

During his eight years at Westminster, Allan resumed his doctoral studies, this time at the University of Pennsylvania Under Ephraim A. Speiser. This program was completed in 1937 when Allan received his Ph.D. degree. His dissertation was entitled "Semitic Personal Names at Nuzi."

In the summer of 1937, when the need was felt for the founding of a new theological seminary stressing certain desirable distinctives, Dr Allan A. MacRae joined with Carl McIntire, Roy T. Brumbaugh, Harold S. Laird, and Frederick Paist to formulate a plan for the new school. Since they had no faculty, no property, no students, and really nothing but their faith, they decided to call it Faith Theological Seminary. Dr MacRae was asked to assume the presidency of the institution, and he accepted the position.

Almost at once, events occurred to move the dream toward reality. The Sunday school building of the First Independent Church of Wilmington, Delaware, was offered for classrooms; a fine faculty was assembled; and 25 students enrolled. Among the members of the entering class were Vernon Grounds, John W. Sanderson, Jr., Norman Jerome, and Jack W. Murray.

The new school grew steadily. By the 1943-44 school year, there were 62 students, including two women. One of these was Grace E. Sanderson, who, after a brief stint as a temporary secretary to Dr MacRae, discovered that he seemed to have more than a temporary interest in her. Following many long walks and much good-natured teasing from the students, Miss Grace Sanderson became Mrs Allan A. MacRae.

During the MacRae's honeymoon in the Grand Canyon of Arizona, three army fliers parachuted out of a bomber that appeared ready to crash. They floated down into the canyon, and spent the next ten days on an isolated plateau. The search for these airmen drew nationwide attention. A veteran park ranger, aware that Dr MacRae (a veteran of many long trips in the Canyon) was there at the time, sent word to join him in the rescue attempt. They went down from the north rim, located a narrow deer trail down the precipitous cliffs, and brought out the three fliers in good condition.

The story made all the newspapers and many magazines, including *Time*. As a result of this experience, Dr MacRae was besieged with invitations to relate his adventure; and he used these opportunities to drive home a gospel application to thousands of men and women in every type of organization and setting.

In November of 1948, John Phillip MacRae was born. At the time, his parents could not have predicted that he would be called of God into the gospel ministry, would enter Faith Seminary, would complete his theological studies at B. S. T., and would become a successful pastor in Western Pennsylvania.

During the next several years, Faith Seminary was experiencing growing pains. For example, in 1951 the student body jumped to 120. Following a search for new quarters, the school moved in 1952 to the Widener estate in Elkins Park. The growth of the student body reached its high point in 1952-53, when it numbered 156.

Following a major disruption in 1956, Dr MacRae began the painstaking task of rebuilding the faculty and the student body, a task which occupied