

SERVANT LINK

Connecting Retired Christian Workers & Friends of the NAB Conference

Journeying with Jesus Is a Joy If We Just Trust Him

BY RON AND JEAN STOLLER

We have been privileged to travel by car this summer from Oregon to Minnesota and then back again. The mountains, rivers, and open plains with the beautiful clouds and skies have been amazing to view. The sunrises and sunsets are also God's visible handiwork as we drive from early morning to late at night. In addition to the view, there are three parts of any trip we want to briefly reflect on as we journey with Jesus. Whether on a short walk or a long road trip, we need to go through intersections, inspections, and at times, insurmountable mountains.

There are many intersections in our lives. Whether it is only a small decision to turn right or left in a hallway, or it is a major decision to move into a new home, move to another stage of retirement, or make a medical choice, there is a time to turn and trust our Lord for his wisdom and direction. Sometimes on a highway traveling from state to state, there are inspection stations for trucks and even fishing boats. The content and permits need to be checked, evaluated, and possibly even purged, in addition to checking for invasive "hitchhikers." The same is true of our personal journeys.

Going over the Rocky Mountains involves a high mountain pass. It is one mile at a time to climb a high mountain, just as it is one day at a time to navigate through hard times of declining health, loss of family members, or adjustments to a new living location. All are mountains we must climb.

How do we journey through life? We are to trust and obey Jesus each mile of the way as we journey with him. Many roadside rest stops have a historical marker or observation point to view the scenery along the roads. Do we stop to rest and observe how God has provided for us and protected us as we proceed on this spiritual journey? How do we navigate those difficult segments in our lives? As we process happy times or sad times, do we take notice of how people take our hands, guide us, or push us carefully in those difficult times? God provides so much for us to be thankful for in our daily lives that I trust we all take time to stop and thank God for his blessings. He doesn't hide things from us, but he wants us to stop to praise him for his blessings upon us.

In Psalm 42:1-11, we are reminded to "yearn for him." Many of us have pains, problems, and pharmacy bills, and yet we have the joy of viewing sunsets, rainbows, and the face of Jesus as we praise him. He waits for us to praise his name and thank him for his compassion and care for us. We often barrel through a situation because we feel we need to deal with the issue ourselves. 1 Peter 5:7 says we should cast all our cares on him, for he cares for us. Sometime today, sing the old familiar hymn "Trust and Obey." As we journey with the Lord, take time to stop and remember he is directing us and wants to bless us daily.



IN GOD'S WAITING ROOM (90 AND OLDER)

Lenore Lang turned 94 in April and is doing fine in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Dorothy Zimbelman turned 95 in January and is also in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Ardath Effa turned 90 in April in Edmonton, Alberta.

Hans Rogalski of Winnipeg, Manitoba, turns 91 in October.

Rev. Pete Schroeder is in a care center in the Calgary, Alberta, area; he reached 100 in February.

Jennell Bertsch's mother, **Virginia Mauch**, in Elk Grove, California, turned 100 on November 26, 2021.

Elmer Breitzkreuz will turn 90 on September 16 in Edmonton, Alberta.

Lenora Freitag will turn 90 this fall in Medicine Hat, Alberta.

Jake (93) and Peggy (90) Leverette are living in Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

Reinhold Kerstan will turn 91 on November 12, 2022, in Sarasota, Florida.

Rev. Bruno (96) and Jean (90) Voss live in Edmonton, Alberta.

Who have we missed?

CELEBRATIONS

Audrey Littman celebrated her 88th birthday in June in Wetaskiwin, Alberta. Call her at (780) 352-5401.

Let us know if you had a celebration or reunion with NAB folks, and we will add that to the next Servant Link.

HOME TO GLORY

Ann Nora Unruh, 91, passed away on May 27, 2021, at the Good Samaritan Society in Windom, Minnesota. She was born and raised in the Mountain Lake, Minnesota, area. She married Kenneth in August 1952. They had four children, and she supported her husband's pastoral ministry in various activities, including being a gracious host to visiting clergy. Her funeral was at the Community Bible Church in Mountain Lake on June 5, 2021. For more information, contact gerald@newulmtel.net.

Kenneth Eugene Unruh, 90, passed into Christ's arms on June 12, 2021, in Mountain Lake, Minnesota. After marrying Ann Harder and graduating from NAB Seminary, he was ordained into ministry at a Kansas church in 1958. They served in NAB churches in North Dakota, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Iowa, and Minnesota. He was involved with hospital chaplain ministry for many years in St. Bonifacius, Minnesota, along with multiple denominational committees and boards. His service was at Community Bible Church in Mountain Lake, Minnesota, two weeks after his wife's funeral.

Wally Kroguletz, 84, went home to be with the Lord on November 8, 2021, in Abbotsford, British Columbia. Born in Mykolaiv, Ukraine, he received his education in Hamburg, at NAB Seminary, and at other schools. He was ordained in 1964 and

served as a bilingual pastor in Regina, Saskatchewan; Cleveland, Ohio; Vancouver, British Columbia; and Salem, Oregon, from 1964 to 1997, followed by interim pastoral work for seven years. He is survived by his wife, Lydia; three children; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Everyone who knew Wally knew "Opa" as enthusiastic in his work for the Lord and someone who cherished the Word of God. For a link to view the memorial, contact hayden_reh@outlook.com.

Darrel Heringer, 81, went to be with the Lord on January 2, 2022, while in Phoenix, Arizona. He met Carolyn J. Browen in Anamoose, North Dakota, and they were married in December 1966. Carolyn passed away in 2019. Darrel was an executive board member for NAB Seminary. In Arizona, he worked for Mayo Clinic in general services. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts in Darrel's memory are preferred to be sent to United Community Baptist Church C/O Mary Beck 2681 Hwy 14 NE Anamoose, ND 58710.

Adeline Kopf, 93, died on February 10, 2022, in Mesa, Arizona. Before she married Edward, she served as a missionary in Romania after WWII. Edward and Adeline ministered in Appleton, Minnesota; Startup and Odessa, Washington; Plevna, Montana; Herreid, South Dakota; Okeene, Oklahoma; and Napoleon, North Dakota until retirement in 1995. Edward died in 1999. Adeline lived for the past

few years in retirement communities in Phoenix, Arizona. Her brothers were Ernie Zimbelman and Rev. Robert Zimbelman, and she was an aunt to Clyde Zimbelman. An interment will be held in Wisconsin this summer. You can contact Clyde and Barb Zimbelman (cbzim@usa.net) for details.

Peter Eilert Fehr, 90, entered into his heavenly home on May 8, 2022, after a short illness. Peter and Doris were married at Faith Baptist Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1954 and were commissioned in Edmonton, Alberta, in August 1958 to go to Cameroon with the NAB medical team. Due to his health issues, they returned to the Twin Cities after ten years, where he was an OB/GYN and later served as a perinatologist until 2005. He volunteered with the NAB, seminary, and Baptist World Alliance for many years. The funeral was at Faith on June 7, 2022. The service is available at faithmpls.org/fehrfuneral. You can contact Peter's sister Marjorie Lang and her husband, Harold, at haroldlang@juno.com.

William "Bill" Charles Gingrich, 86, was received in the arms of his Savior, Jesus Christ, on May 11, 2022, at Willow Brook Christian Village in Delaware, Ohio. Bill married Jean Ann in 1964 and enjoyed fifty-five years together before her death, during which time they lived in Fort Wayne, Indiana; Rockford, Lima, and Delaware, Ohio; Apple Valley, Minnesota; and Lombard, Illinois. Bill held various finance positions for the NAB and Central Baptist Village. When Jean's Alzheimer's became advanced, Bill devoted himself to her

care. Funeral services were held May 21, 2022, and burial took place at Riverside Cemetery in Rockford, Ohio.

Verna Ruth Peter, 90, went to be with her Lord and Saviour on June 13, 2022. Verna's generous heart, witty sense of humor, dedication to the study of God's Word, boundless energy, ping-pong prowess, musical talents and piano playing, sewing skills, love of flowers and gardening, and friendly hospitality are just some of the things she will be remembered for. She had been on the Taylor Seminary Board, as well as part of a few other NAB initiatives. Her celebration of life was held on June 29 at Greenfield Community Church in Edmonton, Alberta. To view the service, go to greenfieldchurch.ca/vpeter.

Doris Alvina Fehr, 90, passed away on June 14, 2022, in hospice care. She attended Faith Baptist Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, since she was a child. Doris and Peter, her husband, served for ten years in Cameroon at Bansa Baptist Hospital and in Bamenda. Her secretarial skills supported the work. Doris tried to use their home for the glory of the Lord in any way she could. She enjoyed hosting many guests, including missionaries on furlough who came to Peter for physical exams. Doris called it a "real joy" to provide Sunday dinners for her extended family in her home each week. She was preceded in death by her husband, who was born just one week before she was and died thirty-seven days before she did. The memorial service was on July 6, 2022, at Faith; the livestream is available at faithmpls.org/fehrfuneral.

IN NEED OF PRAYER

Ted and Marietta Faszler ask for patience and wisdom as they have major house repairs on their home in South Dakota after two heavy windstorms in May. You can reach Ted at tedfaszer@gmail.com.

Walter Grob had a minor stroke while traveling in June. He is doing fine after an emergency flight to Johannesburg, South Africa. Pray for his recovery and their plans for an upcoming furlough assignment.

Reinhold Kerstan in Sarasota, Florida, is in assisted living in recovery from senior issues. His wife, **Inger**, is in rehab after recently breaking her shoulder but is soon to return to be with Reinhold. Their address is 4150 University Park Way, Apt. 304, Sarasota, FL 34243.

Lois Kramer completed five weeks of cancer treatment in May. Tom and Lois live in the greater Portland, Oregon, area. You can reach them at kramertrla@yahoo.com.

Elsie Lewandowski (elsielew55@gmail.com) received a "cancer free" clearance from the doctors and permission to leave for Romania on April 27 to start the next step of ministry working with the Bergman children. She writes, "Please thank everyone for their prayers," but keep praying.

Trudy Schatz is "holding her own" in assisted living in Edmonton, Alberta. Betty Mantay visits her from time to time.

Esther and Ken Schmuland in Post Falls, Idaho, report that Ken has been given a good report on his cancer and Esther is progressing well with her weekly radiation treatments.

ON THE MOVE

Dick and Beth Rabenhorst moved in April. Their new address is 2201 Horseshoe Lane, Apt. 127, Longview, TX 75605 and their phone number is (903) 806-3667.

Calvin and Susanne Hohn retired as missionaries in Cameroon at the end of June. They moved to Kelowna, British Columbia.

Ed Bartel moved to Florida from Sunkist Community Church in Anaheim, California, to do senior care chaplaincy ministry.

Rick Weber has moved to southern California after retiring last year as NorCal regional minister.

Daphne Dunger has moved to nursing care. Pray for her adjustment and mental care. Write her at 3901 SW Marion Road Apt. 407A, Sioux Falls, SD 57106 or email Randy Tschetter at rtschetter@sfseminary.edu.

Reinhold and Inger Kerstan moved to assisted care as both of them need extra care at this time. Call him at (941) 271-9133 or write at 4150 University Park Way, Apt. 304, Sarasota, FL 34243.

RETIREMENT

Rev. Delvin and Evelyn Bertsch have moved to Medicine Hat, Alberta, after retiring from pastoring NAB churches.

At the end of 2020, **Lee and Jennell Bertsch** retired from Zion Baptist Community Church in Edmonton, Alberta. They are still involved with member care at Zion.

Wayne Bibelheimer (wbeebbs@sbcglobal.net) retired at the end of April as visitation pastor at Quail Lakes Baptist Church in Stockton, California. He and his

wife, Cheryl, will remain in Stockton to be near family and friends and their church.

Dr. Allan Effa, professor of Intercultural Studies, is retiring at the end of this academic year after thirty years of teaching at Taylor Seminary.

Carol Potratz (carol.potratz@yahoo.com) was given a retirement celebration in May by Zion Baptist Church in Edmonton, Alberta, after forty-nine years of Christian service.

Last year, **Tim Schroeder** retired from preaching after many years at Trinity Baptist Church. He still resides in Kelowna, British Columbia.

Dr. Jerry Shepherd, Old Testament professor at Taylor Seminary, retired this summer.

Fredric (Dirk) Spalding retired as lead pastor at Pilgrim Baptist Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at the end of 2020. They are residing near family in Philadelphia.

IN THE KNOW

Dr. Ron Hiller, well-known in the NAB family for his work in medical missions in Nigeria and Cameroon, has published a book entitled *And Then the Phone Rang....* The arresting title refers to the phone call he received from Dr. Schilke, which began a journey of faith serving as a physician in Africa under very challenging conditions. The book is an informative and captivating account of his role in NAB missions in Africa and can be obtained online from FriesenPress or Amazon in both paperback and as an e-book. Ron and Marion can be reached at rmhiller2@gmail.com or (604) 777-9009.

For more information on these items or new information for the next edition of *Servant Link*, please contact Ron and Joan Stoller at Stoller@Japan.email.ne.jp

or by phone, either
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