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**NAPCE 2005-Rochester, MN, October 20-22**

# Making A Difference

*Educational Leadership for the 21st Century Church*

Eileen Starr, President

**I**n the lobby of the Kahler Grand Hotel just across the street from the Mayo Clinic in downtown Rochester, Elaine Becker and I met an Iranian doctor studying laser dermatology at the town's world famous hospital. She shared with us about her recent learning opportunities and how the clinic's research, education, and treatment of patients deeply impressed her. This visiting physician's respect for her medical colleagues was evident. She admitted, "I learned much more than I thought I would learn." I am certain that upon returning to her home country she will make a difference because of the time spent in Rochester. **NAPCE gathers in this same location October 20-22 and I believe that our time together will likewise be encouraging and equipping. I trust that each of us will return home a "difference maker" having spent time with colleagues in Rochester.**

Excellence in any field is highly valued. In Rochester, I became aware of the medical research excellence that surrounded me. The Mayo Clinic and the adjacent hospitals are committed to finding new and better ways to practice medicine and treat patients. They are known for their innovations in medicine. They were the first to network health care professionals. They have developed treatments for ailments that most doctors thought were untreatable. As I toured the Mayo Clinic I was impressed by the all around excellence of the facility – the way patients are treated and processed, the way medical records are computerized and networked, and the helpful way staff deal with visitors. In particular, I noted the emphasis on education for health care professionals and patients. A computerized medical library is even made available to the public! Certainly we all need to strive for excellence in whatever we do – in teaching, developing leaders,

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*Gary Bredfeldt presents Larry Richards with the 2004 Warren S. Benson Distinguished Christian Educator Award at last year's Orlando Conference.*

in research, and program development. **Let's gather this fall and think together about how to excel in the field of Christian Education.**

We say we value networking, but we struggle to find ways to do it. The medical-related networking I saw in Rochester inspired me. A collection of tunnels, skywalks, medical libraries, medical specialists, transport personnel, offices, labs, and hotels link together for the purpose of promoting effective care and treatment of patients. NAPCE pursues a similar professional role. We are committed to equipping leaders who will be able to make disciples. This demands the networking of truth and practice through the disciplines of Bible, Theology, Practical Theology, Spiritual Formation, Teaching, Leadership, and many others. The Christian education professional and leader link these areas together in a community of learners. At the Rochester conference you will have an opportunity to focus on the leadership needs of the church and discuss how to prepare leaders who will be able to make disciples in and through churches. Pastor Leith Anderson and Gary McIntosh will be assisting us in this process. **Don't miss this opportunity to network with your peers and these visiting church leaders.**

Leith Anderson, Senior Pastor of Wooddale Church, Eden Prairie, Minnesota is author of *A Church for the 21st Century*, *Dying for Change*, *Leadership that Works*, *Praying to the God you Can Trust*, and *Becoming Friends with God*. He has been Senior Pastor of Wooddale Church since 1977, giving leadership to a growing and changing ministry. He has been an astute observer of church life and ministry, sharing his insights through his writings and training of others at his "laboratory church." Leith has been a friend of

NAPCE for many years, speaking at the 1991 conference in Atlanta. His ministry leadership experience, and insights into congregational life over the last three decades, equip him well to lead us through sessions dealing with the development of leaders for the church and the challenge of leading in times of change and transition. We look forward to our time together with this innovative veteran.

Dr. Gary McIntosh, Professor of Christian Ministry and Leadership, Talbot School of Theology is author of *One Church, Four Generations*; *One Size Doesn't Fit All*, *Staff Your Church for Growth*, and *Church that Works*. He has been studying the church for over twenty years. His recent work and publications on the interaction of generations within the church, changing ministry models, and church leadership and staff issues, equips him to help us look at the educational leadership needs of the church in this new century. Dr. McIntosh will show us where the church is growing and going, and the emerging ministry approaches that can impact our efforts to equip leaders for the church. What he shares will be challenging, and the resulting dialog should be very fruitful for our teaching ministries.

While in Rochester I hope you will take advantage of the many opportunities for networking, examining church models, reviewing current research, and learning from professionals in many fields. You may also want to tour the Mayo Clinic, see what I saw, and hear about its core values and philosophy. NAPCE is what we make it and in many ways the field of Christian Education will be what we make it. Come and focus on the possibilities and the challenges. **Let's make a difference. ■**

## Conference Schedule

### Thursday, October 20

2:00-5:45pm Registration  
3:00-5:00pm Mayo Clinic Tour  
5:00-5:45pm Opening Reception  
6:00-7:00pm Dinner  
7:00-8:45pm Worship/Welcoming  
*Plenary 1:* Leith Anderson: "Leading Through Transitions"  
Discussion  
8:45-9:15pm Awards/Recognitions  
9:15pm 1st Time Attendee Reception

### Friday, October 21

7:45-8:30am Breakfast  
8:30-10:00am Worship  
*Plenary 2:* Gary McIntosh: "Where the Church is Growing and Going"  
Discussion  
10:00-10:30am Break and Exhibits  
10:30-11:20am Seminars  
11:30-12:30pm Networking Groups I  
12:40-1:30pm Lunch  
1:45-2:45pm Seminars  
3:00-4:15pm *Plenary 3:* Gary McIntosh: "Emerging Ministry Approaches"  
Discussion  
4:15-5:30pm Exhibits, Special Group Meetings  
5:30 through evening Dinner out, sightseeing, theater, etc.

### Saturday, October 22

7:45-8:30am Breakfast  
8:30-9:30am Seminars  
9:45-10:45am Networking Groups II  
10:45-11:15am Break and check-out from hotel  
11:15-12:00pm *Plenary 4:* Leith Anderson: "Leadership for the 21st Century"  
12:00-12:45pm Panel with Anderson and MacIntosh  
Closing Worship

**Post-Conference Options:** The AYME conference begins shortly after the NAPCE conference ends. If you are teaching in the field of youth ministry, this is an excellent addition to your weekend schedule. We are also planning some sightseeing options to Minneapolis and St. Paul, providing opportunities to visit church ministries on Saturday night. More details at the conference.

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# VISITING ROCHESTER: *Things to Do*

Elaine Becker, New NAPCE Board Member

As a new board member I am very excited about our October conference. I have visited Rochester on a number of previous occasions and am familiar with many of the tourist opportunities in the area. One benefit of a NAPCE conference is the opportunity to socialize with colleagues. The Rochester area has a wide array of cultural events and unique attractions for your consideration. One of the country's largest Amish communities is a short drive away!

To begin with, our hotel is rich with a stately charm not found in many hotels. The facility offers many great rooms for break-out sessions and networking opportunities. It sits across the street from the Mayo Clinic and is connected by elaborate underground walkways (called "subways") to the entire downtown area. This fascinating network of hospitals, hotels and shopping areas is a Rochester highlight. The Mayo Clinic is positioned at the center of this web.

We are taking advantage of this location by offering an afternoon session on Thursday October 20th. One of the educational faculty from the Mayo Clinic will address us on the values and goals of their unique education system and give us a tour of the facility. You will not want to miss this scheduled activity because the Clinic is closed on the weekend. Showcasing the clinic at the conference seems fitting since it has demonstrated international leadership in terms of innovation, integration and impact in the medical field. As a place of refuge for the sick it fulfills its mission as a hospital by embracing

the true meaning of hospice. Can NAPCE learn from this model?

Another opportunity is The Commonweal Theatre Company located in the charming town of Lanesboro, Minnesota less than an hours drive from Rochester. The spectacular rolling hills of the area should be glowing with color in October. The company will be performing *Scapin* on October 21 and *The Importance of Being Earnest* on October 22. Both shows begin at 8:00 p.m. A group rate of \$15 a person instead of the regular price of \$20 is available for groups of 10 or more.

Some may wish to visit the Mall of America near Minneapolis, the largest fully enclosed retail and family entertainment complex in the United States. The retail hours are Monday-Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. The mall is about an hour away from the hotel.

Also of interest is the Mayowood Mansion, a 50 room mansion which was home to three generations of the Mayo family. Guided tours are available from April through October.

Unless you need to get home early from the conference—stay over and sign up for an event that interests you. Costs are nominal. We will work on travel arrangements as needed. Check the NAPCE conference websites for updates on these and other possible outings. You will also hear more about these during the conference. I'll see you there! ■

## Getting to Rochester

To get to Rochester for the NAPCE conference, you can fly into Rochester and take a 15-20 minute shuttle ride to the hotel or you can fly into Minneapolis and take the shuttle to the hotel in Rochester. The shuttle from Minneapolis will take you 1.5 hours. Make reservations with Rochester Direct (800-280-9270) and indicate that you are with NAPCE. We have an agreed upon price of \$32 for a round trip. To find the shuttle, go to carousel 8 on the baggage level. Take the escalator down. Go across the lobby and up the escalator on the other side. Follow the signs for ground transportation. The shuttle is located next to Super Shuttle. Be sure to take the Rochester Direct shuttle. The trip is pleasant, mostly past farmland.

## Know Anyone Retiring this Year?

We would like to honor NAPCE members who are retiring. Please e-mail Eileen Starr (EstarAK@aol.com) the name of any NAPCE members recently retired or planning to soon. Come to the NAPCE conference October 20-22 and join in the celebration. ■

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# NAPCE Member Perspectives:

## Member Survey Report

Eileen Starr, President

At the 2004 NAPCE Conference in Orlando participants were asked to reflect on two questions: What are the core values you want to see in NAPCE? What would you like an organization like NAPCE to be like if you were starting it today?

### *What are the core values you want to see in NAPCE?*

The core values expressed by most of the members were **networking, research, transformation, education and excellence**. Networking in its various forms (relationships, community, sharing, partnering, collaborating) is very important to our members. Members also want research to be an integral part of who we are and what we do. Research must be a foundational focus of our field. As educators, we also value our task and want to see education result in transformation. In all that NAPCE does, it must be done with excellence. We understand ourselves to be men and women of faith who desire to be effective servants in the Kingdom of God. As we approach our discipline in the current culture, our core values must be reflected in who we are and what we do. The NAPCE Board has reviewed the core values and will strive to reflect them in conferences and other NAPCE projects.

### *What kind of an organization do you want NAPCE to be?*

The members overwhelmingly expressed a desire for NAPCE to focus on networking. NAPCE would network affinity groups, partner with other organizations and people in other disciplines. We would share ideas, textbook recommendations, sample syllabi and other resources. Networking would be done at annual conferences, in regional gatherings and through the website. The networking would include formal and informal times and also a global/multicultural aspect.

The professional organization envisioned by our members would make effective use of its website for communication and research. Research would be promoted, and presented by NAPCE members.

Members also want a professional organization that focuses on the “cutting edge” of the field of Christian Education and encourages its members to be “pioneers” in the field. The organization would be “mission” focused and “church centered.”

The current NAPCE board has reviewed these core values, ideas, and concerns. The perspectives of our members will have a significant influence on the future strategies and plans for NAPCE as a professional organization. You will begin to see more networking opportunities develop. Research will be encouraged and will have an important place in our conferences. We will strive to deal with current issues in our field at our annual meetings. Some of the suggested ideas will take more time to develop and implement. The NAPCE Board seeks to serve you and assist you in your ministry. Please continue to give us your input. We would like to hear your ideas of how to implement the plans and concerns you have expressed. Use our website to communicate with us (NAPCE.org) or e-mail any NAPCE board members. ■



*Ted Ward and Kenn Gangel visit at the Orlando Conference*

### **Update:**

## **Christian Educators of the 20th Century Web-based Database Project**

This major effort has been underway for three and a half years, and a lot of progress has been made. Of 175 entries, 163 have been assigned to writers, about 75 have been completed, about 55 have been posted, and we anticipate getting everything in by the end of the grant period in June 2006. The website has a new, easy to remember address: [ce20.org](http://ce20.org). Check it out! Anyone interested in working on any of the remaining entries, please contact Kevin Lawson at: [kevin.lawson@biola.edu](mailto:kevin.lawson@biola.edu). ■

# Meet the New Board Members (Class of 2008)

## *Elaine Becker*

Elaine has been a member of NAPCE since 1989 when she headed up the Christian Education Department of the William and Catherine Booth Bible College in Winnipeg, Canada. She served with The Salvation Army for over 34 years in a variety of positions; pastoring congregations, youth director in some congregations, administration in a variety of social institutions for people facing life crisis of mental health and homelessness. Her focus has been on the area of professional development for clergy in The Salvation Army. Elaine has taught in three Salvation Army colleges, given oversight to a Salvation Army program at Olivet Nazarene University in Illinois and taught as adjunct faculty at Trinity International University, Deerfield Illinois for 8 years. She is currently semi-retired, having taken retirement from The Salvation Army to be involved as the Director of Degree Completion at Tyndale University College in Toronto, Canada. In her spare time she is also involved in teaching and giving leadership to the local church and hopes to do some writing in the near future.

## *Paul Bramer*

Paul is associate professor of Christian Education, director of the Master of Arts in Christian Education program, and Chair of the Spiritual Formation Field at North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago. He is ordained in the Evangelical Covenant Church. Formerly a youth worker and school teacher in Canada, he has taught students at all levels, from elementary to graduate. Paul has degrees in history, education, administration, and Christian education; his doctoral dissertation was on the relationship between psychological types (MBTI) and spirituality styles. Paul's professional interests include education, Christian formation, leadership studies, and education using the Internet. His personal interests include traveling, music, and reading. His wife Marlene is a hospice nurse.

## *Robert Drov Dahl*

Bob became a member of NAPCE when he joined the faculty at Seattle Pacific University in 1982. Prior to 1982 he served two years on the pastoral staff of Christ Church in Oak Brook, Illinois and four years as director of a Christian camp. His Ph.D. studies were under Ted Ward at Michigan State University. He currently teaches half-time while co-directing the SERVE (Spiritual and Educational Resources for Vocational Education) program at SPU, a grant program funded by the Lilly Endowment. He is a member of Shoreline Covenant Church and currently chairs the Congregational Life & Leadership Commission for the North Pacific Conference of the Covenant Church. He's attended 17 of the past 23 NAPCE conferences, including the past 10 in a row. Bob's teaching areas include leadership, Bible study methods, adult ministry, Christian formation, and human development, values & ethics. His research interests focus on developmental theory, practical theology, and faith formation.

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## NAPCE Board Members

### CLASS OF 2006

**Eileen Starr** - President  
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**Kevin Lawson** - Vice President (2005)  
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### CLASS OF 2008

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## Religious Education Press Continues

As many people in the profession know, the founder of Religious Education Press, Dr. James Michael Lee, passed away on July 15, 2004. Professor Lee was a well-respected religious educator and prolific writer. He is greatly missed by many; nevertheless, a major portion of his life's work, Religious Education Press, lives on in his absence.

Dr. Lee founded the non-profit publishing company Religious Education Press, Inc., with a mission directed toward fulfilling, in an inter-faith and ecumenical way, the Great Commission given by Jesus - to teach all persons to come closer to God.

That mission, which targets leaders in religious education and related disciplines, survives Dr. Lee's passing. Religious Education Press continues operations, as it has for three decades, and is headed now by Marlene Mayr-Lee. All books in print published by Religious Education Press will be available for those persons who are responsible for the selection of curricular materials in religious education for as long there is a demand. In this way, Dr. Lee still contributes to the work that he so loved.

The Religious Education Press's catalog is on line at [www.bham/net/releduc/](http://www.bham/net/releduc/). ■

## CURRICULUM COURSE MATERIALS

Roger White (NAPCE Board member '08) is collecting syllabi, bibliographies, and other resources related to teaching about curriculum. Send him any samples you are willing to share for possible inclusion on the NAPCE website. His email is [rwhite@apu.edu](mailto:rwhite@apu.edu). ■

## Plan Ahead: Second "Children's Spirituality Conference: Christian Perspectives"

June 4-7, 2006

Hosted by Concordia University  
River Forest, Illinois

The first "Children's Spirituality Conference: Christian Perspectives" was held in June 2003 and was a great success, with over 300 in attendance. An edited book came out of that conference (*Children's Spirituality*, Cascade Books, 2004). We are planning on another gathering in 2006 and anticipate a group of 500 this time. We'll have promotional materials ready later this spring, but wanted to get the word out to people now to save those dates to join us.

Conference Planning Team: Catherine Stonehouse (Asbury Theological Seminary), Scottie May (Wheaton College), Holly Allen (John Brown University), Shelley Campagnola (Canadian coordinator), Marcia McQuitty (Southwestern), Don Ratcliff (Vanguard University), Larry Huiras (St. Isidore Parish), Shirley Morgenthaler (Concordia University,

River Forest), Kevin Lawson (Talbot School of Theology), La Veme Tolbert (Crenshaw Christian Center).



For more information about the book *Children's Spirituality* see: [www.childspirituality.org/book](http://www.childspirituality.org/book). ■

## Video Tapes From 2004 Conference Available Through ETA

Tapes are now available of the sessions with Dallas Willard from the Orlando conference. If you would like to review these challenging messages or share them with friends, you can now order the tapes for the minimal price of \$24.95 plus shipping and handling. This includes all four plenary sessions.

"What Are We Doing? What Should We Be Doing?"

"A Relevant Gospel"

"What Christian Education Might Look Like If..."

"Spiritual Formation and Stages of Life: Implications for Educational Ministry"

ETA also has other tapes of interest including:

- Past NAPCE Videos 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003
- Learning Styles with Marlene Lefever
- Ted Ward Consultation with Dallas Willard
- Ted Ward Consultation with Parker Palmer

Coming soon is a new Ted Ward Consultation video with Tite Tienou and Kevin Vanhoozer.

Contact the Evangelical Training Association at 800-369-8291 (press 2 to place order). ■

## Newsletter Production Notes:

Special thanks to Francis Burgula, doctoral student at Talbot Seminary, for use of his photographs. Many thanks to Barbara Hayes who assisted in the newsletter design and layout. ■

# CALL FOR PAPERS

NAPCE Annual Conference  
Rochester, Minnesota  
October 20-22, 2005

We're looking for faculty and students interested in sharing their research at the upcoming NAPCE conference in Rochester, Minnesota. All NAPCE members are strongly encouraged to submit an abstract for presentation. The research can be empirical in nature, or fit more of a historical/theological model. A high quality of research workmanship is expected.

This year's theme is: *Educational Leadership for the 21st Century Church*. We invite proposals that address the theme and its strands but also other topics of general interest to NAPCE members. If you are interested in making a presentation, *submit a 150-200 word abstract of your paper to:*

Jonathan H. Kim, Ph.D.  
Talbot School of Theology  
13800 Biola Avenue  
La Mirada, CA 90639  
Email: Jonathan.Kim@Biola.edu  
Phone: 562-903-4818, x5519

*The deadline for abstract submission is August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005.* However, since space is limited, those who apply early will be given preference. This is a great opportunity to share what you have been working on, receive feedback from others, and stimulate others to extend your work into new areas. Notification of acceptance will be emailed to the author by September 15, 2005. ■

# REFLECTIONS

## Thoughts on the 2004 Conference in Orlando

Sometimes so many things come together for a good conference that the few annoyances are eclipsed or gladly endured. The NAPCE 04 conference was one of those times. The topic—spiritual formation, the plenary speaker—Dallas Willard, the breakout sessions, the meals, the congeniality, and a sense of God's grace and goodness added up to a conference that stimulated and challenged our thinking, warmed and convicted our hearts, and provoked meaningful conversation and warm fellowship. We left with a deeper appreciation of the work and realm of God, the privilege of our co-ministry with the Spirit in formation, the role of spiritual practices, the wonder of heaven. Every city we go to offers some extra attractions—this time the delight of the Epcot Center or other Disney theme parks enjoyed in warm weather fit the bill. The occasional frustrations such as a few lodging rearrangements because of the recent hurricane could not keep this from being a conference that took us all a step forward in our vocational and personal lives. I look forward to more steps forward with NAPCE.

**Paul Bramer**, North Park Theological Seminary  
New NAPCE Board Member

It is hard to know ahead of time just how much of the conference you will get to, and how much you will be able to take in, when you are the convener. There tend to be a lot of details needing attention, and surprises that can take you away from the actual events of the conference. This year we had plenty of surprises and details to address, but with lots of help from others I was free to attend all of the sessions with Dallas Willard, and all of the small group sessions as well. Wow! What a challenging and encouraging set of presentations! I appreciated the presentations by Dallas, the discussion with others about what we heard, the panel responses on Saturday, and all those who presented in the small group sessions. It was a full conference, but refreshing. In spite of the logistical challenges of changing meeting rooms, noise from neighboring rooms, and an over-full hotel, it was one of the best times I have had at a NAPCE conference. Thanks to all those who had a part in this effort!

**Kevin Lawson**, Talbot School of Theology  
VP for 2004 Conference



*Dallas Willard speaking at 2004  
NAPCE Conference in Orlando*

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# Challenges of Change: A Brief History of NAPCE

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Eileen Starr, President

## Theological & Philosophical Challenges:

1942 – National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) formed to unite all Evangelical believers in light of the formation of the more liberal Federal Council of American Churches.

1945 – Church School Commission of NAE formed and from that the National Sunday School Association (NSSA). They were to address the need for Evangelical Sunday School materials and training for teachers.

1951 – Research Commission of NSSA formed to develop an Evangelical Philosophy of Christian Education and produce textbooks for colleges and seminaries and serve NSSA by guiding future church leaders.

## Cultural Challenges:

1960's – NSSA declines with the decline of the Sunday School nationwide.

1968 – Research Commission members chose not to meet with NSSA. They want more emphasis on higher education.

1970 – Research Commission name changed to National Association of Professors of Christian Education to better reflect who they were – professors not primarily researchers.

1972 – NAPCE separates from NSSA but remains an affiliate of NAE. The stated purpose of NAPCE was to promote fellowship and the sharing of ideas among Christian Educators.

1974 – NAPCE meets in conjunction with National Association of Directors of Christian Education (NADCE). The organizations agree to cooperate.

1980 – NAPCE severs all relationship with NAE and chooses to be totally independent in order to appeal to a broad base of member schools. Some schools did not want to be affiliated with NAE. NAPCE desires to shape current and future issues in Christian education, but is hindered by lack of finances. Financial help from David C. Cook Publishing and Scripture Press helps the organization to grow and conduct their own conferences.

1982-4 – NAPCE and NADCE consider forming an umbrella organization to strengthen their overall influence. NAPCE decides to incorporate on its own and keep a focus on Higher Education and the needs of professors.

1992 – The National Association of Professor of Christian Education change their name to North American Professors of Christian Education to better reflect the inclusion of Canadian members. A new purpose statement is adopted with a focus on giving direction to Christian Education, fellowship with professors of Christian Education, and advancing cross-cultural educational ministries.

1992-2002 – In response to demographic changes in North American and global issues, NAPCE works to includes more multi-ethnic and international members and encourage international teaching.

The challenge facing NAPCE in 1984 was expressed by then president C. Edward Smyth, “To continue to spearhead a Christian education movement is undoubtedly our unfinished agenda. Why? Because many of us will not rest until we rest in the knowledge that what we do as Christian educators has important implications on the destiny of man in his various states of being.” This challenge seems appropriate for us today.

Our world is changing rapidly. The church is changing slowly. What does the church need today from us? What skills, knowledge, abilities and passions are needed by Christian educators serving in the church? What changes should we be addressing? ■

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*Meet the New Board Members continued from page 5*

## **Rick Yount**

Rick is assistant dean and professor of foundations of education in the School of Educational Ministries, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. He has taught at Southwestern since 1981. Rick holds Ph.D. degrees in Foundations of Education (SWBTS, 1978) and Educational Research (University of North Texas, 1985).

His writings include Broadman and Holman texts – *Called to Teach* (1999), *Created to Learn* (1996), and *Be Opened: Introduction to Ministry with the Deaf* (1976) – as well as self-published texts *The Disciplers' Handbook* (8th, 1992) and *Research Design and Statistical Analysis for Christian Ministry* (3rd, 1999). He is presently working on a manuscript on the theme “equip-

ping and discipling across cultural barriers.” In 1996, Rick began teaching educational psychology and principles of teaching in various schools in the former USSR. Rick and his wife Barb have two children, Bonnie and Chris, and one grandchild, Madilyne. Go to <http://members.aol.com/wyount>. ■