank & Trust Com. (5% compounded daily)	20,000.00
	\$ 79,147.04

STATEMENT D

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Minister's Retirement Fund
Statement of Income and Expenses for year ended October 1, 1967
compared with year ended October 1, 1966

Income	1967	1966
Contributions from churches (1966)	1,876.18	3,616.62
Received through Administration Budget	4,942.08	-
Contributions from Pastors	2,804.40	2,595.25
Dividend Income	900.00	900.00
Interest Income	3,016.31	2,517.11
Gain on sale of securities	84.12	-
	\$ 13,623.09	\$ 9,628.98

Expenses

Refunds to men who resigned from plan	270.96	
Retirement Annuities	8,704.66	7,421.16
	<u>8,975.62</u>	<u>7,421.16</u>
Gain transferred to Net Worth on Statement C	4,647.47	2,207.82

T.D.Gehret, Chairman; A.L.Seifert, Vice-President; Jansen E. Hartman, Secretary; Paul I. Wentz, Treasurer; Carl C. Cassel, Frank L. Herb, Jr., John H. Riggall, Byron C. Cassel, Kermit K. Gehman, Board of Directors).

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION

"Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city. And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them." Acts 18:9-11

This passage depicts Church Extension in action. The Gospel was preached in a new city, souls were being saved and a church was established. When difficulty arose, Paul, assured by God that He had much people in that city, continued with his co-laborers, Aquila and Priscilla (laymen) to teach the Word of God and build a work for God.

The progress of our newest church, Ephrata, which was opened October 1967, has been encouraging. The Board is happy to be able to recommend to this Annual Conference the acceptance of the Ephrata Church into membership in Annual Conference as a Station.

Much of the work of the Board this year has been given to the area of ground-work preparation for planting new churches. The Board has been encouraged by the co-operation of the brotherhood in these foundational efforts. Pastors have submitted names of church members that live outside their church communities. We hope by this to discover family concentrations that will lead to opening new works. Added encouragement has been manifested by the acceptance of a recommendation by this Board that the main thrust of the 1968 Ministerial Convention be Evangelism and Church Growth in the Bible Fellowship Church. Gratitude is expressed to the Bible Fellowship Churches for their financial support. These gifts, which represent the concern of our constituency for the advancement of the work of God, encourage us to continue to meet the demands of these challenging days.

Our intention further to strengthen the department and its future effectiveness will again be tested here at Annual Conference as further recommendations are being presented for your prayerful consideration.

Rev. Earl M. Hosler has served faithfully and capably during this his first year as Director of Church Extension.

The following men have served under the department of Church Extension during the year:

John H. Herb	Harold C. Weaver
Robert W. Smock	Ronald Jansen
Austin B. Sullivan, Jr.	David Branning

We appreciate the services of Rev. F. B. Hertzog who served as supply pastor at Macungie from April to the present, following the resignation of John E. Golla.

FINANCIAL

RECEIPTS

Balance in Treasury 9/26/66		\$	3,745.06
From Churches	\$	38,214.18	
From Sunday Schools		5,982.22	
Special Contributions		218.07	
Tent Rentals		210.00	
Special Loans		285.00	
Miscellaneous:			
Typewriter	125.00		
Other	23.19	148.19	
Total Receipts		\$	45,057.66
Total with Balance		\$	48,802.72
Advanced Receipts from Churches (1967 - 1968)	\$	8,200.03	8,200.03
Grand Total Receipts		\$	57,002.75

EXPENDITURES

APPROPRIATIONS

For Conference Appointments:

Allentown District	\$ 7,410.00	
Bethlehem District	<u>9,080.00</u>	\$ 16,490.00

For Church Extension Appointments:

Belvidere, N. J.	\$ 3,000.00	
Ephrata, Pa.	1,200.00	
Finesville, N. J.	2,420.00	
Macungie, Pa.	1,750.00	
Miller Heights, Pa.	2,808.00	
Millersville, Pa.	2,649.96	
Walnutport, Pa.	<u>1,416.60</u>	\$ 15,244.56

To Director for Operating
Expenses: \$ 3,139.85 \$ 3,139.85

ADMINISTRATION:

Director's Salary	\$ 5,000.00	
Parsonage Maint.	1,527.26	
Board Expenses	249.55	
Taxes	<u>246.49</u>	\$ 7,023.30

GENERAL:

Assistance to Churches	\$	359.14	
Assistance to Pastors		700.00	
Moving Expenses		780.14	
Special Loan		430.00	
Miscellaneous:			
<u>Fellowship News</u>		50.00	
Severance			
Allowance		100.00	
Jr. -Sr. Retreat		80.00	
Other		<u>52.34</u>	
	\$	282.34	\$ 2,551.62
Total Expenditures			\$ 44,449.33
Balance in Treasury 9/25/67	\$	4,353.39	
Advanced from Churches			
1967-1968 Balance		<u>8,200.03</u>	12,553.42
Grand Total			\$ <u>57,002.75</u>

Due on Special Loans 370.00

The Board Recommends:

(1) The adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Bible Fellowship Church located in Ephrata, Pa., has manifested stability in their love for the Lord, burden for the lost, increase in their giving, and new people being added to the congregation and,

WHEREAS, the following resolution appears in the Local Conference minutes, "that we request the Board of Church Extension to give consideration to begin action toward the assignment of the Ephrata church as an organized Bible Fellowship Church with station status, effective as of October 1967"; therefore,

RESOLVED, that the Church Extension Board recommend to the Annual Conference convening October 9, 1967 in the Bethel Bible Fellowship Church, Allentown, Pa., that it grant Ephrata Bible Fellowship Church her request to have the status of a station.

(2) We recommend that the Fund to be used by the District

Superintendent to Assist Pastors and Churches be discontinued as of the Eighty-Fifth Annual Conference, in October, 1968, and that the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per year for three years (1968, 1969, 1970) from monies received from the churches for Church Extension be placed in a revolving Emergency Loan Fund. Assistance from this fund, in the form of loans at little or no interest, shall be available to pastors and churches in need. The Fund shall be under the management of the Board of Directors of the Bible Fellowship Church, who shall establish rules for its operation and maintenance.

(3) In order to assure a continuity of Church Extension strategy and to facilitate implementation of principles and methods designed to plant and develop churches, we recommend the adoption for first reading the following legislation:

The Board of Church Extension shall be composed of the District Superintendent and the Director of Church Extension, by virtue of their offices, and three ordained ministers and three laymen who are elected by ballot by the Annual Conference. The elected members of the Board shall comprise three classes of one minister and one layman, respectively. Each class shall be elected in turn for a three-year term.

(In putting the above procedure into effect the three classes shall be elected for one, two and three years, respectively).

All mission churches (churches which receive Church Extension appropriations) shall be under the jurisdiction of the Church Extension Department (Board and Director). All self-supporting churches shall be under the jurisdiction of the District Superintendent. The same rules which apply to the relationship of the District Superintendent and the churches under his jurisdiction shall apply to the relationship of the Director of Church Extension and the churches under his jurisdiction. Upon achieving self-support a church shall move from the jurisdiction of the Church Extension Department to that of the District Superintendent.

The Board of Church Extension shall, on the basis of standards which it shall determine and publish, recommend mission churches for membership in Annual Conference. A mission church shall be received into membership by a majority vote of Annual Conference, which shall entitle the church to be represented at sessions of Annual Conference by its pastor and a lay delegate, to participate in the Pulpit Supply procedures, and to all other rights, privileges and responsibilities of membership in Annual Conference. The Board of Church Extension and the Director of Church Extension may counsel and advise the churches under their jurisdiction in matters of pastoral relations and pulpit supply.

The Board of Church Extension shall participate in Annual Conference Pulpit Supply procedures on behalf of the mission churches under its jurisdiction, which are not members of

Annual Conference, to supply pastors for them. It shall seek to call a pastor for each of these mission churches, according to the By-Laws of the Bible Fellowship Church which govern Pulpit Supply, in which the Board of Church Extension shall function in lieu of the Official Board.

For procurement of pastors to open new churches, the Board of Church Extension shall by July 31 declare to the Credentials Committee the number of additional pastors it will need for new church work. The Board shall be permitted to call available men to open new churches between August 1 to August 20. If a pastor accepts such a call he shall notify the Credentials Committee of his acceptance not later than September 1 and his name shall not be included on the availability list. The Board of Church Extension shall confirm his acceptance to the Credentials Committee not later than September 1.

The Board of Church Extension shall, as part of its annual report, present to Annual Conference for adoption a proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1 of the year following. The budget shall include projected needs for planned new church openings.

After being adopted by Annual Conference, the budget for Church Extension may serve as a guide to the churches in their giving for Church Extension. Each Official Board shall, by June 15, submit to the Board of Church Extension an accurate estimate of the amount the church may be expected to remit for Church Extension at Annual Conference.

(A.L. Seifert, Chairman; Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., Secretary; Earl M. Hosler, Director; T.D. Gehret, Daniel G. Ziegler, John Deily, Donal Nilsson, Board).

REPORT OF THE ARCHIVIST

Another year has passed since the last report and another year of Bible Fellowship history is behind us. During this past year a few significant items were added to the archives.

Mr. Edward A. Stortz of Collegeville gave the Archivist several publications which had been found in the attic of the Graterford Church during its recent renovation. These included Das Himmels Manna from April 1893 and an old Deutsches Gesangbuch der Evangelisch-Vereinigt-ten Mennoniten. Mr. Paul H. Cressman of Bethlehem donated bound and unbound copies of old Gospel Heralds as well as some interesting International Sunday School Lesson Leaves from 1913, 1914, written by Pastor W.S. Hottel of Bethlehem.

The Archivist has often been disturbed that the Bible Fellowship Church either was not included or was wrongly represented in various denominational handbooks, partly because of the change

in name and partly because of the schism of 1952. He is grateful for correspondence with Dr. Arthur Carl Piepkorn, Professor of Systematic Theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, referred to him by Pastor Norman R. Weiss. The information and publications Dr. Piepkorn requested on the Bible Fellowship Church were sent to him so that we could be accurately represented in the new revision he is making of the late Frederick Mayer's book, The Religious Bodies of America, being published by Concordia Publishing House.

Please continue to forward matters of historical significance to the Archives and encourage your constituency to do the same.

Harold Patton Shelly, Archivist

REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

The communication sent to the respective pastors pertaining to his announcement, requesting items of interest of our Bible Fellowship Church and the forwarding of the same to the Archivist, has met with modest support.

Several older members with a bit of encouragement have turned auto-biographers, writing their life story as it pertains to Bible Fellowship Church. Their efforts proved interesting and is appreciated.

We are informed of one congregation that has appointed an officer to preserve a copy of each weekly bulletin, this to become the authentic record of the church activities.

We have also been apprised on an individual who clips the deceased members obituaries from the local newspaper arranging them for future reference.

The above ideas have some merit and may be of value to others.

We regret that our faithful Archivist is no longer with us in his former capacity and are thankful for his years of conscientious service. We wish God's blessing in his new field of labor.

We encourage continued interest by pastor and/or people in this rather remote aspect of our denomination.

(Paul H. Cressman, Daniel G. Ziegler, Byron C. Cassel, Committee).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY CHURCH GOVERNMENT TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE - 1967

The 83rd Annual Conference adopted the following resolution after reviewing the work of the Committee to harmonize the Church Government Study Paper presented in 1963 and 1965:

RESOLVED: that a committee of 7 ordained ministers be elected to devise legislation on the basis of the principles stated in the report of the Harmonization of Church Government. This legislation shall be presented for approval at two Annual Conferences. (Yearbook 1966, p.41).

The Committee has labored with diligence during the year. Although the legislation is not fully complete, the following proposals are submitted:

PROPOSAL ONE: THE FORMAT FOR OUR FAITH AND ORDER

We recommend that the Annual Conference adopt the following format for the FAITH AND ORDER of the Bible Fellowship Church.

I. Preamble - introducing our FAITH AND ORDER

II. History or our origin and development - to be prepared by the Historical Committee.

III. Articles of Faith - reprinted with the numbers referring to the footnotes inserted in smaller type above the line, and the Scripture references printed in full.

IV. Principles of Order

A. Form of Government - See Proposal two

B. Standards of Life and Worship - This would include our directory of Worship and moral standards with appropriate introduction

C. Discipline - This material still needs to be devised. It shall include statements relating to the need for discipline in the church, the method in the particular church, methods in dealing with ministers, method on the upper level (inter-church and inter-departmental problems), and a system of appeals and recourse.

D. Forms for special services - These have already been devised.

E. By-Laws - This should include much of what is now operating procedure for particular churches, Annual Conference and the Boards and Committees. Some of this must yet be reduced to writing.

PROPOSAL TWO : THE FORM OF GOVERNMENT

We recommend that the Annual Conference adopt the following form of Government (First Reading).

PROPOSAL THREE: THE REMAINING WORK

We recommend that the Annual Conference elect a Committee of seven ministers to continue this work.

PROPOSAL TWO: THE FORM OF GOVERNMENT

PREAMBLE

The Bible Fellowship Church has adopted this statement of FAITH AND ORDER to declare with clarity and precision its faith in and testimony to the glory of God.

The Bible Fellowship Church acknowledges as its sole Head, Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Saviour of men. It submits to the written Word of God and to the presence of the Holy Spirit as its only source of guidance and power in maintaining its redemptive life and work in the world.

The Bible Fellowship Church adopted this FAITH AND ORDER not as a substitute for, but in subordination to, the Word of God. These standards have been received as being based upon the Scriptures; even the elements not drawn directly from the Word have been acknowledged as based upon the general rules and tenor of the Word. These standards seek to provide effective means for the application of the teaching of the Scriptures to the faith, worship, government and discipline of the church. Although these standards have been acknowledged to be of lesser importance than the inspired words of the Scriptures, yet they cannot be neglected without resulting in serious impairment of the life of the Church.

The Bible Fellowship Church acknowledges as brethren all those who share its confession of faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ. It confesses gladly the benefits of the historical and geographical breadth of this fellowship. It acknowledges specifically the benefits derived from similar statements of faith and order devised at many times in the history of the church. It seeks to respond to the responsibilities that these benefits bring by beseeching Almighty God so to indwell it that it may by His grace bring glory to Himself and blessing to men.

ARTICLE I PRELIMINARY PRINCIPLES

1. That in seeking to be founded upon the Word of God in practice as well as doctrine the Bible Fellowship Church sets forth this form of government as that which is in our judgment most clearly in keeping with the Holy Scriptures.

2. That the formulation of faith and practice must be in submission to the Holy Scriptures because God has not bound the conscience to the doctrines and commandments of men when they exceed or contradict His Word.

3. That every union of particular churches shall have the right, in harmony with the preceding principles, to formulate a faith and order which will seek to provide a basis of fellowship always in submission to the written Word of God.

4. That this form of government shall seek to make of this body a church that operates by written standards, which is not, however, to be understood as being opposed to love or spirit, but rather opposed to disorder and injustices which can so easily pervert right human relationships when authority is personal or when there is no accepted ways of deciding issues that inevitably arise among men, however deeply they may be committed to Jesus Christ and to one another.

5. That our Lord, the Head of the Church, for the edification of the body and the evangelization of the world has appointed officers in the visible church to preach the Gospel, administer the ordinances and exercise discipline.

6. That, though the character, qualifications and authority of church officers are described in the Holy Scriptures, yet the electing of persons to be office-bearers shall rest with the body.

7. That careful adherence to these principles will contribute to the glory and happiness of the church in that it can own the blessing of our Lord, the Head of the Church universal, and also the approbation of an impartial public.

ARTICLE II THE CHURCH

Jesus Christ has established His rule upon earth in the church. The universal church consists of all those persons, in every nation, who make profession of faith in Christ and yield submission to Him and His rule. Because this multitude cannot meet in one place for worship and fellowship, the Scriptures indicate that these believers shall be divided into many particular churches. A particular church consists of the professing believers voluntarily associated for divine worship, godly living, and evangelism in submission to the Holy Scriptures. The particular churches seek to demonstrate their participation in the church universal by forming unions with other particular churches which have similar understanding of doctrine and organization.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS

Having called and assembled His church, our Lord provides for the governing of each particular church by conveying authority to officers whom He enables. The continuing officers in the church are ministers, ruling elders and deacons. The endowed man does not create the office nor does the office clothe the man with power, but the Lord endows the man with gifts and qualifications that enables him to fill the office which God Himself has created.

ARTICLE IV MINISTERS

The Lord of the Church has given gifts to men called ministers in His church. The office of the ministry is the first in the church in both dignity and usefulness. The one who fills the office is des-

scribed in the Scriptures by several terms. As he has the oversight of the flock of Christ, he is termed bishop. As he feeds them with spiritual food, he is termed pastor (shepherd). As he serves Christ in the church, he is termed minister. As it is his duty to be an example of the flock in godliness and to govern well in the church of Christ, he is termed elder. As he is sent to declare the will of God to sinners, and to beseech them to be reconciled to God through Christ, he is termed evangelist.

ARTICLE V ELDERS

In the New Testament church, Christ has provided men called elders whom He has enabled and commissioned to govern with ministers in His church.

Men who bear this office share equally with ministers the authority in and responsibility for the life of the church; but in contrast to ministers, whose primary authority and responsibility is in the Word and doctrine and secondarily in ruling, the primary authority and responsibility of elders is ruling and governing and secondarily in the Word and doctrine.

Those who fill this office should be examples to the flock of their sound faith, their blameless life and conduct and their wisdom and discretion.

Elders, as representatives of the people, are chosen by and from their number on the basis of Scriptural qualifications.

ARTICLE VI DEACONS

The office of deacon is presented in the Scriptures as an office not of ruling, but of service. A deacon should be a man of deep spiritual life, exemplary conduct and sound judgment. His office is one of sympathetic service to the church and to the distressed, friendless or sick, after the example of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE VII CHURCH GOVERNMENT

By providing spiritually qualified overseers, called elders, Christ enables each particular church to govern itself.

But though the churches are autonomous, they are not independent because they are part of a fellowship of churches. The basis of this fellowship is mutual conviction of the body of truth set forth in the Scriptures.

The authority of the fellowship is secondary, being derived from the particular churches, and is limited to matters which pertain to the churches in fellowship or to common concerns which churches agree to take care of together.

All authority in the church, whether in particular churches or

in the denomination, is moral and spiritual, ministerial and declarative; it is moral and spiritual, negatively, in that it is unable to use civil force to compel obedience, and, positively, in that obedience is incomplete unless it is inward and real as well as outward and apparent; it is ministerial and declarative in that the Holy Scriptures are the only rule of faith and conduct and therefore all decisions and laws must be understood as servants of the Word announcing that which the body believes the Scriptures to teach with the constant recognition that "councils may err" through frailty inseparable from humanity.

ARTICLE VIII BOARD OF ELDERS

The Board of Elders shall be composed of the Minister and all the active elders of the congregation. The lay elders shall be elected by majority vote of the congregation. They shall be mature men who meet the qualifications of Scripture (I Tim. 3; Titus 1; I Peter 5). The number of elders chosen to serve on the Board shall be established by the congregation by ballot vote upon the recommendation of the Board of Elders.

The Minister shall serve as chairman of the Board of Elders; they shall elect one of their members to serve as Secretary. Two-thirds of the membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

The duty of the Board of Elders is the general oversight of the life and work of the church including the worship, preaching, ordinances, evangelism, visitation, discipline, finances and maintenance of the properties.

Because they are "undershepherds" and not "lords" the elders shall rule the congregation according to the direction of Christ, the Chief Shepherd, as expressed in the Scriptures and the needs of the membership. They shall hold semi-annual congregational meetings to report the status of the work to the congregation; and when they deem it advisable, present recommendations to the congregation. The congregation shall have the power to accept, to suggest changes or to reject such recommendations.

The Board of Elders shall be the channel of communication between the particular church and the fellowship of churches and its organizations. The elders shall nominate from their number and the congregation elect the representative(s) from the particular church to the fellowship-wide level.

ARTICLE IX ANNUAL CONFERENCE *

The church consisting, as it does, of many separate congregations, these need mutual counsel and assistance in order to preserve soundness of doctrine and regularity of discipline, to enter into joint efforts for the advancement of the work of Christ and to prevent infidelity, error and immorality. From these arise

the importance and usefulness of assemblies of particular churches.

The assembly of churches shall represent, in one body, all the particular churches of this denomination and shall be called the Annual Conference of the Bible Fellowship Church.

The Annual Conference shall consist of every ordained minister laboring in direct relationship to the Bible Fellowship Church, every ordained minister who is retired, every probationer who has been called to pastor a church, and one lay elder from every properly constituted church ** with a membership of two hundred or less and one additional lay elder for each two hundred members in excess of the first two hundred. Ordained ministers who retain membership in one of our churches and who are engaged in Christian service not directly related to our Annual Conference, probationers who have not been called to pastor a church and missionaries who hold membership in one of our churches and are under the supervision of the Board of Foreign Missions shall be advisory members of the Annual Conference. They shall not participate in the deliberations of the sessions except by permission of the chairman.

The Annual Conference shall provide legislation, govern the affairs of the churches on the denominational level and receive appeals, complaints or other references from churches about doctrine or government. It alone shall have the power to amend the FAITH AND ORDER. It shall decide issues as a final court of appeal. Although it is the highest body of the church, it shall not invade the autonomy of the particular churches. ***

The Annual Conference shall have the power to resolve questions of doctrine or discipline seriously and reasonably proposed; to reprove, warn or bear testimony against error in doctrine or immorality in practice in any church; to examine and license candidates for the ministry; to ordain, install, judge and remove ministers; to examine and approve or censure the records of particular churches; to unite or divide congregations at the request of the people; to form or receive new congregations, and to dissolve unnecessary churches; to provide for supervision of vacant pulpits and to give counsel in calling pastors.

It shall keep and publish a record of the proceedings of its sessions and make them available to the membership of the churches.

Each session of the Annual Conference shall be opened and closed with prayer. The business sessions shall be conducted according to the Standing Rules (Business Rules of the Conference). The parliamentary procedure shall be according to Robert's Rules of Order except in places where our legislation provides otherwise.

* NOTE: The term "Annual Conference" is used throughout despite some problems in the minds of the members of the Com-

mittee. Our problem is two-fold: on the one hand we are dissatisfied with the term because we are not meeting annually, but semi-annually and on the other hand we have no more suitable term to suggest. We recommend that this be left open for further study at this time.

**** NOTE:** This would include those churches now in church extension who are able to elect elders and exclude any churches unable to elect elders. This appears to be in keeping with Article XVIII of our doctrine.

***** NOTE:** Although it is responsible for these duties, it shall not invade the autonomy of the particular churches.

ARTICLE X ELECTING AND INSTALLING ELDERS

Every congregation shall elect elders in keeping with the qualifications set forth in Scripture. Elders must be male members in full communion in the church in which they are to exercise their office.

When persons are elected to this office and have declared their willingness to accept its responsibilities, they shall be set apart in the following manner:

In a service of worship, the minister shall state in a concise manner the warrant and nature of the office of elder together with the spiritual qualifications required for its exercise and the duties to be fulfilled. He shall then address to the candidate, in the presence of the congregation, the following questions:

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, the only infallible rules of faith and conduct?
2. Do you sincerely receive the FAITH AND ORDER of the Bible Fellowship Church as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures?
3. Do you approve of the government and discipline of the Bible Fellowship Church?
4. Do you accept the office of elder in the congregation and promise faithfully to perform all the duties thereof?
5. Do you promise to promote the purity, peace and unity of the church?

After the elder-elect has answered these questions in the affirmative, the minister shall address to the members of the church the following questions:

1. Do you, the members of this church, acknowledge and receive this brother as an elder?
2. Do you promise to yield him all that honor, encouragement and obedience in the Lord, to which his office entitles him?

After the members of the church have answered these questions in the affirmative by holding up their right hands, the minister shall proceed to set apart the candidate by prayer to the office of elder and shall give to him and to the congregation an exhortation suited to the occasion.

The office of elder is perpetual since it involves the gift of God which cannot be laid aside at pleasure. No person can be divested of this office but by deposition for heresy or immorality. Yet an elder may become by age or infirmity, incapable of performing the duties of his office, or he may, though chargeable with neither heresy nor immorality, become unacceptable in his official capacity to a majority of the congregation.

If any particular church by congregational vote prefers to elect elders for a limited time in exercise of their functions, this may be done; provided, the full time be not less than three years, and the Board of Elders be made to consist of three classes, one of which shall be elected every year; and provided that elders, once installed, shall continue to be elders, though inactive when they are not reelected. Once a man has been installed as an elder, he remains an elder unless divested of his office; if he is actively exercising his functions, he is an active elder; if he is not presently exercising his functions, he shall be called an inactive elder and shall not be a member of the Board of Elders.

ARTICLE XI THE MINISTRY

Material for this article will be collated from legislation already in use.

ARTICLE XII MINISTERS LABORING IN OTHER CHURCHES OR ORGANIZATIONS

An ordained minister of the Bible Fellowship Church, consistently with his ordination vows and without prejudice to his ministerial standing, may properly under certain circumstances and conditions, labor in churches or organizations other than those of the Bible Fellowship Church.

The following rules must be adhered to in such cases:

1. Such labor shall not require the performance of functions inconsistent with his ordination vows required of ministers and other provisions of the FAITH AND ORDER of the Bible Fellowship Church.
2. They shall not be regarded as under the sole jurisdiction of the organization in which they serve. Such an organization must recognize that those who hold credentials with the Bible Fellowship Church are under its discipline in their faith and life.

ARTICLE XIII AGENCIES OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The churches individually and as a body recognize their responsibility for the growth of the church in this country and overseas, for the ministry, for education, for camps and conferences, for youth work, for publications, for ministerial pensions and relief and for other appropriate concerns.

The Annual Conference shall establish boards, committees or offices, temporary or permanent, incorporated or unincorporated for the discharge of these responsibilities.

Such agencies shall perform all their acts as the servants of and in accordance with the rules of the Bible Fellowship Church; they shall be accountable to and submit reports to the Annual Conference as it may require.

The Annual Conference shall be empowered to consider the programs of such agencies with a view to correlating their work, preventing duplication of effort and guiding the development of denominational programs. Each agency shall administer its own program and finances in conformity to policy which has been approved by the Annual Conference.

ARTICLE XIV CHAIRMAN

In order to conduct the business of the Annual Conference in an orderly and efficient manner, a chairman shall be chosen by and from the membership of the Annual Conference.

The chairman by his election shall be considered to possess, by delegation from the whole body, all authority necessary for the preservation of order and directing the operation of the Annual Conference according to the rules of the Bible Fellowship Church. In deciding issues in the meeting of the Annual Conference when there is a tie vote, he shall have the deciding vote. If he be not willing to decide, he shall call for a second ballot; if the result is again tie, the issue shall be lost.

The chairman of the next Annual Conference shall be chosen by ballot at the last session of each Annual Conference. He shall be eligible to succeed himself twice. After the close of the Annual Conference, in extreme emergency, the Chairman-elect shall have the power to convene the Annual Conference by circulating a written call for such a meeting giving the members sufficient notice to prepare properly to attend.

ARTICLE XV SECRETARY

Each Annual Conference shall choose from its members by ballot a secretary to record its transactions. It shall be the duty of the secretary, besides the recording of the actions, to preserve the records carefully and to prepare for publication the proceedings

of the Annual Conference. He shall grant extracts from the minutes of the Annual Conference when properly requested; when such extracts are given, they shall be considered as authentic evidence of the fact which they declare. The secretary shall be empowered to appoint any assistants he needs.

ARTICLE XVI AMENDMENTS

Amendments or alterations in the Form of Government of the Bible Fellowship Church shall be made only in the following manner: The Annual Conference, after proper discussion, may propose changes to the churches by a two-thirds majority of those voting at the Annual Conference, but the changes shall not be valid until presented to the particular churches and approved by a two-thirds majority of those voting at a succeeding Annual Conference; when the second Annual Conference shall give such approval, it shall declare that the changes have been adopted and are in effect.

Amendments or alterations in the Articles of Faith of the Bible Fellowship Church shall be made in a way similar to that of amending the Form of Government with the following additions: The elders of each church shall vote upon proposed changes and approval shall be necessary from two-thirds of the churches prior to the second vote of the Annual Conference.

None of the provisions of the second or third paragraphs of this article may be changed except by the process set forth in paragraph two.

PROPOSAL FOUR:

This Committee seeks to call to the attention of the Conference that this form of Government makes no provision for the election of District Superintendents. If this legislation is adopted at two readings, we recommend that we discontinue the office of District Superintendent and provision be made for the transitional period.

PROPOSAL FIVE:

Whereas, the Communion service is such an important part of our worship, therefore,

RESOLVED: that provision be made at a future session of the Annual Conference to consider the observance of the Lord's Supper and further that a committee of three (3) be appointed by the Chair to prepare a study as a basis for consideration, and,

Whereas, during the next year there will be only one District Superintendent, therefore,

RESOLVED: that each church shall establish the frequency and dates of Communion on the basis of local Church policy.

(C. E. Kirkwood, Chairman; Willard E. Cassel, Secretary; Carl C. Cassel, Jansen E. Hartman, Frank L. Herb, Richard H. Kline, J. H. Rigall, committee).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS (Part 2)

The name of Robert W. Smock has been placed on the availability list and submitted to the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriations Committee for assignment.

Whereas, we have received a request from Robert Paul for a one year leave-of-absence, therefore,

Resolved, That his request be granted.

Whereas, Alva C. Cassel has requested that he be relieved from pastoral activity in the Bible Fellowship Church to minister in rural church work in the state of Maine, and

Whereas, He has requested that he be permitted to retain credentials with us, therefore,

Resolved, That we grant him his request and that his name be placed in the listing of Ordained Ministers Working with other Organizations.

Whereas, Richard H. Kline has resigned from ministry in the Bible Fellowship Church as of September 23, 1967, to minister in another area of Christian work, therefore,

Resolved, That we regretfully accept his resignation and drop his name from our roll of ministers.

(C. E. Kirkwood, Frank L. Herb, Jr., John H. Riggall, A. L. Seifert and T. D. Gehret, Committee).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATIONING, BOUNDARIES AND APPROPRIATIONS (Part I).

The Committee organized by electing A. L. Seifert, Chairman and Byron C. Cassel, Secretary.

The Committee has not completed its work but it comes now to present to the Conference the following recommendations:

We recommend that delegates from mission churches be advisory members of the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee.

We recommend that the name of this Committee be changed to "Committee on Stationing and Appropriations".

We recommend that the rules covering Pulpit Supply in the FAITH AND ORDER be amended to eliminate therefrom the requirement that mail related to Pulpit Supply matters must be sent by certified mail.

A further report will be made after the Committee has completed its work.

REPORT OF PENSION COMMITTEE

The Committee on Pensions was elected, as provided by resolution on page 14 of the 1966 Year Book, to "bring recommendations to the Conference concerning the development of our Retirement Program and death benefits."

The Committee's approach to its assignment initially consisted of two background studies - a study of existing rules and regulations and a study of the financial assets and liabilities.

Beneficiary Society Rules and Regulations

The "Rules and Regulations of the Beneficiary Society of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ of Pennsylvania" were adopted originally October 15, 1909 and have been amended nine times, the last time on March 8, 1956. A proposal for a complete revision was made in January 1963 but was never officially adopted.

The Beneficiary Society rules and regulations are under the control of society members and it appears that they are not subject to changes by the Annual Conference. The "Rules and Regulations" were distributed to conference members several years ago for information but there was no official conference action. The Annual Conference becomes involved under our present rules only in the provision of assistance through an offering (1966 Year Book, page J, Miscellaneous, Item D) or by Conference Budget (1966 Year Book, page 56 C, Budget, Item 3).

Ministers Retirement Fund Rules and Regulations

Annual Conference rules and regulations are found on pages H, I and J of the 1966 Year Book. Here there is also provision for support through an offering (1966 Year Book, page K, Item F) and by Conference Budget (1966 Year Book, page 56 D, Budget, Item 6).

TABLE I

Financial Statement of the Beneficiary Fund

1. Assets listed October 1, 1966

Loans to Churches		
Finesville	\$ 2,349.79	
Zionsville	2,000.00	
Blandon	1,500.00	
Phila. (Emmanuel)	2,000.00	
TOTAL		\$7,849.79
4 1/2 % Fidelity Savings Certificate		4,000.00
Checking Account		51.00
TOTAL		\$ 11,900.79

2. Income 1966

Dues	\$	210.00
Assessments		126.00
Offerings from Churches		881.24
Interest on Investments		322.17
TOTAL	\$	<u>1,539.41</u>

3. Disbursements 1966

Death Benefits		500.00
Aid to Widows & Members		1,500.00
Misc., Postage, etc.		7.30
TOTAL	\$	<u>2,007.30</u>

Financial Statement of the Ministers' Retirement Fund

TABLE II

1. Assets for last 12 years

Year	Cash	PP&L Stock	Notes & Mortgs.	Six Series R Savings Bonds	U.S. Treas. Bonds	Total
1955	32407.30	12262.00	19240.59			63909.89
1956	22761.54	12262.00	29853.91			64877.45
1957	23004.40	12262.00	32390.52			67390.52
1958	32857.14	21536.81	31095.21	2220.		87709.16
1959	14417.02	21536.81	29460.97	2220.	24110.30	91745.10
1960	13445.26	21536.81	33157.01	2220.	24110.30	94469.38
1961	21894.36	21536.81	31777.37	2220.	22610.23	100138.77
1962	21453.12	21536.81	33626.11		27203.64	103819.68
1963	25809.48	21536.81	32163.51		27203.64	106713.44
1964	28798.63	21536.81	30902.38		27203.64	108441.46
1965	31923.10	21536.81	29539.00		27203.64	110202.55
1966*	35279.55	21536.81	28390.37		#27203.64	112410.37

* Checking Account	\$	8882.47
Fogelsville Nat'l Bank (4%)		4031.22
Red Hill Savings & Loan (4 1/4%)		14103.89
Lehigh Valley Trust Co. (4%)		8261.97
TOTAL	\$	<u>35279.55</u>

Four U.S. Treasury Bonds 2-1/2% due 1969

A review of the above resulted in recommendations to the Board of Directors that checking account funds not required for 1967 Annuities, balances in the savings accounts and one \$5000 U.S. Treasury Bond be invested in U.S. Treasury Bills maturing September 30, 1967. These changes will increase earnings by approximately \$700.00 this year.

TABLE III

2. Income Statement for 12 Year Period

	Interest					Total Income
Year	Pastors' Contrib.	Churches' Contrib.	& Dividends	Legacy	Special	
1955	1,705.21	3,951.13	1,645.90		+1,000.00	8,302.54
1956	1,642.75	3,986.21	1,612.00			7,240.96
1957	1,776.22	3,721.45	2,226.10			7,723.77
1958	1,729.60	3,817.10	2,395.37	1,000.	+3,450.00	12,392.07
1959	2,052.56	3,982.38	2,417.00			8,451.94
1960	1,894.46	3,683.72	2,522.10			8,100.28
1961	2,003.02	3,868.78	2,314.32	3,000.	@ 889.70	12,075.82
1962	2,259.00	3,578.37	4,499.54			10,336.91
1963	2,142.31	4,391.37	2,420.92			9,754.60
1964	2,652.17	3,630.16	3,398.29			9,681.32
1965	2,593.03	3,826.00	3,117.98			9,537.01
1966	2,595.25	3,616.62	3,417.11			9,628.98

+ Special Contributions

@ Capital Gain

TABLE IV

3. Disbursements for 12 Year Period

Year	Refunds	Annuities	Total	Gain Over Income
1955	168.90	4,945.50	5,114.40	3,188.14
1956		6,064.00	6,064.00	1,176.96
1957		4,944.00	4,944.00	2,779.77
1958	102.64	3,732.00	3,834.64	8,557.43
1959		4,416.00	4,416.00	4,035.94
1960		5,376.00	5,376.00	2,724.28
1961	470.43	5,936.00	6,406.43	5,669.39
1962		6,656.00	6,656.00	3,680.91
1963	44.84	6,816.00	6,860.84	2,893.76
1964		7,953.30	7,953.30	1,728.02
1965		7,775.92	7,775.92	1,761.09
1966		7,421.16	7,421.16	2,207.82

NOTE: Estimated Annuities for 1967 total \$ 9,003.86

The Committee acknowledges with thanks the help received in making these studies from Mr. Richard Lefevre of Bethel Bible Fellowship Church, Emmaus, Pa. He used a combination of the life expectancy tables of Prudential Life Insurance Company and of the Internal Revenue Service. By these tables he determined that the Bible Fellowship Church will have living retired ministers or surviving spouses over the next twenty years as follows:

TABLE V

1967 - 15	1977 - 15
1968 - 19	1978 - 13
1969 - 20	1979 - 13
1970 - 19	1980 - 19
1971 - 23	1981 - 16
1972 - 24	1982 - 17
1973 - 23	1983 - 17
1974 - 21	1984 - 15
1975 - 19	1985 - 14
1976 - 16	1986 - 18

In making this study, it was assumed that each of the ministers involved would retire in the year following his 65th birthday. This assumption was based primarily on the fact that full benefits under the Social Security System become payable on the man's 65th birthday. To the extent that individuals retired at age 72 instead of 65, or in any year later than the 65th birthday, such longer active service reduces the drain on the Ministers' Retirement Fund and to that extent is favorable from the viewpoint of maintaining the fund in a solvent condition.

Table III shows that in each of the past three years, pastors' contributions into the fund were \$ 2,600 annually. The churches' contributions into the fund for the conference year 1966-1967 were set in the Budget for Conference Administrative Expenses at \$ 4,000.00.

Projections of the fund through the next twenty years were made on an assumption that Pastors' contributions would be \$2,600 annually; that contributions from the churches would be \$4,000; and that the net worth of the fund can be made to earn an annual return of 4%.

Based on these assumptions with respect to income, an increase in annuities of 10% can be made effective October 1, 1967. If this increase is provided, the estimated changes in the net worth of the fund are as follows:

TABLE VI

<u>Year Ended</u>	<u>Gain</u>	<u>Loss</u>
October 1, 1968		549.61
October 1, 1969		1,187.70
October 1, 1970		619.10
October 1, 1971		3,108.31
October 1, 1972		3,848.75
October 1, 1973	\$	3,386.59
October 1, 1974		2,567.03
October 1, 1975		975.49

October 1, 1976	\$	833.82	
October 1, 1977		1,483.28	
October 1, 1978		2,743.88	
October 1, 1979		2,853.64	
October 1, 1980			636.15
October 1, 1981		1,078.83	
October 1, 1982		536.90	
October 1, 1983		774.19	
October 1, 1984		2,037.38	
October 1, 1985		2,734.77	
October 1, 1986		533.94	
Over October 1, 1966	\$	<u>1,382.05</u>	

If the same assumptions are made with respect to the income of the fund, but the annuities are increased by 25% effective October 1, 1967, the estimated changes in the networth of the fund are as follows:

TABLE VII

<u>Year Ended</u>	<u>Gain</u>	<u>Loss</u>
October 1, 1968		\$ 2,152.04
October 1, 1969		2,938.25
October 1, 1970		2,355.65
October 1, 1971		5,250.38
October 1, 1972		6,160.52
October 1, 1973		5,706.81
October 1, 1974		4,849.84
October 1, 1975		3,118.58
October 1, 1976		1,142.95
October 1, 1977		488.54
October 1, 1978	\$	857.00
October 1, 1979		891.28
October 1, 1980		3,168.45
October 1, 1981		1,317.44
October 1, 1982		2,035.01
October 1, 1983		1,871.16
October 1, 1984		545.75
October 1, 1985	132.29	
October 1, 1986		<u>2,487.68</u>
Under October 1, 1966		\$ <u>41,055.23</u>

In the year 1966 Members of the Beneficiary Society paid in \$210.00 at the rate of \$5.00 per member; members also paid in \$126.00 at the rate of \$3.00 per member because of one death in the membership. Assuming that the dues remain at \$5.00 per

member annually; that assessments because of death in the membership remain at \$3.00 per member whenever a death occurs; that the net worth of the fund can be made to earn a return of 4% per annum; and that the churches will contribute \$800.00 annually into the fund, the income of the fund will permit an increase in the death benefits to \$750.00 and the net worth of the society is estimated as follows:

TABLE VIII

<u>Year Ended</u>	<u>Net Worth</u>
October 1, 1968	\$ 14,543.33
October 1, 1969	16,135.06
October 1, 1970	16,780.46
October 1, 1971	17,837.68
October 1, 1972	19,561.19
October 1, 1973	21,353.64
October 1, 1974	22,593.78
October 1, 1975	23,258.53
October 1, 1976	22,702.87
October 1, 1977	22,556.76
October 1, 1978	23,845.03
October 1, 1979	24,560.03
October 1, 1980	26,552.43
October 1, 1981	28,000.53
October 1, 1982	28,258.55
October 1, 1983	29,774.89
October 1, 1984	30,727.89
October 1, 1985	31,719.02
October 1, 1986	32,125.77
October 1, 1987	34,420.80

Payments of death benefits out of the fund included in the estimate of the fund's net worth given above were based on the same mortality rate used in calculating the estimated annuities payable out of the Minister's Retirement Fund.

The increase in the net worth of the Beneficiary Fund over the next twenty years is based on assumption that it will yield only death benefits. In the year 1966, however, in addition to death benefits, an additional \$1,500.00 was paid to assist worthy widows of deceased Pastors and to give aid to any needy members of the Society. Any projection of future need in this area would be a mere speculation. When the two functions are combined, there is no projection of ability to pay that can be made.

Consideration might be given to a separation of these functions. The function of assisting worthy widows of deceased Pastors and the giving of aid to needy members could be financed through the

Beneficiary Fund, the fund to be replenished annually by the inclusion of the funds so distributed in the Budget for Administrative Expenses. This would permit the placement of the death benefits on a sound basis, with adjustment of the death benefits, the dues, the assessments and the contributions from the churches so they would meet the needs of the members on a sound fiscal basis.

The Committee submits this report with a feeling that its work has not been completed. It desires that additional work be done in the following areas:

1. Further studies of the Ministers' Retirement Fund:
 - a. As to what support is required to maintain the fund and to increase the annuities by 25% over the present level.
 - b. As to the possibility of providing for retirement benefits through purchase of annuity contracts as provided under Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code.
 - c. Rewriting of the rules to bring them into line with present practice.
2. As to the Beneficiary Fund:
 - a. As to the provision of Group Insurance Plans, including Health and Welfare Benefits.
 - b. Rewriting of the rules to bring them into line with present practice.

The Committee does recommend that the conduct and supervision of these funds be placed in the hands of trustworthy men who will not be beneficiaries of decisions that they may make. The Committee does recommend that those who will benefit from the operation of these funds should make the decision as to whether this responsibility be placed in the hands of a Board elected to bear it, or whether it should be born by a sub-committee of the Board of Directors consisting of the lay members of that Board.

The Committee also acknowledges with thanks the willing help it received from Mr. John Herbst of the Bible Fellowship Church, Staten Island, New York.

(Byron C. Cassel, Horace A. Kauffman, Kermit K. Gehman, Harold W. Griest, Roy E. Williams, committee).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE PROCEDURE FOR ORDINATION

(Second Reading)

DEFINITION OF ORDINATION

Ordination of men to the Christian Ministry is the laying on of the hands of the elders of the church accompanied by prayer and is the public recognition by the church of gifts previously given by God to one called to the ministry of the Word of God.

CANDIDATES FOR ORDINATION

The candidates for ordination shall be those men who meet the qualifications of the church for the Christian Ministry (See 1962 Yearbook, pp. 41-42 or Faith and Order) and give evidence of a call to the ministry which is acknowledged by the church. This shall include any men who meet these requirements including those who are pastors, administrative officers, teachers and missionaries. (See 1963 Yearbook, p. 27 or Faith and Order).

PROCEDURE FOR ORDINATION

Ordination should be preceded by a period of training and probation for the individual in order that he may be properly equipped and demonstrate his call. It should involve the church in deep self-examination and prayer in order that outward conformity to standards may not be substituted for the presence of the Spirit. This ordination should proceed from a group of brethren from more than one local church and should be limited to those who are gifted and trained in the ministry of the Word of God.

All men who seek to hold ordination credentials with the Bible Fellowship Church shall make initial application to the Ministerial Candidate Committee. They shall follow the procedures approved by Annual Conference for the Ministerial Candidate Committee and Credentials Committee. All men who seek to serve the church in any other capacity shall apply to the Board under which they desire to labor.

FORM OF SERVICE OF ORDINATION

(This material is not now ready, but is to be devised and approved by the Annual Conference).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY DIVORCE (Second Reading)

Divorce is the dissolution of a divinely instituted bond and a breaking of the relationship established by marriage. As a church we look with disfavor upon the practice of divorce upon any grounds whatsoever, and believe that the only scriptural basis for a severance of the marital union is adultery. (1)

1. Matthew 19:6-9: "Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder. They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement and to put her away? He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery."

Due to the grace of God, those who have been divorced and those who have married divorced persons, if they give evidence of forgiveness and continuance in Christian grace may be admitted to church membership and do not forfeit the privilege to be used in Christian service within the church. (2)

Believing as we do in the illegitimacy of divorce and remarriage subsequent to divorce for any ground other than adultery, there is no Biblical basis for sanctioning such marriages and clear instruction from our Lord against it. In the light of this, no Bible Fellowship pastor shall be part of a marriage ceremony in which an illegitimately divorced person is involved. (3)

2. I Corinthians 6:9-11: "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God."

3. Matthew 5:31-32: "It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: But I say unto you, that whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery."

We recommend that the following statement appear under the heading of OFFICERS: Qualification - Elections - Duties (1957 Yearbook page 37)

"That no person who has been divorced or who has married a divorced person for any reason may be a member of the Official Board. It is not the severity of divorce, but the dignity of the office as detailed in scripture (I Peter 5:1-4; I Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9) that prevents a divorced person or one married to a divorce person from holding office on the Official Board of the Church.

(Jansen E. Hartman, Bert N. Brosius, Donald T. Kirkwood, T. D. Gehret, A. L. Seifert, Committee).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATIONING AND APPROPRIATIONS (Part 2)

STATIONS

Allentown (Bethel)
Allentown (Cedar Crest)
Allentown (Salem)

Carl C. Cassel
William A. Heffner
Willard E. Cassel

Bethlehem	Frank L. Herb, Jr.
Blandon	Donald T. Kirkwood
Catasauqua	To be supplied
Coopersburg	LeRoy S. Heller
Denville	Ronald C. Mahurin
Easton	Paul B. Kuder
Emmaus	Harvey J. Fritz, Jr.
Ephrata	Robert W. Smock
Fleetwood	George E. Herb
Graterford	David J. Watkins
Harleysville	David E. Thomann
Harrisburg	R. C. Reichenbach
Hatfield	Russell T. Allen
Lancaster	John Dunn
Lebanon	Bruce A. Ellingson
Lehighton	M. Leslie Campbell
Maple Glen	To be supplied
Mount Carmel	To be supplied
Nazareth	James A. Beil
Philadelphia (Calvary)	Keith E. Plows
Philadelphia (Emmanuel)	Paul G. Zimmerman
Quakertown	Donald R. Knauer
Reading	James G. Koch
Royersford	Robert F. Johnson
Scranton	To be supplied
Shamokin	W. W. Hartman
Spring City	Bert N. Brosius
Staten Island	Daniel G. Ziegler
Sunbury	To be supplied
Terre Hill	W. B. Hottel
Wallingford*	C. E. Kirkwood
York	John H. Riggall

MISSIONS

Paradise	Leon K. Overpeck
Sinking Spring	Ernest B. Hartman
Stroudsburg	Mark T. Smith
Zionsville	E. W. Bean

The Committee has not yet completed its work. A further report will be submitted.

REPORT OF THE PULPIT SUPPLY COMMITTEE

The minutes of the 83rd Annual Conference required every minister of the Conference to report to this committee "Why this proposal will not work" together with recommended changes to make it workable.

The Committee believes there is much in the report that is of value. In making this suggestion, the committee believed the response requested would lead members of the Conference into a

study of the proposal and that such a study would show that there is much therein that commends the proposal to the Conference.

It is hard to draw any inference from the failure of 24 churches to make any response, except that we are totally indifferent to the problem. Many of the replies clearly show that much thought had been given to it. The nature of most of the replies indicated that there is an almost total failure to understand the proposal. Some of the replies merely maligned the committee, charging it with being presumptuous, of using underhanded tactics, that certain individuals on the Committee were being untrue to their own convictions, or that the Committee was bearing false witness. We found no help as we looked for a solution.

The Committee is not making presumptions. It is not using "tactics". It is not in a battle. It is sincerely carrying out an assignment given to it by the Annual Conference. The question quoted above was asked in good faith.

Following is a general survey of the responses received, without any guarantee that it embraces every detail contained in them:

Total Pastors who replied	20
Total Pastors NOT replying	24
Total Delegate replies	12
Delegates writing personal letters	4
Churches making joint replies(Pastor & Delegate)	8
Approving in principles	8
Committee exceeded its authority	1
Proposal not Biblical	5
Undue emphasis on contract	4
Oppose contract	2
Too cumbersome	5
Prefer dealing with District Superintendent	5
Opposed to change of Pastors except in Oct.	3
Will break down closed system	1
Official Board members are incompetent	1
Will create greater problems	1
Eliminate nine-year limit	14
Retain nine-year limit	5
Abolish Annual Poll	6
Lengthen limit to more than nine years but keep a limit	2
Change at any time approved	1
Too short notice for Pastoral decision	2
Present system far from ideal	6
Pastors without churches a problem with proposed system	2

Repair present system	10
Suggested modifications of proposed plan	none

Several of the responses received brought a charge that the Committee in its proposal was pragmatic. This is not a defense of the Committee, except to repeat what the report already says, that the Committee abandoned plans to patch the present system because no sound basis for the patchwork could be found.

Since the Committee does not intend to press for the adoption of a proposal for which there is practically no support, it does now turn pragmatic and makes the following recommendations:

1. No pastoral poll is to be taken except at the discretion of the Official Board or at the request of the congregation. The request by the congregation must be formally presented and passed by a majority at the third local conference. If a pastoral poll is taken and the results show 80% of the poll in favor of retention of the present pastor, the Official Board must list the present pastor as first choice on its Preference List. If a pastor requests a pastoral poll, since he is a member of the Official Board, this request should flow through the Official Board and be acted upon in the same manner as any other resolution processed by the Official Board.

2. That the nine-year limit be eliminated.

3. That to the standing committees on the Official Board be added a Pastoral Relations Committee of three men. It shall be to improve communications between Board and Pastor; between congregation and Pastor; to work for the improvement of relations between Pastor and Congregation; to candidly discuss with the Pastor any problems that may arise.

(Byron C. Cassel, Harold W. Griest, Russell T. Allen, Carl C. Cassel, William A. Heffner, Horace A. Kauffman, John H. Riggall, Committee).

A Minority Report of the Committee to Study Pulpit Supply

I (we) humbly submit the following recommendation to replace the Committee's recommendation #1 - "Pastoral Poll"

1. Within one week before the last Sunday in September the Official Board, excluding the Pastor, shall deal with the matter of Pulpit Supply. The first delegate shall be chairman. Two-thirds of the membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

2. A Preference list by ballot using parliamentary procedure containing its first and second choice for Pastor shall be prepared. These choices shall be made from a list of Bible Fellowship ministers and probationers having charge of a work. It shall be furnished by the Credentials Committee.

3. If the present Pastor is the first choice by a majority vote, no membership poll shall be taken, unless two-thirds of the Official Board request such a poll.

4. If the present Pastor is not first on the Preference List, the Official Board shall ask for a poll of the membership of the church to be held the last Sunday of September, at the close of the morning service.

5. If the results show two-thirds of the poll in favor of retention of the present Pastor, the Official Board must list the present Pastor as first choice on its preference list. Otherwise, the decision of the Official Board shall stand. The vote of the membership of the church, without comment or signature, will be a confirmation of their present Pastor or an expression of desire for a change of the present Pastor.

6. The Pastor may request within this one week that a poll be taken. This request shall go through the Official Board and be acted upon in the same manner as any other resolution processed by the Official Board. If the Pastor is resigning he shall submit a written resignation to the Chairman of the Pulpit Supply Committee before their meeting.

7. The congregation may request for a Pastoral Poll to be taken. The request by the congregation must be formally presented and passed by a majority vote at the Third Local Conference. If a poll is to be taken it shall be held on the last Sunday of September, and the procedure followed as outlined in #5.

8. The Delegate shall inform the District Superintendent by telephone of the order of the preference list within three days (Tuesday) of the last Sunday in September. The preference list shall be sent immediately by certified mail.

10. Failure to comply with the above time limits shall result in the matter of Pulpit Supply being dealt with by the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee as set forth hereafter under Annual Conference action.

Respectfully submitted,
John H. Riggall

(This report was received by the Committee secretary on October 2, 1967).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY PULPIT SUPPLY

At page 68 of the 1965 Yearbook appears a resolution reading as follows:

"Whereas, in informal conversations with Pastors & Delegates there have been expressed desires to restudy our system of pulpit supply, therefore, be it

"Resolved, That a committee of 4 Ministers and 3 Laymen be elected to study the matter of Pulpit Supply and report at the Annual Conference."

A study has been made and the report requested is respectfully submitted herewith.

THE PROBLEM

To provide for a satisfactory and stable pastoral relation in each of our Bible Fellowship Churches.

FACTORS THAT PERTAIN TO THE PROBLEM

The factors of our pulpit supply procedure fall into three general categories: the annual poll; the nine-year limit; and the system itself.

THE ANNUAL POLL

1. The annual poll creates problems by implanting doubts; by encouraging people to hunt problems; or by giving an impression of instability.
2. The annual poll is a deterrent to mutual discussion of problems between Pastor and Official Board prior to seeking a new minister.
3. The length of time allowed a pastor to decide a question of such consequence as "Where will I serve?" is short (three days).
4. The annual poll may cause some men to "soft-pedal" vital Biblical preaching.

THE NINE YEAR LIMIT

5. Our present time limit indicates that we believe the Lord could not use a pastor in a church profitably for more than nine consecutive years.
6. Several pastors have left congregations after nine years and were recalled to the same church after a brief absence.
7. Retirement, death and resignation have provided means of frequent pastoral changes regardless of the time limit.
8. Under the present system the average length of our pastorates is less than four years' duration.

THE SYSTEM ITSELF

9. At one time neither pastors nor churches had a voice in who served where; now each has a voice, but we have few or no checks

and balances.

10. Our system does not now provide for pastors and churches becoming acquainted prior to their attempt to work together.

11. There has been more than one incident in which a pastor refused all of his first and second calls and later accepted a pulpit in a church that had not at any time placed his name on its preference list. This gives the appearance of some having information not available to all.

12. The role of the Stationing Committee seems to be out of place in our present system.

13. There is no provision in our present system that permits a pastor to resign.

14. Our present system does not require a commitment by the church to the pastor.

15. The present system limits the number of choices a church may have.

16. The Bible indicates that pastors shall be chosen by the people and not by an Official Board or by a District Superintendent.

17. The kind of security which our system affords may not challenge all of our pastors to do their best work.

18. Problems do arise for which our present system makes no provision with the result that these problems must be met by improvisations created on the spur of the moment, such as:

a. It is impossible to eliminate discussion of pulpit supply matters between representatives of churches and pastors prior to the last Sunday in September.

b. The present system is predicated on an assumption that each pastor and each church has a choice, except the last church to receive an assignment and the last man without a church after all choices had been made.

c. There are now no written standards or procedures by which the Credentials Committee is to be guided in preparing the list of pastors eligible to receive calls to pulpits of Bible Fellowship Churches.

d. There is no written procedure for filling pulpits that may become vacant at other than the time of Annual Conference.

DISCUSSION OF THE FACTORS THAT PERTAIN TO THE PROBLEM

THE ANNUAL POLL

The annual poll, at its inception, seems to have been desired by the delegate who believed it to be a method of determining the mind of the congregation. The continuing practice of taking the poll annually places us in favor of breaking the pastoral relation at the end of any year. The consequence is somewhat similar to that of a married couple sitting down at each anniversary, starting with their first, to study the advantages of severing the marriage at this point.

Would church members themselves be willing to serve under such a system?

There is no requirement in connection with the annual poll for mutual discussion of problems that may exist between pastor and people prior to the Official Board's initiating action toward calling a new pastor. Admittedly, there is no rule prohibiting such discussion, but human nature being what it is, such an unpleasant task is avoided, particularly since it is not required. Within three days after the taking of the poll, the Official Board must file its preference list of its forfeits to the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee all of its right of choice.

After the preference list has been filed and the pastor has been notified, the pastor has three days in which to discover the mind of the Lord concerning such an important decision as to whether to accept or refuse the call of a church for his services as a minister. In this time there is no opportunity to learn of the needs of the congregation issuing the call nor whether his God-given gifts will suitably meet those needs.

The annual poll can readily give rise to any one of the following possibilities:

1. Pastors being voted out of their churches by people in rebellion against the faithful preaching of the Word of God.

2. Since the vote depends largely on the popularity of the pastor at the time of the poll, he is tempted to make himself popular for the sake of the vote.

3. In the poll the personality of the pastor may be at stake rather than his faithfulness, thus dividing the congregation accordingly.

4. It often appears that the congregation spends little time in prayer prior to taking the poll.

5. The annual vote reduces the pastoral office to that of an employee of the congregation, contrary to Scripture.

6. Since the poll is not binding on the Official Board, some

members refuse to participate in the poll.

Problems with regard to the annual "Do you favor or do you not favor your Pastor" popularity poll begin with our Conference currently encouraging a high divorce rate between the minister and his congregation. We all become the third party in a divorce action encouraging people to look for faults in the Man of God, giving the impression he is a hired hand and not "God's gift to the Church", and further compounding the issue by forcing a decision by both parties within a three-day span. Mutual discussions of any difficulties are nil, which is indirect contradiction to clear scriptural injunctions to come together for purposes of reconciliation. This ostrich-style of running from issues rather than facing them contributes to the spiritual immaturity of all parties involved. It may cause a Pastor to "soft-pedal" some vital Biblical teaching and it appears to give "vengeance-in-voting" an opportunity to come into full play. It also seems to encourage "base" rather than "pure" motives.

THE NINE YEAR LIMIT

Be setting a nine-year limit, as we did in 1949, or any limit, we determine by legislation what is the will of the Lord for every individual pastor and every congregation. This legislation in 1949 was the outgrowth of abuses that arose after practically absolute power was given to two Presiding Elders. This is a harsh statement, but two wrongs do not make a right. A nine-year limit on a pastor's service is just as arbitrary.

When the present pulpit supply procedures were adopted in 1959, the nine-year limit was brought forward and incorporated therein. By motions presented at several Annual Conferences by various churches, efforts were made to have the nine-year limit removed or to have it extended. Some may not agree that dissatisfaction with the nine-year limit exists, except with a minority. But the dissatisfaction is widespread, indicated by the frequent recurrence of the effort to change it and by the informal reports that past efforts were unsuccessful only because of the requirement of our rule for two-thirds affirmative to change any of the by-laws. And even under this rule the past efforts failed of approval by narrow margins.

Under present supply procedures, there have been several instances of a pastor leaving his congregation because of the nine-year limit and returning to it after a brief absence - a congregation he had already served for nine years.

In practice, the nine-year limit seems to have been more frequently effective in reducing the tenure of a pastor to a term of less than nine years, than in causing him to change churches because he had reached the end of the ninth year. This obviously results from the fact that as he is reaching the end of his ninth year alone, he may, at an earlier date, embrace an opportunity

to change as it is presented.

Correspondence between this committee and fifty three denominations, representing 41,621,700 people; 153,750 churches; and 125,452 pastors; developed that none of these has a time limit. Two denominations who did, have recently eliminated it.

The nine-year limit had its origin in 1945 because under the the previous practice, changes for many years had been infrequent. Changes were almost impossible, even though pastor and people were convinced that a change would bring improvement. But the nine-year limit can be construed as having introduced instability, since the average length of our pastorates is now less than four year's duration.

Dr. W. Graham Scroggie wrote a series of articles containing counsel to young pastors which was published in the Sunday School Times. In the issue of February 24, 1952, the third of this series entitled "The Serious and Exacting Work of the Pastorate" include the following statement:

"On the question of a desirable length of a pastorate one must speak with caution. Just because there are such diversities of men and churches and such differences between these in combination, nonuniform arrangement could be acceptable or just to all situations.

"We must all agree that a pastorate can be too short. I estimate that it takes about three years for a man really to get into his stride in a work, and if then or before, he remove to another sphere, he may be handicapping both himself and his people. On the other hand, a pastorate can be too long. A man can outstay his welcome and his usefulness and that is bad for everyone concerned.

"We have known of long pastorates which were eminently successful, but they are exceptional. My personal view is that the normal length of a ministry in a place should be from seven to ten years and that at the end of that time, unless both parties are clearly guided otherwise, there should be a change without prejudice on either side."

There are several spiritual conditions related to the nine-year limit that must be noted:

1. The possibility of a pastor yielding to carnal ambition in considering one place in the work of the Lord as more "rewarding" than is another, falling into an error which Scripture describes:

"for they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: For it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh,

but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His." Romans 8:5-9.

"But let a man examine himself...." I Corinthians 11:28a.

On this same theme one of our contemporary churches publishes a pamphlet entitled "A Pastor Seeks a Church" from which the following has been taken:

"Let the minister remember the "Acres of Diamonds" story. Many a pastor has roved mentally over the world in search of his spiritual fortune while the diamond mind God has called him to dig lies unopened and unknown beneath the sod of his own back yard. When a pastor has made up his mind that he wants to move too often he will then rest on his oars in his present parish doing as little as possible while his major energies are directed towards the goal of finding a new placement. The fact is that there is no parish in the world that could not use all the love and skill of the best pastor in the world. Our Lord served a church of twelve members. Even after the decision to move has been made it is good churchmanship to dig with might and main in the place where one is, making the very most of that opportunity. It has been known to happen in such instances that when the opportunity did come it did not compare with the opportunity thus created in the parish formerly despised."

2. The layman's willingness to depend on the nine-year limit as an easy way out of a difficult situation, even should the work of the Lord suffer while he waits for the nine years to run its course, instead of having sufficient spiritual strength to deal with the difficulty in an attempt to solve it.

3. The layman's dependence on the nine-year limit to make available a man who is believed to meet the needs of his church, instead of depending upon God to supply gifts needed by the church, as taught by the Scripture:

"And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God." Colossians 2:19.

"From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." Ephesians 4:16.

We seek to declare that the Lord, the Head of the Church, will direct in providing proper leaders in each church. Will He not honor a declared willingness to trust Him?

The "man-made" nine-year limit is like a useless appendage, a lifeless "hanger-on", a traditional mockery in terms. It appears to

serve in our day not one good purpose but its form has proved a means of infesting and promoting evil designs. For example - since when do we legislate the Holy Spirit's work in the church? By what authority do we judge a man to be unfit for a church at 12:01 A.M. on the first day of his tenth year? By what stretch of the unsanctified imagination do we dare think we have a corner on the Divine Will to make such a limit? Hardly any, if any, conservative churches in the world have such a system. Does our insistence on such a limit indicate that we are blinded in this area? Retirement, death, and resignations have stirred our little pond, and pastors moving after an average of about four years would indicate that the waters are in a constant turmoil. Certainly we are not beside still waters in pastoral changes. A pastor gets to know his people and is just beginning to minister to them when suddenly, as by a whirlwind, he is gone and the building of necessity must start again. What manner of wisdom is this?

THE SYSTEM ITSELF.

At one time neither pastor nor church had a voice in the creation of the pastoral relation. Under the present system, each has a voice, but there are few if any checks and balances. The result is that the office of pastor is no longer dignified as God's gift to the church - instead he can be hired and fired by the Official Board. He is not even given the opportunity to preserve his own esteem by being permitted to resign.

The present system has no provision for pastor and church becoming acquainted with proposed methods, opportunities, or obligations, prior to their attempt to work together. Yet there have been more than a few instances in which a pastor refused all of his first and second calls and accepted a pulpit in a church that had not at any time placed his name on its preference list. This indicates that some have information that is not available to all. But the present system itself frowns on open negotiations between representatives of churches and potential candidates for pastor.

The pastoral relation under the present system can be entered into lightly and impulsively. The result sometimes seems that one year is long enough to end the honeymoon under which the relations started so promisingly. But really the church made no commitment to the pastor - not even with respect to his financial support. There still seems to be evidence that we have in our fellowship those with a sense of having met their responsibilities if the pastor's support is equal to the minimum set for membership in the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee.

Prior to the adoption of the present pulpit supply system, the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee had each delegate make a list of his first, second and third choices. This seems to be the origin of the present requirement that the Official Board list its first and second choices. This procedure limits the number of choices a particular church can make in any one year.

If it fails to obtain its choice, it has another opportunity to renew its choosing the following year. This limiting procedure, coupled with the yearly scheduling of the choice, must inevitable tend toward instability.

Acts 6:3 says: "Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business." This is the first election of deacons. In Acts 14:23 the churches elected elders. Under our system, we make a pretense of a Pastoral Poll (the results of which are not binding on the Official Board) but we do not give the congregation the responsibility of electing its Pastor.

Our beloved brother, Daniel K. Ziegler, who was Chairman of this Committee when he was called to his reward, in a paper presented to Annual Conference in November 27, 1954, prior to the adoption of our present system of pulpit supply, made, among other things, the following statements:

"Advantages: 2. All pastors have churches. Being assigned a church is assured to all the Ministers in the itineracy. There are no ordained men forced into secular employment because of not being stationed to a church."

"Disadvantages: 1. The less competent men in the ministry are shielded. Our conference type of government, the itineracy and method of stationing pastors can give an unwarranted sense of security to some pastors who should perhaps give themselves to more devoted efforts in some lines of their responsibility. The thought of competency is a business term and as ordinarily used can generally be defined in statistical terms. In the realm of the spiritual it is true that we must carefully look to something deeper than cold numbers; and yet over a period of many years of service a pastor's statistical record has considerable significance. The competency of a pastor is closely linked to such matters as study, prayers and stewardship of time. Progress of a local church can be greatly affected by a good pastoral stewardship; and which is the more important, the church or the man? Advantage #2 may be in some instances considerably nullified by disadvantage #1."

We continue with this same disadvantage in our present system. One whose experience and disappointments raise a question as to his call to the ministry, must, under our present system, be dealt with by someone, or by some committee, who must make a formal decision that an individual, who has been ordained to the Christian ministry, was so ordained because the Church was in error.

We have changed from "a system in which pastors were stationed" to "a system in which pastors are called". Since this change in procedure, the role of the stationing committee has been reduced to the point that there remains only the responsibility of assigning men who failed to receive a call. Changes in boundaries occur so infrequently that such changes can easily be assigned to

a committee created just to cover such a particular assignment. The responsibility for making appropriations can be assigned to the Church Extension Board.

To review this discussion, picture a man in chains. The shackles are taken off his one arm and leg but left on the other arm and leg. Is this freedom? Thank the Lord people have some say in what pastor they shall have and the pastor can choose to stay at a church or to move on if he senses his work is finished, but really freedom is far from complete. There are few checks and balances. The church may have a first and second choice, but these can be nullified easily. The system lends itself to espionage and subversion, calls in the night, behind the scenes maneuverings, and some of the old chains are still on the system. A congregation can approve a man by a two-thirds vote and have a board of nine men fire him. The smell of a firing never leaves the minister and haunts him to his grave. On the other hand, some Pastors wonder what is wrong with a church that could permit such a thing to happen and there are those that would hesitate before accepting a call to a "hiring-firing" church. Also the church makes no commitment to a new pastor as to what he may expect or as to what is expected of him, and mutual understanding is nigh unto impossible. The argument that "we should try to work the system we have before changing it" is like a mother trying to force her child to wear a size four shoe when he now takes a size six shoe in the hope that his foot will get smaller. If we continue our system as it is now the pain will become more intense and the agony and the pinch insufferable.

CONCLUSIONS

Because of the teaching of Scripture, the nature of our present problem, and because we believe this study has increased our "light" with respect to this subject, we conclude that:

(1) BECAUSE Scripture teaches that each man bears responsibility for his use under God of the gifts and life given him by his Creator;

THEREFORE we propose a system that allows each pastor to accept or reject a call from a specific church after careful thought and prayer.

(2) BECAUSE Scripture teaches that growth comes through facing and resolving problems that arise between God's people;

THEREFORE we propose a system that will encourage and demand mutual discussion of problems prior to severing a pastoral relationship.

(3) BECAUSE Scripture teaches that each church in a fellowship of churches must subordinate itself to the other churches;

THEREFORE we propose a system that will include checks and balances which will provide for fairness and stability in supplying our pulpits, including provision for Annual Conference to approve

the making or breaking of the pastoral relationship.

(4) BECAUSE Scripture gives no indication of how long a man's ministry in a given place should be;

THEREFORE we propose a system that will set no arbitrary maximum or minimum limits on the length of pastorates but will allow this to be determined by the parties involved, under God, the Head of the Church.

(5) BECAUSE Scripture teaches that elders including pastors should be chosen by the people;

THEREFORE we propose a system that will allow each congregation to vote on the establishing or breaking of a pastoral relationship.

(6) BECAUSE Scripture teaches that the laborer is worthy of his hire;

THEREFORE we propose a system that will provide for each church making commitments to its pastor as well as commitments by the pastor to the church.

These conclusions represent a summary of the principles on which the system we now propose are based. We recommend adoption of the following rules to be included in our Faith and Order as a substitute for the existing pulpit supply Rules Numbers 1 to 12, published on pages 16 to 20, inclusive of Faith and Order:

RECOMMENDATIONS

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND ITS PASTORS

The ideal condition in a conference is that of a satisfactory and stable pastoral relation in each church within its jurisdiction. To work to that ideal it is important that a Conference have a proper concern for and relationship with the churches which are without pastors.

A. INSTITUTING THE PASTORAL RELATION IN CHURCHES WITHOUT PASTORS

1. Committee on Pastoral Relations. The care of churches without Pastors shall be assigned to the Committee on Pastoral Relations.

2. Oversight. The Committee on Pastoral Relations shall exercise oversight of churches without pastors in the following ways:

a. Should a church lose its pastor, the Committee on Pastoral Relations shall designate the Senior Annual Conference Delegate as Moderator of the Official Board.

b. By consulting with the Official Board regarding Temporary Supplies. Official Board shall meet with the Committee and with its aid and advice secure temporary supplies for its pulpit when it becomes vacant. The Annual Conference shall not approve a minister being called as pastor of a church which he served as temporary supply unless a period of six months has elapsed between the ending of the temporary supply relationship and the issuing of a call to be pastor. This prohibition shall not apply to a person under the care of the Ministerial Candidate Committee who has been serving as a temporary supply.

c. By advising with the Official Board regarding Stated Supplies. On recommendations of the Committee on Pastoral Relations the Annual Conference may establish stated supplies. The Committee may arrange for the transfer of stated supplies within the Conference when it seems to be for the best interests of the minister, the church, or the Conference as a whole. In the area of stated supplies, the Pastoral Relations Committee shall at all times work in consultation with the Ministerial Candidate Committee and with the Credentials Committee.

d. By advising churches regarding the calling of a pastor. The Committee on Pastoral Relations shall meet and consult with the Official Board of every church that is without a pastor. It shall advise the Official Board regarding the suitability of any person whose name is to be put before the congregation, and shall have the privilege of nominating suitable persons for the Board's consideration. The Annual Conference shall permit a call to be placed in the hands of a minister only when the Official Board of the church has thus consulted the Committee on Pastoral Relations and obtained its approval before the name is presented to the congregation.

e. By conferring with the Church Extension Board and the Official Board of any church receiving aid in the support of its pastor through the Church Extension Fund before recommending or approving the settlement of a pastor or stated supply in such a church.

3. Duty of the Particular Church without a Pastor.

a. Every church should be under the pastoral oversight of a minister, and when its pulpit is vacant, shall promptly proceed to elect a pastor in the following manner: The Official Board shall call a congregational meeting to convene at the regular place of worship to elect a nominating committee representative of the whole congregation, whose duty it shall be to nominate a minister to the congregation for election as pastor. Public notice of the time, place and purpose of the meeting must be given at not less than three prior regularly scheduled meetings.

The church may elect a nominating committee only after its pulpit has become vacant or after the Committee on Pastoral

Relations has set a definite future date when the pulpit of the church is to be declared vacant. But the nominating committee shall be free, without the influence of the retiring pastor to carry out the desires of the congregation with reference to the call of a successor pastor.

b. Conference with Committee on Pastoral Relations. The nominating committee shall confer with the Committee on Pastoral Relations as provided in Section A, Paragraph 2.

c. If it appear desirable, the nominating committee may confer with eligible men prior to issuing a formal call so the parties may become acquainted with the particular needs of the church and proposed methods, opportunities or obligations.

d. Who is eligible for a call? The Credentials Committee shall issue an annual list of men who are eligible to work as pastors of a Bible Fellowship Church, and this list is to be published in the Year Book and made a part of the proceedings of Annual Conference. Should changes occur in this list while Annual Conference is adjourned, the Secretary of the Credentials Committee shall mail a revised list of such men to all delegates who were members of the last Annual Conference or who may be delegates-elect to the next Annual Conference.

e. The Congregational Meeting. When the nominating committee is ready to report, it shall notify the Official Board, which shall call a congregational meeting at the regular place of worship for the purpose of acting on the report of the nominating committee. Public notice of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting shall be given at not less than three prior regularly scheduled meetings.

f. The Congregation's Responsibility in the Election of a Pastor. The order of business for the congregational meeting is as follows:

(1) The Senior Delegate to Annual Conference shall preside, or he may appoint a member of the Pastoral Relations Committee to do so.

(2) The secretary of the Official Board shall act as the secretary of the meeting.

(3) Prayer for Divine guidance shall be made.

(4) Statement shall be made concerning those entitled to vote. All members, over age of sixteen, attending the meeting, but no others, are entitled to vote.

(5) The report of the nominating committee shall be made.

(6) The question shall be put: "Are you ready to proceed to the election of a pastor?" The question shall be answered by a

motion, duly seconded, and approved by a majority of those voting.

(7) If they declare themselves ready, the moderator shall declare the name submitted by the nominating committee to be in nomination.

(8) Opportunity for nominations from the floor shall be given. A nomination from the floor must previously have been submitted to the Committee on Pastoral Relations and approved by it.

(9) The vote shall be taken by written ballot. In every case a majority of the voters present and voting shall be required to elect.

(10) On the election of a pastor, if it appear that a large minority is averse to the candidate who has received a majority of votes, and the minority cannot be induced to concur in the call, the moderator shall endeavor to dissuade the majority from prosecuting it further. If the electors be nearly or quite unanimous or if the majority shall insist upon its right to call a pastor, the moderator shall proceed to draw a call in due form. It shall be subscribed by them, certifying at the same time in writing the number of those who do not concur in the call, and any facts of importance, all of which proceedings shall be laid before the Committee on Pastoral Relations, together with the call.

(11) The call shall be in the following form, namely:

FORM OF CALL

"The _____ Bible Fellowship Church of _____, being on sufficient grounds, well satisfied of the ministerial qualifications of you, _____, and having good hopes from our knowledge of you, that your ministrations in the gospel will be profitable to our spiritual interests, do earnestly call and desire you to undertake the office of pastor in said congregation, promising you in the discharge of your duty, all proper support, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord.

"And that you may be free from worldly care and avocations, we, on our part, promise and oblige ourselves to pay you the sum of \$ _____ yearly in regular payments during the time of your being and continuing as the regular pastor of this church, together with free use of the parsonage and _____ vacation each year.

"And we agree to pay or to continue to pay semi-annually into into the Minister's Retirement Fund that requisite percent of said salary which Annual Conference may require you to pay into said fund.

"And we agree to pay or to continue to pay annually a sum equivalent to that self-employment tax as may be levied upon you by the Congress of the United States under the Federal Insurance

Contributions Act.

"And we promise and oblige ourselves to review with you the adequacy of this compensation annually.

"In testimony whereof we have respectively subscribed our names this _____ day of _____ A.D. _____.

(Signatures)

"I, having moderated the congregational meeting which extended a call to _____ for his ministerial services, do certify that the call has been made in all respects according to the rules laid down in Faith and Order, and that the persons who sign the foregoing call were authorized to do so by vote of the congregation.

(Signed) _____
Moderator of Meeting. "

(12) The signatures on the call shall be either all of those present subscribing to the call: or (upon resolution of the congregation) those members of the Official Board who subscribe to the call. Such a resolution must be publicly voted and must be certified to the Committee on Pastoral Relations by the moderator of the meeting.

(13) The Annual Conference Delegate(s) shall present and prosecute the call before the Committee on Pastoral Relations.

4. Duty of Minister.

a. Ministers receiving calls shall reply within three weeks.

b. If it appear desirable, after he has received a call, the minister may confer with the nominating committee so the parties may become acquainted with the particular needs of the church and with proposed methods, opportunities or obligations.

5. Action of Annual Conference on the Call of a Pastor.

a. Preliminary actions by the Committee on Pastoral Relations.

(1) The nominating Committee shall confer with the Committee on Pastoral Relations as provided in Section A, paragraph 3 b.

(2) The Committee on Pastoral Relations must approve the name of the candidate before it is presented to the congregation.

(3) Every call must be placed in the hands of the Committee on Pastoral Relations by the moderator of the congregational meeting and the Annual Conference Delegate(s). The committee on

Pastoral Relations must find that the nominating committee had followed the required steps as provided in Faith and Order.

b. When the call of the congregation is unanimous, or nearly so, the Committee on Pastoral Relations may approve the call. If it is unable to approve the call, the Committee must submit the entire matter to Annual Conference at its next session, together with its recommendations. The Delegate(s) to Annual Conference shall prosecute the call before Annual Conference.

c. When a call is approved, the Annual Conference Delegate(s) shall place it in the hands of the minister called.

d. The minister called shall respond in writing within three weeks after having received the call.

e. The Pastoral Relations Committee shall approve the program for the service of installation and the persons participating in the program, as submitted by the pastor-elect and by the Official Board of the Church.

B. MAINTAINING THE PASTORAL RELATION

1. Committee on Pastoral Relations. The Committee on Pastoral Relations is charged with the chief responsibility in maintaining good pastoral relations. It shall be established and elected in order that the spiritual and temporal welfare of the ministers and congregations of the Bible Fellowship Church may be properly sustained. The election of this committee shall take precedence over all other Annual Conference Boards, Committees and appointments. Unless Annual Conference otherwise provides, the committee shall elect its own chairman and vice-chairman who shall serve until their successors have been elected.

To the Committee on Pastoral Relations the Annual Conference shall assign the supervision of its churches without pastors. Direct access to this committee shall be available at all times to all ministers in the Conference, and to all members of Official Boards, in matters relative to the spiritual and temporal welfare of the churches in which severally they hold office.

2. Consultation and Advice.

a. Because the relationship between pastor and congregation began under mutual agreement and at the direction of Christ, the Head of the Church, the parties of this relationship bear the chief responsibility for its proper maintenance through Christ's enabling. Help of the Pastoral Relations Committee shall be sought only when internal discussion of problems results in no mutually acceptable solution.

b. When external help is needed, the Committee on Pastoral Relations holds the chief responsibility for maintaining good pastoral relations.

3. Composition and Election of the Pastoral Relations Committee.

a. The committee shall be elected by Annual Conference.

b. The committee shall be composed of four ministers who are serving as pastors and three laymen who are elders.

c. The term of office shall be for three years; no one is eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms.

d. At the beginning members shall be in three classes, serving terms of one, two and three years.

e. Four members shall constitute a quorum.

f. When a member of the Pastoral Relations Committee becomes personally involved in a ministerial problem, he shall disqualify himself from acting in such cases.

g. Direct access to this committee shall be available to all ministers and to all members of Official Boards at all times. In corresponding with the Committee, letters shall be addressed to the committee's secretary.

4. Duties of the Pastoral Relations Committee.

a. The committee's role is that of consultation and advice; and, except in unusual circumstances, it is permitted to act only when matters are brought to its attention. To compel attention referrals must be by:

(1) Pastors of the conference, regarding matters pertaining to their own church.

(2) Members of the Official Board, regarding matters pertaining to their own church.

b. When difficulties within a particular church are not too widely known, the committee, with discrete individuals from the congregation, should seek a solution to the problem.

c. If the matter has reached the stage of widespread rumor or general knowledge within the congregation and even in the community, a formal and public visit is in order. Except in cases of emergency, arrangements for such visits to a particular church shall be made by contacting the secretary of the Official Board.

d. It is mandatory that a church or pastor having problems

consult with the Committee on Pastoral Relations before initiating any action leading to a dissolution of the pastoral relationship.

e. The first consideration of the Committee on Pastoral Relations is the maintenance of a happy relationship between pastor and people. If problems arise, the Committee's duty is to work toward resolving the difficulties. Only after every effort to resolve a problem is exhausted, will thought be given to terminating the pastoral relationship.

f. When this Committee cannot resolve a problem submitted to it, the problem shall be brought to Annual Conference for final solution, with the recommendations of the Committee.

5. Minister's Salary. The call of the minister is a covenant between him and the church he serves and involves the following responsibilities:

a. It shall provide a basic salary not lower than a representative average of the family incomes of the congregation making the call. In addition, it shall include provision of a parsonage, including payment as an expense paid out of church income, of the cost of heat, light, telephone and all other utilities.

b. Each congregation is bound by the requirement: We promise and oblige ourselves to review with you the adequacy of this compensation annually.

c. Whatever the amount of the annual payment of salary, each congregation agrees to pay or to continue to pay into the Ministers' Retirement Fund that requisite per cent of said salary which may be fixed by Annual Conference for the participation of the pastor in the Ministers' Retirement Fund.

d. Whatever the amount of the annual payment of salary, each congregation agrees to pay to continue to pay annually a sum equivalent to that self-employment tax as may be levied upon the pastor by the Congress of the United States under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act.

e. The Pastoral Relations Committee shall approve the call and its details; i.e., the covenant. It shall provide for the installation of the pastor and the establishment of the pastorate, at which time the covenant goes into effect. It shall report annually to Annual Conference on the adequacy of the compensation of each of the pastors. It shall fix the date of the dissolution of the pastorate, at which time the covenant ends.

C. DISSOLUTION OF THE PASTORAL RELATION

Except as Annual Conference may delegate authority to the Committee on Pastoral Relations, its approval is necessary to the formation of the pastoral relation and to its dissolution. This

authority may be exercised on the petition of the pastor, or on the judgment of the Annual Conference without petition. Action taken on "resignation of the pastor or petition of the people" is the normal form of such dissolution. Rules covering the normal process are 1 through 4 of this section. Action taken on the "judgment of the Annual Conference, without petition" is effected by administrative discipline as covered by Paragraph 5 of this section.

1. The Normal Process. If a minister desires to resign from his pastoral charge he shall submit his resignation to Annual Conference by sending his letter of resignation to the Chairman of the Pastoral Relation Committee, showing that a copy of it has also been sent to the Secretary of the Official Board of the church from which he desires dissolution of his pastoral charge.

a. The Pastoral Relations Committee shall cite the church to appear by members of its Official Board, or the church may so appear upon its own motion, to show cause, if it has any, why the Annual Conference should not accept the resignation. If the church shall fail to appear, or if its reasons for retaining its pastor be deemed insufficient, his resignation may be accepted. The Pastoral Relations Committee may approve the resignation and set its effective date. If the Committee is unable to approve the resignation, it must refer the problem to Annual Conference with recommendations.

b. Ordinarily such action presents no difficulties. The usual practice is for the Official Board to call a congregational meeting, in accordance with our rules, to vote concurrence with the minister's resignation. The presentation of the resignation of the pastoral charge by the minister and the concurrence of the congregation leads to the action of Annual Conference dissolving the pastoral relation, and a fixing of the effective date.

2. Church Desiring Dissolution of Pastorate.

a. If a church desires a dissolution of the pastoral relation, a similar procedure shall be observed. The title of this paragraph implies that problems exist between pastor and people. It is required then, that all of the procedures set forth in Section B, for maintaining the pastoral relationship have been followed diligently. Nevertheless, the relationship continues to be an unhappy one. But whether the minister or the church initiates proceedings for a dissolution of the relation, there shall always be a meeting of the congregation called and conducted precisely in the same manner as when the call of a pastor is to be made (See Section A, par. 3f.).

If this action is undertaken unilaterally by the church, it must be in the form of a petition to Annual Conference asking that its pastoral relationship be dissolved. This petition must be prepared in consultation with the Pastoral Relations Committee and it must be submitted to Annual Conference through the Pastoral Relations Committee.

b. Unless the pastor resigns, there is no provision for dissolution of the pastoral relationship except as provided in Section C. Paragraph 2a., or in Section C. Paragraph 5.

3. Consultation and Help for Ministers seeking change of Pastorate.

a. Committee on Pastoral Relations. A part of the purpose for the Pastoral Relations Committee is to facilitate the exchange of information concerning ministers seeking new pastorates and vacant churches seeking new ministers. Counsel and advice should be given by the Committee on Pastoral Relations which should insist on such ministers giving information concerning their education, background, and experience, for reference. Suggestions may be given of churches presently vacant, of assistant pastors needed, or of opportunities for those of special talent for administrative work, etc.

b. It may sometimes be wise for Annual Conference, through its Committee on Pastoral Relations, to suggest a different calling to one whose experience and disappointment raise a question as to his call to the ministry. Other areas of Christian service, even those open to laymen, may be more suitable to some who have been willing to serve as ministers.

4. Consultation and Help for Churches Seeking a Change of Pastorate. The help of the Committee on Pastoral Relations shall be available and willingly given that both church and minister may find satisfactory relations. The friendly help thus given through patience and positive action may prevent the appearance of discord and the resulting harm to both minister and congregation.

5. Dissolution of Pastoral Relation by Annual Conference after Investigation. There are several ways in which irregularities come before Annual Conference for official action:

(1) By report of the Committee on Pastoral Relations to Annual Conference when it is unable to solve a problem by simple counsel or advice.

(2) By the motion of a member of Annual Conference whose conscience requires him to act in regard to the pastoral relationship.

(3) By general review and control.

(end of recommendations)

DISCUSSION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

a. Scriptural bases for the recommendations.

In the following pages are developed more fully the claims of

the committee as to the Scriptural foundation for the foregoing recommendations. The numbers starting the various sections, refer to the conclusions given in this paper.

(1) Because Scripture teaches that each man bears responsibility for his use under God of the gifts and life given to him by God; and because Scripture teaches that each Church is responsible to govern herself; we propose a system of pulpit supply that allows each pastor to accept a call from a specific church, after careful thought and prayer.

Personal responsibility for the life and work of the individual is one of the constantly recurring themes of Scripture. Examine the words of the Lord Jesus in the parables of the talents (Matt. 25) or of the pounds (Luke 19); or examine the instructions of Paul to Timothy and Titus; and you discover that responsibility to God for one's life and work is written boldly on the pages of Scripture.

For this reason, a pastor should have a significant voice in the decision as to which congregation he will serve.

That churches must also have a voice in determining who its leaders shall be is discussed more fully under section (5) found later on in this article. We here simply note that a responsibility of the church is to choose its leaders.

Therefore, the church must have a voice in determining who its pastor shall be.

Our present pulpit system recognizes these co-ordinate truths. We do not suggest changing these principles. Because these decisions are so important, the proposed system provides better opportunity for thought and prayer. Our present system is out of harmony with these principles in three ways.

First, it requires that this decision by the church be made within three days. Within the next three days, the pastors must make their decisions. The briefness of this time is not in harmony with the consequence of the decision being made; it affords little time for thought and prayer. Second, our present system requires that these decisions be made every year in all churches at the same time. This requirement has forced pastors to move so that "the system won't break down." If more time had been available, some men might not have moved. If all did not need to change at once, the churches would have had choices - not simply expressions of hope. Third, the proposed system does not give any Official Board the power to summarily dismiss its pastor, thus depriving him of his God-given right to choose.

(2) Because Scripture teaches that growth comes through facing and resolving problems that arise between God's people, we propose a system of pulpit supply that will encourage and demand mutual discussion of such problems prior to dissolution of the pastoral

relationship.

The Biblical method of solving problems is to bring face-to-face the individuals or groups involved, as we read in Matthew 18:15-18:

"Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican. Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

See also Luke 17:3-10; and Galatians 6:1-5. The Scripture also indicates why this is good procedure - it produces growth in those involved. When each must listen to the problems from the other's point of view, he understands in a new way. By forgiving those who have offended us, we give evidence of having been forgiven (Eph. 4:30-32). As long as we are on this side of the Lord's return, we will have imperfections and commit sins that will offend (I John 3:2). Therefore, we need a system of pulpit supply that will require mutual discussion of problems. We need one another to grow (Colossians 2:19 and Ephesians 4:16). The proposed system provides for this by eliminating the annual review and by demanding that pastors and churches discuss their problems; first, among themselves; and later (if harmony is not achieved) with the Pastoral Relations Committee or with Annual Conference (Matt. 18:16-18).

The present system of pulpit supply does not make mutual discussion impossible; nor does it encourage it. Facing problems is never pleasant - thus we have pastors who leave churches without facing their problems; and churches that dismiss pastors without facing their problems. Such summary action may be pragmatic because it permits those who have problems to separate; but it allows and encourages what is not Biblical: i. e., discussion of the problems with those directly involved. This produces two additional difficulties. First, the "outside parties" cannot solve the problems and the rehearsing of them simply aggravates an already difficult situation. Second, neither of the parties gains the valuable spiritual exercise of facing and revolving their mutual difficulties. For years we have heard complaints about the weakness of pastors and lay leaders in the Bible Fellowship Church. Would a system that demands more of each of us toward maintaining good pastoral relationships make a contribution toward strengthening pastors and people?

(3) Because Scripture teaches that every church and each individual should subordinate himself to his brother, we propose a system that will include checks and balances which will provide for

fairness and stability in supplying our pulpits, including a provision for Annual Conference to have a voice in the breaking as well as in the making of the pastoral relationship.

There is only one true church:

"There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and in you all." (Eph.4:4-6).

Therefore, each of the particular churches is related to each of the others; each member of the true church is his brother's keeper. Both as individuals and as church, each must consider the other first.

"And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour." (Ephesians 5:2)

"If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 2:1-5)

Specific illustrations of this mutual subordination among churches are evidenced in the larger, more central church in Jerusalem considering the program of circumcision as it arose in the church at Antioch. The decisions changed the lives of both churches (Acts 15). The younger and smaller churches in Macedonia sent contributions to the older church in Jerusalem (2 Cor. 8, 9).

In the Bible Fellowship Church we give expression to this oneness by the structure of our fellowship of churches. In the supplying of pulpits with pastors, the proposed system would place the chief responsibility for encouraging fairness and stability in the pastoral relationship on the Pastoral Relations Committee. This Committee will counsel and advise churches and pastors regarding their problems; should unanimity not be secured, Annual Conference will resolve differences. The Pastoral Relations Committee will approve a decision to dissolve the pastoral relationship; as well as the decision to call a new minister. Because each church has a right to rule, and each pastor is an individual, each has the privilege to call or to accept a call; but because we are brethren and each church is related to the other, each pastor and each church must subordinate himself to the other members of The Church. The Pastoral Relations Committee is the proposed channel of expression of our mutual subordination to one another and to the group.

Our present method requires the approval of Annual Conference on the establishment of a new pastoral relationship, but there are no checks or balances on dissolution of this relationship. This is parallel to a father being responsible for the solution of his son's problems, but allowing him no hand in training the lad. Because of this, pastors have been dismissed from their congregations for less than adequate causes. When the preference lists are in, nothing more can be done. If we desire to reflect real mutual subordination, we must have a system of pulpit supply that will make Annual Conference the final authority in maintaining the pastoral relationship or in approving the pastor's resignation, as well as in approving of his call.

Should a schism develop between pastor and people that mutual discussion and subordination cannot heal, the difference, under the proposed system, must be adjudicated by Annual Conference. In doing this, Annual Conference will have the objective recommendations of its Pastoral Relations Committee to assist in reaching a God-honoring decision.

This mutual subordination, on the one hand, will encourage maturing of pastors and people which in turn will lead to longer and more effective pastorates. On the other hand, it allows freedom of expression so that changes can be made when necessary.

(4) Because Scripture gives no indication of the limit of the time of a man's ministry in a given place, we propose a system that will set no arbitrary maximum or minimum limits on the length of pastorates, but will allow this to be determined by the parties involved, under God, the Head of the Church.

While it is an argument from silence to say that Scripture gives no indication of limiting the time of a man's ministry in a given place, it is nevertheless true and worthy of consideration. The idea of arbitrarily limiting the duration of a man's ministry to nine consecutive years has no scriptural analogy. Therefore, we ought to refrain from going beyond Scripture.

To thus refrain seems to be particularly important with respect to the tenure of the pastorate because of the great context in Scripture reiterating that God is the Head of the Church and that He directs its affairs. In Matthew 9:37 He says:

"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest."

Isaiah, after he heard the call, replied in Isaiah 6:8, 9:

"Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me. And He said, Go....."

In the sense of the call and the sending of Isaiah, we believe the preacher is being sent in Romans 10:14, 15:

"...and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

In Paul's letter to the church at Corinth we find the simile making the church comparable to the human body. It has many parts, but is a unity. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" nor, can the head say to the feet, "I don't need you!" From this frame of reference, the Word goes on to say.

"Now you are together in the Body of Christ, and individually you are members of Him. And in His Church God has appointed first some to be Special Messengers, secondly, some to be preachers of the word, thirdly teachers. After them He has appointed workers of spiritual power, men with the gifts of healing, helpers, organizers and those with the gifts of speaking in "tongues". (I Cor. 12;27,28 - Phillips, Letters to Young Churches).

In First Corinthians 12 it is clear that Scripture is speaking of the bestowal of gifts on individual believers. The emphasis is on the bestowal being the gift of God. In Ephesians 4:7, 11 and 12 and following the Word speaks of gifts to the Church, the reasons for the gifts being given and the blessings flowing through the Church because of their bestowal:

"And he gave some to be apostles; and some prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of of the saints unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ: till we all...." (A. S. V.).

Philip was conducting an evangelistic campaign in Samaria and the Holy Spirit was moving mightily in that area so that the people gave heed with one accord; unclean spirits were cast out; the palsied and the lame were healed; there was great joy in that city. In the midst of this great work, the Word says,

"And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert. And he arose and went:" Acts 8:26, 27.

In Acts 13 we read of the many prophets and teachers who fellowshiped with the Church at Antioch. After the mention of this abundance of teachers, we read

"As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia;..." vss. 2-4.

In Acts 16 we read of the attempt of Paul and his group to go into Asia and they were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to do so. They tried to go into Bithynia but the Holy Spirit would not permit this. Then we read:

"And in a vision appeared to Paul in the night: There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. And after he had seen the vision immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them." vss. 9, 10.

With such a context, can we rightly establish any arbitrary rule governing length of tenure? Would we not do better to depend upon the Lord of the harvest to supply the gifts needed by the church, including clear guidance of the parties with respect to the length of the pastorate?

(5) Because Scripture teaches that elders including pastors should be chosen by the people, we propose a system of pulpit supply that will allow each congregation to vote on establishing or breaking a pastoral relationship.

Dictionaries give the meaning of the word translated "ordain" in Acts 14:23 as "choose, elect by raising hands". This word is used in only one other place - 2 Corinthians 8:19:

"...but who was also chosen of the churches to travel with us with this grace...."

If churches choose, how do they choose apart from an election? Some would attempt to emphasize in this word the aspect of "installation". This may be conceded without conceding the possibility of elections followed by installations. In fact, Acts 6:5,6 indicates that the Apostles installed those whom the people had chosen.

It is repetitive, but attention must be called again to the fact that the Pastoral Poll of the present system is not an election.

(6) Because Scripture teaches that the laborer is worthy of his hire, we propose a system that will provide for each church making commitments to its pastor as well as commitments by the pastor to the church.

The Apostle Paul in I Corinthians 9:6 mentions the voluntary forfeiture of his right to support from the church at Corinth:

"Or I only and Barnabas, have not we power to forbear working? Who goeth warfare any time at his own charges? who planteth a vineyard and eateth not of the fruit thereof? or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock?"

Nowhere does he argue that this is mandatory or even expected as the norm. On the contrary, in the succeeding verses of this chapter 9 he argues strongly for the right of support from the people (vss. 7-14). He uses the analogy of soldiers, a farmer, and a husbandman; and the analogy of the Old Testament priesthood. The whole argument is capped with the endorsement of the Lord Himself (vs. 14). Turning to another passage (I Timothy 5:18) we again read "The laborer is worthy of his hire." (Emphasis supplied).

The precise form of the commitment is not spelled out in Scripture, but the principle of commitment is certainly there. Furthermore, the analogy between secular and sacred commitments is scriptural. Thus, to provide for commitments by pastor to people to pastor analogous to those of the secular world is not foreign to Scripture.

b. How the Proposed System of Pulpit Supply Works.

The Normal Process.

Pastor resigns from his pastorate.

Congregation concurs in his resignation.

Pastoral Relations Committee approves the resignation and sets a date when the resignation will be effective.

Since the pastor has resigned, the church must seek a new pastor.

It elects a nominating committee.

Nominating committee may not be elected by a church unless it is without a pastor; or the Pastoral Relations Committee has fixed a definite date when the tenure of the incumbent will end.

Nominating committee proposes a candidate to fill the vacant pulpit.

Church holds an election to approve or disapprove the proposal of nominating committee.

If the election is unanimous, or nearly so, Pastoral Relations Committee approves the call. Call may not be forwarded to minister-elect without approval of Pastoral Relations Committee.

Pastor called must reply in writing within three weeks from date call was placed in his hands by the Annual Conference Delegate.

After call is accepted, Pastoral Relations Committee approves installation service program and sets the date when the new relationship will start.

Exceptions to Normal Process. Pastoral Relations Committee has no authority to disapprove either a resignation or a call.

Its primary function is to consult and advise.

When there is division in the congregation, either as to the making of a call for a new pastor or as to concurrence in resignation of an incumbent, the Pastoral Relations Committee will refer the problem to Annual Conference for adjudication.

Abnormal Process.

Action taken unilaterally by a church to dissolve the pastoral relationship is in the form of a petition prepared in consultation with Pastoral Relations Committee and submitted by the latter to Annual Conference. Annual Conference may break the contract if it elects to do so and set an effective date when the relationship will end.

Following are three hypothetical illustrations of the proposed system in use:

ASSUMPTION NO. 1 - Pastor A has served Church X for ten years. He feels sincerely that he has completed his work at Church X and should move on to another field of labor.

DEVELOPMENTS:

1. Pastor A discusses his conviction with his Official Board in November, 1967. (Section B, Par. 2a).

2. Pastor A also communicates his conviction regarding his pastorate to the Pastoral Relations Committee in November, 1967 (Section C, Par. 3a).

3. Pastoral Relations Committee, in December, 1967, suggests to the Official Board of Church Y, which is without a pastor, that Pastor A would welcome a change (Section A, par. 2d.) (Section A, Par. 5a. (1) and (2).

4. The nominating committee of Church Y proposes Pastor A to its congregation. It votes unanimously to call Pastor A to fill the office of Pastor. This call is made on January 15, 1968. (Section A, par. 3e.)

5. Pastor A submits his resignation as Pastor of Church X on January 20, 1968. (Section C, Par. 1) Pastoral Relations Committee asks Church X to show cause why his resignation should not be approved. (Section C, Par. 1a.) Thereupon, a congregational meeting is called by Church X for Wednesday, February 6, 1968. (Section C, Par. 1b.)

6. On January 16, 1968, the moderator of the January 15, 1968, congregational meeting of Church Y and the Annual Conference Delegate of Church Y, present the call of Pastor A to the Pastoral Relations Committee. After due consideration, it found that the call of Church Y for Pastor A had been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Faith and Order. (Section A, Par. 5a. (3).

7. On February 7, Annual Conference Delegate of Church X informs Pastoral Relations Committee that Church X concurs in Pastor's A resignation. (Section C, Par. 1b.)

8. On February 8, 1968, Pastoral Relations Committee, on behalf of Annual Conference, approves Pastor A's resignation (Section

C, Par. 1a), making it effective April 15, 1968. (Section B, Par. 5e.).

9. Pastoral Relations Committee, because Church Y is without a pastor and because its people are quite enthusiastic in calling Pastor A, on behalf of Annual Conference, on February 8, 1968, approved the call of Church Y for Pastor A. (Section A, Par. 5b.)

10. On February 9, 1968, the Annual Conference Delegate of Church Y placed the call of his church in the hands of Pastor A. (Section A, Par. 5c.).

11. On February 23, 1968, Pastor A wrote to Church Y and accepted its call to be pastor (Section A, Par. 4a.)

12. On March 1, 1968, the Pastoral Relations Committee approved the installation program for Pastor A (Section A, Par. 5e.), and fixed the date for the installation as April 15, 1968. (Section B, Par. 5e.).

ASSUMPTION No. 2 - In October 1967, after much prayer and many discussions regarding his ministry with his Official Board, Pastor A, after twelve years, decided to resign his pastorate of Church W. There were an increasing number of young people in Church W, and Pastor A himself had a great concern because he seemed to be altogether without influence with them. Perhaps a new and younger pastor would be more effective. He had also discussed his thoughts with the Pastoral Relations Committee.

DEVELOPMENTS:

1. Pastor A, on November 1, 1967, submitted his resignation to the Chairman of Pastoral Relations Committee with copy to Secretary of his Official Board (Section C. Par. 1). At a congregational meeting on November 15, 1967, the congregation of Church W voted to concur in Pastor A's resignation, and so informed the Pastoral Relations Committee (Section C. Par. 1b.)

2. On November 20, 1967, the Pastoral Relations Committee approved Pastor A's resignation and announced that it would become effective June 12, 1968. (Section B. Par. 5e.)

3. On December 6, 1967, Church W, at a congregational meeting, elected a nominating committee which was to propose a new pastor (Section A, Par. 3a.).

4. After consulting with the Pastoral Relations Committee, the nominating committee, with the approval of Pastoral Relations Committee, proposed to the congregation of church W at a meeting on January 3, 1968, that it call Pastor B to its pulpit. (Section A. Par. 3f.). The vote approving the call of Pastor B was almost unanimous.

5. On January 4, 1968, the moderator and the Annual Conference Delegate of Church W presented the call of Pastor B to the Pastoral Relations Committee (Section A, Par. 5a. (3). After due consideration, it found that Church W had followed the required steps as provided in Faith and Order and approved the call (Section A, Par. 5b.).

6. On January 5, 1968, the Annual Conference Delegate of Church W. delivered the call of Church W to Pastor B (Section A. Par. 5c.).

7. On January 24, 1968, Pastor B accepted the call to Church W (Section A, Par. 4a.), and submitted to the Pastoral Relations Committee with copy to the Secretary of his Official Board, his resignation as pastor of Church X (Section C, Par. 1a.).

8. On February 5, 1968, Church X, at a congregational meeting voted to concur in resignation of Pastor B, and so informed the Pastoral Relations Committee (Section C, Par. 1b.).

9. On February 6, 1968, the Pastoral Relations Committee approved Pastor B's resignation from the pastorate of Church X and made it to become effective on the date of Pastor B's installation as Pastor of Church W, i.e., June 12, 1968 (Section B, Par. 5e.)

10. On February 12, 1968, at a congregational meeting, Church X elected a nominating committee to propose a successor for Pastor B. (Section A, Par. 3a.).

11. At a congregational meeting held March 19, 1968, the nominating committee proposed to Church X that it call to its pulpit Pastor C (Section A. Par. 3f.). Church X was almost unanimous in approving the call of Pastor C. On March 20, 1968, this call was presented to the Pastoral Relations Committee. It found that Church X had complied with the procedures of Faith and Order and approved the call.

12. On March 21, 1968, the Annual Conference Delegate of Church X placed the call of his church in the hands of Pastor C (Section A, Par. 5a (3)).

13. On April 9, 1968, Pastor C accepted the call of Church X (Section A, Par. 4a.) and submitted to the Pastoral Relations Committee his resignation from the pastorate of Church Y, with a copy to the Secretary of his Official Board (Section C, par. 1).

14. On April 24, 1968, the congregation of Church Y met and concurred in the resignation of its pastor, and so informed the Pastoral Relations Committee (Section C. Par. 1).

15. On April 26, 1968, the Pastoral Relations Committee approved the resignation of Pastor C from the pastorate of Church

Y, and made the resignation to become effective June 19, 1968, announcing at the same time the installation of Pastor C as pastor of Church X on the same date (Section B, par. 5e.)

16. On May 8, 1968, at a congregational meeting, Church Y elected a nominating committee to propose a successor to Pastor C (Section A, Par. 4a.)

17. At a congregational meeting of Church Y on June 26, 1968, its nominating committee proposed that Church Y call Pastor A to its pulpit (Section A, Par. 3e.). One of the independent thinkers, a member of the Official Board with considerable influence in his congregation, also had been discussing his church's need with the Pastoral Relations Committee. He obtained the latter's approval for his nominating Pastor D from the floor (Section A, Par. 3e(8)). After the vote had been counted, Pastor A had 51% and Pastor D had 49% of the ballots cast. The moderator of the meeting tried unsuccessfully to persuade the minority to join in the call of Pastor A. Then he just as unsuccessfully attempted to persuade the majority to join with the minority in calling Pastor D. Since neither of the parties would alter its position, and the majority insisted on the prosecution of its call for Pastor A. the call, and a complete report of the proceedings, were forwarded to the Pastoral Relations Committee (Section A, Par. 3e(10)).

18. On July 10, 1968, the Pastoral Relations Committee informed the Annual Conference Delegate of Church Y, that because of the great division existing in the congregation, it is unwilling to approve the call of Pastor A to the pulpit of Church Y (Section A, Par. 5b.)

19. On October 17, 1968, the Annual Conference, on the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Committee, apparently influenced by Pastor A's long years of service and the fact that he had been already more than three months without an assignment, approved the call of Pastor A to the pulpit of Church Y. Thereafter, the Delegate from Church Y placed the call in the hands of Pastor A (Section B, Par. 4f.).

20. On November 7, 1968, Pastor A regretfully informed the Delegate from Church Y and the Pastoral Relations Committee that he felt constrained to reject the call of Church Y which it had so graciously presented to him (Section A, Par. 4).

21. On November 20, 1968, the nominating committee presented to the congregation of Church Y the name of Pastor D. The approval of his call polled 75% of the votes cast. On November 22, 1968, the Pastoral Relations Committee found that Church Y had properly followed all the steps required by Faith and Order and approved the call of Church Y for Pastor D (Section A, Par. 5b.)

22. On November 23, 1968, the Annual Conference Delegate of Church Y placed the call of his church in the hands of Pastor D

(Section A, Par. 5a(3)).

23. On December 9, 1968, Pastor D accepted the call of Church Y (Section A, Par. 4a.) and submitted to the Pastoral Relations Committee his resignation from the pastorate of Church Z, with copy to the secretary of his Official Board (Section C, Par. 1a.)

24. At a meeting of the congregation, Church Z on December 26, 1968, voted to concur in the resignation of Pastor D from its pastorate (Section C, Par. 1b.)

25. On December 30, 1968, the Pastoral Relations Committee approved the resignation of Pastor D and made it effective February 1, 1969, which was the date also announced for Pastor D's installation in the pulpit of Church Y (Section B, Par. 5e.)

26. On January 15, 1969, a congregational meeting of Church Z elected a nominating committee to propose a candidate for the pulpit of Church Z.

27. On February 12, 1969, the nominating committee of Church Z proposed that it call to its pulpit Pastor A. This proposal was almost unanimously approved and the call was forwarded to the Pastoral Relations Committee for its consideration (Section A, Par. 3e.). It found that Church Z had properly followed the procedures required by Faith and Order and approved the call. (Section A, Par. 5b).

28. The call of Pastor A was placed in his hands by the Delegate of Church Z on February 15, 1969 (Section A, Par. 5e.).

29. On February 26, 1969, Pastor A accepted the call of Church Z (Section A, Par. 4). The Pastoral Relations Committee set March 11, 1969, as the date for the installation of Pastor A in the Pulpit of Church Z (Section B, Par. 5e.)

30. Pastor A was, through no fault of his own, without assignment from June 15, 1968 to March 10, 1969, a period of almost nine months.

ASSUMPTION NO. 3 - Pastor A has been Pastor of Church X for only three years. He has many avocations - some related to self-enjoyment, such as two or three days a week on the golf course; others to augmenting his income by secular employment. Many in the congregation of Church X believe he is unfaithful to his calling.

DEVELOPMENT:

1. Men of Official Board discuss with Pastor A their opinions regarding what they believe are his shortcomings. (Section B, Par. 2a).

2. Pastor A seeks refuge with the Pastoral Relations Committee. (Section B, Par. 3g.)

3. Pastoral Relations Committee arranges a joint meeting with Board and Pastor. The meeting adjourns with a promise by the Board that they will be more gracious toward the Pastor; and by the latter that he will be more diligent in carrying out his duties. (Section B, Par 4b.)

4. Six months later, Official Board again appeals to Pastoral Relations Committee, reporting a deterioration in the situation instead of the hoped for improvement. (Section B, Par. 4a(2).)

5. Another joint meeting is held. The weight of the evidence strongly favors the Board's position. (Section B, Par. 4c.)

6. After the second meeting, Pastoral Relations Committee suggest to Pastor A that he resign. He refuses. (Section B, Par. 4b.)

7. After further effort by Pastoral Relations Committee to improve pastoral relations with Church X is fruitless, the Committee suggests to the Board that it petition Annual Conference to remove Pastor A (Section C, Par. 2b.). The Board makes such a petition and the Pastoral Relations Committee recommends to Annual Conference that the petition be approved. (Section B, Par. 4f). Annual Conference approved the petition and dissolved the relationship between Pastor A and Church X as of October 22, 1968 (Section, Preamble).

8. On November 10, 1968, Church X elects a nominating committee to select a pastor for it. (Section A, Par. 3a.)

9. On October 22, 1968, Pastor A is without a church and without employment and will continue so to be unless and until he is called by another church; he takes secular employment; or he leaves the Fellowship to accept a call from a church outside of our denomination.

c. Some Advantages and Disadvantages of the Proposed Pulpit Supply Systems

ADVANTAGES

DISADVANTAGES

Of a Pastoral Relations Committee

1. Allows for a more objective view of a Pastor-Church problem.

2. It supplies a broad base for information and counsel to all interested parties.

1. The Committee may not get near enough to a Pastor-Church problem to really understand it.

2. Committee members could use their position as a powerful springboard for self promotion.

3. The committee could become one that goes looking for problems where none exist and a repository for petty grievances.

Of a Church Initiating Pastoral Change Procedures

1. Election of a nominating committee provides for concentrated action as it works with Pastoral Relations Committee.

2. Anelection of the pastor by the congregation brings a wider commitment and concurrence in the selection than when such action is the sole prerogative of the Official Board.

3. Election by the congregation eliminates the possibility that the Official Board may take action contrary to that desired by the congregation.

1. If the congregational meeting is not closely supervised it can be a divisive rather than a constructive session.

2. It involves the possibility that there may be an empty pulpit and, concurrently, and unassigned pastor.

Of a Pastor Initiating Change of Church Procedures

1. A Pastoral resignation is much better than a vote to "fire him".

2. A call extended to him through the Pastoral Relations Committee bears a greater concurrence than when presented by a lone church.

3. A much longer period of time is given within which to reach a decision as to the proper response to a call.

1. His resignation may be uncalled for and without due forethought.

2. Pastors may prefer not to work through a Pastoral Relations Committee.

3. Are three weeks long enough for making a decision that will affect a pastor's ministry for years?

Of Annual Conference's Role in Resolving a Pastor -Church Problem

1. This provides a court of last resorts if a pastor will not resign when he should.

1. Can Pastors and delegates acquaint themselves adequately to render an intelligent judgment?

2. There are built in checks and balances to prevent unfair treatment should a church attempt to rid itself of a pastor without due cause.

2. It would appear that the internal affairs of a church can not always be correctly resolved by outside intervention.

Of Maintaining the Church-Pastor Relationship

1. The Pastoral Relations Committee supplies a Court of Appeals for pastor and people.

1. Both Church and Pastor may believe that they can handle their own problems.

2. Availability of the Pastoral Relations Committee makes it possible to deal with problems while they are still small problems.

2. Availability of the Pastoral Relations Committee may unduly magnify small problems.

3. Without time limits, both parties may come to understand a "marriage type" relationship.

3. Since there are no time limits, a church may be forced to take drastic steps to obtain a change of pastor.

d. Some Differences Between Proposed and Present Pulpit Supply Systems

PROPOSED

PRESENT

Question 1 - When does the congregation express its view on the subject, "Do you desire to retain your pastor?"

A.1-No formal opportunity for such an expression is available. An individual desiring a change must bring his view to the Official Board.

A.1-Annually, on the last Sunday of September, after the morning worship; but the result of the poll does not bind the Official Board.

Question 2 - What is the influence helping to build a satisfactory and stable pastoral relation in each church?

A.2-Definite procedures are provided. The chief responsibility for maintaining the pastoral relation is borne by the parties who started the relationship. Internal discussion must be had. Outside help is provided if internal discussion results in no mutually acceptable solution.

A.2-Whether the pastoral relation is satisfactory must be reviewed annually as scheduled by the rule. The District Superintendent meets the Official Board without the pastor being present once each year. Internal discussion between Board and Pastor is not required.

Question 3 - When does a church call a minister to its pulpit?

A.3-When there is a vacancy.

A.3-Even when it does not desire a change, each church must call its pastor annually.

Question 4 - When does a vacancy in the pulpit occur?

A.4-When the pastor resigns and the effective date of the resignation has been fixed by the Pastoral Relations Committee, or the pastor has been removed by Annual Conference for cause.

A.4-Technically speaking, all pulpits become vacant at the end of each conference year.

Question 5 - What is the effect of the system on the minister's reputation?

A.5-A resignation is dignified and in keeping with the thought that he is God's gift to the church and not the church's hired man.

A.5-There are recurring instances of incumbent ministers who fail to appear on their Official Board's preference list. This is tantamount to having been summarily dismissed.

Question 6 - When there is a vacancy, what help is available to the Official Board?

A.6-The Pastoral Relations Committee will give guidance as to the suitability of persons; A call is permitted only when the Pastoral Relations Committee has been consulted.

A.6-The Official Board must make its decision by the Tuesday after the last Sunday of September. During this period generally there is no help available and the men of the Board have little knowledge regarding the suitability of the persons on the availability list.

Question 7 - What success will there be in finding a suitable person to pastor the church?

A.7-There is time for prayer, search, and consultation with others who have a real concern and with potential candidates.

A.7-If a church fails to call either its first or second choice, the District Superintendent, on the Friday following the Pastoral Poll, will give such a church another list of men who may remain on the availability list without assignment. The church is now facing limited choice. If it can

not prepare a second preference list, its problem is referred to the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee.

Question 8 - Is there a time limit on the pastor's tenure?

A. 8-None.

A. 8-Nine Years.

Question 9.- Is there a provision for annual review of the pastor's support?

A. 9-The call includes a commitment as to the support the Pastor will receive. There is also a commitment that it will be reviewed annually in private with the pastor.

A. 9-The call makes no provision as to support. To qualify for membership on the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee, the church must give the Pastor not less than \$3,500 a year.

Question 10 - When will changes in pastoral assignments occur?

A. 10-They can occur any time.

A. 10-They are scheduled to occur on the first Sunday after Annual Conference in October.

Question 11 - What about the security and liberty of the minister?

A. 11-It provides more liberty, but less security. To a certain degree these two concerns are mutually exclusive. Under this plan, pulpits may be vacant and men may be without assignment during the same period of time.

A. 11-It provides less liberty but more security. Since all changes occur on the same day, all men on the availability list may, generally speaking, expect to be continuously assigned.

Question 12 - What about the security and liberty of the churches?

A. 12-The requirement that there must be a deliberate internal effort to maintain the pastoral relationship will promote responsibility. The requirement that the church face up to its financial responsibility will promote maturity. There will be no less security or liberty in the church, but its opportunity to choose a man will be improved.

A. 12-Severing the pastoral relationship is so easy it promotes irresponsibility and immaturity in a fashion almost parallel to destruction of the family by making divorce available whenever it is desirable. Irresponsibility and immaturity are not synonymous with security and liberty. There is only a limited opportunity to choose a man.

Question 13 - Do we have a "closed" system?

A. 13-Yes. No man may be called except he holds credentials from the Bible Fellowship Church and his name appears on the eligibility list prepared by the Credentials Committee.

A. 13-Yes. The preference list of the Official Board must be prepared from a list of Bible Fellowship Ministers and probationers having charge of a work. This list is prepared by the Credentials Committee of the Bible Fellowship Church.

Closing Statement

It will be recalled that at Annual Conference 1965 a petition had been brought by Maple Glen Church asking that the nine-year limit be extended to twelve years. The petition was not approved. Almost immediately after the disapproving vote on the Maple Glen petition had been reported, our departed Brother, Daniel K. Ziegler, moved the adoption of the resolution that resulted in the election of the committee bringing this report to Annual Conference 1966. Brother Ziegler's dissatisfaction with the present system as expressed then was principally with the requirement that each church annually must poll the congregation on the question "Do you wish to retain your pastor?"

The committee began its study early in the year. Its study began with much debate. At the start, the study was concentrated principally on the annual poll. As the study progressed, it slowly became apparent that to satisfy its own findings, the committee must design a completely new system of pulpit supply. There seemed to be many areas on which the committee received new concepts as to the principles of Scripture applying to this problem. No satisfactory method was found by which the present system might be given small modifications merely to eliminate unsatisfactory features.

This report is submitted respectfully and in good faith with a high degree of unanimity among the committee members. May these proposals be given your earnest consideration. The Committee expects that by prayerfully adopting these proposed rules we will add stability, growth and maturity in God's work through the Bible Fellowship Church.

In the latter part of the month of February, 1966, Brother Ziegler was suddenly ushered into the presence of his Lord. He was Chairman of the Committee from the date of its organization until he passed from our midst. He was earnest and diligent in his effort to find some way that would improve the method used to fill Bible Fellowship Church pulpits. The outline of the plan recommended herein had been developed prior to his passing. Following is a portion of a letter dated January 10, 1966, in his own handwriting to another committee member, who had been collating material as it was furnished by other members of the committee:

"He (a reference by Brother Ziegler to another member of the committee) will no doubt give you a gist of some fine criticisms along the line of setting forth a scriptural basis for this suggested change in pulpit supply. I would like to add my voice to the need of setting forth as strong an argument theologically, philosophically, psychologically or from any other viewpoint as possible because there is apt to be a very strong opposition just due to the power of inertia.

"In general I believe that the procedures set forth when well refined and defined would result in a much improved way of dealing with pastoral matters than our present procedures."

In closing it is of further interest to note that the Lutheran Brethren Church has a pulpit supply system practically identical to that proposed herein. They do not have it reduced to writing.

The Lutheran Brethren Church has about forty churches and about 4,500 members. It is also interesting to note that a pastor of the Lutheran Brethren Church has reported to our committee that their system works, and that they are happy with the manner in which it works for them.

Suggested Transitional Adjustments

When the recommendations made herein are approved, some consideration must be given to transitional adjustments, suggested as follows:

1. Elimination of the Stationing, Boundary and Appropriating Committee, at least with respect to its present duties and responsibilities.
2. Creation of a small committee by Annual Conference to which it can refer problems brought to Annual Conference by or through the Pastoral Relations Committee; this subcommittee would be responsible to hear the matters, make a record of its findings, and submit final recommendations to Conference for approval.
3. Should suggestion No. 1 be followed, other procedures should be set up for appropriating financial aid to churches that need help. We suggest this function be transferred to the Board of Church Extension.
4. Since the proposed system includes the possibility that a pastor may at times be without an assignment, except as he may work as a supply pastor, consideration should be given to including in the Administrative budget a sum equal to fifty cents per member to be paid into a fund held by the Board of Directors of Bible Fellowship Church. From this fund, any pastor who is without a regular assignment for more than 14 consecutive days, shall receive an appropriation of \$30.00 per week for the first twenty-six weeks of his being without a regular assignment. In addition, some

study should be given to the provision of housing for such a pastor and his family, without cost to him, during this same twenty-six week period.

Whether or not the recommendations of this committee may be adopted, the problems listed under No. 18 of this paper should be dealt with and adequate legislation adopted so that we may govern by our rules.

(Daniel K. Ziegler, Russell T. Allen, Carl C. Cassel, Donald T. Kirkwood, John H. Riggall, Byron C. Cassel, Harold W. Griest, Committee).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS

Record:

District Superintendents	2
Ordained Ministers	51
Probationers	8
Official Board Members	397
Deacons	2

Pastor's Activities:

Sermons preached	5,323
Pastoral Visits	17,446
Baptized	175
Children dedicated	100
Weddings	50
Funerals	135

Membership:

Received into Church Fellowship	179
Received by transfer from B. F. Churches	106
Total increase	285
Died	63
Withdrawn	43
Dropped	66
Transferred to B. F. Churches	96
Transferred to Other Churches	68
Total decrease	336
Net decrease	51
Total membership	4,460

Sunday Schools:

Staff members enrolled	969
Members enrolled	6,844

Total enrollment	7,813
Total average attendance	6,122
Cradle roll members	341
Home department members	164

Church Property:

Churches	46
Parsonages	43

Increase of church property valuation	\$ 827,200.00
Present valuation of Church property	4,918,863.63

Offerings:

Total income	\$ 1,068,711.
Total offerings	968,387.

Disbursements - Benevolences:

Conference Administrative Budget	30,718.
Foreign Missions	103,691.
Foreign Mission in Sunday School	9,283.
Church Extension	39,139.
Church Extension in Sunday School	2,670.
Home for Aging	1,731.
Bible Fellowship Conference Center	12,695.
Berean Bible School	24,973.
Sunday School Promotion Committee	1,188.
Victory Valley	2,942.
Youth Fellowship General Committee	313.
Church Extension Director	658.

Disbursements:

Ministers in Cash	195,426.
Ministers F.I.C.A., Taxes, Health and Welfare, Automobile Allowance, etc.	1,932.
Sunday School	63,479.
Christian Education	11,393.
Parsonage and Building	51,056.
Reduction of Indebtedness	117,149.
Local Benevolent Fund	4,185.
Local Youth Fellowship	4,557.
Local Missions	15,067.
Women's Missionary Society	19,065.
Adult Fellowship	1,270.
Annual Conference Delegate	3,158.
Radio	3,459.
General Disbursements	274,515.
Library	153.
Total Disbursements	\$ 995,865.

Additional Statistics:

Subscribers to FELLOWSHIP NEWS	1,280
Ministers in Other Contributions	13,671.
Women's Missionary Society (donated materials)	6,120.

(Willard E. Cassel, LeRoy S. Heller, John Dunn, Donald T. Kirkwood, Committee).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AUDITING

The Committee on Auditing has examined the following accounts:

Board of Directors
Board of Church Extension
Ministers Retirement Fund
Conference Treasurer

Other accounts were examined by designated individuals prior to the 1967 Annual Conference in accordance with Church regulations.

All accounts were found to be accurate and in satisfactory condition. Reports made to Annual Conference are in agreement with the accounts.

The Committee wishes to remind all Boards and Committees of Rule "W" of our miscellaneous By-laws (1966 Year Book) regarding the appointment of an auditor prior to Annual Conference.

(Horace A. Kauffman, Donald R. Knauer, Paul H. Cressman, R. Paul Schaeffer, William R. Hunsberger, Norman L. Reed, Raymond R. Dotts, Committee).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS

Communications were received from the following:

Paul E. Baer, Walter Frank, E. E. Kublic, J. B. Layne, E. J. Rutman, Harold Yarrington, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Gehman and Miss Olive I. Rawn.

In each letter a sincere and heartfelt interest in the 84th Annual Conference was expressed, including regrets for not being able to attend.

The committee wishes to thank those who have taken time to communicate with the Annual Conference; and it is our hope that God's blessings will rest in abundance upon these believers until the Lord comes.

(William A. Heffner, Bruce A. Ellingson, Russell T. Allen, Bert N. Brosius, Harvey J. Fritz, Jr. Committee).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO PLAN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH CONFERENCE CENTER

The Committee looks back over the past year as a period of transition in the development of our Conference Center.

During this year difficulties have been encountered in the zoning of the land at Fogelsville. The Upper Macungie Township Commissioners have denied us a building permit to develop our property at Fogelsville. Our attorney, Mr. Young, is in the process of appealing this ruling.

At the present time we cannot do anything at Fogelsville, nevertheless, the Committee continues to search in other areas for appropriate and suitable sites. We are confident that a suitable place will be found for our Conference Center. One site which the Committee visited was Pinebrook Bible Conference near Stroudsburg, Pa.

The Committee makes the following recommendation:

Resolved, that a Committee be established, composed of the District Superintendent and three members from each of the following Boards: Board of Directors of the Bible Fellowship Church, Board of Directors of Berean Bible School, Board of Mizpah Grove and Board of Victory Valley, to further study our Conference Center program.

(T. D. Gehret, Chairman; A. L. Seifert, Co-Chairman; John H. Riggall, Secretary; Bert N. Brosius, David E. Thomann, Robert W. Smock, Jansen E. Hartman, Harvey J. Fritz, Jr., Robert W. Gehret, A. L. Wentz, Kermit K. Gehman, Committee).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATIONING AND APPROPRIATIONS (Part 3)

For the church at Scranton, Pa., LeRoy Wilcox has been named as the supply pastor. Brother Wilcox is a graduate of Berean Bible School and Eastern Pilgrim College. He has been teaching public school in New York State.

For the church at Mount Carmel, Pa., George Lupold has been named as the supply pastor. Brother Lupold is a graduate of Berean Bible School and Covenant College. While attending Covenant College, he pastored a church in that area.

For the church at Catasauqua, Pa., Brian Butler has been named as the supply pastor. Brother Butler is associated with the Sudan Interior Mission. He taught school at the college level for four years in the Sudan. He has been a pastor for several years and is now pastor of a church close to London, England. He is coming to America to further his education and will be a supply pastor up to two years.

Supply for the churches at Sunbury and Maple Glen has not yet been worked out.

The Committee has assigned to a subcommittee consisting of A.L.Seifert, Byron C.Cassel, Charles Hersh and Kermit K. Gehman the study of the proposal of the Church Extension Board relating to appropriations. It is planned to submit a report at the adjourned session of the 84th Annual Conference.

The Committee has set at \$4,500 the minimum salary for pastors as it appears at the top of page B of the 1966 Year Book. This rate is to be effective with the year beginning October 1, 1968.

The following ministers are on leave of absence:

Paul E. Baer
Donald B. Schaeffer
Reynold D. Gardner
Robert Paul

The following are Retired Ministers:

E.E. Kublic, Lebanon, Pa.
E.J. Rutman, Harrisburg, Pa.
F.B. Hertzog, Nazareth, Pa.
J.B. Layne, York, Pa.
W.F. Heffner, Harrisburg, Pa.
P.T. Stengele, Allentown (Bethel) Pa.
T.D. Gehret, Allentown (Bethel) Pa.
N.H. Wolf, Ephrata, Pa.

APPROPRIATIONS

	<u>per month</u>
Paradise	\$ 175.00
Sinking Spring	130.00
Stroudsburg	135.00
Zionsville	150.00

To be used at the discretion of the District Superintendent, \$6,000.00 per annum.

The Committee recommends that each mission strive to increase its support of the pastor so that its appropriation can be reduced by at least 20% each year.

CHURCH EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

Earl M. Hosler, Director	
Belvidere, N.J.	Miller Heights, Bethlehem, Pa.
Finesville, N.J.	Millersville, Pa.
Macungie, Pa.	Walnutport, Pa.

(A.L.Seifert, Norman L.Reed, Paul H. Cressman, Harold W.

Griest, Kenneth E. Cole, Merle D. LeFevre, Byron C. Cassel, A. W. Deppe, Carl H. Kellerman, Allan F. Smith, Horace A. Kauffman. Harold L. Snyder, Jr., R. Paul Schaeffer, Walter A. Schlagel, Paul I. Wentz, Sterling E. Baer, John I. Mengel, J. R. Weber, John F. Moran, Robert Breitegam, George R. Fish, Leon H. Naudasher, Edward J. Dietzman, Harold A. Mann, Clyde W. Snyder, T. Lamarn Manney, Leonard F. Kessler, William Hunsberger, H. Phares Mumbauer, Charles G. Hersh, N. W. Granda, Frank L. Herb, Sr., Willard Blocker, Paul W. Sensenig, Allan C. Palmer, Kermit K. Gehman, Edward A. Stortz, John F. Boyle, Harold Shelly, Sr.,

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE ANNUAL CONFERENCE MINUTES

We hereby certify that we have examined the Annual Conference Minutes of the 1966 session, and have found them to be correct with the exception of the following:

1. On page 49 the phrase, Resolved that Richard H. Kline shall serve on the Committee to Study Forms has been omitted.
2. On page 56C the name of Horace A. Kauffman should not appear on the Nominating Committee.

We hereby submit two copies duly certified.
(Donald R. Knauer, Chairman; Robert F. Johnson, Secretary)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

1. Whereas, we, the members of the 84th Annual Conference of the Bible Fellowship Church, have enjoyed the blessing and direction of the Lord under the faithful leadership of our District Superintendents, the Rev. T. D. Gehret and the Rev. A. L. Seifert, therefore,

Resolved, that we give thanks to God for these men and their ministries and pledge them our continued support and cooperation.

2. Whereas, Berean Bible School has continued its ministry for another year under the faithful leadership of the Rev. Jansen E. Hartman, President, therefore,

Resolved, that we express to God our thanks for his service and pledge our regular prayer support for the President and the School.

3. Whereas, the Rev. Earl M. Hosler has faithfully carried out his responsibilities as Director of the Church Extension Department with enthusiasm and concern for the expansion of the Bible Fellowship Church during the past year, therefore,

Resolved, that we give thanks to God for the progress made and the new insights gained in this important phase of the Church's

mission and assure him of our continuing prayer support.

4. Whereas, the ministers of the Bible Fellowship Church have served the Lord in faithfulness to His Word and with true concern for His people, therefore,

Resolved, that we thank God for calling and enabling these men to shepherd God's flock.

5. Whereas, Mr. Paul I. Wentz, Sr., has diligently and faithfully served the Lord as Treasurer of the Bible Fellowship Church for the past twenty-five years, and

Whereas, other responsibilities preclude his further continuance in this office, therefore,

Resolved, that we thank God for his years of dedicated service and pray God's continued blessing upon his life, and, further,

Resolved, that a gift of \$75.00 be given to him as a token of our appreciation for his service this year from the Publication and Printing Fund.

6. Whereas, the Rev. T. D. Gehret has faithfully served the Lord through the ministry of the Bible Fellowship Church for 46 years, 32 years as pastor, and 14 years as District Superintendent, and

Whereas, Brother Gehret will retire from the active ministry of the Church as of this Annual Conference, therefore,

Resolved, that we express thanks to God for these many years of dedicated service and pray God's continued blessing upon his life.

7. Whereas, the Rev. N. H. Wolf has faithfully served the Lord through the ministry of the Bible Fellowship Church for 56 years, including 33 years as either recording secretary or assistant secretary of Annual Conference, and 15 years as the capable secretary of Annual Conference, and,

Whereas, Brother Wolf will retire from the active ministry of the Church as of this Annual Conference, therefore,

Resolved, that we express thanks to God for the many years of service and pray God's continued blessing upon his life.

8. Whereas, Bethel Bible Fellowship Church of Allentown, Pa., with their pastor, Carl C. Cassel, have excellently entertained this 84th Annual Conference, therefore,

Resolved, that we hereby express our gratitude for their generous provision, and, further,

Resolved, that the secretary of Annual Conference send Pastor

Cassel a copy of this resolution to be read to the Congregation.

9. Whereas, Pastor Ernest B. Hartman has served well as Secretary of Annual Conference, therefore,

Resolved, that he receive a gift of \$75.00 from the Publication and Printing Fund.

10. Whereas, the wife of retired minister, E. J. Rutman, Mrs. Ida Rutman, and the wife of deceased minister, J. C. Roth, Mrs. Mary Roth, passed away during this year, therefore,

Resolved, that we express from this Conference, our Christian sympathy to their families in their bereavement.

11. Whereas, David E. Thomann and R. C. Reichenbach have served well and acceptable in the offices of Editor and Circulation Manager of the Fellowship News, therefore,

Resolved, that we thank God for them and express our gratitude to these men for their work in producing the Fellowship News.

12. Whereas, Missionaries Timothy Kauffman and Fred Venable and Missionary Candidate George Lee were privileged to attend and bring greetings to this Conference, therefore,

Resolved, that we praise God for separating such men to His ministry and continue to remember them in our prayers.

13. Whereas, Ernest B. Hartman, Secretary, and James A. Beil, Assistant Secretary and Robert W. Smock, Recording Secretary, have served most acceptable in recording the deliberations and actions of this 84th Annual Conference, and

Whereas, Austin B. Sullivan has helped in duplicating for each meeting the minutes, various reports and other pertinent materials, therefore,

Resolved, that we express our grateful appreciation to these brethren for their gracious and faithful service.

14. Whereas, Pastor Alva C. Cassel has felt led of the Lord to minister in rural church work in the state of Maine, therefore,

Resolved, that we express our appreciation to Pastor Cassel for his faithful ministry, and, further,

Resolved, that we pray for our brother that the blessing of God might be upon his future ministry.

15. Whereas, the Lord has enabled four of our churches, Salem Church in Leighton, Bethany Church in Catasauqua, Emmanuel Church in Philadelphia and Staten Island, N. Y., to become self-

supporting stations at this Annual Conference, and,

Whereas, one of our Church Extension congregations, Ephrata, Pa., has at this Annual Conference become a Conference appointment, therefore,

Resolved, that we praise the Lord for these evidences of His blessing in the progress and growth in the extension of the Church, and, further,

Resolved, that we pray that our God may continue to lead and guide the Bible Fellowship Church in the acceptance of its responsibilities before the Lord.

16. Resolved, that the Adjourned Session of the 84th Annual Conference, be held at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church, Allentown, Pa., on Saturday, April 6, 1968, at 9:00 A.M.

17. Resolved, that at the adjourned Session of the Annual Conference, a Nominating Committee be elected, composed of 4 ordained ministers and 3 laymen, to present nominees for the election of the following year Annual Conference, and, further,

Resolved, that this become part of our standing rules (item X on Page N).

18. Whereas, the Official Board of Bethany Church, Hatfield, Pa., has invited the Annual Conference to meet in their facilities, therefore,

Resolved, that the 85th Annual Conference shall convene at Bethany Bible Fellowship Church, West Broad Street, Hatfield, Pa., on October 14, 1968, at 10 A.M.

19. Whereas, the 84th Annual Conference Committee on Statistics reports a net decrease of 51 members throughout the denomination, and,

Whereas, the Church seeks to be obedient to her Lord's command to make disciples of all nations, not excluding those at home, therefore,

Resolved, that both pastors and individual members of the local Churches regularly beseech God to open hearts to the Gospel of Christ through the faithful witness and labors of His people in the Bible Fellowship Church.

(C. E. Kirkwood, Keith E. Plows, R. C. Reichenbach, Carl C. Cassel, Earl M. Hosler, committee).

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION (Part 2)

The Board of Church Extension met Friday, October 13, 1967.

The Board organized as follows: A.L.Seifert, Chairman; Harvey J.Fritz, Jr., Secretary. Those elected to Committee to Coordinate Church Extension Proposals: Earl M.Hosler, Daniel G.Ziegler.

In September, the Board invited Norman R.Weiss to minister under the Department of Church Extension. After prayerful consideration Pastor Weiss graciously accepted this invitation, for which the Board is grateful.

The following appointments were made:

Belvidere, N. J.	John H. Herb.
Finesville, N. J.	Ronald Jansen
Macungie, Pa.	Norman R. Weiss
Miller Heights, Pa.	Austin B. Sullivan, Jr.
Millersville, Pa.	Harold C. Weaber
Walnutport, Pa.	David Branning

Donald Barnhardt is beginning ministry in our Department and will be placed shortly.

... *Our Own* ...

BEREAN BIBLE SCHOOL

OFFERS COURSES IN:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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THEOLOGY



Write for a Catalog:

Rev. Jansen E. Hartman, President

1020 S. Hall Street

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Allentown, Pa.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

CHURCH	Foreign Missions	Foreign Missions in Sunday School	Church Extension	Church Extension in Sunday School	Total
Allentown District - T. D. Gehret, D. S.					
Allentown (Bethel)	18,000.00		6,000.00		24,000.00
Allentown (C. Crest	2,400.00				2,400.00
Catasauqua	360.18		25.00		385.18
Graterford	2,068.43		868.43		2,936.86
Harleysville	1,500.00		100.00		1,600.00
Harrisburg	1,467.00	439.00	323.00	796.00	3,025.00
Hatfield	8,500.00		3,500.00		12,000.00
Lancaster	802.00	183.00	287.50	160.00	1,432.50
Lebanon	750.00		200.00		950.00
Lehighton	168.51	122.29	52.00	43.33	386.13
Mt. Carmel	2,110.00	1,190.00	1,000.00		4,300.00
Nazareth	1,494.50	495.95	577.24	456.16	3,023.85
Paradise	278.00	312.00	31.00		621.00
Reading	1,163.00	2,176.00	1,226.00	554.00	5,119.00
Royersford	2,800.00		1,400.00		4,200.00
Shamokin	1,754.18		1,112.02		2,866.20
Sinking Spring	1,079.12		25.00		1,104.12
Spring City	2,750.00		365.00		3,115.00
Sunbury	2,492.00	1,327.00	1,196.00	443.00	5,458.00
York	6,486.00	1,514.00	972.00		8,972.00
Total	58,422.92	7,759.24	19,260.19	2,452.49	87,894.84
Bethlehem District - A. L. Seifert, D. S.					
Allentown (Salem)	799.92		499.92		1,299.84
Bethlehem	13,053.72		3,500.00		16,553.72
Blandon	300.00	800.00	200.00		1,300.00
Coopersburg	2,400.00		500.00		2,900.00
Denville, N. J.	680.92	80.00	266.38	80.00	1,107.30
Easton	1,200.00		600.00		1,800.00
Emmaus	4,800.00		2,000.00		6,800.00
Fleetwood	2,567.78	83.91	2,117.75	64.00	4,833.44
Maple Glen	603.00		603.00		1,206.00
Phila. (Calvary)	1,700.00		400.00		2,100.00
Phila. (Emmanuel)	964.14		25.00		989.14
Quakertown	2,591.46		2,591.46		5,182.92
Scranton	909.55	73.73	359.00	73.74	1,416.02
Staten Island, N. Y.	550.00				550.00
Stroudsburg	450.00		200.00		650.00
Terre Hill	2,500.00		1,500.00		4,000.00
Wallingford	6,100.00		4,000.00		10,100.00
Zionsville	779.00	485.73	517.00		1,781.73
Total	42,949.49	1,523.37	19,879.51	217.74	64,570.11
Church Extension Dep't. - Earl M. Hosler, Dir.					
Belvidere, N. J.	300.00				300.00
Ephrata	512.00				512.00
Finesville, N. J.	186.00				186.00
Macungie	471.00				471.00
Miller Heights	351.00				351.00
Millersville	250.00				250.00
Walnutport	250.00				250.00
Total	2,320.00				2,320.00
Grand Total	103,692.41	9,282.61	39,139.70	2,670.23	154,784.95
Increase	17,312.99		925.52		5,135.16
Decrease		9,791.36		3,311.99	

PASTOR'S SUMMARY STATISTICAL REPORT

CHURCH	PASTOR	Pastor's Activities										Membership			
		District Supt.	Ordained Ministers	Probationers	Official Board Members	Deacons	Sermons Preached	Pastoral Visits	Baptized	Children dedicated	Weddings	Funerals	Received into Church Fellowship	Received by trans. from B. F. Churches	Total Increase
Allentown District - T. D. Gehret, D. S.															
Allentown (Bethel)	Carl C. Cassel	1	6	12	49	489	4	5	4	9	9	2	11		
Allentown (C. Crest)	William A. Heffner	1	11	98					2	2		26	26		
Catasauqua	Alva C. Cassel	1	7	85	425					4					
Graterford	David J. Watkins	1	12	103	432	9	8			4		4			
Harleysville	David E. Thomann	1	9	90	280	4	4	1		1		4			
Harrisburg	R. C. Reichenbach	4	10	115	403	1	2	4	4	2	2	4			
Hatfield	Russell T. Allen	1	12	152	434	12	1			3	9	5	14		
Lancaster	Norman R. Weiss	1	7	106	345					2					
Lebanon	Bruce A. Ellingson	2	9	88	546					5					
Leighton	M. Leslie Campbell	1	7	143	306					2			2	2	
Mt. Carmel	Paul G. Zimmerman	1	7	90	204				4		1		1	2	
Nazareth	Richard H. Kline	2	10	170	550	13	5	3			11	2	13		
Paradise	Leon K. Overpeck	1	8	113	285	11				1	2	10			
Reading	James G. Koch	1	13	175	675	15	2	2		9	19	1	20		
Royersford	Robert F. Johnson	1	10	132	506	8	4			5	11		11		
Shamokin	W. W. Hartman	1	6	140	370				4	1	7	2			
Sinking Spring	Robert Paul	1	7	167	784	5					4	3	3		
Spring City	Bert N. Brosius	1	8	98	335	4					1	4	7	11	
Sunbury	N. H. Wolf	1	13	247	1104	5	6	1		12	10			10	
York	John H. Riggall	2	15	115	450				1	3	5		4	4	
Total		1	29	2193	2476	8923	91	50	24	76	99	52	151		
Bethlehem District - A. L. Seifert, D. S.															
Allentown (Salem)	Willard E. Cassel	1	2	7	68	175				1	2				
Bethlehem	Frank L. Herb, Jr.	1	2	20	139	540				5	2	3	3		3
Blandon	E. W. Bean	1	8	114			3		2	2	3	15	1	14	
Coopersburg	LeRoy S. Heller	1	10	143	526	5	3		1		5				
Denville, N. J.	Ronald C. Mahurin	1	12	2	108	467	4		1		2	3			
Easton	Paul B. Kuder	1	1	9	84	211				1	4		2	2	
Emmaus	Harvey J. Fritz, Jr.	2	12	108	420	10	2			7	2				
Fleetwood	George E. Herb	1	8	114	238	11	7			1	14	2	16		
Maple Glen	Donald T. Kirkwood	1	10	84	331					2					
Phila. (Calvary)	K. E. Plows	1	7	80	306					1			2	2	
Phila. (Emmanuel)	John Dunn	1	8	95	409	1	4		2		4				
Quakertown	Donald R. Knauer	1	10	95	451				4	6	5	1	1	2	
Scranton	James A. Beil	1	7	126	337	3	4			3	4				
Staten Island, N. Y.	Daniel G. Ziegler	2	7	95	422	6	3				2	6		6	
Stroudsburg	Mark T. Smith	1	5	156	348	4					2			1	
Terre Hill	W. B. Hottel	1	8	108	350	4	2		1				3	3	
Wallingford	C. E. Kirkwood	1	12	141	510	7	6		3		6	5	5		
Zionsville	Ernest B. Hartman	1	8	137	260	1	2			1	2		2		
Total		1	20	3168	21995	6301	60	44	23	53	49	17	66		
Church Extension Dep't. - Earl M. Hosler, Dir.															
Belvidere, N. J.	John H. Herb	1	4	154	397	4				1	4				4
Ephrata	Robert W. Smock	1	7	140	400	4			1	1		10	35	45	
Finesville, N. J.	Ron Jensen	1	4	167	417				1			8			8
Macungie	F. B. Hertzog (s)		7								3				
Miller Heights	Austin Sullivan	1	5	167	291				4		1				
Millersville	Harold Weaver	1	4	141	447	7				1	4			4	
Walnutport	David Branning	1	5	83	270	9				1		5	2	7	
Total		2	4	36	852	2222	24	6	3	6	31	37	68		
Grand Totals		2	51	9397	25323	17446	175	100	50	135	179	106	285		

CHURCH	Membership								Sunday School						
	Died	Withdrawn	Dropped	Transferred to B. F. Churches	Transferred to Other Churches	Total Decrease	Net Increase	Net Decrease	Total Members	Staff Members Enrolled	Members Enrolled	Total Enrollment	Total Average Attendance	Cradle Roll Members	Home Dep't Members
Allentown District - T. D. Gehret, D. S.															
Allentown (Bethel)	6	5	15	22	1	49		38	296	63	368	431	458	34	
Allentown (C. Crest)	1		1			2	24		95	29	157	186	161		
Catasauqua	3					3		3	48	15	85	100	79	3	
Graterford					1	1	3		75	20	212	232	192	12	
Harleysville	1				2	3	1		72	14	117	121	94	5	
Harrisburg	1	2				3	1		134	23	244	267	182	10	
Hatfield	3	5	12	7		27		13	148	36	254	290	211	22	61
Lancaster									60	18	150	168	128	4	2
Lebanon		1		2	2	5		5	54	16	102	118	97	7	4
Lehighton	2			3	1	6		4	64	18	115	133	106	9	
Mt. Carmel				2		2			99	19	104	123	86		
Nazareth		4			2	6	7		113	32	179	211	158	25	
Paradise			3			3	7		42	18	144	162	134		
Reading	7	2		4	2	15		5	303	50	322	372	288	7	
Royersford	2		1			3			89	16	137	153	117		
Shamokin	3			2		5		3	130	25	164	189	149		
Sinking Spring	2				4	6		3	51	13	70	83	83		
Spring City				2	2	4	7		90	19	144	163	121		
Sunbury	2	1	2			5		5	211	32	306	338	264	10	20
York	2		3	5		10		6	172	27	275	302	238	15	16
Total	35	20	37	49	17	158	68	75	2346	503	3649	4152	3346	201	103
Bethlehem District - A. L. Seifert, D. S.															
Allentown (Salem)	3		5	2	3	13		13	76	18	126	144	110		
Bethlehem	5			1	9	15		12	305	52	345	397	280	15	2
Blandon			3	1		4	10		93	24	196	220	183	7	
Coopersburg	2		2		1	5			133	17	135	152	116		8
Denville, N. J.							3		52	20	131	151	106		
Easton	1	11	1		13	26		24	88	16	91	107	86		1
Emmaus	4		1		3	8		6	198	33	268	301	238	7	6
Fleetwood					1	1	15		161	26	254	280	228	8	3
Maple Glen			5	2	6	13		13	70	11	60	71	54		
Phila. (Calvary)		1	7	3	3	14		12	61	20	124	144	102	7	
Phila. (Emmanuel)	1	2		4		7		7	44	19	85	104	78	12	
Quakertown	4				5	9		7	152	25	169	194	155	8	
Scranton	1				3	4		4	57	17	119	136	98	21	
Staten Island, N. Y.	1		1			2	4		40	12	80	92	82	11	
Stroudsburg	1			2	1	4		3	32	11	47	58	46		
Terre Hill		3		23		26		23	93	21	148	169	148	26	34
Wallingford		1		4		5			175	37	280	317	225		
Zionsville							2		51						
Total	23	18	26	42	47	156	34	124	1881	394	2728	3122	2403	125	54
Church Extension Dep't. - Earl M. Hosler, Dir.															
Belvidere							4		14	8	74	82	51	9	2
Ephrata							45		45	12	116	128	80		
Finesville				2		5	3		34	9	63	72	48	1	5
Macungie	3	4			1	8		8	25	9	42	51	40		
Miller Heights				1	1	2		2	40	13	65	78	55		
Millersville	1	1	3			5		1	27	9	46	55	45	5	
Walnutport				2		2	5		48	12	61	73	54		
Total	5	5	3	5	4	22	57	11	233	72	467	539	373	15	7
Grand Totals	63	43	66	96	68	336	159	210	4460	969	6844	7813	6122	341	164

Church Property								
CHURCH	Churches	Parsonages	Increase of Church Property Valuation	Decrease of Church Property Valuation	Present Valuation of Church Property	Total Income	Total Offerings	Conference Administrative Budget
Allentown District - T. D. Gehret, D. S.								
Allentown (Bethel)	1	1		20,000.	250,000.	79,620.	78,798.	2,725.
Allentown (C. Crest)	1	1	250,000.		250,000.	19,598.	19,148.	300.
Catasauqua	1	1			35,000.	13,840.	13,408.	360.
Graterford	1	1	6,000.		93,000.	23,538.	23,511.	650.
Harleysville	1	1			45,000.	20,333.	20,033.	605.
Harrisburg	1	1			90,000.	17,549.	17,549.	900.
Hatfield	1	1			130,000.	41,795.	41,795.	1,205.
Lancaster	1	1	10,000.		70,000.	17,322.	17,322.	408.
Lebanon	1	1			29,000.	12,723.	12,723.	460.
Lehighton	1	1			38,000.	12,568.	11,650.	401.
Mt. Carmel	1	1			25,000.	15,316.	15,316.	840.
Nazareth	2	1			99,000.	25,582.	25,507.	540.
Paradise	1	1			44,000.	13,269.	12,919.	270.
Reading	1	1			200,000.	26,431.	23,420.	1,760.
Royersford	1	1	10,000.		71,000.	29,766.	29,120.	700.
Shamokin	1	1			52,000.	14,171.	14,110.	495.
Sinking Spring	1	1			55,000.	13,551.	13,542.	195.
Spring City	1	1	15,000.		150,000.	35,874.	27,630.	550.
Sunbury	1	1	6,000.		70,000.	32,944.	32,944.	1,200.
York	1	1			100,000.	32,985.	32,985.	850.
Total	21	18	297,000.	20,000.	1,896,000.	498,775.	483,430.	15,414.
Bethlehem District - A. L. Seifert, D. S.								
Allentown (Salem)	1	1	25,000.		55,000.	14,435.	14,199.	508.
Bethlehem	1	1		25,000.	200,000.	93,223.	53,010.	2,400.
Blandon	1	1			42,000.	11,505.	11,505.	500.
Coopersburg	1	1	107,000.		207,000.	37,303.	36,303.	800.
Denville, N. J.	1	1	30,000.		90,000.	27,070.	27,070.	317.
Easton	1	1			100,000.	13,524.	13,524.	660.
Emmaus	1	1	45,000.		231,000.	56,043.	43,417.	2,050.
Fleetwood	1	1			200,000.	32,599.	32,563.	1,121.
Maple Glen	1	1	2,500.		182,500.	24,481.	23,375.	788.
Phila. (Calvary)	1	1			85,000.	17,477.	17,453.	600.
Phila. (Emmanuel)	1	1	5,000.		70,000.	13,347.	13,275.	540.
Quakertown	1	1			70,000.	23,833.	23,833.	1,280.
Scranton	1	1			40,000.	12,427.	12,299.	300.
Staten Island, N. Y.	1	1			65,000.	15,227.	12,648.	250.
Stroudsburg	1	1			24,000.	7,871.	7,283.	320.
Terre Hill	1	1			67,200.	23,407.	23,350.	1,020.
Wallingford	1	1			230,000.	55,250.	54,823.	1,360.
Zionsville	1	1			33,000.	10,190.	9,980.	300.
Total	18	18	214,500.	25,000.	1,991,700.	489,212.	429,910.	15,114.
Church Extension Dep't. - Earl M. Hosler, Dir.								
Belvidere, N. J.	1	1	15,000.		75,000.	8,580.	8,393.	
Binghamton, N. Y.	1	1		15,500.				
Ephrata	1	1	100,000.		100,000.	37,705.	12,985.	
Finesville, N. J.	1	1			24,800.	8,254.	8,254.	
Macungie	1	1			42,000.	5,351.	4,840.	
Miller Heights	1	1			28,000.	6,076.	6,076.	
Millersville	1	1			54,500.	7,572.	7,313.	190.
Walnutport	1	1	1,000.		18,500.	7,186.	7,186.	
Total	7	7	118,200.	15,500.	342,800.	80,724.	55,047.	190
D. S. Parsonages					40,609.66			
C. E. Dir. Parsonage					16,000.00			
Home for the Aging					73,000.00			
Camp Properties			236,000.		420,753.97			
Berean Bible School			22,000.		138,000.00			
Grand Totals	46	43	887,700.	60,500.	4,918,863.63	1,068,711.	968,387.	30 718

Disbursements - Benevolences								
CHURCH	Foreign Missions	Foreign Missions in Sunday School	Church Extension	Church Extension in Sunday School	Home for the Aging	Bible Fellowship Con. Center	Berean Bible School	Sunday School Promotion Committee
Allentown District - T. D. Gehret, D. S.								
Allentown (Bethel)	18,000.		6,000.		100.			100.
Allentown (C. Crest)	2,400.							
Catasauqua	360.		25.		15.		114.	15.
Graterford	2,068.		868.		30.		540.	25.
Harleysville	1,500.		100.		10.		250.	10.
Harrisburg	1,467.	439.	323.	796.	43.		334.	44.
Hatfield	8,500.		3,500.		100.		1,500.	50.
Lancaster	802.	183.	288.	160.	15.		400.	25.
Lebanon	750.		200.		30.		120.	10.
Lehighton	169.	122.	52.	43.	15.		58.	22.
Mt. Carmel	2,110.	1,190.	1,000.		75.		660.	20.
Nazareth	1,494.	496.	577.	456.	30.		287.	20.
Paradise	278.	312.	31.		20.		27.	15.
Reading	1,163.	2,176.	1,226.	554.	130.	3,430.	2,068.	120.
Roversford	2,800.		1,400.		35.		880.	30.
Shamokin	1,754.		1,112.		71.	225.	375.	35.
Sinking Spring	1,079.		25.		10.	100.	50.	5.
Spring City	2,750.		365.		20.	403.	510.	20.
Sunbury	2,492.	1,327.	1,196.	443.	59.	2,076.	927.	25.
York	6,486.	1,514.	972.		35.	792.	298.	40.
Total	58,422.	7,759.	19,260.	2,452.	843.	7,026.	9,398.	631.
Bethlehem District - A. L. Seifert, D. S.								
Allentown (Salem)	800.		500.		35.		150.	20.
Bethlehem	13,054.		3,500.		100.		3,200.	127.
Blandon	300.	800.	200.		35.	20.	120.	20.
Coopersburg	2,400.		500.		25.		300.	20.
Denville, N. J.	681.	80.	266.	80.	10.	520.	495.	15.
Easton	1,200.		600.		40.	100.	300.	15.
Emmaus	4,800.		2,000.		200.		1,875.	50.
Fleetwood	2,568.	84.	2,118.	64.	40.	506.	1,196.	25.
Maple Glen	603.		603.		20.	810.	600.	15.
Phila. (Calvary)	1,700.		400.		25.	32.	653.	20.
Phila. (Emmanuel)	964.		25.		20.	751.	294.	10.
Quakertown	2,591.		2,591.		40.		1,582.	25.
Scranton	910.	74.	359.	74.	35.	324.	324.	25.
Staten Island, N. Y.	550.				17.	734.	260.	15.
Stroudsburg	450.		200.		20.		200.	10.
Terre Hill	2,500.		1,500.		50.	667.	1,200.	50.
Wallingford	6,100.		4,000.		50.		2,000.	25.
Zionsville	779.	486.	517.		27.	685.	120.	15.
Total	42,949.	1,524.	19,879.	218.	789.	5,149.	14,869.	502.
Church Extension Dep't. - Earl M. Hosler, Dir.								
Belvidere, N. J.	300.				10.		99.	5.
Ephrata	512.				10.	520.	100.	10.
Finesville, N. J.	186.						181.	
Macungie	471.				79.		90.	15.
Miller Heights	351.						44.	10.
Millersville	250.						92.	5.
Walnutport	250.						100.	10.
Total	2,320.				99.	520.	706.	55.
Grand Totals	103,691.	9,283.	39,139.	2,670.	1,731.	12,695.	24,973.	1,188.

Disbursements								
CHURCH	Reduction of Indebtedness	Local Benevolence	Local Youth Fellowship	Local Missions	Women's Missionary Society	Adult Fellowship	Annual Conference Delegate	Radio
Allentown District - T. D. Gehret, D. S.								
Allentown (Bethel)		91.	52.		10,121.		100.	1,989.
Allentown (C. Crest)							100.	
Catasauqua	1,076.		87.		126.		50.	
Graterford	4,698.	595.	330.	554.	235.	101.	100.	
Harleysville	1,786.		100.		150.		60.	
Harrisburg	530.	159.	116.	1,323.	393.		105.	
Hatfield	3,128.	785.	172.	824.	124.		100.	
Lancaster	2,932.		56.		122.			630.
Lebanon	3,724.		28.	120.	63.		80.	
Lehighton	2,490.		161.	57.	230.		75.	
Mt. Carmel			39.	332.	325.		50.	
Nazareth	4,785.	40.	54.	909.	186.		100.	
Paradise	1,299.	41.	40.	747.	161.		60.	
Reading	3,203.	348.	640.	530.	265.		100.	393.
Royersford			109.	1,308.	150.		100.	
Shamokin		15.	146.	258.	133.		123.	
Sinking Spring	2,360.	19.	45.		108.			
Spring City	6,180.		22.	521.	253.		120.	
Sunbury			106.	290.	331.		94.	
York	3,050.	89.	276.	720.	232.		75.	
Total	41,241.	2,182.	2,579.	8,493.	13,708.	101.	1,592.	3,012.
Bethlehem District - A. L. Seifert, D. S.								
Allentown (Salem)			28.	150.	124.		100.	
Bethlehem	5,628.		461.	2,957.	1,372.		100.	390.
Blandon			148.		25.		100.	
Coopersburg	13,767.	27.	32.		85.	75.	100.	
Denville, N. J.	9,710.	264.	255.	225.	138.		100.	
Easton	634.	40.		45.	57.		80.	
Emmaus	2,573.	40.	68.	991.	1,032.		237.	
Fleetwood	4,896.		107.	674.	147.		80.	
Maple Glen	2,371.	32.	130.	80.	350.	226.	75.	
Phila. (Calvary)	2,975.	134.		303.	43.	142.	70.	
Phila. (Emmanuel)	6,111.	152.		155.	215.		63.	
Qualkerton			100.		300.		75.	
Scranton	1,431.	46.	140.	50.	210.		35.	
Staten Island, N. Y.	3,588.	109.	47.	175.	45.		35.	
Stroudsburg		61.			231.		70.	57.
Terre Hill		242.	177.		128.		100.	
Wallingford	9,207.	661.	36.	508.	350.	726.	100.	
Zionsville	1,547.		48.		128.		46.	
Total	64,438.	1,808.	1,777.	6,313.	4,980.	1,169.	1,566.	447.
Church Extension Dep't. - Earl M. Hosler, Dir.								
Belvidere, N. J.	2,476.	36.		83.				
Ephrata	1,139.		52.	93.				
Finesville, N. J.	2,200.	44.	18.					
Macungie	1,426.				31.			
Miller Heights	1,283.		90.	55.	127.			
Millersville	1,960.	30.	14.		62.			
Walnutport	986.	85.	27.	30.	157.			
Total	11,470.	195.	201.	261.	377.			
Grand Totals	117,149.	4,185.	4,557.	15,067.	19,065.	1,270.	3,158.	3,459.

Disbursements								
CHURCH	Y. F. General Com.	Victory Valley	C. E. Director	Ministers in Cash	Ministers' F.I.C.A. Taxes, Health & Welfare, Auto All.	Sunday School	Christian Education	Parsonage or Building
Allentown District - T. D. Gehret, D. S.								
Allentown (Bethel)	50.	200.		6,704.		3,863.	1,679.	
Allentown (C. Crest)				5,265.		300.	50.	
Catasauqua	10.	30.		3,720.		607.	116.	
Graterford	10.	75.		5,230.		1,433.	378.	
Harleysville	5.	50.		4,524.		444.	148.	
Harrisburg	5.	40.		4,585.		3,672.		808.
Hatfield		200.		6,000.		1,500.	1,405.	
Lancaster	20.	25.		4,560.		864.		2,070.
Lebanon	5.	30.		4,025.		366.	164.	
Lehighton	5.	27.		4,004.		1,164.	300.	
Mt Carmel	5.	100.		4,200.		1,074.	109.	
Nazareth		25.		5,400.		2,218.	919.	4,670.
Paradise	5.	20.		2,750.		2,058.		
Reading	25.	270.		5,929.		4,538.		593.
Royersford	5.	75.		5,500.		861.		2,279.
Shamokin	5.	52.		4,200.		2,711.	33.	
Sinking Spring		10.		3,125.		403.	217.	1,381.
Spring City	5.	55.		4,680.	655.	1,036.	297.	11,494.
Sunbury	5.	25.		6,198.		7,099.		
York	10.	60.		6,527.		2,112.	1,100.	
Total	175.	1,369.		97,126.	655.	38,323.	6,915.	23,295.
Bethlehem District - A. L. Seifert, D. S.								
Allentown (Salem)		50.		4,200.	120.	888.	26.	
Bethlehem	15.	300.		7,564.		3,897.		2,066.
Blandon	10.	20.		4,400.		1,160.	469.	1,796.
Coopersburg	5.	50.		5,200.	250.	928.		
Denville, N. J.	10.	22.		4,600.		817.	300.	6,755.
Easton	20.	40.		4,920.		381.	200.	
Emmaus	5.	200.		6,000.		3,113.	643.	695.
Fleetwood	10.	75.		5,642.		2,333.		2,085.
Maple Glen	10.	50.		5,018.	607.	267.	189.	9,909.
Phila. (Calvary)	3.	50.		4,800.		1,116.	112.	
Phila. (Emmanuel)		20.		3,300.		618.		
Quakertown	5.	200.		5,250.	300.	779.	302.	
Scranton	2.	25.		4,200.		606.	150.	
Staten Island, N. Y.	5.	20.		3,480.		525.	320.	
Stroudsburg	10.	10.		2,100.		309.		2,386.
Terre Hill	5.	150.		5,000.		1,966.		
Wallingford	10.	125.		7,200.		1,695.	558.	
Zionsville	6.	48.		2,599.		1,369.	41.	378.
Total	131.	1,455.		85,373.	1,277.	22,697.	3,310.	26,070.
Church Extension Dep't. - Earl M. Hostler, Dir.								
Belvidere, N. J.		5.	40.	1,250.		261.	157.	1,281.
Ephrata	5.	10.	150.	3,500.		665.		
Finesville				1,560.		465.	114.	
Macungie		60.	170.	1,267.		516.		
Miller Heights			198.	1,302.		343.	206.	410.
Millersville	2.	10.		1,548.		209.		
Walnutport		33.	100.	2,500.			691.	
Total	7.	118.	658.	12,927.		2,459.	1,168.	1,691.
Grand Total	313.	2,942.	658.	195,426.	1,932.	63,479.	11,393.	51,056.

CHURCH	Disbursements			Additional Statistics		
	General Disbursements	Library	Total Disbursements	Subscribers to L. News	Ministers in Other Contr.	W. M. S. - Donated Materials
Allentown District - T. D. Gehret, D. S.						
Allentown (Bethel)	56,078.		107,852.	96	200.	3,650.
Allentown (C. Crest)	9,130.		17,545.		210.	
Catauquaque	3,558.		10,269.		325.	125.
Graterford	7,998.		25,918.		240.	
Harleysville	3,207.		12,949.	52	798.	
Harrisburg	4,126.		20,208.	52	467.	
Hatfield	11,915.		41,008.	41	100	
Lancaster	3,193.		16,753.	13	470.	
Lebanon	2,945.		13,120.	20	313.	
Lehighton	3,306.		12,701.	17	635.	
Mt. Carmel			12,129.	26	125.	55.
Nazareth	2,374.		25,580.		370.	
Paradise	3,709.		11,843.	13	425.	
Reading	7,360.		36,821.	94	390	
Royersford	468.		16,700.	25	560.	50.
Shamokin	2,367.		14,110.	30	432.	396.
Sinking Spring			9,132.	17	235.	
Spring City	5,414.		35,350.	47		
Sunbury	6,315.		30,208.	32	660.	
York	6,949		32,187.	31	145.	180.
Total	140,412.		502,383.	606	7,100.	4,456.
Bethlehem District - A. L. Seifert, D. S.						
Allentown (Salem)	9,193.		16,892.			
Bethlehem	12,646.		59,777.	78	618.	
Blandon	1,313.	153.	11,589.	14	300.	155.
Coopersburg	6,027.		30,591.	30	220.	
Denville, N. J.	2,334.		27,994.	29	507.	92.
Easton	4,758.		14,090.	24	400.	
Emmaus	16,125.		42,697.	50	375.	
Fleetwood	9,045.		32,816.	83	303.	
Maple Glen	3,691.		26,444.	27	200.	
Phila. (Calvary)	4,133.		17,211.	22	227.	20.
Phila. (Emmanuel)	3,230.		16,468.	20	231.	
Quakertown	8,349.		23,769.	73	100.	
Scranton	2,545.		11,865.	11	316.	65.
Staten Island, N. Y.	4,076.		14,251.	21	180.	37.
Stroudsburg	976.		7,410.	16	150.	1,050.
Terre Hill	5,334.		20,089.	22	480.	
Wallingford	20,207.		54,848.	55	367.	220.
Zionsville			9,139.	21		
Total	113,982.	153.	437,940.	596	4,368.	1,639.
Church Extension Dept. - Earl M. Hosler, Dir.						
Belvidere, N. J.	2,521.		8,524.	9	500.	
Ephrata	6,081.		12,847.	13	300.	
Finesville	2,748.		7,516.	4		
Macungie	1,864.		5,989.	14		
Miller Heights	1,685.		6,104.	15	100.	
Millersville	3,790.		8,162.	11	565.	25.
Walnutport	1,432		6,401.	12	238.	
Total	20,121.		55,543.	78	1,703.	25.
Grand Totals	274,515	153.	995,865.	1280	13,671.	6,120.

ROLL AND DIRECTORY OF MINISTERS

1. Ordained Ministers Working Under the Direction of the Bible Fellowship Church:

Name	Licensed	Ordained	Assigned	Address	Zip Code
Allen, Russell T.	1955	1958	1966	215-855-2449	19440
✓ Bean, E. W.	1928	1938	1967	215-965-6346	18092
✓ Beil, James A.	1959	1962	1967	215-759-1712	18064
✓ Brosius, Bert N.	1958	1961	1966	215-948-3791	19475
Church				215-948-9448	
Campbell, M. Leslie	1961	1967	1966	215-377-1277	18235
Cassel, Carl C.	1956	1958	1962	215-432-0664	18102
Church				215-435-2331	
Cassel, Willard E.	1943	1946	1963	215-432-7275	18103
+Dotts, Raymond R.	1960	1965	1962	215-437-1787	18103
Dunn, John	1941	1950	1967	717-393-7677	17603
Ellingson, Bruce A.	1963	1966	1966	717-272-3945	17042
Fritz, Harvey J. Jr.	1959	1962	1966	215-967-2555	18049
Church				215-965-2682	
Hartman, Ernest B.	1927	1936	1967	215-678-4294	19565
*Hartman, Jansen E.	1942	1946	1949	215-434-2251	18103
Office				215-437-9865	
Hartman, W. W.	1930	1937	1964	717-648-9732	17872
Heffner, William A.	1943	1951	1966	215-967-1904	18049
Church				215-432-3903	
Heller, LeRoy S.	1955	1958	1962	215-282-3580	18036
Church				215-282-3161	
Herb, Frank L. Jr.	1954	1957	1964	215-866-2703	18018
Church				215-868-5501	
Herb, George E.	1957	1960	1962	215-944-7715	19522
				103 W. Pine St., Fleetwood, Pa.	
				504 Oxford St., Coopersburg, Pa.	
				35 S. Second St., Shamokin, Pa.	
				421 Elm St., Emmaus, Pa.	
				1020 S. Hall St., Allentown, Pa.	
				15 E. Penn Ave., Wernersville, Pa.	
				313 N. Third St., Emmaus, Pa.	
				515 Locust St., Lebanon, Pa.	
				608 Prospect St., Lancaster, Pa.	
				1019 S. Hall St., Allentown, Pa.	
				723 Filmore St., Allentown, Pa.	
				529 N. Eighth St., Allentown, Pa.	
				137 N. Fourth St., Lehighon, Pa.	
				25 Pennhurst Rd., Spring City, Pa.	
				16 S. Broad St., Nazareth, Pa.	
				Box 266, Zionsville, Pa.	
				75 West Broad St., Hatfield, Pa.	

Name	Licensed Ordained	Assigned	Phone	Address	
Herb, John H.	1962	1966	201-475-2250	Box 155, Pequest Rd., Belvidere, N. J.	07823
#Hosler, Earl M.	1953	1956	215-967-1643	424 Ridge St., Emmaus, Pa.	18049
Hottel, W.B.	1944	1947	215-445-4401	404 W. Main St., Terre Hill, Pa.	17581
Johnson, Robert F.	1958	1961	215-948-3014	630 Walnut St., Royersford, Pa.	19468
Kirkwood, C.E.	1937	1940	215-876-8449	723 S. Providence Rd., Wallingford, Pa.	19086
Kirkwood, Donald T.	1951	1954	215-926-3097	Box 284, Blandon, Pa.	19510
Knauer, Donald R.	1962	1965	215-536-6096	25 S. Third St., Quakertown, Pa.	18951
Koch, James G.	1950	1953	215-372-3330	1122 Hampden Blvd., Reading, Pa.	19604
Church			215-373-5574		
Mahurin, Ronald C.	1960	1959	201-627-6706	263 Diamond Spring Rd., Denville, N. J.	07834
Church			201-625-1880		
Overpeck, Leon K.	1958	1965	717-687-7577	Box 32, Paradise, Pa.	17562
Reichenbach, R.C.	1937	1941	717-232-0821	3210 N. Fourth St., Harrisburg, Pa.	17110
Church			717-234-9192		
Riggall, John H.	1945	1948	717-843-4739	952 N. Duke St., York, Pa.	17404
**Seifert, A.L.(D.S.)	1950	1953	215-868-2781	1218 E. Rosemont Drive, Bethlehem, Pa.	18018
Smock, Robert W.	1950	1953	717-733-2526	111 E. Chestnut St., Ephrata, Pa.	17522
Thomann, David E.	1943	1946	215-256-8253	140 Harleysville Pike, Harleysville, Pa.	19438
Watkins, David J.	1962	1965	215-489-2281	111 Bridge St., Graterford, Pa.	19426
Weaver, Harold C.	1963	1967	717-872-8979	R.D.#1, Millersville, Pa.	17551
Weiss, Norman R.	1960	1963	215-965-2308	213 E. Main St., Macungie, Pa.	18062
Ziegler, Daniel G.	1960	1963	212-442-2782	243 Taylor St., Staten Island, N. Y.	10310

+ Instructor - Berean Bible School

* President - Berean Bible School

Director of Church Extension

** District Superintendent

2. Ordained Ministers Working With Other Organizations

Name	Licensed	Assigned Ordained	Address	
Cassel, Alva C.	1958	1962	Athens, Maine	04912
Frank, Walter H.	1939	1942	Greater Europe Mission, 214 N. Hale St., Wheaton, Ill.	60187
Miller, C. Leslie	1928	1933	609 E. Cypress St., Apt. 21, Glendale, Calif.	91205
Yarrington, Harold D.	1942	1952	Connecticut Valley Hospital, Box 351, Middletown, Connecticut	06457

3. Ordained Ministers (Retired)

	Effective	
Gehret, T. D.	1921 1925	215-435-1732
Heffner, W. F.	1917 1920	717-564-2568
Hertzog, F. B.	1922 1925	215-759-4827
Kubic, E. E.	1901 1907	1951
Layne, J. B.	1916 1919	717-938-2950
Rutman, E. J.	1937 1940	1955
Stengele, P. T.	1918 1923	1961
Wolf, N. H.	1916 1920	1967
		717-733-7800
		2340 Union St., Allentown, Pa.
		6103 Ann St., Harrisburg, Pa.
		7 S. New St., Rear, Nazareth, Pa.
		% Jack S. Herb, R.D. #2, Lebanon, Pa.
		R.D. #2, Etters, Pa.
		204 S. Raymond Ave., R.D. #1, Frostproof, Florida
		Orefield, Pa.
		121 Park Ave., Ephrata, Pa.
		18104
		17110
		18064
		17042
		17319
		33843
		18069
		17522

4. Ordained Ministers on Leave of Absence

Baer, Paul E.	1924	1928	1958	18042
Gardner, Reynold D. Sr.	1955	1961	1966	17055
Paul, Robert	1962	1947	1967	
Schaeffer, Donald B.	1955	1958	1966	85021
				1334 Northampton St., Easton, Pa.
				R.D. #2, Mechanicsburg, Pa.
				3938 W. Harmont Drive, Phoenix, Arizona

5. Probationers

Name	Licensed	Assigned	
Branning, David L.	1967	1966	215-767-4852
Jansen, Ronald	1967	1966	201-993-7308
Kuder, Paul B.	1966	1966	215-252-6352
Plows, Keith E.	1966	1966	215-288-6369
Church			215-743-3751
Smith, Mark T.	1967	1966	717-421-0533
Sullivan, Austin, B.Jr.	1964	1965	215-865-2191
Zimmerman, Paul G.	1966	1967	215-726-4413

6. Supply Pastors

Butler, Brian	1967	215-265-0947	235 Walnut St., Catasauqua, Pa.	18032
Lupold, George	1967	717-339-4693	132 W. Fourth St., Mt. Carmel, Pa.	17851
Wilcox, LeRoy	1967	717-342-2027	1023 Taylor Ave., Scranton, Pa.	18510

Members of the Board of Directors:

Cassel, Byron C.	215-884-6622
Griest, Harold W.	215-543-8546
Gehman, Kermit K.	215-965-2971
Wentz, Paul I.	215-437-2775

Bible Fellowship Church Home, Nazareth 215-759-3778

Berean Bible School, Allentown

Office	215-437-9865
Women's Dormitory	215-433-9868
Men's Dormitory	215-433-9034

Residences:

Hartman, Jansen E.	215-434-2251
Dotts, Raymond R.	215-437-1787
Mann, Joyce P.	215-435-4189

43-47372

7. Missionaries (Members of Bible Fellowship Churches)

Name	Liscensed	Ordained	
Baker, Sterling			
Baker, Mrs. Sterling			
Bigley, James	1962	1966	
Bigley, Mrs. James			
Buck, Leonard E.	1958		
Buck, Mrs. Leonard			
Chaponniere, Paul			
Chaponniere, Mrs. Paul			
Dyke, C. Herbert			
Dyke, Mrs. C. Herbert			
Gehman, Richard J.	1964		
Gehman, Mrs. Richard J.			
Gordon, Robert	1960	1960	
Gordon, Mrs. Robert			
Harley, J. Barclay	1956	1960	
Harley, Mrs. J. Barclay			
Hertzog, Roy	1959		
Hertzog, Mrs. Roy			
Hoffman, Mrs. Aaron			
Hoyle, Mrs. Ron			
Kassay, Miss Harriet			
Kauffman, Timothy G.			
Lee, George F., Jr.			Candidates
Lee, Mrs. George F., Jr.			Candidates
Manney, David L.			Candidates
Manney, Mrs. David L.			Candidates
Moyer, Edward			
Moyer, Mrs. Edward			
Rawn, Miss Olive			
Ritter, Donald J.			
Ritter, Mrs. Donald J.			
Shelling, Theodore	1966		
Shelly, Austin	1956	1961	
Shelly, Mrs. Austin			
Snyder, Mrs. Phoebe			Retired
Solt, David			
Solt, Mrs. David			
Stengele, Laird F.			
Stengele, Mrs. Laird F.			
Venable, Fred			
Venable, Mrs. Fred			

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

Church	Location	Time of Services		
		S.S.	A.M.	P.M.
Allentown(Bethel)	- 528 N.Eighth Street	9:30	10:40	7:30
Allentown(Cedar Crest)	- 801 S.Cedar Crest B.	9:30	10:30	7:00
Allentown(Salem)	- 641 Genesee Street	9:00	10:15	7:30
Bethlehem	- 1123 N.Main Street	9:00	10:15	7:15
Blandon	- Chestnut Street	9:00	10:15	7:00
Catasauqua	- 233 Walnut Street	10:30	9:15	7:00
Coopersburg	- 518 N.Main Street	9:00	10:10	7:00
Denville	- 263 Diamond Spring Road	9:30	10:45	7:00
Easton	- 12th and Spruce Streets	9:30	10:45	7:30
Ephrata	- 101 E.Chestnut Street	9:15	10:30	7:30
Emmaus	- 418-20 Elm Street	10:15	9:00	7:30
Fleetwood	- South Richmond Street	10:30	9:15	7:30
Graterford	- Route #29, Graterford	9:30	10:40	7:00
Harleysville	- Maple Ave.	9:00	10:10	7:00
Harrisburg	- Division and Reel Streets	9:30	10:35	7:30
Hatfield	- West Broad Street	9:30	10:30	7:00
Lancaster	- Prospect & Hager Streets	9:30	10:40	7:30
Lebanon	- 521 Locust Street	9:30	10:30	7:30
Lehighton	- Cypress & Fourth Streets	9:30	10:40	7:30
Maple Glen	- Welsh Road	9:45	11:00	7:00
Mount Carmel	- 130 W.Fourth Street	9:30	10:30	7:00
Nazareth	- Rose Inn and Beil Ave.	9:30	10:30	7:30
Paradise	- Lincoln Highway Rt. 30	9:30	10:35	7:30
Phila.(Calvary)	4416 VanKirk Street	9:45	11:00	7:30
Phila.(Emmanuel)	65thSt.&Dickens Ave.	9:45	11:00	7:30
Quakertown	- 27 South Third Street	9:00	10:05	7:00
Reading	- Hampden Blvd.&Marion Street	9:30	10:45	7:30
Royersford	- 618 Walnut Street	9:00	10:10	7:30
Scranton	- 1021 Taylor Avenue	10:00	11:00	7:30
Shamokin	- 35 S.Second Street	9:30	10:45	7:30
Sinking Spring	- Route 422	10:00 to 11:30		7:00
Spring City	- Pennhurst Rd.&Bridge St.	9:30	10:45	7:00
Staten Island	- 243 Taylor St.(W.Brighton)	9:45	11:00	7:00
Stroudsburg	- 23 South 6th Street	9:30	10:30	7:00
Sunbury	- Race St.near Sixth	9:30	10:30	7:30
Terre Hill	- 407 W.Main Street	8:50	10:00	7:30
Wallingford	- 723 S.Providence Road	9:30	10:45	7:00
York	- 6th and Duke Streets (North York)	9:30	10:40	7:00
Zionsville	- South Vera Cruz Road	9:30	10:30	7:30

CHURCH EXTENSION CHURCHES

Belvidere	- Pequest Road	10:00	11:00	7:30
Finesville	- Main Road	9:30	10:45	7:30
Macungie	- 108 Walnut Street	9:15	10:30	7:00
Miller Heights	- 5th & Alternate Rt.22	9:30	10:30	7:00
Millersville	- R.D. 1	9:30	10:45	7:30
Walnutport	- 233 Main Street	9:15	10:15	7:00

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR 1968

1. Adjourned Session of Annual Conference
Bethel Bible Fellowship Church, Allentown, Pa.
April 6, 1968 at 9:00 a.m.
2. Sunday School Convention
Bethlehem & Miller Heights Churches
April 25, 1968
3. Ministerial Convention
Victory Valley, May 21, 22, 1968
4. Victory Valley Camps

June 29 - July 6	Girls 8-14 years old, grades 2-8
July 6 - 13	Girls 8-14 years old, grades 2-8
July 13-20	Girls 8-14 years old, grades 2-8
July 20-27	Boys 8-14 years old, grades 2-8
July 27- August 3	Boys 8-14 years old, grades 2-8
August 3-10	Co-ed camp for Jr. High
August 10-17	Co-ed camp for Sr. High

A choice will be given boys and girls in seventh and eighth grades to continue in Girls' or Boys' camps, respectively, or select Junior High camp involving a co-ed situation, according to their preference.
5. Camp Meetings
First Camp - June 29-July 7, 1968
Second Camp - July 13-21, 1968
Evening services will be held Wednesday through Friday of the week between camps.
6. Youth Fellowship Retreats
To be announced through the churches
7. Annual Conference
Bethany Bible Fellowship Church, West Broad St., Hatfield, Pa.
October 14, 1968 at 10:00 a.m.
8. Church Government Study
Bethel Bible Fellowship Church, Allentown, Pa.
January 6, 1968 - 9:00 a.m.
9. Pulpit Supply Study
Cedar Crest Bible Fellowship Church, Allentown, Pa.
March 9, 1968 - 9:00 a.m.

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