

# FAMILY OF GOD DIARY

Issue number 50

Summer 1984



Dear Friends,

Twenty years ago the first Family of God broadcast went on the air. It was December 12, 1964. I still remember so many of the little things connected with that event. We got up before dawn to listen. (The first time slot for the broadcast was early--we used to joke that it was good our first learning efforts were heard mostly by the cows waiting for milking.) I remember wrapping an extra blanket around me to keep warm in the winter pre-dawn chill.

That little beginning has grown and flourished over the years that followed. More stations were added to the log; the ON CAMPUS series was developed during the turbulent sixties on the Berkeley campus; other people were drawn to Berkeley to associate themselves with the growing work in the early seventies. We used the term co-worker from the beginning because we have always seen ourselves as co-workers in a partnership that has delegated the senior partnership position to God. Vern and I were the first two who formed a partnership together, and additional "laborers in the vineyard" have joined the work on the same footing--working together for the Father. There continued to be expansion and growth, which I always enjoy likening in my own mind when I think about it to the mustard seed story told by Jesus. With more workers bringing various talents to the work, FOG began to reflect this expansion with new branches in multi-media, music, posters, a book, interreligious work, and several newsletters.

Now we have reached our twentieth year, and I have been greatly enjoying one of my current projects, preparing a twentieth anniversary edition of the Diary to remember and commemorate events from these twenty years, which will come to you in the Fall. In the early seventies I began the Diary, which was designed to be just that--a diary of the events, big and little, that made up the forward momentum of FOG. The Update has come into being as a formal newsletter now, and performs our regular reporting function, which leaves the Diary for more of a personal meandering commentary. This is a note to assure those of you who have expressed an interest in a twenty-year retrospective and reminiscence that it is forthcoming.

Growth doesn't occur without turbulence, and I doubt any living thing on this planet, be it an individual or an organization, survives two decades without difficulty. In fact, we can jolly well count on it. If human beings are involved in any project we can figure there will be humor, frustration, happiness, distress, and probably a goodly dose of misunderstanding. But there is inherent joy in struggling through it all, and keeping on keeping on with the varied experiences that make up life. It is my experience that there is a lot of goodness in life and in people, if you keep looking for it.

Look for our big twentieth anniversary issue in the Fall.

*Nancy*