



June 1994

**PASTOR'S
CORNER**

Sadie and I recently participated in a public prayer vigil with concerns for Haiti, Cuba, and the closing of the "School of the Americas" by Latin Americans. We do not believe that we have the answers to some of the very hard questions, but we believe we must be willing to speak the truth. If there is any lesson for the church from Nazi Germany it is that the church failed to speak the truth, but went along with the lie.

Remember the Pentecost scriptures, especially Acts 2. It was now almost two months since Jesus was killed. Jewish people from many different countries were coming to Jerusalem for Pentecost. Many of these people may have heard rumors about Jesus, but quite likely they were going to hear the story for the first time. The believers were gathered together in prayer. They knew that the Rabbis and Jewish leaders were not going to tell the truth about Jesus. They would not tell the truth about Jesus because Jesus had told the truth about them. They had through the course of time built an economic religious system. Truth and deception were mixed together. But the bottom line was that if masses believed in Jesus, the temple wasn't needed and their services wouldn't be needed. They would lose control. The believers knew the Jewish leaders wouldn't tell the truth, so they, the believers, must tell the truth. And the Spirit helped them tell the true story of Jesus to these foreign Jews gathered in Jerusalem.

We must never be arrogant pretending we know the answers, but we must be tellers of the truth. Economic advantage is how the U.S. looks at the smaller, powerless countries. Powerful people have always used deception and lies to keep control. Telling the truth is risky.

It was risky for the first Christians.

It was risky for the reformation.

It was risky in South Africa, under apartheid.

And it will probably be risky for us.

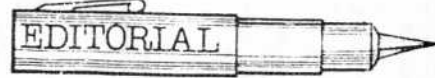
But if we feel the pain of the suffering, we know we must tell the truth, and the Holy Spirit will help us as sure as the Spirit helped Christians in the past.

Moses Mast



F·E·L·L·O·W·S·H·I·P

Mennonite Church's family fellowship enjoyed a picnic at the zoo after church on Sunday, 22 May. A total of 26, including three children from the neighborhood, got to help Judy the elephant celebrate her 49th birthday.

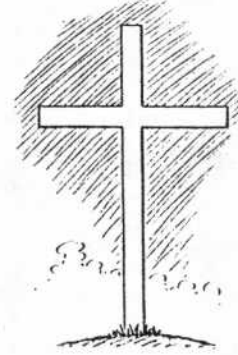


Dear Friends,

I first thought that with better planning you all would have seen and read this one month earlier. Fact is, what you saw and read was of such import and impact it got the nod hands down for publication. The Caravan arrived, was in our midst six days, and in spirit remains with us yet. Ask me in a year - the beauty and excitement of that time will still be alive.

What was put off for a month deals with issues and attitudes, and while very appropriate for Easter, are things that can and should be dealt with on a daily basis even as we live it daily. The problems as depicted by the following copyrighted items just don't seem to get a significant share of our attention, at least not from the proper perspective.

Meanwhile, Down in the City Park



"ILLEGAL"

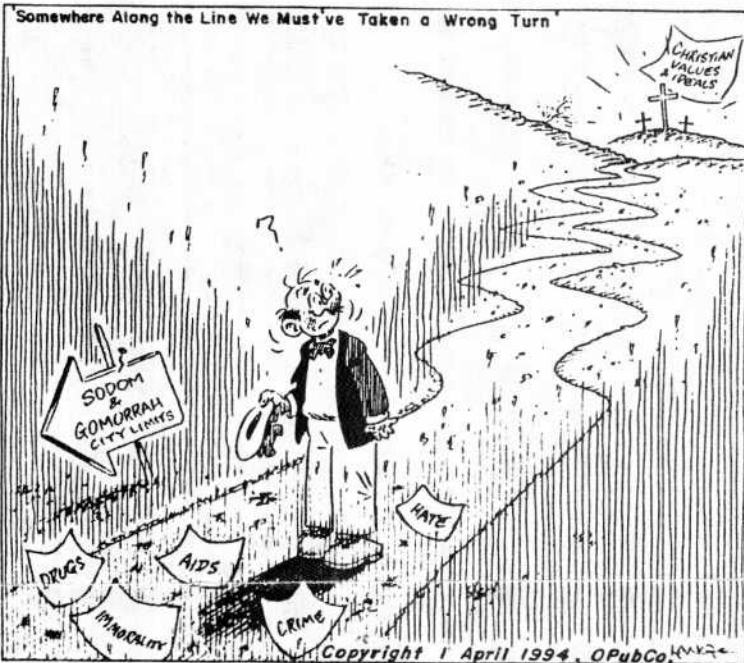


"LEGAL"

Copyright 28 June 1992, OPubCo

We hear, see, and feel the hate of whatever nature that is released or revealed in all of the acts of violence around us, and as churchgoing believers we shake our heads - "how can this be? We are a Christian nation!" Some would like to across the board blame our menu of TV programming for all of it, but maybe it is only a contributor - showing it like it is - a condoning influence by suggestion. To allay fears of hypnosis, those who use it as a tool (or a game) state that while under hypnosis a person will not do a thing in violation of ones moral or Christian conscience (things we would not otherwise do), so how can we, wide awake, be sold such a phony bill of goods through TV?

I like remembering my Dad, even more as years pass, and he believed that loving and being lovable had to include tolerance and consideration for others and their feelings. Try this on for size then: To be less than tolerant and considerate is hateful and violates other's human and civil rights!!! In essence, violence and crime as we see it is just that, and believers are doing too little to alter that trend.



Yes, "somewhere along the line we must've taken a wrong turn," and as we watch, and not far from home either, another "wrong turn" may be in progress in erasing yet another symbol that traditionally has represented faith, belief, and spiritual strength - the cross as shown on many city seals or logos (Edmond in particular), which still has an influence on this writer's thinking, is being attacked for removal.

We thank God for all of you who are reading this today - it simply means that you have made it back from the just past holiday weekend.

June being the traditional month of new beginnings, graduations and weddings, etc, we congratulate them all and wish them all well, and let us all concentrate on role modeling that will help these new beginners avoid the tragedies of "making wrong turns along the line," and love each other more in spite of our mistakes and shortcomings.

Have a good summer, happy vacations, safe returns.

Bee Klassen

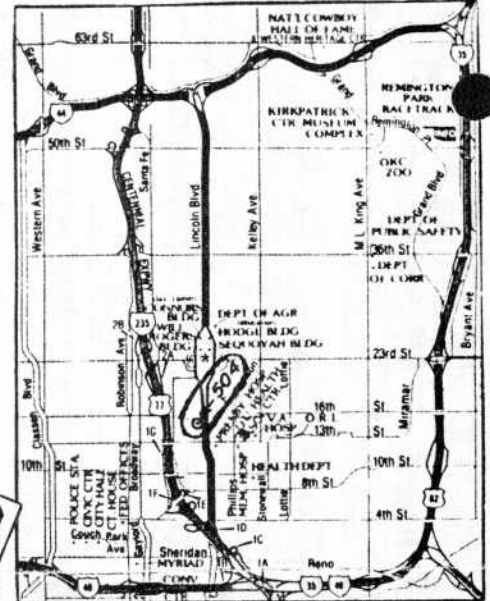
Joy Mennonite Church
 4708 OUTPOST DRIVE-SPENCER, OKLAHOMA 73084
 ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
 RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTIED

Moses & Sadie Mast
 4708 Outpost Dr.
 Spencer, OK 73084



THE
 YEAR
 2000

WORSHIP SERVICE
 EVERY SUNDAY AT 10 O'CLOCK A.M.



Church Address: 504 NE 16th ST.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Thur., Fri., Sat., 9, 10, 10 Jun .. Red Earth Festival
- Tue., 14 June Flag Day
- Sun., 19 June Father's Day
- Mon., 4 July Independence Day
- *) Red Rock Canyon State Park campout . see under GREAT NEWS



For June we are planning a weekend campout to Red Rock Canyon State Park 50 miles west of Oklahoma City. Our members are urged to communicate soon with Sadie and Thea to set a date and make plans for that event. Friends of the church wishing to join us should contact the church for details.

