During the past quinquennium, the Southern Africa Union Conference education system remained stable, except in the enrollments at some of our institutions during 1999.

**Baptisms**

It is gratifying to note the 33 percent increase in the number of baptisms at our secondary schools in 1999. We hope that this trend will continue. Our highest number of baptisms at the tertiary level occurred in 1996, when 168 students were baptized. The church’s satellite programs have attracted many non-Adventist students. The results of such programs are sometimes only seen years later.

**New Schools and Facilities**

Presda Primary School, in Pretoria, opened in 1933 with 12 pupils. Today, it has an enrollment of 140. In 1999, a new school was built with modern facilities, a school hall, and an administration block. The buildings were completed debt-free. A special word of appreciation must be expressed to the school administrators, who have run an effective program and managed the finances so efficiently.

The newly established Namibia Field, with headquarters at Windhoek, recently expressed an interest in establishing a school in that area. Arrangements are being made to start a pre-primary school as a church project this year. A plan has been devised to provide for an elementary school and a secondary school for Windhoek within a five-year period.

We have two tertiary institutions, Helderberg and Bethel colleges. Helderberg has a full complement of staff and students and is functioning well, while Bethel College, under the guidance of its new rector, will be restructuring and diversifying its course offerings in order to meet the changing needs of its constituency.

God is blessing our educational institutions in spite of the many challenges we face.
Three new classrooms at Ebenezer Primary School in Lesotho, South Africa.

Presda Primary School, South Africa.

Mrs. L. Lourencho's 3rd- and 4th-grade class.

An art class at Keitsleigh Primary School, Mayville, South Africa.

Students from grade 1 of Keitsleigh Primary School go swimming.