

# CHRISTIAN TIMES

The News You Need . . . The Events You Attend

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March 3, 1999

Mr. F. Andrew Turley  
Supervisory Attorney  
General Enforcement Docket  
Federal Election Commission  
Office of General Counsel  
999 E Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20463

RE: MUR 4880

Dear Mr. Turley:

Your letter of Feb. 17, 1999, states that the Southern California Christian Times may have violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971. However, the materials enclosed with that letter were not specific in exactly what the alleged violation may have been.

The only time the Southern California Christian Times was mentioned was on pages 7-8 of Mr. Barela's "A Sacred Honor," under the subheading of "Khoury's Unreported In-kind Contributions."

The full-page ad in question that appeared in the Christian Times was provided and paid for by The Word Mill on behalf of The Conservative Voice, a publication I believe to be owned by The Word Mill. A copy of the original invoice is enclosed as well as a print-out record of the payment received on April 27, 1999, with check #2630 for \$844.00.

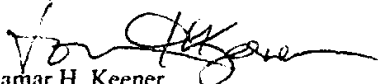
(The courtesy discount reflected on the invoice simply reflects the standard political discount rate for a full-page ad that all political ads of that size were granted.)

The ad was produced by The Word Mill and provided to us in film negative format just in time to meet the publishing deadline.

Since the ad was indeed paid for and clearly distinguished from normal editorial material as a third-party advertisement, the Christian Times was not in violation of any laws.

Whether or not the candidates paid a fee to The Word Mill/Conservative Voice for inclusion, or whether or not their appearance in the ad—if not paid for—is to be considered an in-kind contribution, are matters to be determined solely with The Word Mill/Conservative Voice.

Sincerely,

  
Lamar H. Keener  
Publisher

Enclosures:

1. Copy of invoice #3133
2. Copy of receipt record
3. Copy of ad as published with additional page samples

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# Invoice

DATE	INVOICE NO.
04/10/98	3133

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The Word Mill c/o Tom Pigeon 5005 Lamert St., Ste. 204 Riverside, CA 92507

P.O. NO.	TERMS	DUE DATE
	Standard	05/08/98

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
May Issue	
Full page ad - Inland Empire Edition	1,125.00
Courtesy Discount	-281.00
<b>Total</b>	
	\$844.00

2004 359 4633

Name	The Word Mill	Phone	
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Date Deposited	4/27/98				
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Vol. 9 • No. 5 • May 1998

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**Festival to Fund MCC's World Hunger Relief**

UPLAND — The Southern California Festival, which includes an auction and a "relief sale," will be an opportunity to help raise funds for the international relief, development, and service ministries of the Mennonite Central Commission (MCC).

The event, May 29-30 at the Pacific Christian Center in Upland is the first for the Southern California area, says festival chairman Stan Long, who came to California 34 years ago to manage a chain of Christian bookstores. For the past 13 years, he has been the owner of Long's Christian Bookstore in Rancho Cucamonga.

MCC, which is based in Akron, Ohio, holds a number of such events annually in California, Fresno has held such events annually.

These events are known for their festive, country feel atmosphere, drawing people from all over California and

Arizona. Although presented by Mennonites and the Brethren in Christ denomination, Long says they are trying to broaden their base and get other denominations involved.

Donations for the big auction ring have been " terrific," says Long.

"One lady donated a 27-foot motor home, a car, and three rooms of furniture," he said.

The auction, run by three auctioneers, will feature colorful handmade quilts, comforters, and wall hangings. Long says they are still looking for more of these items and would welcome donations.

Artisans provide pottery, needlework, woodwork, paintings, and other craft items for the festival. A number of church groups set up food booths selling pancakes, hamburgers, special ethnic foods, homemade breads, and pastries.

See FESTIVAL, page 17

**PK Recalls Paid Staff; Conference Schedule Set**

LA Coliseum is site of first free California PK May 22-23.

See story on page 2.

DENVER, Colo. (EP) — Shaken by a rise in donations, Promise Keepers (PK) announced April 9 that it was planning to recall its national staff April 16. The men's ministry had laid off its entire paid staff of 345 effective March 31. The layoff was due to financial problems stemming from the ministry's decision to

eliminate admission charges for its events this year.

"The Lord provided," PK founder and CEO Bill McCartney told EP News. "We were in a position where we just didn't have the funds to proceed, and so we sent out a clerical call. I believe what has happened is that the body of Christ has been moved sufficiently by the Spirit of God to respond."

McCartney said God had brought the Bible verse II

See PAID STAFF, page 2

**Get This...**

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — Three former members of a polygamist sect are suing, saying the cult group's leader promised them a face-to-face meeting with Jesus Christ. The three say they gave all of their worldly goods—\$264,390—to Jim Hammiston, prophet of The True and Living Church of Jesus Christ of Saints of the Last Days. The April 7 lawsuit said Hammiston took advantage of their "deepest spiritual needs" and failed to deliver on his promise.

The three—Rev. Douglas Jordan, Kaziah May Hancock, and Cindy Stewart, were excommunicated from the church last year. The apocalyptic cult has about 300 members, and grew out of Mormonism and teaches that the world will soon end and only members of the church will be saved.

The faithful of the cult believe that Hammiston is God's spokesman on Earth—a reincarnated Joseph Smith. Smith founded the Mormon church in 1830.

**Congratulations Crystal Lewis! GMA's Female Artist of the Year**



WASHVILLE, Tenn. (EP) — Crystal Lewis' career as a Christian recording artist is being celebrated through Nashville to be named Female Artist of the Year by the Gospel Music Association (GMA) on May 17. Lewis, 22, is the youngest artist to win the award for the past 25 years. She is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Lewis' album, "Crystal," is available on CD and cassette. Her new album, "Crystal," is available on CD and cassette. Her new album, "Crystal," is available on CD and cassette.

Crystal Lewis displays her two Dove Awards backstage at the 27th Annual Dove Awards in California this month: May 26, First Baptist Church, San Jose; May 29, Journey Community Church, La Mesa; May 30, Calvary Church, Santa Ana. See Awards, page 17

**Pro-family Leaders Focus on Issa for U.S. Senate**

VISTA — With 12 candidates for U.S. Senate all seeking to unseat Democrat incumbent Barbara Boxer, the ballot looks quite crowded. With the advent of California's first Open Primary, voters from all parties—and independents—will each have the privilege of voting for any of the thirteen candidates. The leading votegetter from each

party will represent that party in November's General Election.

It has been many years since this state has had a family-friendly, conservative U.S. Senator. As a result, pro-family leaders have analyzed the leading candidates and most agree that Republi-

See ISSA, page 4

**COMING EVENTS**

- May 9 'Finishing Well' Men's Conference
- May 16 Knott's Spring Jubilation Saturday
- May 22-23 Gospel Quartet Convention
- May 29 Home School Day at Hurricane Harbor
- May 29-30 Sou Cal Festival & Relief Sale
- Jun 6 Prison Fellowship Banquet
- Jun 12-14 Singles Safari Weekend

See details for these and hundreds of other events in THE CALENDAR and COMMUNITY NEWS on pages 12-16.

## Seniors Ministry Meets Unique Needs

CORONA — A ministry for seniors that has grown from a Bible study group to a church in Corona is hoping to branch out eventually to include a Bible school.

Seniors for Christ, co-founded by Rev. Joan Roldan and Rev. Coleen Rustad, reaches out to the seniors at Crown Point Seniors Apartments in Corona, as well as other area seniors through Bible studies and breakfast meetings.

"We have had a vision for the last two years that we believe God has given to us," said Roldan, "and that is for the older adult to live life to the fullest, with joy and fulfillment of what God has for them in this lifetime."

Seniors are not always included in the activities of family members or the church, she said, and "they don't, for the most part, have a feeling of belonging."

"We have seen what happens when a life is touched by the power of God and a person starts to serve God and reach out to others of the same age. Seniors say, 'We are important, and we have a place in ministry.'"

As the seniors serve, many of

them find that they are no longer a burden on families, and even become self-sufficient.

The ministry is "by seniors and for seniors," said Roldan. "No one knows better than a senior what another senior needs."

### Seeking to Expand

There was no intention, at first, to even become a church, but Seniors for Christ has grown to the point that it is now seeking a building for human resources—food, clothing, etc.—a van for transportation of seniors to services and events, and office space.

"We want to have a place to train seniors for missions, and to have a facility that will facilitate the senior that wants to volunteer in helping other seniors," said Roldan.

The vision for Seniors for Christ is wide-ranging, with opportunities for hospitality outreach, tape and radio ministry, a book exchange, phone helpers, hospital visitation, etc.

There is even a desire to add a Bible school, "so that we can further train seniors to become leaders,"

Roldan said.

Roldan reports that, in the U.S. alone, at least 85 percent of the population will be age 60 or older.

"Seniors have many mature facets, just like a diamond, and can add much to the world around them, and affect many lives, and win many to Christ," she said.

"The older adult has many things to offer to the world," such as maturity in life and experience in the workplace.

"Some have been housewives, professionals, farmers—we see all kinds," she said.

Roldan and Rustad live within the Senior Citizens Building at Casa Grande. They have worked together for several years with the non-denominational Gospel Crusade Ministerial Fellowship out of Bradenton, Florida—a connectional organization and support group for churches and ministries.

Roldan coordinates meetings for Gospel Crusades in the state of California. Rustad has been a volunteer chaplain at Corona Regional Hospital for about four years.

Seniors for Christ meetings at Crown Point Seniors Apartments are held on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. and Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the chapel.

Seniors for Christ also conducts Sunday services at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., with a Wednesday night Bible study at 7:00 p.m. at Casa Grande, 803 Magnolia Ave., in the back building.

Seniors Breakfast Meetings are held at The Grinder Restaurant in the Corona Mall on Main Street, the second Saturday of each month.

For more information about any of these meetings, or the Seniors in Christ ministry, call (909) 273-1782.

## Promise Keepers to Fill LA Coliseum May 22-23

LOS ANGELES — Gospel singer Babe Winans will headline the music at the first Free California Promise Keepers conference, to be held in Los Angeles at the LA Coliseum, May 22-23.

The Los Angeles conference is the third of 19 stadium and arena conferences scheduled for 1998. California will have two other conferences this year: June 5-6 at Bulldog Stadium in Fresno and Oct. 9-10 at Sacramento's Arco Arena.

All of the conferences, with the theme of "Live a Legacy—Make a Difference in Your Lifetime," will be free of charge for the first time in Promise Keepers' history.

The decision to waive admission fees for all 1998 events is a bold move for the eight-year-old organization, which derived 72 percent of its income from such fees in the past.

Steve Ruppe, director of public affairs, said a love offering will be taken at the conference, however. Financial contributions to Promise Keepers are critical, say organizers, "to help offset significant pre-conference expenses."

Last year's LA conference was attended by 42,313 men paying \$65 each, and Ruppe said there are high hopes that many more will attend the 1998 conference, especially since

there is a "strong evangelistic outreach" planned for this event.

Ruppe said the Denver, Colo.-based Promise Keepers will, as always, accept walk-ups the day of the conference—if there is seating available. Men are asked to pre-register however, to insure seating at conference sites, and to assist the ministry in planning.

A number of speakers will address the LA conference, including John Maxwell and Steve Farrar, and music will be provided by Babe Winans and the Orange County-based Maranatha! Praise Band.

Promise Keepers founder Bill McCartney will not attend the LA gathering. He will be speaking at a conference being held during the same dates in Little Rock, Ark., one of Promise Keepers' three "double-conference" weekends.

Tentatively scheduled to speak at the Fresno conference are Joseph Stowell, George McKinnay, and Don Christensen, among others, and the Sacramento conference has tentatively booked Bruce Wilkinson and Franklin Graham.

To register for the Los Angeles conference, or to inquire about other conferences, call 1-800-888-7595; (Spanish, 1-800-203-1564. TTY 1-800-0769-6855).

## PAID STAFF...

Continued from page 1

Samuel 22:20 to his mind, which says, "He set me free and rescued me, for I was his delight" (Living Bible). "I believe that show God feels about Promise Keepers," said McCartney.

The Promise Keepers announcement did not include financial data, but the ministry reportedly received \$4 million in donations in the months before the recall. McCartney said the ministry does not yet have enough cash in hand to meet all of its obligations for the year, but noted, "We have ample resources to recall our staff, pay our bills, and to protect ourselves over the next couple of months. It's enough to justify saying that we're back in business, and we're trusting that the body of Christ will continue to respond."

McCartney said all PK staff members have been invited back, but some will have already found other jobs. He believes that most of those who were laid off will return.

"The staff layoff was a necessary fact of life, and it's been a very trying time," said Patrick Clowes, vice president of administrative services for PK. "I'm humbled by the dedication our staff has shown by keeping the ministry running during this critical period—as volunteers. To be sure, Promise Keepers will always depend upon volunteers."

The PK layoff was unusual in that the organization took an "all or nothing" approach to its paid staff, rather than phasing in staff reductions. "In November [when we] knew we were going to a [donation-based] structure, it was very difficult for our staff to make plans or to know that they had security through the Christmas season," McCartney recalled. "We felt we needed to let everybody know that we're all in this together, that we all need to be praying, and that nobody is more important than anyone else. We made the statement that we are going to go into 1998 with the team intact, and if you want to be on the team we'll keep you on the team."

That pledge will have been fulfilled

by Nov. 1 of this year, and McCartney acknowledged that financial pressures might force a staff reduction at that time.

PK continues its preparations for 19 stadium and arena events scheduled through October. Events will include three California cities—Los Angeles, Fresno, and Sacramento—as well as Detroit, Little Rock, St. Petersburg, Knoxville, Columbia (Missouri), Philadelphia, Minneapolis, Indianapolis, Eugene (Ore.), Omaha, Grand Rapids, Houston, Tucson, Milwaukee, Columbia (S.C.) and Colorado Springs.

Tom Fortson, chief operating officer of the ministry, urged men to register quickly for the stadium and arena events. "To the guys who were willing to see if Promise Keepers would be around, it's a time to sign up for yourself and the men you're bringing." Although this year's events are free, men must pre-register by calling 1-800-888-7595.

McCartney said that despite the restructuring of the ministry and the financial pressures it created, PK is staying true to its calling—including the work of racial reconciliation. "We believe we are called to bring the Body of Christ together," he insisted. "We're peacemakers. God's given us an anointing, to go and bring warring parties together inside the Body. We have seen His hand go on every time that we've brought people together. He's used Promise Keepers to stir men, and also for the brotherhood to come together."

While the continuation of Promise Keepers is assured through this year, McCartney is open to the possibility of the ministry coming to an end. "If God hadn't stirred the Body to respond like they have, it could have been the end result now," he admitted. "It's pretty clear to us that I haven't removed the anointing. He continues to provide. I think that's how you'll know [it's over], is when the anointing is gone. It's not the resources—it's the anointing. When we have a stadium event and God doesn't show up, we'd better look for something else to do. But if we have an event and it's only sparsely attended but God shows up, I'd say we're still in business."

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