

UPDATE

News From
The Family Of God Foundation

July, 1984

"HIGHEST GOALS OF FAITH" IS THEME OF

10th ANNUAL SPIRITUAL RENAISSANCE® CONFERENCE

by Bettina Gray, Office of Interreligious Affairs



(Left) Panelists discuss a question posed from the audience. (Below, top) Ed Geisler (visitor from So. California), Bettina Gray and David Gray visit during lunch. (Below, bottom) Workshop participants discuss their personal experiences of faith.



The Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California, was the site of the first day of the 10th Annual Spiritual Renaissance Conference, held on May 26 and 27. Representatives from the world's 11 living religious traditions (Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, Jainism, Judaism, Shinto, Sikhism, Taoism, and Zoroastrianism) discussed the highest goals of faith and answered questions posed by the audience. Topics included: What are the most meaningful aspects of your faith?; What is the importance of love and compassion in your religion?; What is prayer?; How can religionists work toward world peace? The closing question, "Will you tell a favorite story from a tradition other than your own?" delighted and stimulated the panelists, who shared several enlightening stories about the world's religions.

After a picnic lunch on the grounds at PSR, Conference participants, including panelists, attended workshops to discuss their personal experiences of faith.



This year speakers for the Conference were interviewed by Bettina Gray and featured as guests on her "SPIRITUAL RESOURCES" radio broadcast during the weeks preceding the Conference.

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(Continued on page 6)

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Family of God Foundation, Inc. is one small part of a growing, global effort to bring about a spiritual awakening on our troubled planet. Individuals and groups participating in this worldwide ministry can be found on every continent and belong to every race and religion. These thousands of people may not know one another, but we do share one thing in common -- a whole-hearted dedication to the proclamation of a new and uplifting planetary perspective, one which views all men, women, and children as brothers and sisters in God's universal family.



Every person who participates in this great adventure is a pioneer; the ways in which these seeds of hope are being planted are as unique as the individuals and groups who are planting them. The work is challenging, often difficult, sometimes even misunderstood, but the joys of introducing our brothers and sisters to the good news of their place in our Father's family are equaled only by the enthralling experiences of one's own personal relationship with God.

We are grateful for the words of love and support which have been sent our way during these past months. Every letter has truly made a difference, and we thank all of you who have continued to inspire us with your encouragement as we press onward toward the goal--a spiritual renaissance predicated on the global realization of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of all mankind.

Rebecca

Rebecca Marshall, Editor

"TEACHING JESUS' GOSPEL TODAY" BOOKLET NOW AVAILABLE



A new booklet authored by Dr. Jeffrey Wattles and titled, "Teaching Jesus' Gospel Today," has been completed and is now available, free of charge, to students of **The URANTIA Book**. Topics include "Evolution of the Gospel," "Getting The Message Out," "Highlights of The Message," and "What Are the Qualities of an Evangelist?" The booklet features a discussion of how Jesus shared his message, with page references from **The URANTIA Book** for further reading and study. To order copies, please use the coupon on the back page.

"REACHING HIGH" READY FOR 3RD PRINTING

Orders for **REACHING HIGH: The Psychology of Spiritual Living**, written by Marvin Gawryn and published by the Spiritual Renaissance Press, have increased substantially in the past 6 months, prompting plans for a third printing. Marvin reports that **REACHING HIGH** has found a growing audience among members of the Catholic faith. Additionally, increasing numbers of copies are being sent overseas to Spiritual Renaissance broadcast listeners in India who request the book for use in their own ministry programs.

Among many favorable responses to **REACHING HIGH**, we recently received this letter from a woman in Illinois:

May 23, 1984

Dear Mr. Gawryn,
Your "**REACHING HIGH**" book is the most exciting book of its kind I've ever read. I'm going through it the second time and mean to do so many more times, just a few paragraphs at a time, as it is deep and must be thoroughly understood before probing further.

It's the kind of book I do not care to loan to my friends, as I do not want to be without it. In other words, it's almost like the Bible to me, only in a different category.

I plan to give two of these books to a boy and girl graduating from high school -- wish that I might have received such a gift when I was that age.

Thank you so much for writing it and sharing your views with the world. May God bless you in your future undertakings.

Sincerely,



Ron Craig and Mike Harman apply redwood paneling to the walls of the audio control room.

RECORDING/MULTI-MEDIA PRODUCTION STUDIO NEARS COMPLETION

One of the most extensive projects undertaken since the December, 1982 purchase of SRI headquarters has been the conversion of a 1,600 sq. foot former dormitory room into a multi-purpose recording and multi-media production studio. The facility, located on the main floor of the west wing, was designed by David Kantor and constructed by David, Ron Craig, and Mike Harman. It contains a large studio for music and voice recording, an audio control and recording room, tape duplication and editing room for broadcast production, multi-media production and projection facility, video control and recording room plus a library and office space.

The studio has been designed for many different types of outreach productions, including records, cassette tapes, multi-media shows, radio broadcasts, and video. We hope that it will serve for many years as a place where men and women can create presentations which will effectively carry the gospel message of Jesus to every part of the world.



(Left) Ron and David Kantor consult the blueprints as walls and wiring are installed. (Above) Mike Harman and Tery McCade carry part of the 8-foot long light table to its home in the multi-media studio.



The new landscaping at the Institute's entryway.

Other major projects at SRI include the planning and completion of the first phase of landscaping surrounding the building and driveway. Sue Kantor is supervising this effort, which includes:

- * Installation of an automatic sprinkler system in areas around the building.
- * Seasonal disking and mowing of grassy areas.
- * Areas adjacent to neighborhood housing graded and planted with trees, shrubs and groundcover.

- * Planting of trees, shrubs, flowers and grass near front entrance to the building.

Other completed projects:

- * Painting and waterproofing of the exterior of the Institute.
- * Improvement of interior and exterior play areas at the children's cottage, including construction of new outdoor playhouses and a new roof on the cottage.



Tery McCade puts the finishing touches of paint on the building's exterior.

RECENT LETTERS FROM
AROUND

June 6, 1984
TAMILNADU, SO. INDIA

Dear Respected Sister,
My evangelical team members, the local pastors of several denominations, the newly converted Hindus, Muslims and local Christians and I very affectionately greet you, your family and members of your kind staff. I thank you very much for sending me the excellent religious materials. I have read them, and they are a great blessing to me and my family. I have passed them on to others for their reading and spiritual growth.

People who listen to your excellent religious broadcasts on Radio Ceylon over 31 meters are increasing by leaps and bounds. May I humbly beg you very much to kindly send me your religious materials in BIG QUANTITIES as there is a very big, pressing demand for them: (list of Family of God materials). We fervently and earnestly pray for your excellent ministry.

Thanking you very much for your kind gifts,

April 9, 1984
BAYREUTH, WEST GERMANY

Dear Sirs,
I just managed to get the last snatches of a broadcast of yours on the radio, and what you said in those last minutes was very interesting! Please do send me booklets and other materials about you and your team, as well as a wave guide and programme of broadcasts. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

May 24, 1984
EDENTON, NC

Dear Mr. Grimsley,
Please send "Questions University Students Ask." I am a transplanted New Yorker who until six months ago listened to you over Radio Station WWDJ. We need you here in North Carolina -- desperately!

May God continue to bless your ministry.

Sincerely,

April 4, 1984
NAQOURA, LEBANON

Dear Mr. Grimsley,
I am a Fijian Army Officer serving with UNIPIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) and I am interested to receive your book series "GROWING SPIRITUALLY." I am sure the volumes will help us grow from being carnal to spiritual Christians.

I got to know your ministry when I accidentally tuned in to the Radio Cyprus tonight. Now I shall tune in to listen to you every night and I also hope you will pray for this country and for all the children of God who are trying to keep the peace here. I thank you for your ministry and anxiously await your volumes with anticipation.

Your brother,

May 5, 1984
SAN JOSE, CA

Gentlemen:
Your program is a total blessing and inspiration. I was fascinated with your beautiful message on "Love is Life" over KFAX on April 10, 1984. You are a blessing, especially to the young, searching minds on college campuses.

Thank you,

April 23, 1984
HARARE, ZIMBABWE, AFRICA

Dear Sirs:
I was listening to your broadcast over SWAZI Radio and I found it quite good for my spiritual life. Would you please send me the free books you offered? May God bless your wonderful work in His service.

Sincerely,

March 12, 1984
BOMBAY, INDIA

Dear Mary,
Thank you for your letter and the book, REACHING HIGH: The Psychology of Spiritual Living. I want to tell you that this book has been a very special source of inspiration to me and my children. It has been written with a very deep understanding of the Word of God and the human mind. Many hidden truths from the Bible are expanded and their significance is applied to our lives here on earth. It is really a book for all ages and stages of life.

I find your broadcast over Radio Sri Lanka very enlightening in this present day and age and I also encourage many of my friends to tune in to the broadcast.

If it be possible, please send some more books or gospel literature to help me study the Word of God. May the Lord bless the work of you and your devoted organization to His Kingdom through your broadcast.

Yours in His Matchless Name,

June 6, 1984
PARIS, FRANCE

Dear Sir,
I write to apply for the pamphlet titled, Questions University Students Ask." I will be very pleased if I can get a copy.

My source of information is Radio Luxembourg. May God be with you all.

Thanks,

SRI PHOTO NEWS

Saturday evening at the Institute includes dinner, a business meeting, and a time for playing music, socializing, & trying to beat David Gray at ping-pong.



Hagiko Ichihara and Frank Baca barbecue chicken for Saturday night dinner.



The 4th of July is a BIG TIME annual event in our new neighborhood, and we enjoyed being a part of the celebration. The children rode in the big parade on a red, white and blue float (which they constructed themselves with the help of Sally Flanagan and Sara Blackstock) and during the afternoon fair we ran a balloon-popping booth (which won first prize for its decorations!).

Our annual trip to Yosemite National Park this spring was a weekend filled with hiking, sightseeing, relaxation, and a fireside Remembrance Supper.



A carpenter by day, Mike Harman often finds time in the evening to work on his favorite project—running the press.



Francyl Gawryn, performing here with Tom Allen from Oklahoma City, was one of several folks from POG who attended the Kansas City Conference in May.



Several of the children, along with Mary Blessing and Sara Blackstock, admire their treasures after the 2nd Annual Easter-egg hunt on Easter Sunday.

1984 SPIRITUAL RENAISSANCE CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 1)

"The Joys of Sonship" was the theme of the second day of the Conference, held at the Spiritual Renaissance Institute. Students of **The URANTIA Book** from San Francisco, Berkeley, Santa Cruz, Sebastopol and other nearby cities gathered for mid-morning brunch followed by an afternoon of group and personal sharing. Presentations were made by members of Spiritual Union (readers in the San Francisco area), the Santa Cruz study group and members of San Francisco Bay Area URANTIA Society. The programs were highlighted by music and worship, ending with a Remembrance Supper honoring the Master. It was a wonderful day, and we thank all who participated in making this year's conference such a success!



Activities during the 2nd day included: (far left, from top) a mid-morning brunch, an opening talk by Vern Grimsley, a musical presentation by Dave and Chappell Holt; (near left, top) an inspiring presentation by Stephen Zandt and, (bottom) musical fun provided by the folks from Santa Cruz.



CONVALESCENT MINISTRY GROWS

In the March, 1984 issue of the UPDATE, we reported on a series of outreach programs, sponsored by Spiritual Renaissance Music, which are being presented to retirement and convalescent hospitals throughout the local community.

Since that time we have experienced first-hand the tremendous need for such outreach to the elderly and

infirm; through word-of-mouth, several homes have contacted Francyl to set up a program schedule and she is now coordinating an average of 3 programs per week in nine different homes and hospitals. The programs, which include inspirational musical entertainment, worship services, and visits with individual residents, have become a growing part of the ministry work.



Francyl shares music and personal conversation with residents of a retirement home.

BROADCAST LISTENERS WORLD

June 7, 1984
MEMPHIS, TN

(Reply to Memphis listener)

Dear ON CAMPUS,

I'm a 22 year old male in a Memphis jail awaiting a sentence for two 3rd degree laries. This might sound crazy, but I thank the Lord I'm here now! Don't get me wrong, I'd love to be out in the free world right now, but if I were I would still be living in my wicked ways. I was slowly but surely killing myself in the world of sex, drugs and rock & roll. I'm ashamed of the way I've been living the past 6 years. I've been neglecting my parents and those who loved me for too long now. I was raised in a (denomination) by my dad and stepmother until age 16. I left home then, confused and mad at the world. I decided I would party the rest of my life. I see now the Lord doesn't want it that way.

I'm writing because I have many questions concerning turning my life over completely to God. I've asked Jesus to come into my life before, but I always went right back to my old ways. So please send me any literature you can on what I must do to be saved. I know the Bible says to call on his name and you shall be saved. I could do that, but I wouldn't be sure I would go to heaven. I do know this, Jesus said, "seek and you shall find, knock and the door will be opened." I need to learn how to seek the Holy Spirit, I guess.

I really enjoy listening to your radio program on Sundays. We have built-in radios in our cells here. Your program comes on at 4:00 or 4:30am. I don't know for sure since we don't have clocks here. I would someday like to get cassette recordings of your programs. Well, I guess that's all for now.

Waiting patiently,

P.S. If you can afford any extra literature, I will be glad to pass it out to the other inmates!

(See reply at right)

THE SPIRITUAL RENAISSANCE INSTITUTE
BOX 347, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94701
20 June 1984

Dear

I feel a tremendous kinship with you as I read your letter. Even though our life stories are very different, we are both coping with the same human condition and both responding to the same God.

The business of giving one's life to God is both easy and difficult. It is easy because, in a moment of supreme sincerity, we can give our lives to God, and we can experience his downreach, his love, his salvation. We know that we have been accepted and that we are not isolated in the universe. We can just do it—we can decide to live for his will, so that each day his spirit dwelling within us has the maximum opportunity for expression in our thoughts and words and actions.

The hard part is making that decision stick. A little time goes by, and we find ourselves subtly or grossly involved in the same habits that we have started to abandon. There is a fringe of conflict to go through—it cannot be escaped; this is a period during which we are learning the habits of the new and better way. And the one sure technique I know for getting through that fringe of conflict is to fall totally in love with the ways of Jesus. Learn to feel his feelings, to sense what he is doing, to resonate with his hearty, broadminded, righteous, loving, courageous, peaceful, good-humored personality. You will find that whenever you find yourself slipping, you can seek within again and find again the God who is saving you.

Do not doubt the reality of your salvation just because you may stumble. It will require many courageous assaults on the kingdom before you finally achieve stability in your walk with God. Each setback is a humiliation indeed, but do not become discouraged. Keep going forward. God is leading you into a wonderful future. Your earlier years are destined to become the opening chapters in a success story. You are saved by the grace of God through your faith NOW. It is not even necessary to finish going through the fringe of conflict in this life in order to advance towards the presence of God after death. You do not have to perform unusual actions in order to manifest God's spirit. You have nothing to fear, not even your own stumblings.

Do not be concerned about yourself, but focus on what God has for you to do each day. Study and prayer and ministry and work are all sometimes possible for a prisoner. And do not only ask God for what you need; be sure to take time for glad worship and communion to enjoy the sublime partnership that you are beginning to have together. God is your Father and you are his son, and to experience this truth day by day is to taste eternal life.

Your brother in the Father's family,



Jeff Wattles

NOTE: The letters reprinted here are just a few of the many requests for literature we receive each month. Every letter sent to the Institute receives a personal response from one of the volunteers working in the Correspondence Department. In addition to answering first-time requests for our literature, Jeff Wattles and Mary Blessing have also developed a continuing correspondence ministry with many listeners who desire to share thoughts and ask questions about the spiritual life on an on-going basis. Through this ministry, several listeners have been introduced to The URANTIA Book.

RECENT LETTERS (CONT.)

April 23, 1984
BROOKLYN, NY

Dear Vern,
Praise God, and thank you for your faithfulness to your ministry. I have found great blessings in listening to your wisdom on your program. Please continue...we need to hear such programs. May God continue to bless you and your ministry.

Thank you,

March 14, 1984
BOMBAY, INDIA

Dear Pastor,
I have been listening to your broadcast on Tuesday and Thursday over Radio Sri Lanka on the topic of man's material progress vs. his spiritual progress, and I cannot but wholeheartedly agree with your views.

I have been impressed with your broadcasts and would like to start building my spiritual life, especially more so since I am passing through a very difficult period.

I would appreciate if you could send me any of your books. May God bless you in all your endeavors to spread the Good News.

Sincerely yours,

March 12, 1984
PALATINE, IL

Dear Mr. Grimsley,
Thank you so much for sharing yourself on radio and by mail. You sound so positive I could listen to you all day! Could you please send me more order slips like the one I'm using? Here is a donation for the literature and the tape you were so kind to send me last month.

Thanks,

*"The call to the adventure of building a new and transformed human society by means of the spiritual rebirth of Jesus' brotherhood of the kingdom should thrill all who believe in him as men have not been stirred since the days when they walked on about on the earth as his companions in the flesh." (p.2084)**

(Reply to a recent letter)

THE SPIRITUAL RENAISSANCE INSTITUTE
BOX 947 BERKELEY CALIFORNIA 94701

May 6, 1984

Dear .

Thank you for writing to the Spiritual Renaissance Institute. It is my good pleasure to respond in the spirit of best hopes and good cheer for your life. I would be glad to hear from you again in the time of your own choosing.

God is the Father of all the universes; the Creator and sustainer of everything within and beyond. From the Father and eternity his son Christ Jesus did come to our world revealing that we too are his sons and daughters. And this is the good news we have the privilege to live and proclaim, by word and deed from person to person.

By faith you and I can experience the presence of God's spirit in our lives. The faith-decision to step forward as his son is the greatest step we can ever make. By and through faith do we partake of the divine nature and share in the expanse of his generous goodwill. The Universal Father is known to be controlling and patrolling everything away and afar but through faith we can know with deep conviction that somehow he is also down here with us, even within us.

The supreme truth is just now beginning to dawn upon our world that we are a part of an ever widening family of God. The full disclosure of this gospel, come to us from far away and long ago, is now awakening our planet to its membership in the universal family of God. The Brotherhood of Man is predicated on the truth of the Fatherhood of God; it is a truth whose time has come and a truth that will live on to time immemorial.

Fatherly affection and the corollary of brotherly love will not be denied nor will it fade. Indeed the verity of God as the Eternal Father and us as his global children will outlast the world which has at times worked so hard to enjoin this birthright to all peoples.

All over it is apparent that the planted seeds of laborers from centuries past are now opening into the blooming of believers in this growing Kingdom of God. Someday there will be a flowering of talented and dedicated men and women who will rise above national and racial differences to the more lofty goals of loving God and rendering service to others. We are an essential part of this process; our position is unique; our lives are divinely favored. If our actions are motivated by the quest for the best that we know, then have we responded to the will of God. The acting out of highest values always finds a resonating confirmation by the One who lives within; now and forever does he grace our deepest thoughts of truth, beauty and goodness.

As a son of the living God may you continue to grow toward greater strength and faith. May your decisions take you along step by step in growth and maturity as you take your place in this advancing Kingdom of God.

Sincerely
Michael A. Hanna
Michael A. Hanna



Above) Larry Jones, Donna and Michael Hanna. (Inset) Chris Nice.

NEW CO-WORKERS, VOLUNTEERS AT FOG

Desiring to make a long-term commitment to the work of the spiritual renaissance, Michael and Donna Hanna have become co-workers at the Family of God Foundation. As volunteers they were active in the Children's Department, assisting Sara Blackstock with childcare. Recently, Michael has begun working in the Correspondence Department, composing letters to broadcast listeners who write to the Institute. Donna, with a background in fine arts, has become active in Graphics and hopes to refine her skills as a designer, production artist and illustrator.

We welcome Larry Jones, from Santa Cruz, California, as a volunteer and Chris Nice as a junior volunteer. Professionally, Larry repairs and fine-tunes high-tech electronic equipment and is donating his time and skills to FOG in this capacity as well as in the Mail-Out Department. Chris, our second junior volunteer, is 12 years old and works alongside junior volunteer Nathaniel Blackstock in the Mail-In Department.

REVIEW SHOWS 100 MILLION ANNUAL LISTENERS TO FOG BROADCASTS

A recent check with our radio network indicates that Family of God Foundation broadcasts continue to be heard annually by well over 100,000,000 listeners around the world. Independent rating services employed by three of our major domestic stations reported between 19 and 23 million annual listeners to our broadcasts on these three stations alone.

Last year, we received over 200 letters from international ESL (English as a Second Language) short-wave listeners in several European countries (including Communist East Germany), Asia,

China, the Middle East, Australia, the Caribbean and Africa. A spokeswoman for one international short-wave broadcasting agency told the Family of God Foundation that among ESL short-wave listeners, "one letter could easily represent over one million listeners to your broadcast."

It is thrilling to know that the Family of God broadcasts are being heard by so many people representing so many races, religions and cultures on our small planet. It is our dream that the gospel of Jesus will someday be heard by every man, woman and child in every city and country of the world.

"PHILOSOPHY OF LIVING"

SEMINARS PROMOTE SPIRITUAL GROWTH

A congregation in Berkeley recently invited Dr. Jeff Wattles to teach a seven-week series of seminars on the theme, "How To Build A Philosophy Of Living." Using Bible verses to highlight each weekly theme, Jeff led participants through a series of questions about science, philosophy, spiritual experience, nature, art, morality and character achievement. Jeff presented spiritual concepts and questions to assist the participants in expressing and developing their personal religious philosophies.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP STARTED

A Bible study group, hosted by Dale Lugin and Dolores Nice, is giving participants an opportunity to study various topics and Books of the Bible. Emphasis is being placed on aspects of the Old and New Testaments which are of particular interest to modern-day religionists. Jeff Wattles led the first session on the Book of Job, with an emphasis on the often-asked question, "Why does God allow suffering?" Other subjects have been the Book of Amos, focusing on the role of the prophets during ancient times, and the evolution of the God concept between the times of Melchizadek and Jesus.

FRANCYL RECORDS SONGS FOR ITALIAN RADIO

During a trip to Italy this spring, Francyl Gawryn had an unexpected opportunity to record several songs for broadcast over Radio Libra Valle del Sarno, a radio station located in her father's hometown of Roccapiemonte. Francyl met with Mario Vassalluzzo, a priest who operates the local radio station and recording studio, and began a dialogue with him

which she hopes will culminate in the initiation of a Spiritual Renaissance radio ministry for the people of southern Italy. Francyl reports that her trip, which included a visit to the Vatican to hear Pope John Paul II give an address in St. Peter's Square, resulted in a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the spiritual traditions of Italy.

Would you like to have more cassettes of the SPIRITUAL RENAISSANCE broadcasts, heard over our domestic and international radio stations? We have produced 4 cassettes, each containing four new broadcasts by Vern Grimsley. To order, fill out the coupon below and send \$5.00 per cassette (includes postage and handling) to: The Family of God Foundation, Inc., Box 347, Berkeley, CA 94701.



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Please send the following:
 (Quantity)

- _____ D638-41 (4 new broadcasts @ \$5.00)
- _____ D642-46 (4 new broadcasts @ \$5.00)
- _____ D647-70 (4 new broadcasts @ \$5.00)
- _____ D651-54 (4 new broadcasts @ \$5.00)
- _____ Cassette of 6 recent broadcasts: Brotherhood, Understanding, Faith & Courage, War & Peace, Love, & Worship (6 broadcasts @ \$6.50)
- _____ "Teaching Jesus' Gospel Today," by Dr. Jeffrey Wattles (no charge)
- _____ REACHING HIGH: The Psychology of Spiritual Living, by Marvin Gawryn. Softcover @ \$7.95 (California residents add 6.5% sales tax).

Mail this coupon, plus check or money order to:

The Family of God Foundation, Inc.
 Box 347
 Berkeley, CA 94701

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ I would like to be on the The Family of God Foundation mailing list.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF BROADCASTING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS



THE FAMILY OF GOD FOUNDATION, INC.
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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