

Kentucky District News



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THANKSGIVING

NOVEMBER 23, 1989

KENTUCKY DISTRICT NEWS

The official monthly publication of the Kentucky District of the United Pentecostal Church, Int., with headquarters in Hazelwood, Missouri. All materials for publication should be mailed to the editor by the fifth of the month. Manuscripts and queries are invited. Manuscripts sent without a self-addressed, postage-paid envelope will not be returned. Any pictures should have an explanation written on another piece of paper and taped to the back of the picture.

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FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINE

The fundamental doctrine of this organization shall be the Bible standard of full salvation; which is repentance, baptism in water by immersion in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and the baptism of the Holy Ghost with the initial sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance.

KDN

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Our Uniqueness

J.R. Ensey
President
Texas Bible College

The term "only begotten" in John 1:14 is taken from the Greek word monogenes, which means "unique, only one." I like that rendering because Jesus is unique!

The church He founded is also unique. It has never been duplicated. He gave it a unique message, a unique power, a unique mission. That church is alive and well on planet earth today! The United Pentecostal Church International is a vital part of that church and bears its unique characteristics.

How is the UPCI unique? Let me simplify the answer to facilitate both clarity and brevity.

First, the UPCI focuses on the centrality of the Word. Our pulpits are still situated in the center of the church, not to one side. Many churches are satisfied with a lectern set to one side where occasional homilies are delivered. An altar or other icon takes center stage.

Worship is imperative and should be part of our services - but it must never usurp the role of the Word. Music is not designed as the primary medium for the message. "For God hath chosen by the foolishness of preaching to save them which believe" (I Corinthians 1:21). Timothy was told to "preach the word" (II Timothy 4:2). Not even public prayer or the exercise of spiritual gifts should supplant the teaching of God's Word. Music, worship, prayer, spiritual gifts - all these augment the proclamation of the Word but they never supersede it.

UPCI pastors are men of the Word. The Bible is our creed. To preach it is our privilege; to keep it central is our duty.

Secondly, the UPCI makes room for the operation of the Spirit of God. Our roots are in the supernatural moving of the Spirit. We haven't bowed before the image of formalism.

The vocal spiritual gift of inspiration and power, as well as those of revelation, are granted their rightful place in our services and in our daily lives. God's sovereign right to spiritual leadership of His people is never denied.

The Pentecostal distinctions of dancing in the Spirit, exuberant worship and praying aloud together are still with us. When people grow tired of cold, dry, formal services they know they can find spiritual refreshing at a Pentecostal church. When folks only want religion they can find it in almost any temple, cathedral or church. But when they

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Giving Thanks

Pastor G.L. Vittitow
District Superintendent
Louisville, Kentucky

How are you saying thanks?

"Giving thanks always for all things" (Ephesians 5:20).

Thanksgiving to most people is the name of a holiday that comes on the fourth Thursday of November. It is associated with a day off work, eating, sports and the beginning of the Christmas shopping season. Like most "holidays," it is anything but "holy." While most people participate in some, if not all, of these activities; it is important for us as Christians to keep in mind the true meaning of "thanksgiving."

Thanksgiving is a process of giving thanks for the things which we possess - whatever they are. Obviously, most people are thankful for the food which they eat on that day. For many, it is a bountiful feast, specially prepared. Second, people are thankful for their relatives and friends who come far and wide to be in attendance at the meal. Third, and perhaps last, people are thankful to God for these things.

For the Christian, this process should be so much more. One should go far beyond the ritual and acknowledge God for all things. God has provided food for everyday and has blessed it in answer to daily prayers. Thank Him! God has blessed us with relatives and friends with many of whom we worship on a regular

basis. Thank Him! God has blessed us with the Holy Ghost and His continual care and guidance. Thank Him!

Is even this our best for Him? Certainly not. The word "thanksgiving," in Hebrew, implies an extending of the hand. Extend your hand in preparing and sharing the day's feast with friends and those less fortunate. Extend your hand beyond this day called Thanksgiving and, being in tune with God, share your bounty on a more regular basis. Extend your hand in help to the needy, the poor, and your neighbors and friends. Extend your hand beyond the obvious needs of people during this holiday season. Be mindful of others always, doing good deeds for them as unto the Lord. Extend your hand to God in doing those things of which you are capable in your personal ministry to Him, not only this day but each and every day of the year. Finally, extend your hands in praise to the One who makes all of this possible!

Brother C. P. Baskerville told many parable-like stories in his ministry. One went like this: A pastor overheard a boy praying, "Dip down Your hand, oh God, and save John." The boy continued this for quite some time. Suddenly, he jumped up and ran out of the church. At the next service, the boy came through the door smiling - with John at his side. When the pastor asked the boy about his abrupt exit from the altar the boy said, "God told me I was His hand and if I wanted John saved I should bring him to church with me. So, I did."

We have often heard it preached that God has no hands, but our hands. Therefore, let us "give thanks" by extending our hands. Not Thanksgiving day only, but every day. In fact, let us make every day "thanksgiving" day in its truest sense!

"Be thankful unto him, and bless him. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations" (Psalm 100:4-5).



THANKSGIVING



Look at what's
POPPIN'!

Winter Youth Retreat

December 27-29

SPEAKERS:

Darrell Johns
National Youth Secretary

Hosted by:

Christ Apostolic Church
Pastor H. Ray Perry
Louisville, Kentucky

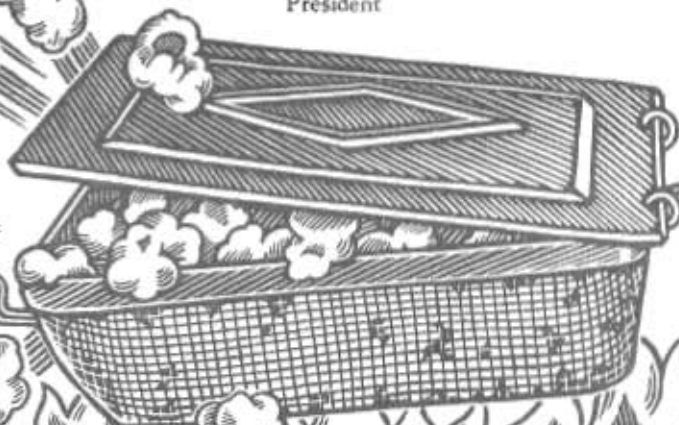


Ron Tiller
President

Sponsored by:
Pentecostal
Conquerors
Department



Alan Peevler
Secretary





The Truth About Water Baptism

Pastor Robert Ison
Section E Presbyterian
Danville, Kentucky

A discussion concerning the subject of "Water Baptism" generally provokes many differing viewpoints. However, to know truth, one must go to the source of truth, God's Word! Clearly then, to understand the truth about baptism, we cannot look to man's ideas, viewpoints, religious creeds or church books. We must go to the Bible! When we stand before our Judge, we will be evaluated according to His Word. "For ever, O Lord, thy Word is settled in heaven" (Psalm 119:89).

There is no shortage of Bible material concerning baptism. In fact, it is one of the clearest and most documented principles of true Christianity. Therefore, as we study the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth (John 16:13).

Firstly, Mark 16:16 states, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved", and 1 Peter 3:21 proclaims, "Baptism doth also now save us". These scriptures, along with others (John 3:5, Acts 2:38, Acts 10:48, Acts 22:16 and Galatians 3:27) definitely state that baptism is a necessary part of our salvation experience. Why? Because, as Acts 2:38 and Acts 22:16 tell us, it remits or washes away sins. Obeying water baptism is a scriptural must!

Secondly, since baptism is such an important step toward salvation, what form should it take? The very

term "baptize" has for its root the Greek word baptizo which literally means "to dip, plunge, submerge, or immerse." All scriptural references of baptism support this position. Please note these three: 1) When Jesus was baptized by John, He "went up straightway out of the water" (Matthew 3:16). 2) the Ethiopian eunuch and Philip "went down both into the water ...and he baptized him" (Acts 8:38). 3) Paul told the Romans that "we are buried with Him by baptism" (Romans 6:4). A Biblical baptism must be an immersion in water.

Thirdly, what formula should be used in administering baptism? Peter in Acts 2:38 stated, "be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ". Philip baptized the Samaritans "in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 8:16). Paul baptized twelve of John the Baptist's disciples "in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 19:5). Throughout the book of Acts the name of Jesus was used as the only formula in baptism. Colossians 3:17 emphatically declares "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus". Acts 4:12 states, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Biblical baptism is in Jesus' name.

We cannot leave to mere chance or speculation the essential of Christian baptism. Even though some have traditionally used other forms and have mistakenly substituted other formulas, we must seek out the truth of the Bible.

As we have seen in the Scriptures, the truth about water baptism is that one must be immersed in water in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. For some reason, with some people, the Scriptures are not the truth. Therefore, in order to give them an accepted understanding of the fact, we investigate another source, and that source is history. It supports the facts which the Bible gives.

In the Encyclopedia Britannica, eleventh edition, volume 3, pages 365 and 366 is this statement: "The baptismal formula was changed from the name of Jesus Christ to the words - Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, by the Catholic Church in the second century." This is historical proof that the original church baptized in Jesus' name.

Hastings Encyclopedia of Religion, volume 2, pages 377, 378, and 379 give us these facts: 1) Christian baptism was administered using the words, "In the name of Jesus". 2) The use of a trinitarian formula of any sort was not suggested in

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It's Harvestime

Pastor Robert Akers
Harvestime® Director
Dawson Springs, Kentucky

August 22nd was an exciting day in Louisville! Brother J. Hugh Rose, Announcer and Harvestime® Coordinator, and Brother John Smelser, Director of Promotions, were there to tape a Harvestime® broadcast.

The program was aired Sunday, October 1st, on the world-wide Harvestime® network. Brother C. M. Becton, Harvestime® speaker, challenged the hearts of all who heard God's Word.

Thank you Brother Vittitow and the saints at Calvary Apostolic Church for hosting this special service. It was the first time in Harvestime's history that a broadcast was made prior to General Conference at the host city. A world-wide invitation to Louisville was given on behalf of the

conference.

The Calvary Apostolic Church choir sang a powerful number. The Moreland Sisters contributed a beautiful song and, in a departure from the usual, the broadcast was closed with a solo from Brother Russell Powell. The well attended service produced a spirit of goodwill and a sharing of the burden for this vital outreach of the United Pentecostal Church ministry.

Harvestime® is heard by potentially millions every week. With the air waves so full of doctrinal error it is more important than ever that we promote this Gospel Truth! Harvestime® is our most efficient missionary! No language barriers to overcome, no visas to obtain, no time consuming

relocation. This missionary is already packed and anxious to go! All it needs is our support. Please prayerfully consider pledging \$25 per month to Harvestime® - our most efficient missionary!

November 4th, as a part of our "Harvest-Fest" and the 59th Anniversary Services at Apostolic Holiness Church in Dawson Springs, we will be hosting a Harvestime® Singpiration. Brother Smelser will be with us for our anniversary service on Sunday at 2 p.m.

Sunday, November 19th, is the date for our annual Harvestime® Thanksgiving Offering. Thank you for promoting this in your churches. Kentucky, let's step to the front in promoting this great Gospel Truth. Harvestime® moves the Gospel!



HARVESTIME

*Proclaiming
Jesus*

INTO THE

90's

THANKSGIVING OFFERING DATES

United States - November 19, 1989

My Home Missions

Barbara Harris

Section Ladies Auxiliary Leader
Berea, Kentucky

In 1957 I made a commitment to God that all I had or ever would have would be His. I had three little girls at that time. Now, I have five daughters, five sons-in-law, ten granddaughters and two grandsons. God gave them to me.

However, just because I have raised mine does not mean I am finished. I have heard moms and dads make the statement, "I've raised mine, now I'm done." NO! NO! A thousand times NO! I owe something to my grandchildren. I am compelled to put into them a pure love, a desire to serve the God of Eva French (grandmother), Harry French, and Barbara Harris.

He is the God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob. Jesus Christ is His name. I love Him! He has kept me through valleys, when the floods came and in the storm. When the enemy came into my home to war with my precious family, Jesus kept us from harm.

We hear and talk about Spiritual Warfare. IT IS REAL! There were snares set for our parents' feet, but in the spirit the war was won. Today those same snares are set for our grandchildren. However, the encounters are going to be more intense because this is the end time.

Therefore, we as parents and grandparents need to forget our little pet peeves, stop eating preacher for supper, and start loving the ministry and the church in front of our family. If we do not, who will?

We do not deceive children, they watch our every expression and hear what we say. Let them see and hear something pure and sweet from us. It will impress them.

One of my granddaughters, Heather Adkins, was telling about a sermon her Daddy had preached. She stopped and seriously said, "Granny, I just love preaching."

I'll never forget that. I just said, "Thank you, Jesus." That is what it will take to keep our little ones - the Word of God.

One of my grandsons, because he has heard his Dad preach almost every night of his life, will take a toy microphone and go through the motions of worship and preaching. You can feel something special about this. I believe God has a special anointing on these children because of the prayers and dedication of their parents.

I'm not saying he is called to preach, though I pray he will be. It is the highest calling in life. I plead the blood of Jesus over every-one of them - daughters, sons, grandchildren - and

I believe it is there to bless, protect and keep them.

Our newest granddaughter was born August 10th. She weighed 10 lbs. 5 oz. and her name is Bethany Layne White. Her Pappa dedicated her to the Lord in Silsby, Texas. He also baptized Benjamin Marion Andrew in Jesus Name, for he had already received the Holy Ghost. I believe a family's prayers and example has enabled this.

I have no idea where God will take these lives and use them for His Kingdom. I have never accomplished in my own life what I desire in my heart, but I see it in my children and grandchildren. They have traveled and preached where many have heard the Word and come to God.

The battle rages. I intend to walk in the Spirit like I have never done before.

This has been my Home Missions for 43 years and God has never failed me. Jesus is my Strong Tower! I believe Him for greater things. I will delight myself in the Lord and He will give me the desires of my heart.

Kentucky District Single's Christmas Banquet

December 8

Eminence, Kentucky

Sponsored by the Sunday School Department

A GOOD REPORT

Pastor Jerry Brown
Hodgenville, Kentucky

Praise the Lord from Hodgenville!

November completes our Home Missions status. We appreciate you that have prayed and sent financial support these last three years. Your efforts and sacrifices made will not go unrewarded, we pray that God will richly pour out His blessings upon you.

September was a turning point for our church. We baptized one on the eleventh

and she received the Holy Ghost the seventeenth. Praise God! On September 24th, we baptized another in the name of Jesus Christ. He received the Holy Ghost in another church. After a year of studying the scriptures the oneness of God and Jesus name baptism were revealed to him. We then baptized him in the wonderful name of Jesus.

Several new people have prayed at the altar.

God's power of conviction is in our services and we feel that it is just a matter of time before others will be baptized and filled with the Holy Ghost.

We are seeing 25 to 30 in our Sunday services. We are out of room and ask that you would pray that we will be able to begin building soon on our property that God has provided. May God richly bless you.



Our Uniqueness

Continued from page two

hunger for the living God they know where to go - the nearest UPCI assembly!

Thirdly, the UPCI is unique because it strikes a balance between the Word and the Spirit. We neither choke on dry morsels nor drown in emotionalism. Since those extremes are not our only choices, we have wisely stuck to the road, insisting on balance. Along this path is revival and at its' end the rapture!

The result of this determination has been that we have exercised caution

in doctrinal development, made truth our ensign and base for fellowship, yet retaining a free-flow worship style that allows for individual expression. Excesses have been unwelcome. A stable ministry and organization leadership have guided us around many heresies and pitfalls.

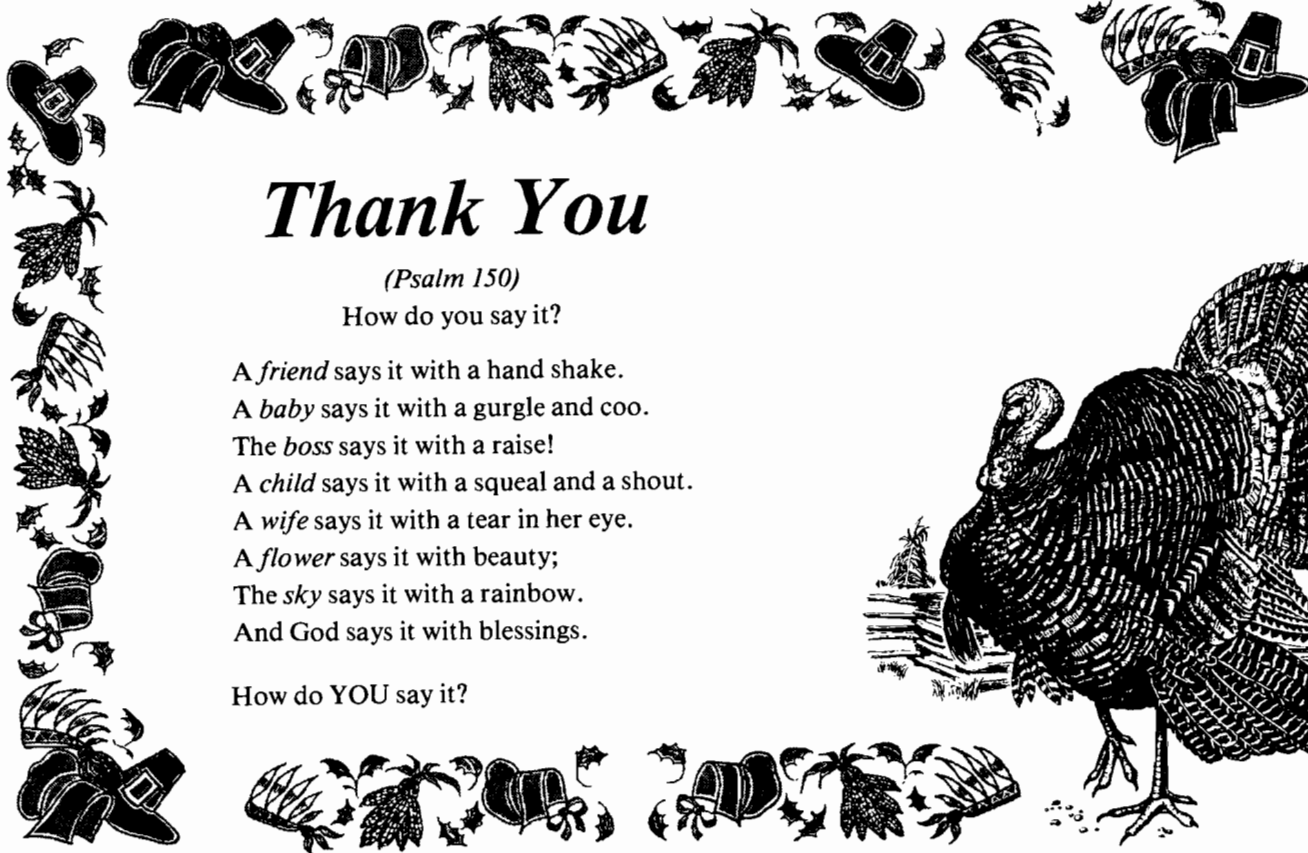
Today the UPCI walks through the world with her head high, eyes on the field, feet on the narrow way, and hands in the harvest. If you're a part of it, be glad. If not, why not?

Reprinted from

The TBC WORD

**FALL
PLANNING
SESSION
AND
DISTRICT
BOARD
MEETING**

November 13-15



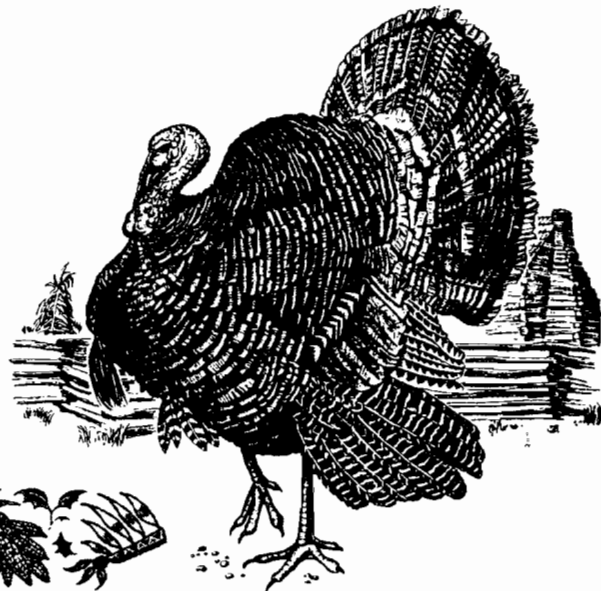
Thank You

(Psalm 150)

How do you say it?

- A *friend* says it with a hand shake.
- A *baby* says it with a gurgle and coo.
- The *boss* says it with a raise!
- A *child* says it with a squeal and a shout.
- A *wife* says it with a tear in her eye.
- A *flower* says it with beauty;
- The *sky* says it with a rainbow.
- And God says it with blessings.

How do YOU say it?



The truth about water baptism

Continued from page five

early church history. 3) Baptism was always in the name of the Lord Jesus, until the time of Justin Martyr, when the triune formula was used.

In the Catholic Encyclopedia, volume 8, Justin Martyr was one of the early fathers of the Roman Catholic Church. He introduced a new idea of baptism.

In the New International Encyclopedia, volume 22, page 477, "The term trinity was originated by Tertullian, a Roman Catholic Church father."

History testifies to the authenticity of the Scriptures. Baptism (by immersion) in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, is not a prerogative, but an imperative. "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).



Kentucky District News



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SPECIAL KIDS



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Without loving “Special Kid Sponsors,” who faithfully provide monthly support to help with these on-going needs, Tupelo Children's Mansion (a ministry of the UPC, Int'l.) would not be able to serve the many children it does.

But sponsors provide far more than just money. Their notes, special gifts, visits, prayers, and love touch the children's hearts. They let them know someone really does care!

If you would like to share your love with a child at TCM as a Special Kid Sponsor, just fill in the coupon below and return it to TCM. Please note that a child may not be sponsored for less than \$10 monthly.

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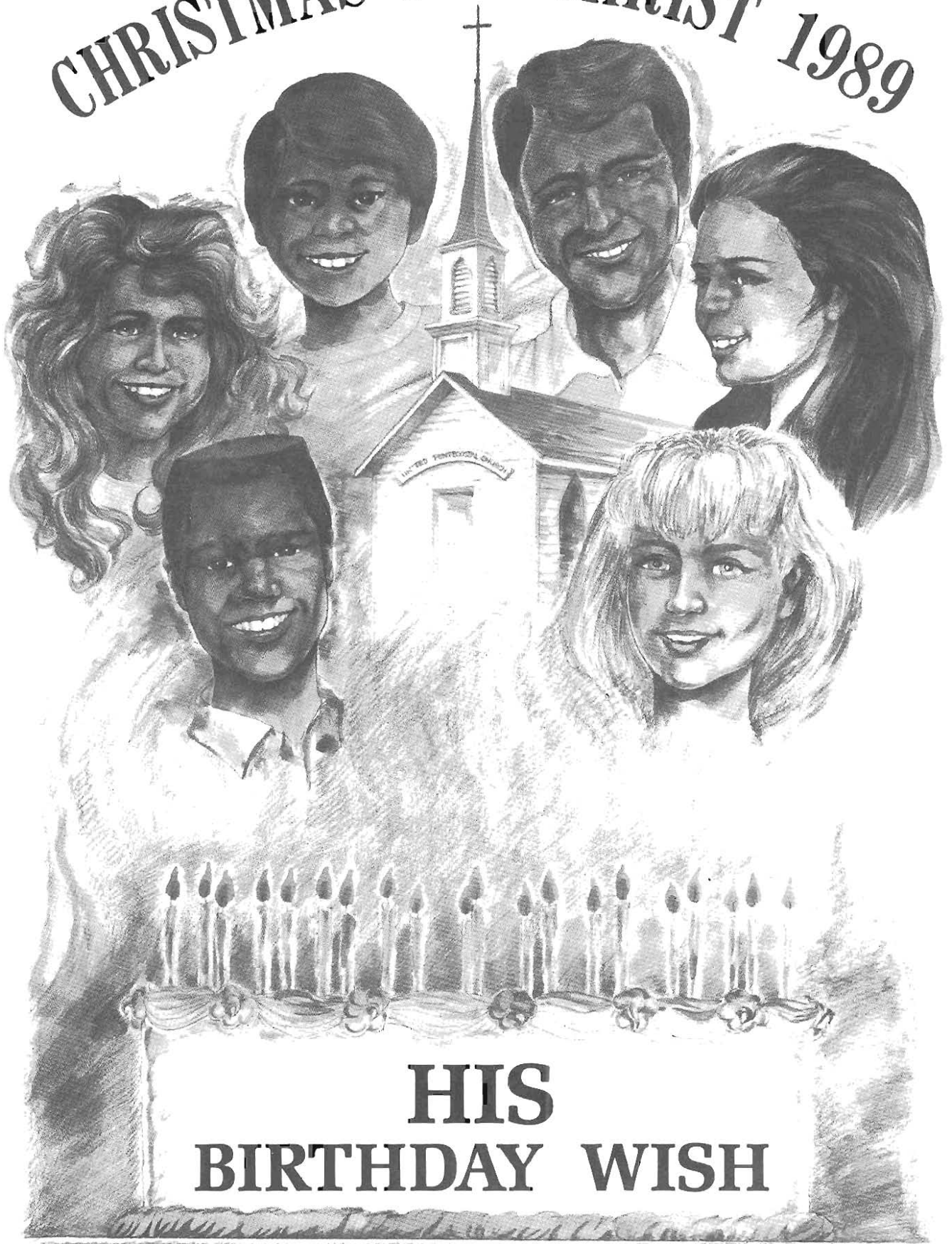
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CHRISTMAS FOR CHRIST 1989



HIS BIRTHDAY WISH

LAUNCH DATE:
October 15, 1989

General Home Missions Division
United Pentecostal Church International
8855 Dunn Rd. Hazelwood, MO 63042-2299

OFFERING DATE:
December 17, 1989