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### Fort Wayne Bible College Vision

Fort Wayne Bible College

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## New Year Ushers In 50th Anniversary Of College; Jubilee Plans Announced

### Outstanding Speakers Booked for 1954-55 School Year

The year 1954 brings Fort Wayne Bible College to the threshold of its fiftieth anniversary, and plans for the 1954-55 jubilee observance are already well under way. A sense of spiritual optimism keynotes the planning, and all anniversary programs and conferences will be geared to set forth the continuing growth and development of the college, and to reaffirm the faith so clearly defined by the college founders when the school was established in 1904.

The Governing Board has designated the entire school year of 1954-55 as the jubilee year. The anniversary committee, composed of representatives from the Governing Board, administration, faculty and staff, and alumni association, has announced six one-week periods throughout the school year when emphasis will be given to various areas of the college operation and ministry. They are designated as follows: September 20 to 26, 1954, Evangelism; November 8 to 12, Christian Education; January 10 to 16, 1955, Christian Ministry; February 21 to 27, Anniversary Week; March 21 to 27, Missions; and April 25 to May 1, Music and Radio.

Several outstanding speakers have already been booked for a number of the conferences. They include Dr. Paul Rees, pastor of the First Covenant Church, Minneapolis; Dr. Alan Redpath, pastor of Moody Church, Chicago; Dr. Harold Mason, professor of Christian Education at Asbury Seminary, Wilmore, Kentucky; Dr. Eugene A. Nida, secretary of the Translation Department of the American Bible Society; and Dr. Olaf Christiansen, choral music authority of St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota. Other speakers and further plans for the anniversary year will be announced during the coming months.

### Gifts Acknowledged

From November 20 to December 15, the College gratefully received a total of \$634.07 from 79 Christian friends to help reduce the debt on the food service improvement. Two

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### *Standing at the Portal . . .*

*Standing at the portal  
of the opening year,*

*Words of comfort meet us,  
hushing every fear;*

*Spoken through the silence  
by our Father's voice,*

*Tender, strong, and faith-  
ful, making us rejoice.*

### Music Critic Acclaims College "Messiah" Concert

The "Messiah," as presented by the Fort Wayne Bible College 165-voice chorus and 26-piece orchestra on the college campus on Sunday, December 13, drew perhaps the largest attendance and won the most heart-felt praise of any previous "Messiah" presentation at the college. An estimated audience of over twelve hundred thrilled with inspiration to the interpretation of the oratorio by the group. Of particular significance was the presence of Mr. Walter A. Hansen, local music critic, who wrote a very praise-worthy review of the concert for the succeeding day's issue of the News-Sentinel.

Mr. Hansen seemed particularly impressed with the spiritual tone of the performance. He wrote, "It is uplifting to note the devotion, the reverence, and the impressiveness with which a substantial part of George Frederick Handel's Messiah was presented Sunday afternoon in Founders Memorial Auditorium on the campus of Fort Wayne Bible College." Speaking of the chorus, he said, "It delineated Han-

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### Dean of Men, Alumni President Receive Ordinations

Timothy Warner, dean of men, and J. Harlan Wright, president of the Alumni Association, were recently ordained to the gospel ministry in services held only a week apart.

The ordination service for Rev. Warner was held in Founders Memorial Auditorium on the college campus on Sunday, November 29. Rev. Jared F. Gerig, president of the Missionary Church Association, presided over the service and gave the ordination sermon. Dr. S. A. Witmer, president of the college, gave the ordination prayer, and Dr. Milo Rediger of Taylor University gave the charge to the candidate.

Rev. Wright received his ordination on Sunday, December 6, in the Missionary Church of Auburn, Indiana, where he is currently pastor.

Rev. Clayton D. Steiner, central district superintendent for the Missionary Church Association, presided and gave the ordination prayer, assisted by Rev. Tillman Amstutz. Rev. Walter H. Lugibihl, vice-president of the Missionary Church Association, preached the ordination sermon. Rev. Wright is also presently taking further study at the college.



Warner



Wright



## A Year of Jubilee . . .

*with the president . . .*

**Dr. S. A. Witmer**



The year of Jubilee is before us as the Bible College enters 1954. For the Israelites the year of jubilee was a momentous celebration. Persons who, through adversity, had sold themselves into slavery were set at liberty—all claims to servitude cancelled. Land that had been leased or sold to pay off debts was returned to its original hereditary owner. The land was given rest—fallowed in order to increase its productivity for the future. Because it was a year of celebration for deliverance, it became a symbol of the Messianic year of grace (Isa. 61:2). It pointed forward to Messiah's reign when the universe with its conflicts and inequalities would be restored to its original harmony. It was a year of rejoicing as liberated slaves, adorned by garlands, rejoiced in their emancipation.

### **Holds Deep Significance**

The year of jubilee for the College should also have deep significance. It should be the occasion to look back to the rock from whence the institution with its world-wide influence was hewn. A look at the past will disclose that it took men cast from a heroic mould to do that task. They had to be men with stalwart faith, great courage, and inspired vision to hew an institution from such an insignificant source. Frankly, I do not know how those men lived when they founded our school. I know that they worked without thought of wages. That carefully hand-written cash journal for the first full year of operation repeats the story. The Superintendent and his wife each received a \$5.00 Christmas present, and toward the end of the school year, when it appeared that the books would balance, they received a stipend of \$75.00. That was their total cash compensation above room and board. Two full-time teachers received monthly allowances ranging from \$5.00 to \$10.00. For each the total was \$58.00. But those men and women, some of whom were gifted teachers, were inspired by a great vision. For the realization of that vision they gave of themselves freely.

### **Occasion for Thanksgiving**

The committee planning the year of jubilee wants it to serve as an occasion of thanksgiving to God and of highlighting the great verities of the Christian faith. The jubilee year should gird us with the dynamic of renewed vision by its spiritual impact. The committee wants it to be the occasion for renewed faith, for endowment of power, and a fresh dedication to the redeeming purpose of God. After all, the infinite resources above for an expanded ministry of the College will be released only through prayer and faith and obedience.

The crux of its success lies in our own hearts.

## **Delightful Surprise**

Recently a construction firm in Fort Wayne was engaged to clear stumps and undesirable growth in the wooded area of the south campus. A skilled operator on a ten-foot bulldozer and a foreman with three workmen did the work. With a bill for \$285.00 from the company, with which the College had no previous business relations, came this letter:

Gentlemen:

We are enclosing an invoice covering work which we performed with our equipment on your property in the wooded section south of Rudisill Blvd.

The fine work which your institution is doing prompts us to make a contribution of our work and express our hope that your institution will continue with God's richest blessing.

Needless to add, we are sincerely grateful.

## *Placement Service*

### **Positions Open**

*Pastor*, for non-denominational, fundamental church in Peoria, Illinois. Approximately 100 families in the congregation.

*Pastor*, for independent church in New York state, affiliated with I.F.C.A. Candidate must be married and be between the ages of 35 and 38.

*Young Couple or Single Lady* for parish work in rapidly-growing southern Ohio community under E.U.B. denomination.

The following positions are open in a Christian school in Tennessee:

*Secretary, Bookkeeper, Married Couple for supervisory work, Music teacher in piano, voice and band instruments.*

### **Positions Wanted**

*Teacher* desires position in Bible Institute, Bible College or Christian College. Has A.B. degree with majors in Bible and Greek, minor in history. Expects to receive M.A. next summer with major in philosophy and minor in biology. At present is pastor and teacher of history, Spanish and chemistry in high school.

*Young man*, interested in Vacation Bible School work for next summer.

*Young lady*, interested in choir or organ position in church located in community where she can take further schooling in radio music.

Address all inquiries to C. H. Eicher, Director of Placement, Fort Wayne Bible College, Fort Wayne 6, Indiana.



## Sunrise Chapel Gets HJCB Listener Reports

Reports have been forwarded to the Radio Department from radio station HCJB in Quito, Ecuador, indicating that listeners in several countries and throughout the United States are enjoying the ministry of "Sunrise Chapel."

Reports have come from England, New Zealand, and various parts of North America. A letter from Montreal, Quebec, states, "We do not get enough religious programs, so it is quite a treat and blessing to listen to 'Sunrise Chapel.'" A listener in New Guinea says, "I am very fond of 'Sunrise Chapel,'" and a report from Buffalo, New York, says, "It is now 10:20 and 'Sunrise Chapel' is on with its fine music."

## Recent Chapel Speakers

Rev. Jared F. Gerig, president of the Missionary Church Association, gave a series of four sermons on the Spirit-filled life during chapel sessions the week of December 7-11.

Other guest speakers who appeared recently were as follows:

The Sessions Family of the Voice of the Hills group from West Virginia.

Miss Dean Powell, Inter-Varsity Fellowship of Indiana and Kentucky areas representative.

Dr. Hargrove, president, and Mr. Mills, dean, of Lincoln Bible Institute, Lincoln, Illinois.

Rev. John Caddy, pastor of the Curdes Avenue Missionary Church.

Rev. Oscar Foyt, Education Department of Missouri Synod Lutheran Church, of St. Louis, Missouri.

## GIFTS ACKNOWLEDGED

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years ago new food service equipment was installed at a cost of more than \$17,000.00. The cost was financed largely by loans from individuals totaling \$14,200. Gifts are now being received to liquidate these obligations. Meanwhile, the fine kitchen, cafeteria, dish washer, and food storage rooms are being put to good use.

The College is also deeply grateful for a gift of \$500 from one of the Trustees to complete the Schultz Hall renovation and the science laboratory.

And with more thanks the College acknowledges an additional gift of \$550 from Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Helrigel to be added to the Jessie Lee Helrigel Memorial Loan Fund.

## "Christian Life" Editor Conducts Writing Session on Campus

Mr. Robert Walker, editor of "Christian Life" magazine, spoke at a special writing session held at the college on Wednesday evening, December 9. His topic was "The Printed Page and You."

The evening session climaxed a full day's seminar sponsored by the

"Missionary Worker", publication of the Missionary Church Association. Day sessions were held in the First Missionary Church.

The seminar was coordinated by Elmer Neuenschwander, dean of students of the college, and editor of the "Missionary Worker."



Robert Walker, editor of "Christian Life" magazine, talks with Elmer Neuenschwander, dean of students of the college and editor of the "Missionary Worker", between sessions of the Writing Seminar held on the college campus and at the First Missionary Church recently.

## Dining Department Receives Donations

Again through the thoughtfulness and generosity of church groups, the College has received some timely material gifts. Grateful acknowledgment is made to the Bluffton Missionary Church, Bluffton, Ohio, for a quantity of fruits and vegetables; to the Women's Missionary Society of the Swanton (Ohio) Missionary Church for 15 tea towels, 16 pot holders, and 4 kitchen aprons; and to the Clyde (Ohio) Missionary Church for two cartons of home-canned tomato juice, through the kindness of Mrs. E. G. Dilgart.

## The Patron's Council of Fort Wayne Bible College

helps you invest in eternal Spiritual values.

Watch for announcement of new plans and goals.

## Tozer, Derstine Booked For February Sessions

Rev. A. W. Tozer, pastor of the Christian Missionary Alliance Church of Chicago, has been booked for Spiritual Emphasis Week on the campus February 3-5. He will address morning chapel sessions and special evening services. Bishop C. F. Derstine, pastor of the First Mennonite Church of Kitchener, Ontario, is also scheduled for a series of special meetings on the campus during the week of February 15.

## South American Student Plans "Messiah" Translation

Gilberto Vargas, freshman student from Colombia, South America, plans to translate Handel's "Messiah" into Spanish during his course of study here at Fort Wayne Bible College. Vargas explains that a great need exists in his country for a higher type of Christian music. A friend, Dr. Luis A. Kuerha, now living in Boston, will assist him in final criticism of the translation. Vargas states, "I am certain that the 'Messiah' sung in my language will have a tremendous effect upon my people."



## Alumni Notes

### The "Messiah", A Spiritual Treat

I wish it could have been your privilege as it was mine to be among the fortunate alumni who could again participate in the annual presentation of Handel's "Messiah" at our Alma Mater. As you will read elsewhere in this issue, it was the "best yet." Those are not mere idle words, for they express the sentiments of everyone with whom I have talked. The soloists, the orchestra, and the choir all did exceptionally well. Brother Steiner was quickened by the Lord for his part. Technically and artistically it surpassed any of the former presentations that I know anything about. Yet beyond this fact was the very noticeable warmth of spirit evidenced by the singers. I felt that everyone sang "with grace in (our) hearts to the Lord." This was apparently noticeable even to the music critic from the local press. I believe everyone of the capacity audience as well as the active participants was made to realize afresh the riches we have in God by Christ Jesus, our Messiah.

We can be justly proud of our Alma Mater for the enlarged place she is filling in the Fort Wayne community as was evidenced by the wide publicity given in the local papers and by the overflow crowd. Her opportunity for an expanded ministry should strengthen our loyalty to her and make us even more willing to render whatever service we can in her behalf.

J. HARLAN WRIGHT, *President*  
Alumni Association

### Personnel . . .

Don ('43) and Ruth ('36-'39) Kelly (nee Ruth Dilgart) arrived on December 1, from Sierra Leone, Africa, for their second furlough.

Paul ('48) and Chloetta ('48) Erdel (nee Chloetta Egly) recently arrived in Ecuador, South America, to begin their first term of service with the Missionary Church Association staff there. Mr. Erdel was ordained to the ministry shortly before he left for the field.

### Wedding Bells . . .

Miss Priscilla Nickelson ('49) was married to Mr. Alton Knapp on October 4, 1953, at the West Richmond Friends Church, Richmond, Indiana. The Knapps are now working in Tennessee under the Tennessee Mountain Mission. They give Bible lessons in 42 rural elementary schools each month.

On September 3, 1953, Miss Joanna Ellen Minthorn (1948-49) was married to Mr. Robert Norman Klob, who is an architectural engineer. They are living in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Miss Betty Hirschy ('49) was married to Mr. Leon Schonely on November 1, 1953, in the First Mennonite Church of Berne, Indiana.

### In the Cradle . . .

A second daughter, Marguerite Joan, was born to Rev. and Mrs. Robert L. Bateman (nee Anne Grace Kontra, '45) on November 12, 1953. The Batemans are pastoring the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Ipswich, S. D.

A daughter, Lois Marie, was born to Mr. ('51) and Mrs. ('48-'50) Wendall Sousley on May 3, 1953.

## Golden Anniversary Year . . . 1904-1954

### The Vision

#### FORT WAYNE BIBLE COLLEGE

800 W. Rudisill Blvd.  
Fort Wayne 6, Indiana

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Form 3547 requested.

### Board Director Names Patrons Council Committee

A new Patrons' Council Planning Committee has been appointed by Mr. Shiril Hatfield, chairman of the Governing Board of the college. The committee met on Friday, December 18, to consider plans for increasing the Patrons' Council membership to 1,000.

Members of the committee are Dr. Milo Rediger, trustee; Mr. Arthur Ditmer, business manager; Dr. S. A. Witmer, president of the college; Prof. Morrow Cook, faculty representative; Rev. Harlan Wright, president of the Alumni Association; and Mr. Richard Gerig, director of promotion.

### CRITIC ACCLAIMS "MESSIAH"

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del's polyphony with clarity and thrilling richness of tone . . . the chorus paid careful attention to its diction . . . this, too, contributed in a large measure to the clear-cut character of the singing." He commended the conducting of Prof. Steiner by saying, "One could see that his leadership was both exacting and inspiring. It sprang from exceptional ability and reflected deep-felt devotion to the musical and the spiritual message of the great masterpiece . . . To him, Handel's Messiah, with its sublime and imperishable beauty, was all-important at the concert — not the man on the podium." Concluding his review, Mr. Hansen remarked, "Mr. Steiner, the chorus and the soloists have every right to hold their heads high after their inspiring presentation of Handel's Messiah. But I am sure that they will not do so, they will continue rather to approach the great masterpiece in the genuine humility of which I was aware Sunday afternoon."

Soloists for the presentation were Mrs. Vivian Buettner Welsh, soprano; Mrs. Dorothy Lugibihl Lehman, contralto; Ralph Nielsen, tenor; and Henry Simminger, baritone. Mrs. Robert Shambaugh was concert master, and Ira Gerig was organist.

