

# Religion

Akron Beacon Journal Saturday, May 5, 1979.

## Rev. Sam Fife will be remembered here

**By PETER GIEGER**  
 Rev. Sam Fife, the influential Bible teacher whose influence and teachings led to a similar following in the Akron area, will be remembered in the Stark County community Sunday.

The former Baptist minister from Mass., Fla., who died April 29 there, had single-mindedly placed himself in the mountain near Titonogous, Ga., taking his life and those of Lake Township followers here and Patrick, Va.

Also killed was Gary Shamblin, an elder in Christian Ministries, a non-denominational church founded in 1970 on Fife's teachings. The group met at 1299 State St. Services were held earlier this week in Massillon for Shamblin and Mrs. Ruth Fife. Fife's followers will remember him in a 9 a.m. memorial service Sunday.

A CHURCH MEMBER said both Fife and Shamblin were "rationalists." The Gaithersburg, Md., Administration banned lead weather for the church.

The three were in the area 118 miles west of Chattanooga City on a visit to Quebec Theological Institute, affiliated with some 100 Bible study centers, which has been called "The Body of Christ."

"The local church and administration," said a Christian Ministries member, "is a Bible church. It is not a denomination, however, from the teaching of Mr. Fife, a former Baptist minister and leader of the Mount Revival Center in Florida.

Mr. Fife was invited to lead Bible studies in North Center area homes in the late 1960s by local residents who heard him in Florida, he taught dependence on the Bible

and on his teaching as guides for life.

He followed Sam Fife only as a Bible teacher, "because his elder in the local church, a woman who declined to be interviewed.

"The experience with the newspaper has been that of misrepresentation," the elder explained. "We're not interested in publicity. We don't believe God moves in that way."

THE ELDER said two principles were noteworthy regarding Mr. Fife's death — that the church would survive because "we don't follow a man," said, quoting from Job 13:15. "Though he slay me, yet will I trust him."

Most churches ignore the gift of apostasy," said the elder, "so we need not be fearful of an apostasy. Mr. Fife's teaching is a teaching that will cause us to regret what we name to see as materialism in

society. They moved onto farms, such as those "under the ministry" of the local group at 1305 State St. local school and church building, said a church member.

Mr. Fife was frank to admit that the teaching could be wrong. He told the Miami Herald on March 27 that he had left his wife temporarily for a younger woman, "because he had said by God that a 'prepper' would be born of the woman he returned to his wife, he said, with the recognition that the woman came from 'the devil.'"

Similar accusations of broken homes, told to Mr. Fife's teachings, were leveled in the mid-1970s.

IN ONE CASE, John W. Jones, former pastor of the First Baptist Church, said he was advised by Fife to leave his wife and children, and to move to a remote area. Jones said he was advised by Fife to leave his wife and children, and to move to a remote area.

the Ninth District Court of Appeals. Jones and his family were Christian Ministries members.

An appeal judgment for Aber for \$500,000 damages. "The ruling is a final judgment," said Jones.

CONTACTED BY RADIO, at his ranch, Jones told the Beacon Journal that he had never heard of the case. He said he had never heard of the case. He said he had never heard of the case.

He said, however, that he was involved in part in the 1976 Chapter of Roman, which describes followers as "The Body of Christ."

Jones added that all the people at the ranch are members other of his family or the family of the ranch. Jones added that all the people at the ranch are members other of his family or the family of the ranch.

"THE RANCH is not a community," said Rev. Fife, page D3.



Eugene Kimmel teaches sign language to Shadydale Church members Pat Robinson (left) of Uniontown, Pam Wilcox and Decker Leichter, both of Akron, who want to witness to the deaf.

## Ex-Akron Jewish Center becomes thriving church

**By PETER GIEGER**  
 An ex-Akron Jewish Center building has become a thriving church, with an average attendance of 1,000 started 14 months ago.

Mr. Halgin, pastor, said he had been a member of the Jewish Center for 10 years. He said he had been a member of the Jewish Center for 10 years.

several church families have moved into the neighborhood. Other members have joined the church in an average of 100 members.

Mr. Halgin is a native Akronite who dropped out of Fremont High School in the 11th grade. He says, "I was a very bright student, but I was not interested in school. I was interested in the church."

He said, however, that he was involved in part in the 1976 Chapter of Roman, which describes followers as "The Body of Christ."

## Funds sought for shelter home

**By PAT NORMAN**  
 CANTON — About 400 Stark County churches are being asked to take up a special collection on Mother's Day, May 13, to help the Domestic Violence Project buy a large old home as a shelter for abused women.

Nancy Boylan, project president, said the house now being rented requires smoke alarms and fire escapes to meet fire regulations.

ST. PAUL'S Episcopal Church at 425 Cleveland Ave. SW has agreed to set up the book screen for the fund drive, Mrs. Boylan said.

"We're hoping for a good, positive response from the churches. This is a local appeal for money to help us build for people in our own community. We all know it's better to give than to receive."

When I give talks, at least one hundred women will come out of the audience to talk with me. She is usually upper- or middle-class. Women who are abused may call 424-8000. It is staffed on a 24-hour basis, Mrs. Boylan said.

## 'Silent witness' Akron church's goal for deaf

Newest program at Shadydale Baptist Church, 228 S. Balch St., Akron, will be sign language interpretation for the deaf.

Some 80 church members will be trained for the job over two or three hours daily, starting next week.

Attendees at Shadydale's three weekly services (10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday) is limited by use of seven church buses which cruise the city, picking up those who need transportation.

Mr. Halgin is a native Akronite who dropped out of Fremont High School in the 11th grade. He says, "I was a very bright student, but I was not interested in school. I was interested in the church."

Evangelist Kimmel said he travels more than 70,000 miles a year. He said he had never heard of the case. He said he had never heard of the case.

### RELIGIOUS DIRECTORY

ADVERTISING FOR THIS PAGE SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MISS MARTIN, CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT, PHONE 375-6222

<b>ANGELIC</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>AKRON BAPTIST ASSOC.</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>GENERAL ASSOC. REGULAR BAPTIST</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234
<b>APOSTOLIC</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>BAPTIST (INDEPENDENT)</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234
<b>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>HIGH STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>EAST MARKET ST. CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>St. Olaf Baptist Church</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>Free City Baptist Church</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234	<b>Independent • Fundamental</b> 1115 W. 12th St. Akron, Ohio 44315 Pastor: Rev. James J. ... Phone: 375-1234