Coming Next Issue:

§ A Trip to South Africa by Amy Bates
§ Tributes to Rev. David Letts
§ General Conference pictures
Revival is the best and only hope for both the church and the world until Jesus Christ returns for the saints in the Rapture and—soon thereafter—with his saints to rule and reign. It is the personal revival of true spiritual life which alone can restore and rekindle the perfect love of God in the hearts of His people. It is the same spiritual revival which will enable the church to properly reach out to a lost world and to truly persuade them by the all-consuming, compelling love of Christ to cast their souls at His feet. It is this type of revival which will honor the Holy Spirit and allow Him both to sanctify (purify and fill) the individual’s heart and to give the proper motivation, vision and enabling power to His temple/church upon earth, “which temple ye are.”

It is true revival which refocuses the hearts of Christians upon what is most important: that the will of God be done regardless of the earthly cost. Revival of this sort makes men out of boys, messengers of God out of sermonizers, saints out of sinners, mothers out of barren busybodies, soul-winners out of selfish pleasure-seekers, and martyrs out of complacent pew-warmers.

At times in the history of our country (the USA), it was true spiritual revival which brought to life churches long-dead with dry formality and lifeless dogma. People about whom it was said, “There is no hope,” were soon converted through the powerful convicting and convincing power of the Holy Spirit and by the miraculous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. I have read of churches, back in what we call the “Days of Revival,” which had not had a true revival in 20 or more years. Nothing is impossible with God, and, therefore, “Nothing shall be impossible” unto those who believe in Him.

Is NOT God the God of impossibilities? Is He NOT the God Who answers prayer—true prayer, humble, obedient and believing prayer? If the answers to these rhetorical questions are YES—and certainly they are as surely as the Bible is the Word of God, then the “people of God” should be running to Him through prayer and obedience like they never have before—or at least like they never have in a very long time.

2 Chronicles 7:14 is still one of the very best revival texts in the whole Bible:

“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”
Earlier this year, I was given the assignment of writing a paper on “Revival Vision” for our preacher’s meeting. The following is a portion of the article that I submitted.

I’m sitting here on the back pew listening to the final testimonies of the revival. The needs printed in the church prayer list have all been met. Sinners have been repentant. Backsliders have been reclaimed. Saints have been refreshed. New faces are seen in the fellowship. New faith is declared without reservation. The Presence of the Lord has been felt. The Power of God has been displayed. The Peace of God has been found. Tenderhearted children have been in the altar. Peer pressured teenagers have new zeal. Young couples found new commitment. A father realized his responsibilities. A mother regained her peace. A senior saint recognized their usefulness. Priorities have been evaluated. Restitutions have been made. Prayer rooms were full. Many were baptized. Looking back we can truly say, this has been the best revival our church has ever witnessed.

Yes, that is where I was when the alarm clock went off this morning. I was brought back to reality very quick. But you must admit that it was a pretty good dream. Or was it a vision?

I have a vision of revival as verb. An action verb, if you will. Something that challenges me to evaluate my direction and priorities. Something that causes me to open my heart to an all-knowing God and allow Him to search every motive and try every rein. Something that produces a desire to be more effect in the place of prayer and in the harvesting of souls for the Kingdom’s sake.

It is time to have revival in our souls, in our homes, in our church and in our land. Yes, it is time that we shake the dust of this spiritually dead day and purpose in our hearts that we will not let the enemy rob us of the blessings that God has stored up for us.

Catch a vision of revival. Instead of attending it, experience it. In place of talking about revival, become a doer of the word and not just a hearer. Instead of going to it, take it with you wherever you go. May God revive us again as we see His Day approaching!

~SRS

I would suggest the following books to read in conjunction with your preparation for a personal revival:

- The Price of Revival - J. D. Drysdale
- Life in the Spirit - Richard S. Taylor
- Why Revival Tarries - Leonard Ravenhill
- Revival God’s Way - Leonard Ravenhill
- Revival Lectures - Charles G. Finney
- A Symposium on Revivals - Charles V. Fairbairn
- The Revival and the Pastor - J. O. Peck

~SRS
SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS
September 22-24, 2008
Penn View Bible Institute
Penns Creek, Pennsylvania

Leonard Sankey
CHAIRMAN

Frank Heidler
Robert Luther
Albert Barr

Barry Arnold
Donald Myers
Darrell Stetler

Larry Pettit
Michael Williams
John Whitaker

John Zechman
Host President
Timothy Cooley, Sr.
Event Coordinator

Penn View Bible Institute is located approximately 50 miles north of Harrisburg, PA, in the town of Penns Creek. Penns Creek is midway between Mifflinburg & Middleburg just off PA Route 104. Once in the town of Penns Creek, turn north onto Raspberry Street (look for the Penn View sign). The campus is at the crest of the hill. Proceed to the G.I. Straub Tabernacle where all of the School of the Prophets sessions are being held.

Limited on-campus lodging is available on a first-come basis. Contact these area motels for convention discounts.

Comfort Inn (Selinsgrove) -- 570-374-8880
Quality Inn (Shamokin Dam) -- 570-743-1111
Days Inn - University (Lewisburg) -- 570-523-1171

Monday, September 22, 2008
7:30 pm - 7:30 pm Evening Rally ~ Donald Myers

Tuesday, September 23, 2008
9:00 am - 9:30 am Devotional ~ John Whitaker
9:30 am - 9:40 am Break
9:40 am - 10:30 am Session I ~ Robert Luther
"Patriotism & the Prophetic Ministry"
10:30 am - 10:40 am Respondent
10:40 am - 10:50 am Break
10:50 am - 11:40 am Session II ~ Michael Williams
"Preaching Holiness in a Post Modern World"
11:40 am - 11:50 am Respondent
11:50 am - 1:00 pm Lunch Break
1:00 pm - 1:30 pm Open Forum ~ chaired by Timothy Cooley
1:40 pm - 2:30 pm Session III ~ Albert Barr
"Maintaining Faith in Times of Spiritual Decline & Difficulty"
2:30 pm - 2:40 pm Respondent
2:40 pm - 2:50 pm Break
2:50 pm - 3:40 pm Session IV ~ Larry Pettit
"New Testament Church Life - Balancing Community & Personal Spiritual Development"
3:40 pm - 3:50 pm Respondent
3:50 pm - 7:00 pm Break & Evening Meal
7:30 pm - 7:30 pm Evening Rally ~ Barry Arnold

Wednesday, September 24, 2008
9:00 am - 9:30 am Devotional ~ Frank Heidler
9:30 am - 9:40 am Break
9:40 am - 10:30 am Session V ~ Randy Neville
"Building the Holiness Church"
10:30 am - 10:40 am Respondent
10:40 am - 10:50 am Break
10:50 am - 11:40 am Session VI ~ Darrell Stetler
"The Interior Life - Holiness Enthroned"
11:40 am - 11:50 am
12:00 noon- 12:00 pm Response & Summation ~ Leonard Sankey
Dismissal
“Without the manifest presence of the Holy Ghost any church is a failure. It may be a great machine, wheels within wheels, but it is without life and power. Such an organization bears the same relation to the Church of Christ that a dead body bears to the man. A dead body is organized matter; it is in the form, and has the appearance of a man, but for all purposes for which a man was created it is a useless thing, so with a church. It is organized humanity; in many respects it looks like the real thing; but for the purposes for which the Church was called into being, it is utterly useless. It may amuse, entertain, instruct men, but to lift men out of their sins and take sin out of them, it is powerless to do so.

If Jesus Christ baptizes with the Holy Ghost, and we profess to be His followers, then we ought to have His baptism. If we bear His Name, and this baptism is the peculiar fact of this dispensation, then it is ours to have, and lead others to it. A so-called church which will not press it upon men is unworthy of the name. We are to seek life, abundant life, through the baptism with the Holy Ghost. It is He who purifies, who opens and makes vivid the Word of the Lord, and imparts power to proclaim and witness to the truth. And when He finds a dwelling place in human hearts, He will convince other souls of sin and righteousness and judgment, and the work of the Lord will go on. God has provided for conquest; He has arranged that His Church should march from victory to victory.

Dr. P. F. Bresee
Founder of the Church of the Nazarene

To the Pilgrim Nazarene People:

We want all to know that we appreciate what the Third General Conference voted to do for us financially. We are grateful for every kindness shown.

Brother and Sister Hayford

Thank you, ladies, for the beautiful coral roses, nice card and cash gift. That was so kind of you. Be assured the money will be used for something special. I have enjoyed so much the last four and one half years being in your homes visiting with you. I love every one of you.

Sister Hayford

Attention Church Treasurers

All designated monies need to be sent to the new General Treasurer:

Rev. Michael Covington
655 W. Cherokee Rd.
Duncan, OK 73533
phone: 580.255.5717
E-mail: mcovington@pilgrinnazarene.org
Dear Young People and Friends,

I want to say a great big “Thank You” for being a part of this year’s camp. I cannot tell you how great it was to be with you. The Spirit that we felt and the fun that we had is one of the greatest highlights of my ministry. I cannot tell you how much I love all of you and thank you for letting me be a part of your life! Some great victories were won and some decisions were made that will last through eternity.

I also want to thank all of the Bible Schools that had a part of the youth camp. I feel we were graced with some of the finest young people in the world. Your participation and influence played a big part in impacting young people for God. Thank you for taking the time to be a part of us. Allegheny, GBS, Hobe Sound, Penn View, and Union Bible College, I want you to know you are always welcome to be a part of our youth camp.

Thank you to all the adults who made a difference at our youth camp—especially those of you who worked and labored to make sure all the details were complete. I cannot tell you what a privilege it was to work with you. I love you all so very much and pray God’s blessing on you for your sacrifice.

Thank you to all who contributed by praying and giving for the youth camp. God used the gift you gave and lives were changed for His glory.

May God keep you through these difficult times. Remember to keep your eyes on Jesus, for His smile on your life is really all that matters.

God Bless you all.

Sincerely,
Your Friend,
Pastor Troy

Rev. Troy Truitt is the Sunday School and Youth Evangelism Chairman of the Pilgrim Nazarene Church. He can be reached at 573.243.6278 or youth@pilgrimnazarene.org.
Too Close to the Edge

August was vacation time in the Flanagan home. Dad (Frank Flanagan) announced that he had an extra week off this year, so they were going to be able to take a trip to Colorado, following camp meeting. Buddy, their only child, was also thrilled to hear the news that they were taking his cousin with them. Buddy was 9—almost 10, and he looked up to his cousin, Jerry, who was almost 12. The boys were really excited about seeing the Rocky Mountains. Living in the flat lands of Kansas, they had never seen any “honest to goodness” mountains.

Camp meeting was very spiritually refreshing to the Flanagan family. Buddy asked Jesus to come into his heart and be his Savior during one of the children’s meetings. Jerry said that was “baby stuff,” so escaped as often as he could from the children’s services. In fact, Jerry was so used to having his own way; he found it difficult to obey his aunt and uncle. They wondered if they had made a mistake in bringing him along. It seemed he was always “pushing the limit.” As his Uncle Frank said, “Jerry always gets too close to the edge.” He tried to impress on Jerry that if he did not change his ways, one day he might just go over the edge and destroy himself.

Early Monday morning, after camp meeting, they all piled in the pick-up truck and left for Colorado. They arrived at the RV Park in the afternoon, and after getting their RV in its proper place, they unhooked the pick-up and headed to find a place to eat, before settling down for the night.

The next day they visited Royal Gorge. How excited the boys were when they all crossed the gorge in a tram. It was kind of scary— but that was part of the fun! Next was the climb up to Pike’s Peak. That, too, was kind of scary. It was such a long ways up and the road seemed so narrow...but Buddy was confident that they would be safe, because his dad was a good driver. They were almost to the top, when what should happen—a tire blew out! Dad found as safe a place as he could, and proceeded to change the tire. The boys jumped out and decided to “explore.” Mom called to them, “Stay close to the truck and don’t go near the edge!” Jerry just laughed and said he was going to get as close to the edge as he could so he could see wa-a-ay down the mountain. 1-2-3-4 steps, and Jerry was right on the edge! Then(!) the dirt on the edge began to crumble—and over the edge he went. Buddy yelled for his dad, who came running. He quickly assessed the situation and told Buddy to get the rope out of the truck. Fortunately, Jerry had landed on a ledge a few feet below. Mr. Flanagan tied a loop in the rope and lowered it to Jerry, telling him to put it around him and hold on tight. Mr. & Mrs. Flanagan and Buddy all pulled on the rope, bringing Jerry safely back to the top.

Except for a few bruises and some torn clothing, Jerry seemed to be okay, but he was pretty well “shook up.” This was a great opportunity for his Uncle Frank to show Jerry how dangerous it was not to obey, and the danger of getting too close to the edge!

Do you think Jerry learned his lesson? I’m happy to tell you he did. He also asked Jesus to come into his heart and be his Savior. Jerry returned home a different boy than he was when he left.

With love,
Grandma D

Mrs. Dorothy Tiethoff is “Grandma D.” She would love to hear from you! Her e-mail address is grandmadt@juno.com.
Do you ever feel the need for soul revival? Do you ever long for that fresh outpouring of God’s blessed Spirit to your heart and life? There are some times we are the one who controls whether our hearts will be revived or not. There are times it is up to us to make the next move. God invites us to come to Him and promises by His Word if we will do that, He will draw near to us and meet our every longing of heart for more of His presence and power within us. Many times we hold ourselves off from God just because of our own humanity. We feel unworthy, inferior, or like God may not have an interest or time for us. But that is not the truth, God longs for us to come to Him, to seek Him and He longs to reward those who diligently seek Him.

David had to take control of himself and not let the circumstances of life dictate his next move; remember they wanted to take his life. He could not let the opinions of other people affect him; when all looked lost and hopeless, David got alone somewhere and encouraged himself in the Lord. He remembered what God had done in the past, and that revived a hope of what He can do in the present, and that gave courage to look to the future.

Another individual who did something similar was Elijah, when he went and sat under the juniper tree and requested for himself that he might just die. Did he really want to die? No, he didn’t. If he did, he could have stayed in town, and Jezebel would have seen to that within the next twenty-four hours. We see in the context that Elijah was physically exhausted, mentally over taxed, and spiritually depleted and depressed. We see only a part of Elijah’s prayer is made available for us to read, the unseen part is Elijah pouring out his heart to God, God listening, and then Elijah going to sleep. The next thing that happened was that God ministered to his need, God sent real revival to the heart, soul, and spirit of Elijah, and he arose and went in the strength of this new found touch and anointing. There are times we must do the same thing if we are to have revival within us. We must get alone and pour our heart out to God in prayer and wait upon Him to revive, refresh, and revitalize the power that works within us. If you will do that, you will have a real revival within your heart.

~LWP

Rev. Larry Pettit pastors the Pilgrim Nazarene Church in Indianapolis, IN
Undoubtedly the greatest need of the hour is a nation-wide revival of true Bible religion. The unbelief in the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures, the doubt being disseminated with reference to the Godhead, sacrificial death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the extravagant living, the immorality, the indecency and lawlessness of our times, can only be met and the tide of sin turned back with a great revival of true religion.

We need a revival of the John Wesley type that will touch the mighty masses of the common people, that will kindle the holy fires of spiritual life among the sinners, among the countless thousands of men employed in the great foundries and factories. We need a revival that will spread among the reckless, wicked masses of humanity in the neglected districts of our great cities where lawlessness carries a high head and a defiant spirit, where the underworld is breaking all bounds and becoming a godless and lawless world. We need a revival that will touch the very lowest stratum of society and work up through all grades of people, reaching the most highly educated and wealthy.

The power of God is a transforming power. If we will take the gospel net and drag it about the mouth of the coal pit, the foundry, the factory, and in the districts of drunkenness, lewdness, and lawlessness, we will catch the multitudes of men and women who will become shining lights and great spiritual factors in the kingdom of God. We are classing the miners and laboring men of the nation with the outcasts of society, but we are simply thinking of how little is being done, comparatively, with either one of these classes of humanity that numbers into the millions; that ought to be brought to Christ, and must be brought to Christ, if we preserve the integrity of our nation and nurture and go forward with a progressive civilization.

As for the people who are telling us that the days of revivals are passed we will not take time to argue or debate with them. They are utterly wrong. Their mouths ought to be shut. They have neither the faith of God, the love for humanity, nor the zeal for souls that should characterize ministers of the gospel or a lay people fit for church membership. There are countless thousands of lost souls about us everywhere that never can or will be saved without strenuous revival efforts. There must be the rallying of the church membership, a degree of postponement of business, entertainments and all legitimate work of housekeeping, farming and merchandise that can be curtailed for a time, and the gathering of the people in the sanctuary. There must be earnest praying, evangelistic preaching, and stirring singing to attract and impress the people. We must arouse the community. We must have an awakening. We must bring the lost to Christ.

We need a revival in this nation of the Charles G. Finney type. He preached about God, His law, His will, His right to reign in His universe. He preached of God’s holiness, His presence, His displeasure with sin, the unspeakable gift of His Son, the authority of His Word, the presence of His Holy Spirit. He preached these great truths until men awoke to the fact that God was in the midst of them, that He knew them, their deeds, their thought, their sins, their neglect of prayer, their neglect of the Bible, their neglect of family religion, their profanity, their dishonesty, their impurity. They awoke to the fact that a holy God had His eye on them, that their only hope was repentance, speedy, deep and genuine. We need to have the pulpits of this land thunder out with authority against unbelief and wickedness, Sabbath desecration and sin of every kind. We should not be hesitating and waiting for somebody to appear, some woman, some girl in short dresses, or some twelve-year-old boy to attract attention and draw the multitude out of curiosity. But what we need is that the preachers of all denominations, in their pastorates, everywhere, awake to a sense of their responsibility; to realize that God is going to hold them accountable for the souls that sit under their ministry, that they must appear at the judgment seat of Christ and that God will not hold them guiltless if they have let the time pass, collected money, erected churches and given entertainments and failed to warn the sinful and win the lost to Jesus. May God arouse the ministry to go to believing, preaching and praying for a mighty spiritual awakening.

—The Pentecostal Herald.
Sanctification

“Of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us ... sanctification.” 1 Corinthians 1:30

The Life Side. The mystery of sanctification is that the perfections of Jesus Christ are imparted to me, not gradually, but instantly when by faith I enter into the realization that Jesus Christ is made unto me sanctification. Sanctification does not mean anything less than the holiness of Jesus being made mine manifestly.

The one marvellous secret of a holy life lies not in imitating Jesus, but in letting the perfections of Jesus manifest themselves in my mortal flesh. Sanctification is “Christ in you.” It is His wonderful life that is imparted to me in sanctification as real in me as it is in His word?

Sanctification means the impartation of the Holy qualities of Jesus Christ. It is His patience, His love, His holiness, His faith, His purity, His godliness, that is manifested in and through every sanctified soul. Sanctification is not drawing from Jesus the power to be holy; it is drawing from Jesus the holiness that was manifested in Him, and He manifests it in me. Sanctification is an impartation, not an imitation. Imitation is on a different line. In Jesus Christ is the perfection of everything, and the mystery of sanctification is that all the perfections of Jesus are at my disposal, and I begin to live a life of ineffable order and sanity and holiness: “Kept by the power of God.”

Oswald Chambers