

# The Handshake

CELEBRATION OF FAITH  
MAY 27 - 29 1988  
THEME SPEAKER  
REV. ALBERT BALDEO

Albert Baldeo was born in the beautiful island of Trinidad. His grandfather migrated from India to work on the sugar plantations on the island. It was there his grandfather, a Hindu priest, met a missionary, Dr. K.J. Grant, from Pictou County, Nova Scotia, and was introduced to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Albert received all his education in Presbyterian schools. He graduated as a teacher from Napa-rima Teachers' College and was a teacher for ten years before responding to the Call of the Ordained Ministry. He studied at Mt Allison University, Sackville, New Brunswick, and did his theological studies at St. Stephen's College in Edmonton, graduating in 1962.

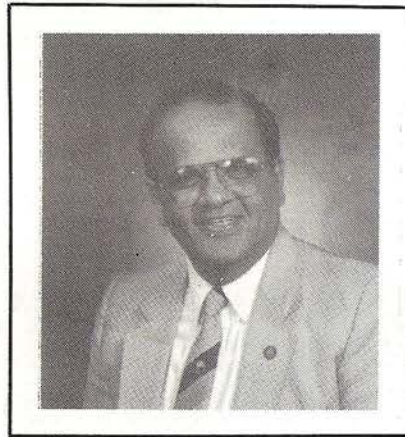
He served the Trinidad Presbyterian Church until 1970, when he came to Canada. He has served the United Church in Coaldale, Alberta; St. James, Edmonton, and moved in 1981 to St. Paul's in Kelowna. He has conducted preaching missions in the Caribbean, the U.S.A. and several provinces in Canada. He was named as Kelowna's Citizen of the Year for community service. Albert is also a Rotarian with the Kelowna Downtown Club.

He was married in 1962 to Beryl Hobbs of Barrhead, Alberta, and they have three girls: Ramona, Kim and Kaylyn. Albert believes that the Church is the most

powerful force for good on the face of the earth and his main task is to inspire believers to share and live out the Good News, to "equip the saints" and turn the laity loose in the world.

His "tropic-Al" background makes the SON shine.

BE SURE TO COME AND HEAR  
THIS EXCELLENT SPEAKER!



Albert Baldeo

CHARLIE SAYS  
"DON'T MISS IT"

Some events just shouldn't be missed and CELEBRATION OF FAITH to be held at Trinity Western University in Langley is one such event. If you haven't heard Albert Baldeo, the theme speaker, you are in for a treat. Currently minister of St. Paul's in Kelowna, Albert has a dynamic and colourful way with words which will inspire and strengthen your faith. He is a much sought after speaker who has been on preaching missions in the U.S. and parts of Canada. Albert's belief is that men must become disciples of Christ, that anything else is a bandaid.

ISSUE NO. 6  
MARCH 1988.

Events such as Celebration are great places to build relationships, so what better way to network than to bring different United Church men together. Men's work in the local church is enhanced by major events such as this so plan now to attend and encourage a brother to attend.

See you at the Celebration!

Submitted, Charlie Shave

## NATIONAL YOUTH WORK COMMITTEE FOR AOTS

This committee is chaired from B.C. We need to have input from across the country. What are you doing with the work of Youth in your church? Do men have a strong role in its function? If so, what can we do to help or hear from you about it?

The D.R. POOLE AWARD comes up again next year and we should be hearing from clubs and men's groups about what they are doing and are preparing to do for youth in their community. Pass the word around so we can do a better job of telling others about you and getting the interest levels up.

Today's concerns are tomorrow's hopes. Let them know we care a little more.

Submitted, Bill Cumming for  
your Youth Work Committee



## WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

Visions of travel in retirement are shattered by death, hopes for financial security are destroyed by reverses in the stock market, a couple dreaming of a blissful future find their marriage ruined by bitterness and suspicion, a loved one gets into bad company and causes nothing but grief.

We plan carefully in the present but we are not sure of the future. The Psalmist declares, "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24) Today is God's gift to us. But what of tomorrow? Is there any security?

"What do you think security is, harlie Brown?" asks Lucy.

"Security is sleeping in the back seat of a car when you are a little kid and you have been somewhere with your Mom and Dad and it's night. You don't have to worry about anything. Your Mom and Dad are in the front seat and they are doing all the worry-ing. They take care of every-thing."

Lucy smiles and says, "That's real neat." But Charlie Brown isn't finished.

"But it doesn't last. Suddenly you are grown up and it can never be that way again. Suddenly it's all over and you never get to sleep in the back seat again. Never!"

"Never?" asks a frightened Lucy. Astounded by the terrible truth he has just uttered, Charlie replies, "Never!" Sensing the terrible loneliness of adulthood, Lucy reaches over and says, "Hold my hand, Charlie Brown."

Jesus must have recognized the tendency of the human mind to focus attention on the future because he said, "Take therefore no thought for the morrow for the morrow will take thought for the things of itself."

He was so certain of the Father's love and care that he expected to see evidence of God's goodness. He fed a multitude with a few loaves and fishes, restored health to countless individuals and stilled a violent storm at sea. His life and works show that God's will for His children is predictably good and that one's future safety, health and provision are ensured by cultivating trust in God.

We trust God as we come to know Him. Paul says that "neither things present, nor things to come... shall separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." We get a feeling of security as our understanding of God grows.

Overcoming fear isn't always easy but because God is an ever present help we don't need to be anxious for tomorrow. As we trust in His care and follow His guidance our needs will be met moment by moment. Remember we are to grow into Jesus and we will be growing all through this life. Circumstances will see to that. We are to be like Him. Jesus is the greatest example of maturity and at the same time He maintained a childlike simplicity of obedience and faith. We are to do the same.

Is it not His hand that reaches over to us and His voice saying, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.... Trust in me with all your heart and lean not unto your own understanding"?

Submitted, Charlie Shave

## THE NEED OF A.O.T.S.

The word NEED denotes requirement, a lack something. In those terms we in our association require and can supply the desirable means for a fulfilling men's work within our church. The key word then is MEN. We in AOTS can supply men to meet the need for leadership and lay support to our clergy and to the church of Jesus Christ and we have the requirements that men need who are not in our organization. Membership in AOTS in the first fifty years of our history met the many needs for youth leadership, sponsorship and spiritual guidance. For a period of time it was felt by many of our church leaders that the feminine influence could fulfill that role but now it seems that there is a swing back to a request for increased male participation. To this end we have a vital role to re-establish and be As One That Serves in our churches and communities across Canada.

A list of needs could be endless, but consider these for existing and potential members and clubs: men, membership, devotionals and devotion, a purpose, aims, objectives, outreach, fellowship and, above all, a love of Jesus Christ and our fellow human beings.

In AOTS we feel we have the need that others not in AOTS require, a nationwide organization, council and executive officers elected by the membership through to district or presbytery councils, conferences, presidents, area vice presidents and committees to work with an executive

director for financial and distribution of material necessary for a successful men's club programme.

Across North America, according to discussions with men at the "North American Conference of Church Men's Staff", I was convinced that the influence of men, not chauvinists, in the church is being welcomed again and the address by the opening theme speaker, Dr. Jim Smith, "Man and His Faith", created the atmosphere of spiritual guidance for all attending the conference in Memphis, Tennessee, during the weekend of 15 - 17 Jan.

Our United Church needs AOTS and AOTS needs the men of the church. Let us overlook the divisive issues that are dividing us and concentrate on uniting under the guidance of God to spread the good news of Jesus Christ, who came among us as One That Serves.

Submitted, Ernest Stafford  
National President

### B.C. PRES. REPORTS.

Since last Oct. the AOTS groups in B.C. staged several successful events and are currently planning others.

Highlight over the Christmas season was a luncheon at Collingwood in Vancouver which was attended by representatives from various churches in the area as well as Victoria.

Upcoming events include the Roundup at Langley on 5 March and the Celebration of Faith 27 - 29 May at Trinity Western University.

General response to the Handshake has been good and the executive has followed up with correspondence and where requested there has been personal contact.

To promote AOTS even further the executive is now planning slide and video presentations on national, provincial and local levels.

The executive's main concern at the moment is to encourage more men to come to fellowship gatherings such as those mentioned above in order to see greater spiritual growth. The executive feels that a result would be men more involved in their congregations.

As One that Serves,  
Roy K.Jones

### VANCOUVER ISLAND

There are ten clubs on Vancouver Island plus Powell River, which is included in V. I. District Council. The clubs range in size from Duncan with approximately 75 members to one or two clubs which are struggling to keep going.

The men of V.I. are very active as always in Roundup and Celebration of Faith. We also hold a picnic in June at Camp Pringle which is well attended.

Our travelling gavel, to stimulate interclub visitation, moves quickly from club to club and there is other interclub visitation as well.

Service to others has included support for youth work and Christian Education. Support for Camp Pringle and Moorcroft, local churches, bursaries for schools and music festivals, Crime Stoppers, Thomas Crosby, the Open Door, the Upper Room, Salvation Army, student ministers, Bible projects, day care, the Unitarian Service Committee, the mentally handicapped and Christmas hampers have been some of our other concerns.

Other projects have included lay church

services, programs for seniors, work parties at Camp Pringle and Moorcroft and at the local churches. One club reshingled their church hall.

These, briefly, are the ways in which the men of Vancouver Island try to act "As One That Serves".

Submitted, Dave Farnden  
Past Pres., V.I. Dist.  
Council

### LOWER MAINLAND

Activities for District Council include participation in the Roundup and Celebration of Faith. We expect that there will also be a large turnout of men at the Festival of Faith in March.

As a method of fundraising, District Council will be holding a plant sale in conjunction with S. Burnaby AOTS pancake breakfast on 23 April. Terry Taylor and Jack Harkness have agreed to spearhead the plant sale following the same format that has proved so successful at St. Giles. The selection will be extensive but not expensive - net proceeds will assist District Council with mailing and related costs.

We will assist men who wish to set up a fellowship unit. This could be a meal time with breakfast/lunch/dinner or a time of fellowship over coffee and Bible related study materials. All of us have our personal preferences as to how a unit should be run, but we will not let that get in the way of providing the assistance that is requested of us by the men of the group.

All units are invited to participate in District Council to assist in

continued on page 8

## FAIRFIELD AOTS

AOTS here has continued its monthly dinner meetings with interesting speakers on a variety of topics as well as a highly successful Candy Cane Tea to start off the festive season. The next scheduled event is the annual Valentine and Ladies' Night dinner on Feb. 2.

(from the Fairfield Church News)

## CHILLIWACK AOTS

Chilliwack United Church is holding a huge garage sale starting at 9:30 a.m., Saturday 7 May in the Church Hall. It is to be sponsored by the whole congregation and run by the AOTS.

This AOTS club was active in the hosting of the Banff Men's Conference.

## ST. GILES'S MEN'S CLUB

Monies produced by pancake breakfasts and plant sale in 1987 was divided between the Thomas Crosby and our home church.

Our first luncheon, held 5 January 1988 at Oakridge Seniors' Centre brought out fourteen men. A short devotion and business time ended our meeting.

Our next pancake breakfast and plant sale will be 5 May 1988.

Submitted, Jack Harkness

## GOLDSRING AOTS

Greetings from South Alberta and good luck with the Handshake.

There were 13 members attending 8 meetings in Milk River and in Coutts in 1987. Our club is primarily a fellowship club. We did, however, assist in the worship leadership that was provided from the congregation and presbytery until a new minister could be obtained. We have a fellow very good with music who conducted two services and also provided the music with the help of the youth in the church. This assisting was carried out until the Picnic Sunday Service, held at Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park in July. We made this a very enjoyable and meaningful service, again with a music trio.

Goldspring AOTS sponsored a food hamper in the church for distribution by the Salvation Army in Lethbridge. Six big cartons of food and two boxes of presents were brought to Lethbridge before Christmas. The club is proposing to hold a Mothers' Day pancake breakfast, which we hope will allow more men in the congregation to take part. There seems to be a new awareness of the need for men of the charge to become more involved and supportive and AOTS is one vehicle to

do this.

Our Ladies' Night Out supper consisted of a bowling match and supper at the local Chinese cafe in Dec.

Guest speaker for meeting in Feb. will be the MLA for Warner/Tabor constituency. The Lethbridge AOTS club is to be invited to our supper meeting.

1988 is the year to anticipate (to anticipate good things will happen.) That's all for this trip.

Submitted, Jack Shaw

## TOUR TO THE USSR

The Rev. Jack Horricks, a 12 year member of the Chilliwack AOTS, has conducted tours of current United Church Mission Study areas. Tours have been to the South Pacific, Korea and Africa. This June 24, because it is the 100 anniversary of the arrival of Christianity in the Soviet Union, he has organized a 23 day visit to that area. The group will see the church centres in KIEV, MOSCOW and ZAGORSK and the republics east of the Caspian Sea that belong to the Moslem faith.

For information write to Mr. Horricks at 47345 Swallow, Chilliwack, B.C., V2P 7P8

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## "MOMENTS OF GRACE: TELLING THE STORY"

Men are encouraged to sign up for this event sponsored by the Evangelism Working Unit, BC Conference of the United Church.

It will be a time of WORSHIP, MUSIC, DRAMA, WORKSHOPS, STORY TELLERS SHARING THEIR STORIES, YOU SHARING YOURS, CONNECTING WITH THE GLOBAL STORY, THE CHRISTIAN STORY, THE CHURCH'S STORY, OTHERS' STORIES and, last but by no means least, EQUIPPING PEOPLE TO SHARE THEIR FAITH IN WORD AND ACTION IN THEIR HOME SETTING!

It will be held from 7:00 pm Friday March 11, 1988 to 9:00 pm Saturday March 12, 1988 at the MacPherson Centre 7325 MacPherson Street, Burnaby.

The cost will be approximately \$75.00 per person. Billeting can be arranged. There will be a travel pool for long distance travellers.

Your minister should have information on it now and should be encouraging members of your congregation to attend. If your budget has monies for CE work, perhaps a portion of the cost could be made up from that source. It will be a worthwhile investment.

BC Conference President Marion Best will be one of the leaders of the weekend.

Contact the Registrar:

Patti Gunning  
154 Woodland Drive  
Delta, B.C. V4L 2C1

NB: Both the UCW and the AOTS/UCM have moved their spring meetings to accommodate this event, and the executives of both groups are encouraging attendance.

## VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

The V.S.T. Library is open to the public and is used by

the public beyond its own religious constituencies. As a highly specialized library of theological books that have been collected over a period of 60 years, V.S.T. is a significant resource to the University of BC. Almost 20% of the usage of the library comes from UBC. This is also part of the reason why approximately 400 ministers and scholars from other theological schools choose to study at V.S.T. for some course or other each year.

Use of the V.S.T. library is free of charge to members of BC United Church congregations. This is V.S.T.'s contribution to the furtherance of lay education in the Conference. Considering the emphasis now being put on education by General Council through "Learning On The Way", VST is to be commended for this positive action.

VST students and staff are always willing to speak about the School. Invite a student for your meeting. Your costs of a meal or two and perhaps some driving time will be amply rewarded by the enthusiasm the student brings. These students are the future leaders of our church, they want to know what you expect of them and from them. The word "dialogue" is often overused, but if the students don't know what you are needing, how can they get the proper resources to serve your needs?? HELP THEM TO HELP YOU, BRING A STUDENT (and their family) INTO YOUR CONGREGATION ... YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE AND THE CHURCH HAS EVERYTHING TO GAIN!

## CENTENNIAL A.O.T.S.

Since our last report Centennial A.O.T.S. Men's Club has taken part in a successful rum-mage sale.

On Wednesday 28 Oct. a delegation from Esquimalt United brought the Travelling Gavel to our club. This was the twelfth time since 1956 that Gavel was presented to Centennial. On Tuesday 3 Nov. a delegation from our club took the Travelling Gavel to Fairfield United. The Gavel continues to fulfill its purpose of fostering fellowship and good will amongst A.O.T.S. Men's Clubs.

Our club has provided financial support to:

1. The National Hospital Fund
2. Upper Room
3. Open Door Ministry
4. Centennial Auxilliary Lighting
5. Camp Pringle

Submitted, Al Norris

## ACTIVITY AT ESQUIMALT

The Esquimalt United AOTS had a busy year in 1987 and has plans for an equally busy 1988. Some of the activities were:

Sale of 34 tons of newsprint  
Presided over the Lay Service

(15 participated)  
Ladies Night (a huge success)

Hosted 50th Wedding anniversary for Paul and Mary Wells

Reshaked the C.E. Hall roof  
Hosted a group from Duncan Club who presented the travelling gavel

Visited Centennial with 10 men to present the gavel to them (fancy footwork to pass it on)

If you are ever in our area on a second Tuesday please try to join us for real time of fellowship.

Call Tom Harper (Pres) 385-4056  
or Roy Jones (B.C. Pres.) 384-4640

## FISHER OF MEN

### CHARLIE BURRITT CHRISTIAN

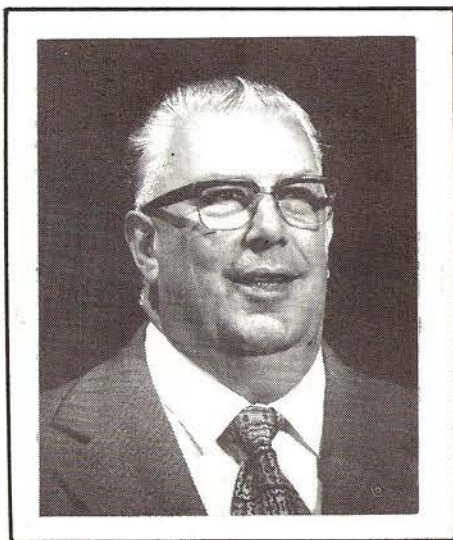
You will see within the pages of this issue an article on the Charlie Burritt Fund. To Charlie's lifetime friends it was expected that he would be honoured in this manner. To those who only know this Christian by name they may pause to wonder why he has been acknowledged in this manner. Simply put, the answer is that he left a legacy that inspires us to go the second mile.

Within the archives lies a testimonial to his humble greatness which would make a record in men's work that has rarely, if ever, been equalled. Indeed, if we lift items relating to Charlie from publications from all levels of government within the United Arch of Canada we would have background material to write a fair sized book. Taking AOTS material alone and gleaning its references to Charlie we would set some kind of record.

At the time of his death I was asked as a close friend to write part of a testimonial to his Christian life and I was hard pressed to find an area where he had not answered the call when it was directed his way. As to AOTS, he held every position from member up to national president and did honour to all of them.

There was a magic within this man that lead all of his friends to believe that we were No. 1. Each of us knows that this was probably not so but we were glad to part of this network of friendship which made us special one to another. It was all because we knew Charlie.

The last thing this good buddy would want would be to have us elevate him to some kind of sainthood. Oh, how quickly he would bring us to our senses with one of his wry remarks that would have us in stitches while putting things into their proper perspective. Nevertheless, he did emulate Christ in that he was indeed a "fisher of men". Some of us wonder if he realized that he played us like a finely tuned instrument. He must have known that we loved him, for we gave forth all the service he asked and often a whole lot more.



The founders of AOTS must have seen in Charlie that vital link between themselves and the next generation of AOTS men. At any rate, he certainly assumed this responsibility and spread the word from Coast to Coast. In the vernacular of our generation he was just a plain "good guy". Many's the time we have shared frustrations with him, cried on his ample shoulder, then received a shot of Charlie's enthusiasm and gone off laughing to do greater things. As I write about this great man I can feel

love and respect pouring forth and I can feel him standing beside me ready to help as he did for so many years. I can sum it all up with three words:

Charlie Burritt, Christian.  
Submitted, Wm. Hastings.

### THE CHARLES C. BURRITT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP SOCIETY

The South Burnaby United Church AOTS Club embarked on a major project upon the death of Charlie Burritt. Charlie was one of the most loved and respected men that we have had the privilege to know.

The objective of the society was to accumulate a sum of money, to invest the sum and then to award annual scholarships from the interest earned. Several events were held and continue to be held to increase the principal available for investment. We held pancake breakfasts, auctions and a successful box social and dance. The funds earned by the club when added to the amount donated by friends is approaching ten thousand dollars.

The society has awarded several scholarships each year for the past three years and will continue to do so in perpetuity. It has been very rewarding to have been a part of this project and to see it develop and reach its goal. This memorial to Charlie does not exist in stone or wood nor does it hang on a wall, it exists as an investment in the lives of young men and women. The scholarship recipients will not have the opportunity to meet Charlie in this world but they will know what he stood for and how much he was loved by those who have dedicated the society to his memory. Submitted, Al Cazes

## "FOUR WISE MEN" VISIT THE CARIBOO

Three AOTS men from South Burnaby and one from Victoria visited Cariboo Country as resource people to encourage UC men to organize fellowships with one another.

The four: Ken Martin, John Carswell, Bill Anderson and Charlie Shave, travelled first to 100 Mile House where they met with Rev. Don Duff, Bob Carter and Kelly Powell. Aims and objectives of men's groups were discussed followed by fellowship and praise. Jim Dunsmuir caught up with the group later, and before departing for Quesnel, the four had coffee with Ian Gunn, another long time friend of AOTS and the Celebration of Faith.

Then it was off to Quesnel where Rev. Bob McPherson greeted the men and jokingly branded them the "four wise men from the south" a description which stuck. Again, it was praise and fellowship, a time of sharing and then a mock AOTS dinner meeting was staged for the benefit of the Quesnel men.

During the presentation, Ken outlined various club organizational structures and the options open to men. John gave out resource ideas for fund raising as well as information on how a typical club operates. Bill sang, accompanied by Charlie on the piano, and the two also shared their testimonies of what Christ had done and was doing in their lives.

At Williams Lake Rev. Rod McLeish had the men take part in the Sunday morning service and later, during the coffee hour, a slide presentation was given on AOTS activities. There was time for discussion with the men as to the importance of fellowship groups.

On the last leg of the journey Gordon Spencer of Mt. Paul United in Kamloops told of men's activities at his church. Resource material was offered as well as encouragement.

John Carswell later commented that he was very pleased with the way the men were received and felt the trip was well worth the effort.

"We are trying to encourage men to share their testimonies with other men for deeper fellowship. I realize it makes men vulnerable but it also breaks down the superficiality. There are too many men going through big problems out there and they need to know there are other men who care," he commented. "Christ calls us to bear one another's burdens and to love one another. This is what it is all about."

Submitted, Charlie Shave



### WORDS OF WISDOM

The question is not always, where do we stand? but, in what direction are we going?

You are not dressed for Christian work until you put on a smile.

What a nation does on Sunday determines what it is the rest of the week.

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continued from page 3  
planning. We suggest two per unit to cut down on transportation and to provide continuity.

Our next meeting is 23 March when we will consider, among other things, final arrangements for the plant sale. For information call Ken Martin at 433-7171 (eves) or 433-6199 (days).

## THE REV. REG REDMAN

A large congregation at the memorial service on the 18th of Dec. was witness to the affection in which the Rev. Reg Redman was held both South Burnaby and beyond. Coming as a boy from England to Canada, Reg was a theological student of the Methodist Church and had the distinction of being one of the first group of ministers to be ordained in the United Church following union (1926).

His ministry, in which he was ably partnered by Laura until her death and then by Win, led him to Port Alberni, Mission, Grace (Vancouver), Chilliwack and First (Vancouver). This was followed by service with the Lords' Day Alliance and a final pastorate at Marpole leading to retirement in 1963.

Retirement meant little to Reg, however, and was but a formality before moving to service in Tsawwassen. Then, after some brief interim ministries, he came to South Burnaby as retired associate in 1972. While passing years required the laying down of many of his responsibilities "South" continued to hold a special place in Reg's heart, an emotion which the congregation gladly reciprocated. He is remembered with deep gratitude by his many friends here and also in the wide spread areas where his influence has been felt in the upbuilding of God's Kingdom.

Rev. George Morrison

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## BURNS NIGHT IN DUNCAN

Duncan AOTS Night Haggis, Neeps and Tatties as a huge success. With hard work by Alf Lloyd, Norm Carter and their crews everyone had a great time and over \$700 was realized.