

Arkansas Methodist

90th YEAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1971

NO. 11

■ "Escape to Reality" theme

North Arkansas Conference Youth Rally at Hendrix College, March 27

Approximately 600 young people from the North Arkansas Conference of The United Methodist Church will attend the annual Youth Fellowship Rally scheduled for Saturday, March 27, on the campus of Hendrix College. The theme for the rally is, "Escape to Reality."

Featured on the program will be Captain Tom Davis of the Pulaski County Sheriff's Department who will present a program on drug abuse. Captain Davis has worked extensively throughout this area of the state in the field of drug abuse. He has spoken to numerous civic clubs, school programs, and other organizations.

Also featured on the program will be "the Rebeccas" from Memphis, Tenn. This is a group of eight young ladies and young men who specialize

in religious folk music. Mrs. Mary Harriston, choirmaster-organist of the Rebecca United Methodist Church in Memphis is their director.

Also, on the program will be a drama presentation on the Youth Service Fund by the Methodist Youth Fellowship of First United Methodist Church in Fort Smith and a worship service led by Youth Council members from the Batesville Area.

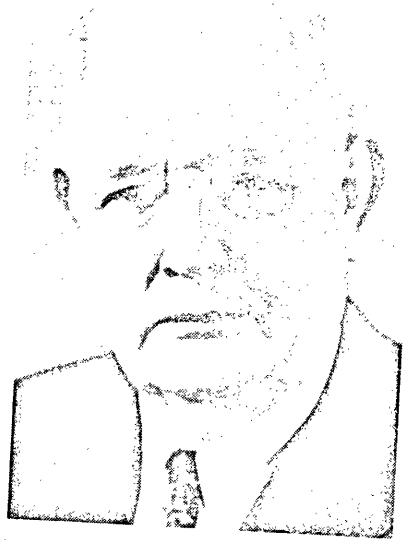
Registration for the rally will begin at 9:45 a.m. in the lobby of Staples Auditorium. Warren Casteel, conference president from Batesville, will make introductions at 10:30 a.m. and will preside over the rally throughout the day.

Mr. Casteel is a senior at Batesville High School, and will be a student at Hendrix College next fall.

The Rev. Tom Weir of Fort Smith, Conference Youth Coordinator, will welcome participants and give overall direction to the rally.

Mr. Weir is pastor of the Wyatt Memorial United Methodist Church in Fort Smith and has served as Conference Youth coordinator for the past three years.

Youth will attend the rally from churches throughout North Arkansas. The Rally is held each year and is planned by a Council made up of youth and adults from throughout the North Arkansas Conference.



Bishop Moore to preach at First Church, Little Rock

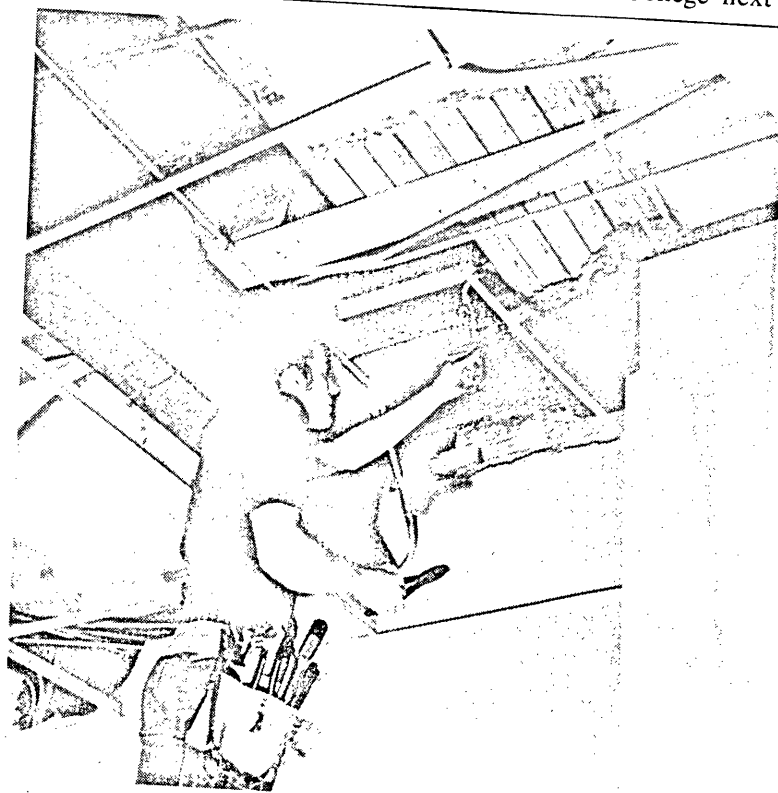
Bishop Arthur J. Moore of Atlanta, Georgia, will be the guest preacher at two services in First United Methodist Church, Little Rock, on Sunday, March 21. At the 10:45 a.m. service, he will speak on "The Inevitable Mission of the Church," and at 7 p.m. on "The Redeeming Love of God."

Bishop Moore's visit marks the beginning of the annual churchwide School of Missions, sponsored by the Work Area on Missions. Mrs. John H. Hunt, Jr., is chairman.

Bishop Moore was elected to the episcopacy in 1930 and retired in 1960. He is the author of several books, among which are "Immortal Tidings in Mortal Hands" and "Christ After Chaos." Since retirement he has continued a heavy schedule of speaking engagements. He was guest speaker in First Methodist Church for a week, a few years ago.

Drs. Owen and Alice Beard of Little Rock are also scheduled for an appearance during the School of Missions. They will speak on Wednesday evening, following a six o'clock supper, telling of their experiences aboard the S.S. Hope, the peacetime hospital ship devoted to "bringing health opportunities to people everywhere." Dr. Owen Beard is assistant chief of Medical Service at the Veteran's Hospital in Little Rock, and Dr. Alice Beard is professor of Pediatrics at the University of Arkansas School of Medicine.

Dr. Robert E. L. Bearden is the First Church pastor.



During recent weeks the 81-year-old Administration Building at Hendrix College has undergone renovation involving changes in office arrangement. As the remodeling (amounting to approximately \$18,000) proceeded observers discovered some earlier stages of construction apparent in photo. The small gray-painted boards above the electrician's head appear to be the original beaded ceiling exterior—a type common well into the twentieth century. Beyond the worker's head is a darkly painted panel with ragged edge. Fiber-board panels plastered over are in evidence. In 1959 during extensive remodeling a large steel girder with dropped ceiling strips was installed. This was done to counteract settling of the building. Dropped ceilings also improved appearance and left space for the new heating and cooling system.

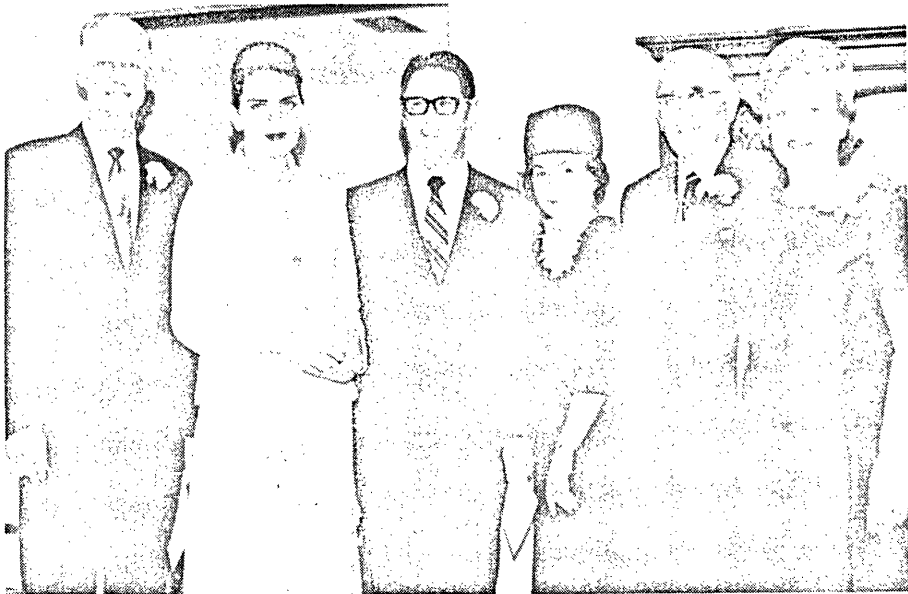
Pension Endowment Program to celebrate First Anniversary

Sunday, March 28, has been designated as the First Anniversary Sunday of the Pension Endowment Campaign of the North Arkansas Conference by the Campaign Office in North Little Rock.

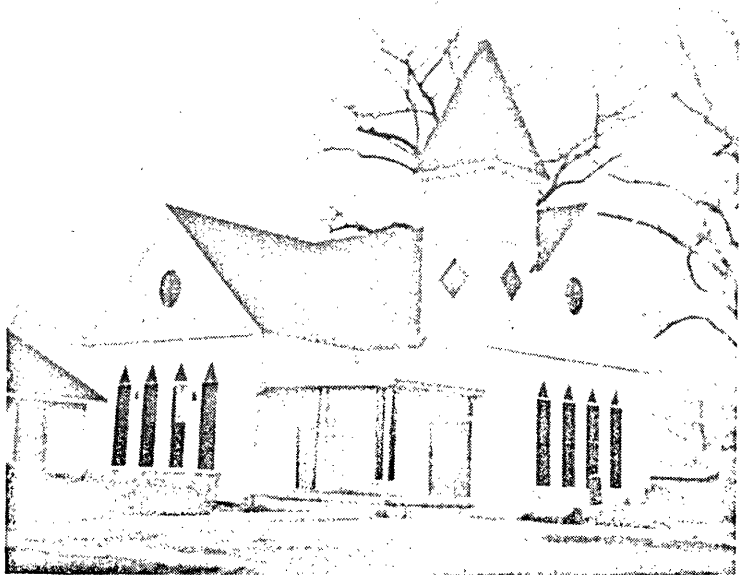
This was the Sunday in 1970 when most churches had finished or completed their pledge campaign, it was reported by the Rev. Earl B. Carter, director of the follow-up campaign. Pledges or amounts subscribed total \$1,235,198.40 for the three-year period. As of January 31 of this year an amount of 351,439.20 has been paid in. Also, during this time, 294 churches in the Conference have paid their first-year goals in full; 12 churches have paid their second-year goals; and 14 churches have paid in full for the three years.

Churches throughout the Conference are being urged to use the First Anniversary Sunday to emphasize the Pension Endowment Program. Those churches that have not contributed to the program, or are behind in their Fair Share or Accepted Goals are encouraged to consider the possibility of taking a special offering for the Campaign.

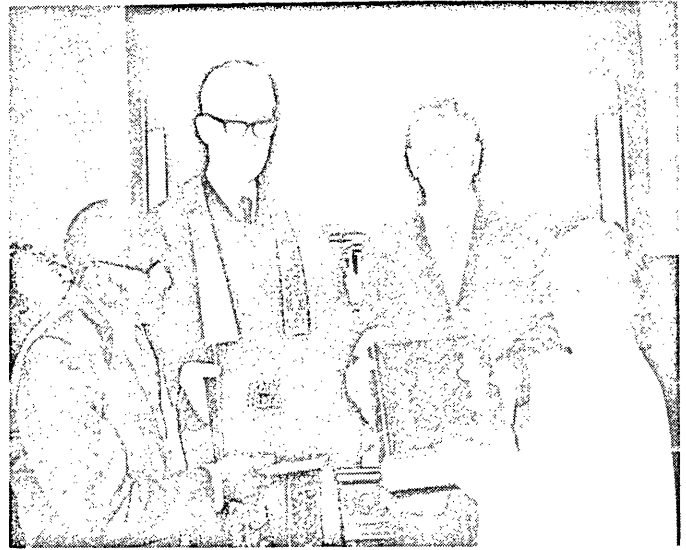
The Endowment Office is preparing a Bulletin Insert to be distributed in quantities to churches that request them for the First Anniversary observance.



Bishop Paul V. Galloway recently officiated at a service of consecration for the new parsonage at McGehee assisted by Monticello District Superintendent, Dr. Raymond Franks and Pastor Palmer Garner. The three are shown here with their wives. FROM LEFT: the Garners, the Franks and the Galloways. BELOW: The \$45,000 four-bedroom, parsonage with all-electric kitchen and independent air-conditioning and heating systems for upper and lower floors. The residence is being financed under a three year plan with only two more years of indebtedness totaling \$26,700. Building Committee members include Robert Adcock, chairman, Sam Bowman, A. V. Boyd, Robert M. Smith, and Hillard Stroud. Mrs. Dale Loyd, Mrs. John L. Maier, Jr., and Mrs. Lester Warrick, Jr., also members of the committee, served as the committee on decorating and furnishings. Ira Jones served as consultant with the contractor.



A special service of commemoration was held last Sunday morning, March 14, in the old Des Arc church pictured above to mark the last service to be held in the structure erected between 1891 and 1893. Demolition is to begin immediately. It is anticipated that construction for a new sanctuary will begin around April 1. The copper and bronze bell, removed from the belfry will be placed on the church grounds as a historical monument. The Rev. Bennie Ruth is pastor. (Photo by Mrs. William Bell)



In an historic moment at First Church, Batesville, on March 7, two important pulpit Bibles were received for historical records. David Pope, left, presented the Bible from Laferty Memorial United Methodist Church, and Mrs. Harry Jeffery, right, presented the Bible used on the pulpit of First Church until 1913. Accepting for the congregation were the Rev. Arvill C. Brannon and Clyde McGinnis, chairman of records and history for the church.

HUSBAND OF CHURCH AND COMMUNITY WORKER DIES

Leonard Rogers, husband of Mrs. Bernice Rogers, Church and Community Worker in the Batesville District, died on March 7. The funeral service was conducted in Springfield, Mo. on March 8 by the Rev. Arvill C. Brannon, pastor of First United Methodist Church, Batesville.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by one son, Dr. Jon Guy Rogers of the staff of the University of Alabama, living in Huntsville, Ala., and by two grandchildren.

Mr. Rogers was a member of Central Avenue United Methodist Church, Batesville. Mrs. Rogers works on assignment of the United Methodist Board of Missions, having served in the Harrison area before coming to Batesville two years ago.

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North Arkansas Family Camp April 30-May 2

The Myers Ranch Camp will be the location for a North Arkansas Conference-wide Family Camp, April 30-May 2, according to the Rev. William M. Wilder, pastor of First Church, Marked Tree.

Families will bring their own camping equipment—tents or trailers, food, etc. A registration fee of \$5.00 should be sent in advance to Mr. Wilder or to Wiley Frost of Marked Tree.

Campers should plan to arrive in the afternoon of April 30, if possible, and set up their camps. The first meeting of the campers will be at the campfire circle after supper. The Rev. Sam Teague of North Little Rock will be in charge of recreation.

The planning committee hopes that there will be at least one family from each district in the conference.

Families will have a chance for the discussion of common problems and needs, probably taking a look at some of the great sermons of the New Testament. There will also be opportunities for fishing, hiking and exploring.

Batesville Church receives two important Bibles

Two pulpit Bibles of special importance were involved in a presentation at First United Methodist Church, Batesville, on Sunday, March 7th, according to the Rev. Arvill C. Brannon, the pastor.

The pulpit Bible from Laferty Memorial United Methodist Church, Southwest Annual Conference, was presented by David Pope and accepted by Clyde McGinnis, chairman of records and history of First Church. Mr. Pope, along with Mrs. Benita Smiley, recently transferred their membership to First Church from Laferty Memorial which has ceased to have services. They are the first Negro members to be received into First Church.

At the same service Mrs. Harry Jeffery presented a pulpit Bible which was printed in 1868 and was used on the pulpit of First Methodist Church, Batesville, until 1913 at which time the present building was completed. Mrs. Jeffery's family has preserved the Bible since that time.



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Editorial

INVEST IN LOVE

United Methodists will join with more than 30 other denominations in learning how to "Invest in Love" on March 21—One Great Hour of Sharing. In other years a number of worthy projects have been supported by this Lenten appeal. However, this year the denominations have decided that the need is so urgent that all of the offerings will be directed to overseas relief.

The world was ravaged by major disasters during 1970. Nature raged, with an earthquake in Peru; a cyclone and tidal wave in East Pakistan; the worst typhoon in the history of the Philippines; along with a number of less serious floods and earthquakes in other countries. The devastation has come and gone in most instances, but the need for rebuilding is still with us. In every place where men have been struck down, our common decency urges us to respond. Our Christian conscience demands it.

There are many investments which a church can make. Obviously it can invest in capital goods such as land and buildings or in stocks and bonds for financial security. But on certain special occasions it can make what is probably the most valuable investment of all—an "investment in love." This is what we are challenged to do in response to the critical needs of the world in the One Great Hour of Sharing.

Through the United Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief we have an emergency arm to reach out with our response. Food, medicine, blankets, tents, clothing and other emergency supplies are shipped abroad for us. Teams of workers are quickly assembled and flown to areas of need. The One Great Hour of Sharing will provide UMCOR with more than one-half of its funds in 1971 for its work of relief and rehabilitation throughout the world.

UMCOR receives a call for help on the average of once every 10 or 11 days. No area of the world is exempt from the possibilities of disaster. People need help to recover from the initial impact of the situation, and they need help to rebuild their land

and their lives when a disaster strikes.

Sometimes the disaster is not a natural one. Often it is the even more hopeless kind that results when man turns against man in acts of war. In many troubled areas of the world, such as the Middle East and Southeast Asia, fighting has been going on for many years. People live and die in dire need while governments fight on in seemingly endless wars. UMCOR cannot end these tragic conflicts, but it can be there to help ease the suffering of the innocent victims.

Dr. J. Harry Haines, executive secretary of UMCOR, wrote recently of the challenges that come to that agency for an increasing amount of work that needs to be done in Vietnam. He said, "This was my sixth visit to Vietnam and while there are many outward changes, yet the fundamental problems still remain. Still one person in six is a refugee. There is only one doctor for every 100,000 people. There are 40,000 amputees, of whom only 11,000 have received initial care . . . The outward scene gives the impression of the war winding down. More areas are open to travel and there is a marked reduction in the size of the American presence. However, many Vietnamese are decidedly uneasy, as if the lull is only temporary.

"To date the Fund for Reconciliation has provided \$400,000 for a series of creative rehabilitation projects now under way. The morale of the Vietnam Christian Service personnel is high. Our 20 United Methodist doctors, nurses, social workers and agriculturists are part of a

team of 65 international staff and 125 Vietnamese staff seeking to be a Christian presence of compassion. UMCOR looks to the One Great Hour of Sharing and to the Advance Specials as the two sources of funds to make our continuing support of Vietnam Christian Service possible."

In East Pakistan U. S. Protestant churches through Church World Service are pledged to raise substantial funds toward the complete rebuilding of three villages to house 1,800 families of cyclone survivors. This World Council of Churches project, officially recognized by the Government of Pakistan, is budgeted at more than \$800,000. Villagers will participate in the construction of their homes, a cyclone-tested design of cement-soil block. As an added precaution, each village will have a multipurpose building designed also as a cyclone shelter. Deep wells will provide water, and the complete restoration of agricultural and fishing facilities is planned.

UMCOR stands ready to answer a call for help anywhere in the world when people are in need. Whether that need is for immediate assistance following a natural disaster, or for a long-term rehabilitation effort, UMCOR is able to respond immediately and positively. The One Great Hour of Sharing is what makes this possible. Without the continued support of this special offering by members of the United Methodist Church, the call for help might have to go unheeded—and that would be the greatest tragedy of all.

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the Editor's Corner



Calling All Coupons

We would like to use this space this week to pass on to you a challenge which we received through Frank Warden, Jr., an Arkansas student at Perkins School of Theology. It was written by Garry Ritzky, an intern minister serving in Bozeman, Mont., and we pass his words on to you.

"A local committee in Heavener, Okla. is presently conducting a campaign to collect Betty Crocker coupons (outdated coupons accepted) to provide a young 23-year-old man in Heavener the use of a device to replace the loss of both his kidneys. Mike Mattison has had both kidneys removed and experiences the rejection of one transplant.

"Presently Mike is traveling 1,000 miles per week to receive the necessary treatment for blood purification. The local Mike Mattison Fund Committee has an agreement with the Betty Crocker Corp. to exchange 600,000 coupons for the needed medical equipment to be placed in the LeFlore County Hospital. The date for this coupon exchange is May, 1971, and the goal is somewhat less than halfway reached.

"Mike is a personal friend of mine and I am especially interested in his prospects for recovery. This project offers United Methodists, or any interested party, a simple, inexpensive, non-time-consuming response to a human need and the opportunity to be a church in service.

"I urge you to respond to this need by giving your Betty Crocker coupons to this fund and by setting up a collection center or publicizing this project in your community."

The address again is:
The Mike Mattison Fund Committee
Heavener, Okla. 74937

This office would be glad to forward your coupons on to the committee if you prefer to send them here: Box 3547, Little Rock, Ark. 72203.

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Editor and Business Manager: ALFRED A. KNOX
Managing Editor: DORIS WOOLARD
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Poetry Editor: BARBARA L. MULKEY
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Editorial and business offices: 520 Rector Building, Third and Spring Sts., Little Rock, Ark. ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE to Box 3547, Little Rock, Ark., 72203. Articles other than editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editor.

Published every Thursday except weeks of July 4 and December 25 at Room 520, Rector Bldg., Little Rock, Ark. Second class postage paid at Little Rock, Ark. When asking for change of address please include key number, new and old address and pastor's name.
POSTMASTER: MAIL FORM 3579 to Box 3547, Little Rock, Ark., 72203.
MEMBER: Associated Church Press, United Methodist Press Association, and news sources including United Methodist Information (UMI), United Methodist Board of Missions, National Council of Churches, and Religious News Service (RNS).
ADVERTISING RATES on request. Represented nationally by Jacob's List, Inc., Clinton, S. C.

news and views

OF THE WORLD OF RELIGION

by doris woolard

The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear an appeal from a Florida case challenging a lower court ruling in favor of a Baptist church which uses some of its property to earn income that finances part of its ministry. Lower courts had sustained the church's right to enjoy tax exempt status on the income-producing property. Recently a three-judge District Court for Southern Florida ruled that Miami's Central Baptist church should not be liable to taxation on a parking lot which is adjacent to the church building, even though the church derives an income from it six days a week. The court panel ruled that operation of the parking lot by the church "is in fact as necessary (for the church's financial well-being) as is the roof over the church building itself." The case could prove to be pivotal in the whole church tax-exemption question.

The Western New York Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church went on record in Buffalo against state aid for parochial or other private schools. "Government funding of private and parochial schools—either directly or indirectly through aid to parents — tends toward the establishment of competing school systems financed by public funds and would eventually result in syphoning off better students from our public schools," said the presbytery.

Dr. Alan Walker, president of the Methodist Church in New South Wales, has called on the Australian government to cease giving "support and comfort" to South Africa. He called South Africa "a police state," and denounced its government as "the world's most unjust ruthless regime." Dr. Walker's remarks came in the wake of recent South African security police raids on the offices of religious organizations and on the private homes of church officials and others connected with church work.

Science and Scripture, a new magazine designed to "construct a Biblical framework for the interpretation of scientific facts" has begun publication in Beaumont, Texas. Editor and publisher is Michael Leon Trpasso, a senior student in biology at Lamar Tech and a substitute teacher. The bi-monthly publication intends to "place in the hands of the Christian and secular world a scripturally and scientifically sound account of past events as recorded in both biblical and non-biblical sources." The magazine holds that theories of creation other than evolution deserve equal consideration.

A literacy program operated by the Evangelical Church of Eritrea in Ethiopia will be increased fourfold when more teachers are trained. Ato Musa Aron, literature secretary of the Church, said the program currently serves 2,900 students in 85 villages of northern Ethiopia. Some 90 instructors work with the students, whose average age is 28. An estimated 85 percent of Eritreans over 20 are illiterate. The literacy campaign receives support from the Lutheran World Federation's Community Development Service.

A church for the deaf has been dedicated in Memphis, Tenn. by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Deaf-Eternal Mercy Church is the only one of its kind in Tennessee and one of the few in the U.S. All but three of the 65 members are deaf. Designed by a deaf architect, Herbert Schultenkamp Jr., of New Orleans, the \$120,000 structure concentrates on the special needs of the congregation.

A missionary surgeon who helped develop a surgical technique to give lepers new use of their hands will become commander of the Salvation Army in New Zealand. Lt. Commissioner Harry Williams, spent 31 years working with lepers in India. He said there are about 15 to 20 million lepers in the world and of these, 2 million are in India. Dr. Williams' medical specialty has been the rebuilding of bodies and faces by plastic surgery. "The loss of eyebrows, noses, and paralyzed eyelids are all amenable to surgery," he said.

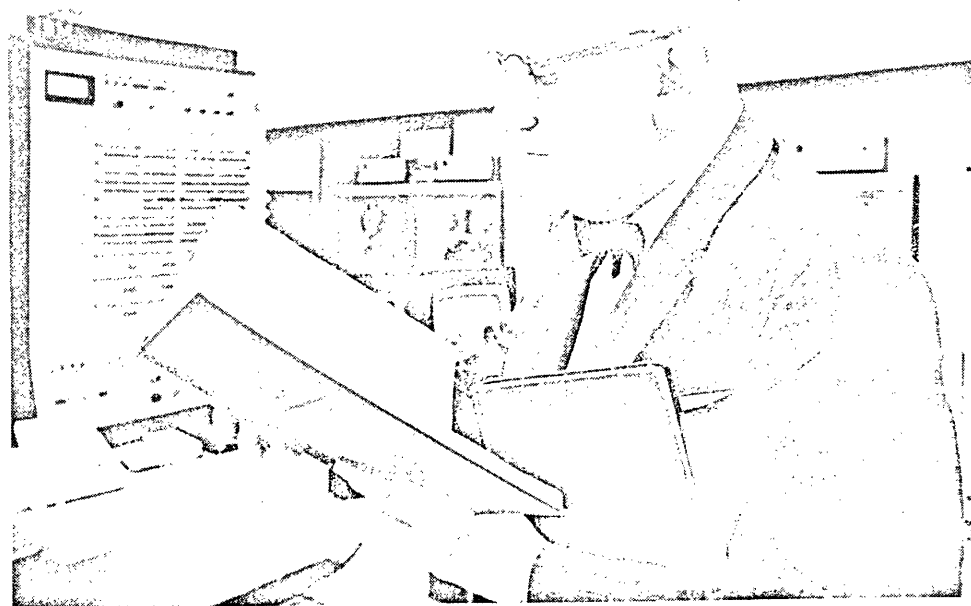
The eventual disappearance of the present church-state relationship in England was foreseen by Anglican Archbishop Michael Ramsey of Canterbury when he intervened unexpectedly in a debate on the subject at the Spring session of the General Synod meeting in London. The Archbishop asked, "Is it true that Christianity and the world is passing into the post-Establishment phase?" He continued, "I believe it is so passing, and we need to be thinking in terms of involvement with fellow Christians in every part of the world, and not in national terms I believe by and large we are in this new phase, and that our present church and state relationship in England may be the last such relationship on the globe."

Approximately 100 evangelical clergymen meeting in Myerstown, Pa. heard a workshop group recommend that evangelical churches, clergy and radio preachers try to correct the impression that the U.S. Supreme Court decisions excluded God and Religion from the public schools. Dr. Bernhard E. Olson, keynote speaker and national director of inter-religious affairs of the National Conference of Christians and Jews said, "Teaching about religion in public education is basically an educational question—one cannot understand American culture in any of its facets without also understanding the religious perspectives, events, personages, and forces which have helped shape it." "An education that does not provide for the objective study of religion is an incomplete education. It does not tell about events the way they really happened. It ignores the most vital force that has made us, as a people, what we are."

A government committee studying church-state relations in Finland has proposed increasing the independence of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland. The present law places "the supreme administration of the Church" with the government. The Church's right of taxation should be preserved, the committee said. It also recommended the continuation of religious instruction in public schools. However, it noted that instruction in "creedal dogma" is no longer the function of the regular school, but a responsibility of the Church's own educational activity.

A plan which would have one large board of 80 to 100 members administer the program of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. (Southern) has been approved by a committee studying the restructure of the Church. The majority of the board members would be nominated to the General Assembly by the Synods, according to the Rev. William J. Fogleman of Houston. He said the plan would emphasize the "responsibleness" and "accountability" of the board and its several divisions. The emphasis would be assured through the majority representation named by the synods. Restructure proposals offered to the 1970 General Assembly were set aside when conservatives threatened to withdraw from the denomination unless action on the plan was postponed.

The thrust of Christian missions in Asia must now rest with Asian initiative rather than coming from the West, 120 Asian churchmen and missionaries agreed during a Consultation on Missionary Service in Asia Today. The group issued a statement adding that the "Christian Community is now firmly established in Asia" and the "key issue" in viewing Western missionary presence is how Asian Churches can be helped to "achieve selfhood and respond to God's call." The East Asia Christian Conference, made up of 93 churches in 16 countries was asked to "initiate discussion with all interested churches and cooperating mission boards to provide national ecumenical structures for the transfer of complete responsibilities for the utilization of mission funds to requesting Churches in Asia."



COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Prof. Milton A. Huggett has succeeded in "humanizing" the computer by feeding it a steady diet of prayers. Over a five-year period, the Texas A&M University professor fed the 611-page American Book of Common Prayer into a powerful IBM 360/65. The result is a 473-page concordance to the prayer book, which provides the basis for worship services in the Episcopal Church. The concordance lists every word in the prayer book — except for approximately 100 common words, notably prepositions and conjunctions — and gives the various contexts in which the word is used. Prof. Huggett, shown inspecting the final product, notes that the project was undertaken as an experiment in using the computer for literary and linguistic studies, rather than scientific and mathematical. While programming and planning took five years, the actual execution required only 35 minutes and the text print-out took less than two hours. (RNS Photo)

European Itinerary '71

This Summer's travelers to Europe will have a choice of three exciting tours arranged by Five Star Tours and Travel Service, each under the leadership of a highly skilled tour leader whose experience will add greatly to the enjoyment and enrichment.

Tour No. 1, June 2-23 will be led by Mrs. Charles G. Ashcraft, wife of the pastor of First United Methodist Church, Malvern and a teacher in the Malvern Public Schools. She has led a number of successful tours in the United States and will be making her second tour of Europe.

June 9-30 are the dates for Tour No. 2 which will have as its leader Dr. Ashley R. Coffman, band director and head of the department of music at Hendrix College. He will be making his fifth trip abroad, having led very successful tours both in Central Europe and Scandinavia.

Tour No. 3, July 7-28, will have as its escort the Rev. Charles G. Ashcraft, pastor of First United Methodist Church, Malvern, who will be making his tenth trip abroad. He has visited 31 countries and has led many successful tours of the area to be visited this summer.

The Five Star Tours which they will be leading offer many features which make them most desirable for the persons looking for the complete European trip. Included in the low cost of \$824 from New York or \$969 from Little Rock are: three full weeks, first class hotels with private baths, no air travel on charter flights (all air transportation is by KLM Royal Dutch Airlines and regularly scheduled carriers), tipping and taxis are included, and all meals are included except the evening meals in Paris, London and Rome.

The 1971 itinerary of Europe which any of the three tour leaders would be glad to have you travel with them reads like an exciting book.

On the first day the traveler will depart from the airport most convenient to his home in time to make connections in New York with the KLM-Royal Dutch Airlines jet for an overnight flight to Amsterdam. Dinner will be served when the plane has soared 30,000 feet. The party will arrive next day at Schiphol Airport which serves the Amsterdam area. There they will immediately begin to have those experiences which have justified the name "Surprising Amsterdam." There will be a boat ride through many canals, and a look at paintings by Rembrandt, van Gogh and Mondriaan. The many carillons for which the city is famous will be heard, and an opportunity will be given to see the Anne Frank house. The group will conclude its first day in Europe by continuing on to Arnheim to spend the night.

Next day is spent in Germany as the group travels from Arnheim to Mainz. After an early start and a trip along the autobahn bordering the picturesque Rhine River, the tour party then boards a Rhine River boat for a cruise. As they travel along this stream they come almost within touching distance of numerous story-book castles perched atop vine-clad slopes. The Rhine River offers a unique look at Europe as the travelers pass the famed Lorelei Rock and the Island Tower at Kaub. The evening will be spent at Mainz where an opportunity will be given to spend an enter-

taining evening at the theatre or a symphony concert.

The first stop on the fourth day will be in time for lunch in the city of Heidelberg and a short tour through the city of Student Prince fame. The party will then continue on to Rothenburg for an overnight stay. Here one cannot help noticing the storybook houses just a bit crooked, the medieval wall with its ramparts and towers. Many of the ancient stone walls are held together by a mixture of chalk, sand, egg whites, and even cottage cheese.

On the fifth day the party moves from Rothenburg into Austria via Munich. There is a short tour of the delightful city of Munich before continuing on to Salzburg for the night.

Next day is spent entirely in the wonderful city of Salzburg. There is a visit to Mozart's house and to the Salzburg Cathedral, which is a lovely building of the Renaissance period. The travelers will see the Abbey of St. Peter with some early Christian catacombs and Mirabell Castle, which is an exquisite smaller edition of the Tuileries. The afternoon provides free time in Salzburg.

The seventh day of the tour offers some breath-taking scenery as the journey is made across the Alps of Venice, the city of the winged lion. The morning of the following day presents an opportunity for a walking tour that will disclose the treasures of Venice—the ever happy pigeons of San Marco Square, the many bridges including the Bridge of Sighs, and the many canals. In the afternoon the party motors along the Autostrada to Florence, the capital of Tuscany.

A full day will be spent in Florence. The morning will bring an opportunity for absorbing the spirit of the Italian Renaissance. The travelers will see the Campanile, the Ponte Vecchio, Ghibert's Paradise Doors, and the Cathedral. In the afternoon there will be a visit to the Pitti Palace and other famous art galleries of the city, as time permits. The evening will be free for relaxation, perhaps at a sidewalk cafe at the Piazza della Repubblica.

The tenth day of the tour will see the party traveling from Florence to Rome along the Autostrada, with the afternoon being left free to explore this great city.

Next day a full day of sightseeing in Rome will include a visit to the Vatican, where the Museum, the Sistine Chapel and the world-famous Library will be seen. The second day in Rome will be left free for independent activities and shopping. Although shopping in Rome requires some skill, it can be most rewarding. There are a number of exciting extra trips that may be arranged with the aid of the guide. Some may choose to revisit some of the famous spots already seen in the city. One optional excursion that is possible would be to Tivoli to visit the famous Ville d'Este of the Renaissance period with its hundreds of fountains and grottoes. The return journey would be via the Villa Adriana, the favorite residence of the Emperor Hadrian.

The 13th day will see the party moving from Rome along the Autostrada Del Sol to Pisa, arriving there in the early afternoon. The rest of the day will be spent in visiting the famous Leaning Tower, the baptistry and the church with a brief tour of the city. The evening will be spent in Pisa.

On the 14th day, the group will travel along the beautiful Mediterranean Sea to

Genova where they will pause for lunch before moving on to Torino for their overnight stay.

On leaving Torino the group will travel to Aosta in time for lunch and continue on through the Alps to and through the engineering marvel of the new Mt. Blanc Tunnel. Then the route takes the group across the Savoy of France to Geneva, Switzerland at the western end of Lac Lemman, where the travelers will spend the night following a survey of the city.

The 16th day will see the group taking the last leg of their continental coach tour as they travel from Geneva to the ever popular city of Paris. After stopping for lunch at Dijon, they will continue on to Paris via Auxerre.

The day spent in Paris will be a full one, including such sights as the Louvre, Notre Dame, the Place Vendome. They will continue on to the Place de la Concorde, the Dome des Invalides, the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe, and the sophisticated Champs Elysees. There will be time for a visit to Montmartre and the beautiful Church of the Sacred Heart and many other points of interest.

After breakfast on the 18th day the group will catch an early flight to London, where, if time permits, they will visit the Tower of London which was used at one time as a residence for royalty for English sovereigns, but is remembered principally as a prison with great historic significance. This is not just one but several buildings including Wakefield Tower which houses the crown jewels and the White Tower, the oldest building in London. These buildings are guarded by the famous Beefeater Guards with their colorful uniforms. After visiting the Tower, if time permits, the tourists will visit Lambeth Bridge and the site of London Bridge.

The next day will afford a full sightseeing expedition in London, beginning at Picadilly Circus, the hub of the great city where London really begins.

Then follows a day which will give an opportunity for seeing some of England outside London. There will be a visit to Windsor, one of the residences of the Royal Family which will be visited. This trip will be made via Eton, and after leaving Windsor the route leads through Runnymede to Hampton Court where the gardens and some of the buildings will be visited before the return trip to London. The afternoon will be left free for independent activities.

The final day in London will be left free for shopping. One may select fashionable Regent Street or Modern Carnaby Street. One may choose to dine in one of the city's exquisite restaurants. Some may decide to devote this day to an optional excursion to the Shakespeare Country to visit the home of the famous bard.

All things must come to an end, and after breakfast on the 22nd day of the tour the group will go to the airport for the return journey home. Arrival in New York in the afternoon will make possible the boarding of connecting flights for home.

Those who are interested in becoming a part of one of these exciting tours should write to: Five Star Tours and Travel Service, Suite 820, University Tower Building, Little Rock, Ark. 72204, indicating which of the numbered tours they are interested in joining.



Mrs. Ashcraft
Leader for Tour No. 1
June 2-23



Dr. Coffman
Leader for Tour No. 2
June 9-30



Rev. Ashcraft
Leader for Tour No. 3
July 7-28

NEWS and NOTES

CLARENDON MAYOR Flynn Chivers has been installed as the new chairman of the Administrative Board in First United Methodist Church, Clarendon. Edward Pettigrew has been elected president of United Methodist Men. The Rev. Glenn Bruner is the pastor.

TEN DAYS IN SPAIN and Portugal is the privilege of three Arkansans this month. Dr. and Mrs. James Argue of Pulaski Heights United Methodist, and Mrs. Chris A. Shope of Trinity United Methodist, Little Rock, are on the study-tour sponsored by "Faith at Work," March 5-16. The "Adventure in Living" tour is with such Christian leaders as Bruce Larson, Keith Miller, Cecil Osborne and Dr. Paul Tournier.

AUSTRALIAN METHODIST leader, Dr. Arthur M. Jackson, was guest speaker at an ecumenical study in Crossett, February 28. Dr. Jackson was a house guest of the Rev. and Mrs. Ferris Norton from Wednesday through Sunday. He met with young people of the six participating churches when the groups gathered at Gates Chapel AME Church, Friday. He spoke at three Sunday services in First United Methodist Church.

AN INTRODUCTION TO COCU (Consultation on Church Union) was given by Dr. Alfred A. Knox, editor of the Arkansas Methodist, at the Sunday evening service in Washington Avenue United Methodist Church of North Little Rock, on March 7. The Rev. Roy Poyner was host pastor.

THE REV. HAROLD SPENCE, pastor of the First United Methodist Church, Morrilton, preached in a Lenten Revival at the First United Methodist Church, Earle, February 28 through March 4. The Rev. J. Leon Wilson is the Earle pastor.

FATHER GEORGE TRIBOU, principal of Catholic High School in Little Rock, was the speaker for United Methodist Men of Winfield Church in February.

DR. ROY SHILLING, president of Hendrix College, was the speaker at the March 1 meeting of men in Mabelvale Church. Bill Shepherd, program chairman, introduced the speaker. Bill Tarvin is club president. The Rev. Ben Hines is pastor.

THE LAMBUTH COLLEGE Choir of Jackson, Tennessee, sang a concert in Central United Methodist Church, Fayetteville, March 15. The group is directed by Jo Lee Fleming, former Arkansan. Paul D. Shultz, minister of music, and Central choirs were hosts.

GARDNER MARKS BIRTHDAY

The 70th anniversary of its Sunday school program was noted by Gardner U. M. Church of Hot Springs during February. At the same time, the 20th anniversary of its organization as a church was observed.

Dr. C. Ray Hozendorf, Little Rock district superintendent, was the first pastor and was invited back as guest speaker February 28. The Rev. M. E. Scott, second pastor, preached February 21. The present minister is the Rev. Claude E. Barron.

The Sunday school was organized in 1901 under the direction of W. D. Fitzgerald, a missionary from the American Sunday School Union. Meetings were held in a frame school building.

ALMA UNITED Methodist Church has scheduled a Lay Witness Mission for the weekend of March 26-28. Twenty-two visiting lay witnesses will be coming from Tennessee, Missouri, and Arkansas. J. Sam Wood of Little Rock will be the coordinator. The Rev. Jack Skelton is the pastor.

THIRTY-THREE ADULTS and youths of Jonesboro's First United Methodist Church traveled by chartered bus to Knoxville, Tenn., to participate in a Lay Witness Mission, the weekend of February 26. Tap Hanson was the coordinator with Clyde M. Knight serving as youth coordinator.

HUNTER MEMORIAL United Methodist Church, Eleventh and McAlmont Streets, Little Rock, is beginning a churchwide study on "How the Word Gets Around." The first session will be on March 21 at 5:30 p.m. with emphasis on "mass media." Speakers will be the Rev. Alfred A. Knox, Arkansas Methodist editor, and John R. Starr, bureau chief of the Associated Press. The Rev. George Kerr is pastor.

THE FORDYCE "Preaching Mission" in First United Methodist Church March 7-11 had the Eudora pastor, the Rev. Merle Johnson, bringing the messages, and Helena pastor, the Rev. Jim Beal as minister of music. The Rev. Ed Matthews is pastor.

DR. S. B. WILFORD, superintendent of the Paragould District, was the speaker for Lake Street Methodist Men, Blytheville, at a recent meeting. Following a fish fry, sponsored by C. E. "Buck" Roush, and the church pastor, the Rev. D. Kern Johnson. Dr. Wilford gave an interesting presentation on "The Things I Have Learned During My forty-six years as a Methodist Minister." Among the special guests present were the Rev. William Watson, Jonesboro District superintendent, who gave the invocation, and Dr. Virgil D. Kealey, pastor of First Church, Blytheville, who gave the benediction.

PROGRESS REPORT

The Rev. J. Ralph Sewell, who was seriously injured in an automobile accident February 21, was reported as "improving but still hospitalized" on Monday, March 15. He has had surgery for a fractured neck vertebra and when he can be placed in a cast (hopefully this week), he will be permitted to recuperate at home, 109 Broadmoor Drive, Little Rock, 72204.

HICKORY RIDGE U. M. Church, the Rev. Raymond Dorman, pastor, held a Lay Witness Mission the weekend of March 5. James Fairweather was coordinator and J. C. Volk was general chairman. A revival is scheduled for March 14-19 with Jay Lawhon, McCrory layman, as evangelist. The Tilton Church on the same charge will have a revival March 21-26, led by the Rev. Warren Golden of Wynne.

DR. WALTER HAZZARD, president of Philander Smith College, Little Rock, was guest speaker in First United Methodist Church of El Dorado on Sunday morning, February 28. Dr. Alvin Murray was host pastor.

COTTON PLANT choir members and church school workers were honored at a dinner held in fellowship hall recently. Billy F. Powell, chairman of the Board, was master of ceremonies. Speaker for the occasion was the Rev. Merle Johnson, Eudora minister. The Rev. Oliver Logan is pastor of the Cotton Plant Church.

SMACKOVER UNITED Methodist Men had Dr. Roy I. Bagley, Camden district superintendent, as guest speaker at the March 11 dinner meeting. Dr. George W. Warren was chairman of arrangements. A special guest was the Rev. N. Lee Cate, superintendent of Mt. Sequoyah Methodist Assembly at Fayetteville. The Rev. John Alston is the Smackover minister.

ECUMENICAL PROGRAM AT WESTERN HILLS

"Ecumenical Reality" was the subject for the Women's Society of Western Hills United Methodist Church, Little Rock, when the March 2 program enlarged on the C.O.C.U. plan.

Guests taking part in the program were Sue Pennington (Henderson U. M. Church), Mary Crain (Lady of Good Council Catholic), the Rev. L. H. McCagg (Trinity Cathedral Episcopal).

Special guests included Father Nugent, chaplain at St. Vincent's Hospital; the Rev. Bob Robertson, Western Hills pastor; also ladies from Lady of Good Council and Holy Souls Catholic Churches. Discussion and fellowship followed the program.

Mrs. James H. Rice, Jr., was announced as the speaker for the April meeting. She will bring information concerning CONTACT, the telephone ministry.

DAILY BIBLE READING

Below is a schedule for the Daily Bible Reading, which the Board of Evangelism invites you to use as a regular guide for use in your homes.

March 21—Sunday	I Cor. 13:1-13
March 22	I John 3:1-3
March 23	II Thessa. 2:13-17
March 24	Titus 1:1-3
March 25	I Peter 3:14-18
March 26	Psalms 39:4-7
March 27	Psalms 78:1-7
March 28—Sun.	Psa. 119:113-117

DR. HOUTS AT DEQUEEN FOR FAMILY LIFE EMPHASIS

Dr. Donald C. Houts, associate professor of Psychology and Pastoral Care at St. Paul School of Theology Methodist, Kansas City, was guest leader for the Family Life Conference held in the First United Methodist Church of DeQueen, March 5, 6 and 7. Earl Hayes is chairman of the Family Life Committee. The Rev. David Wilson is pastor.



Mark Gibson, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Worth Gibson of First United Methodist Church, Jonesboro was selected for the AAA All-State Junior High Basketball Team at the recent state tournament in Hot Springs. Gibson's team, the Annie Camp Junior High Whirlwinds, was runner-up to the state champions, Hot Springs Central. Mark, who is 14 years old and measures 6'2", plays forward on the team. He is also president of the Honor Society, serves on the Student Council, and was voted best 9th grade UMYFer at First Church, Jonesboro.

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MARCH 18, 1971

MINISTERS AND WIVES OF CAMDEN DISTRICT MET AT EL DORADO

Parsonettes and ministers of the Camden District met at the Holiday Inn in El Dorado for a "Dutch treat" dinner recently. Following the meal they went to the home of Dr. and Mrs. Alvin C. Murray for separate business meetings.

With 23 members and one guest present, the ladies discussed plans for the annual ministers' wives luncheon to be in Hot Springs.

Fay Ella Bagley told of some of the work Mrs. Paul V. Galloway is doing in the area of literacy. As several are eager to learn more about this, Mrs. Galloway will be asked to plan for a presentation during the district conference in El Dorado.

An interesting and informative program on flower arranging was presented by a guest, Mrs. Jennings Shaw.

†

HORATIO WOMEN HEAR GUESTS

An event for women brought forty together for supper and program in the Horatio United Methodist Church late in January, sponsored by the Women's Society.

Special guests were Mrs. Conrad Chadburn, president of the DeQueen WSCS, and Mrs. W. H. Thomas of the DeQueen WSG, who presented interesting facts of their respective organizations.

Mrs. C. E. Messer gave a devotional on "Christ's Parable of the Harvest." Mrs. Raymond Cox accompanied Mrs. Mildred Tompkins who sang "In My Father's Vineyard."

The Rev. John L. Prothro, Horatio pastor, was a special guest.

†

MISS MILDRED SCOTT, former secretary of the North Arkansas Conference Wesleyan Service Guild, had major surgery on February 24. She is now at home, 1617 Schaer, North Little Rock, 72114.

SILOAM SPRINGS GUILD HONORS MEMBER

At the regular February meeting of the Susanna Wesleyan Service Guild of the Siloam Springs United Methodist Church, Miss Myrtle Dillon was presented a corsage and gift in recognition of her loyalty and devotion to church and guild. Miss Dillon was a member of the Neighborly Circle of the M. E. Church in Siloam Springs before the two churches united. After unification, she became a charter member of the Wesleyan Service Guild.

†

WHITE MEMORIAL United Methodist Church, Little Rock, is making a study of four subjects during March. Mrs. Ruby Wilkerson led a study of Latin America. Mrs. Grafton Thomas presented "How the Word Gets Around" at the March 7 session. On March 14, the Rev. C. C. Hall, pastor, led the Bible study of Psalms, "Out of the Depths." The Rev. J. H. Thompson, district superintendent, Southwest Conference, will be the leader of "The Structure of the United Methodist Church" on March 21. Mrs. E. M. Johnson is chairman for the study.

LITTLE ROCK District Ministers' Wives, Southwest Conference, met Saturday, February 27, in the home of Mrs. Idabell Mitchell in Little Rock. "Lenten Thoughts" were brought by the Rev. J. H. Thompson, district superintendent. Other guest ministers present included the Rev. J. H. Oliver, the Rev. L. T. Thompson, the Rev. W. D. Lester and the Rev. W. H. Piggee. A special offering was given to Mrs. Willie Mae Love. Dinner was served to 24 people. Mrs. Ruth Johnson is president of the group.

WHEN FORREST CITY District Ministers' Wives met with Mrs. William Haltom in West Helena, the group made a trip to the Heritage Nursing Home to visit Mrs. J. M. Decker and Mrs. E. E. Stevenson, ministers' widows.



MRS. VIDA FRY

Mrs. Vida Fry, former head of the Wesleyan Service Guild, North Arkansas Conference, passed away on February 16, 1971.

A member of First United Methodist Church of North Little Rock, she had served as teacher of King's Daughters Class, pianist for the Wills Bible Class, held several offices in the Pearle McCain Wesleyan Service Guild, and served her church in many other ways.

Prior to her retirement several years ago, she had been a teacher in the Park Hill Elementary School. Following retirement she taught in a parochial school until ill health forced her to retire from that.

She was conference secretary of Guilds from 1958 until 1962, during which time the Guilds started having yearly retreats at Aldersgate Camp.

Mrs. Fry is survived by two sons, John Fry of North Little Rock, and Z. B. Fry of Vicksburg, Mississippi, three grand-children, two brothers, Marvin Gullett and George Gullett, both of North Little Rock, and one sister, Mrs. Vada Cowan, with whom she made her home.

Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Lloyd Conyers.

†

MASSARD WSCS, Fort Smith, observed World Day of Prayer with a 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. prayer vigil which was concluded by an interesting and rewarding group session from 7 to 9 in the evening. The president, Mrs. Ruby Michael, was in charge of the program.

WOMEN'S PAGE

DISTRICT GUILDS TO MEET

CONWAY DISTRICT

The Conway District Wesleyan Service Guild will hold the Spring Meeting in North Little Rock at the Amboy U. M. Church, 311 Military Road. Mrs. Lillie H. Burgess, district chairman, will preside beginning at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, March 28.

ARKADELPHIA DISTRICT

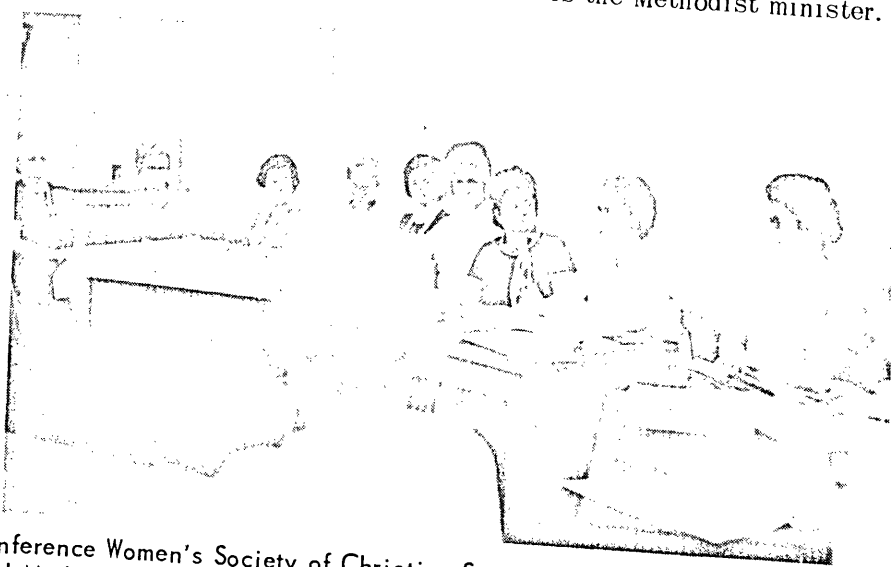
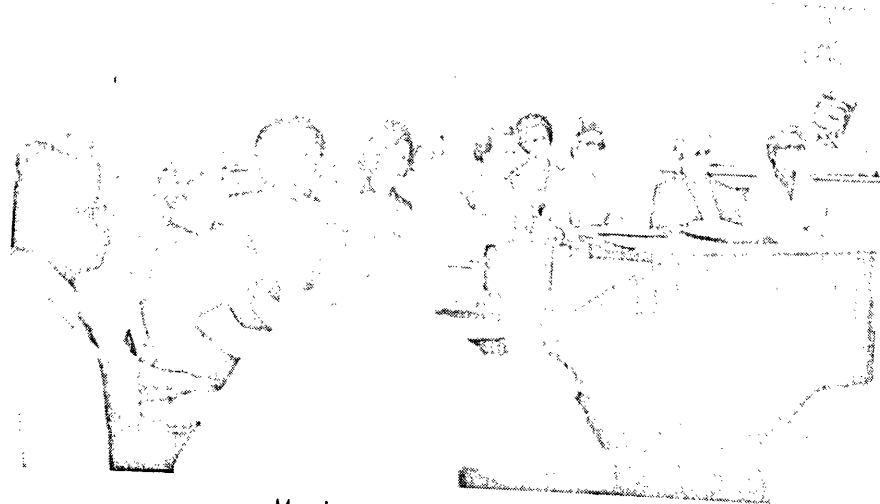
Mrs. R. H. Levins, chairman of Arkadelphia District Wesleyan Service Guilds, announces the spring district meeting will be with the guild of the First United Methodist Church in Hot Springs, March 21, beginning with a social hour and executive meeting at 2 p.m.

Dr. and Mrs. George Ivey, host minister and wife, Mrs. Grace Dwyer, church and community worker, and coordinators of each local guild in the district will be special guests. Mrs. J. R. Campbell, district president of the Women's Society of Christian Service, will talk on membership. Mrs. Prentis Adams is the president of the hostess guild.

†

THE AMBOY CHURCH Wesleyan Service Guild, North Little Rock, held the "Call to Prayer" program under the direction of Mrs. Nolen Minton, spiritual life chairman, and Mrs. Grace Postlewait, president. Participants included Mrs. Sue Stephens, Mrs. Lois Kennedy, Mrs. Jo Toombs, and Mrs. LeRoy Gray.

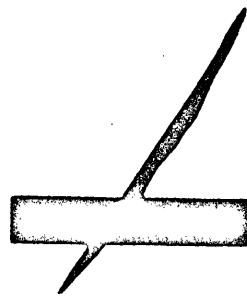
"TELL IT LIKE IT IS," the Christian folk musical, was presented at First United Methodist, Malvern, by youth of First Baptist Church of Malvern, under the direction of Dr. Charles Wright, March 7. The Rev. Charles Ashcraft is the Methodist minister.



Members of the executive committee of the Little Rock Conference Women's Society of Christian Service were in session, March 9 and 10, in Arkadelphia's First United Methodist Church. In the pictures above, the officers are listening to Mrs. Edgar Dixon (2nd from right), member of the General Board of Missions, report on recent planning sessions she had attended in New York City and Puerto Rico. President Mrs. E. T. Davenport, has back to camera in both pictures. She, however, was pictured in the last issue with conference vice-president and treasurer.

The Sunday School Lesson

By: Alfred A. Knox



LESSON FOR MARCH 28: Use It or Lose It

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE: Matthew 25:14-30.

MEMORY SELECTION: Moreover it is required that they be found trustworthy. (1 Corinthians 4:2)

AIM OF THE LESSON: To help us understand that our responsibilities to God are in direct proportion to the gifts with which he has endowed us; to remind adults that the work of God's Kingdom is done largely by persons with limited abilities because there are so many of them.

* * *

Ministers and other leaders who have responsibilities for recruiting workers in the church or in other related programs know that the great part of their help comes from persons of limited abilities—the so-called “one talent” workers. As we study the parable of the talents we will be recognizing that people do have differences in their abilities, and that they will be held accountable according to what they might have done with the resources God has given them.

This story has influenced us in many ways. The word “talent” has come into our language from its reference to the various capacities that we have. In the parable “talent” meant only a sum of money—probably the equivalent of one thousand dollars.

This well-known parable has come to us in three versions—one in the apocryphal Gospel According to the Hebrews, one in Luke, and the more familiar story in Matthew 25. The interesting thing about the story in Luke 19 is that the servants were all given the same amount. This does not lend itself to the applications we make of those with different amounts of ability.

Unlike some of the earlier parables we have studied, this does not come directly out of a dramatic background. It is one of a series of three stories related to the Kingdom of God, placed against the setting of the 24th chapter of Matthew and its emphasis on “last things.”

Although Jesus may have been using this story as one of a series to emphasize the certainty of the coming of the Kingdom with its time of accountability, we have come to appreciate the parable of the talents as a great message on stewardship. Through it we see that Jesus taught faithfulness and responsibility among his children while he was absent from them.

* * *

THE DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

The story begins with the words, “For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property” (Matt. 25:14). Remember that Jesus had been telling his disciples that he would soon be going away from them. This is the setting of the story and the tone of the development. There is a sense in which we can see a kinship between the story of the wise and foolish maidens and this parable. It is to tell us that an important part of our preparation for the last days (which the previous parable stressed) is the faithful use of the gifts we have received from God.

The man called in his servants one at a time and gave them responsibility for his property while he was gone. They did not receive the same amount, because it was recognized that they differed in ability. We ought not to have to spend any time proving that people are different in endowments they have received from God. In our own complex age we know how completely we depend on those who differ widely in their native ability. As we have implied before, there are far more “one talent” persons than those who have “five talents.”

Sometimes a proud parent speaks of the high I.Q. his child is reported to have in school. Those who understand this measurement know that it

means simply that more will be expected from that student than from those whose I.Q. is not so high. The one endowed with much intelligence is failing in his stewardship responsibility if he does not do more than his classmate that is more limited. In the parable the master is looking for one thing—the person who can take those riches which he leaves and increase them again and again during his absence. Some might interpret this as greed on the part of the employee, while others will see that he understood human nature well enough to know that the individual does not grow unless a challenging task is before him.

* * *

THE WAY WE MEET OUR TRUST

Jesus used the language of financial investment in this story, so he must have had an understanding of that phase of life. The man with the five talents and the one who decided to risk the money that had been entrusted to them, because they felt this was the only way they could meet their responsibility. On the other hand, the third man was so frightened that he decided only to protect that which the master had placed in his hands.

The man with five talents sought every way by which he might make a profit for his master. He followed the market, kept up with the caravans, and knew the prospects for the crops. He invested so shrewdly that he realized a profit of one hundred per cent on his transactions. The man with the two talents must have been more of a plodder, but he worked away day in and day out and reported just as high a percentage of gain as the first. The third servant was a different personality. He hid the money, as many people did in his day. Dr. Buttrick says, “The action, as judged by the standards of that day, was not lazy. To hide money in the ground was the traditional way of saving money.”

Responsible and creative handling of the talents God has given us is what we call stewardship. John Wesley stressed the importance of a Christian's making all he can in his lifetime. Dr. Charles M. Laymon says, “Activity and growth belong to the Kingdom. All is in process of improvement and development. Buzzing, booming, creative change is a sign of the Kingdom's presence. Stagnation does not belong here.”

Christ does not call us to safe, cozy things. The Christian life is one of daring and of risk. It may call on you to become involved in the needs of people about you. Some people have found this to be risky business.

* * *

THE ABDICATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

The villain in this place is the man who abdicated his stewardship. He tried to “wash his hands” of the whole responsibility and just make sure that he did not lose his master's money. This is the way some people are about Christian responsibility. They find themselves endowed by God with a spiritual experience, and they think it is just for them. They do not want to invest it in their business life, or their friends or any other part of their being.

We can be sure that if the primary concern is to play it safe with our Christian faith, there will be neither outreach to the world nor personal growth. Faith that is not used becomes stagnant and useless.

One must come from a study of this story with the conclusion that the one-talent man is the one about whom the story was really centered. There are so many more of us in the world, and it has always been so easy for us to rationalize our inactivity on the grounds of our limitations. We are tempted to say, “With my poor equipment nobody would ever expect anything of me.” This is always tempting us—this abdication of our responsibility.

Never forget that the key word concerning this man is “fear.” He dared not venture, and that is what he told his master when he returned. He

lacked faith in life and in God. Remember what Charlotte Bronte said, “It is better to try all things and find all empty than to try nothing and leave your life a blank.”

* * *

WHAT DID THE ONE-TALENT MAN LACK?

As we look deeper into the experience of the third servant to find just what was wrong with him. We can respond quickly that he lacked imagination and courage. But he also failed in other ways.

He did not see that his talent was needed. The master is pictured by Jesus as being overwhelmed with wrath because this man did not produce the same kind of profit from his one talent that had been the result of the ones with more at their disposal. One might reason that he already had made a profit of seven talents while he was away. The point we would miss is that the talent of every man is important. “When every man's gift is necessary to the rearing of the temple, the distinction between ‘great’ talents and ‘small’ becomes somewhat stupid.”

The man lacked imagination to see that every talent is precious. He depreciated his gift. One of the great accents of Jesus was his constant insistence on the worth of what others called “obscure” service. He repeatedly said that humans are not prepared to know when a deed is great or small. The one-talent man, succumbing to the one-talent temptation, was blind to everything except the surface of life.

The man's worst fault, however, was his lack of sufficient courage to be adventurous. Again may we say that this is the crux of the teaching. He shrank from risk, though he must have known that nothing is gained without risk.

* * *

THE TIME OF ACCOUNTING COMES

Like the parable that we studied last week, the climax in this story comes at the moment of accountability. All the servants knew that one day their master would return, and what they did was their method of preparation for that time of accountability.

There are two happy men in this story as they hear the words of commendation, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.” What gladness there is in such a greeting! God is that kind of God. He is not a policeman who almost hopes he can catch us in some wrongdoing so he can punish us.

God does expect us to use what he has given us. He has given us life, talents, and opportunities. Vast natural resources are at our disposal, and we cannot avoid the responsibility for our accountability. One thing we know, we will not be measuring up to our stewardship unless we add our ingenuity and imagination to the divine gifts he has given us.

* * *

USE WHAT WE HAVE IN A RESPONSIBLE WAY

Christian stewardship has taken on a new dimension in these recent years as we have been challenged to hand on to the next generation more resources to work with than we found. A few years ago the main emphasis in this connection was on matters like reforestation and conservation of mineral resources. These matters are still of prime concern, but added to them are the challenges of fighting pollution.

We are dealing with the teachings of today's parable when we discuss the Christian's responsibility for doing what he can to keep the air and the water clean. Two of the great public discussions of recent months involve the questions of the construction of a pipeline across Alaska and the continued government financing of the super-sonic transport plane. In what ways are these problems related to the parable of the talents?

Sometimes we wonder why Jesus said that the one talent was taken away and given to the man who had the ten talents. We miss the point if we argue that he already has enough. Jesus is here dealing with attitudes of stewardship. This man has demonstrated that he can be trusted with the resources of God. He has shown an aptitude for being responsible for more and more opportunities. How would you classify yourself as a steward? Are you a “five talent” person or one who struggles along not doing much with “one talent”?

MISSIONARIES EXPELLED FROM TAIWAN

NEW YORK (UMI) — Two United Methodist missionaries, the Rev. and Mrs. Milo Thornberry, Jr., natives of Texas, have been expelled from Taiwan where he taught church history at the interdenominational Taiwan Theological College in Taipei.

No reason was given for the action, although officials of the United Methodist Board of Missions speculated that the expulsion was a political act aimed at underlining the displeasure of the Chinese Nationalists government over President Nixon's "State of the World" message in which he indicated U.S. interest in improving relations with Communist China.

Board of Missions officials suggested that "perhaps the Thornberrys were chosen because of their long and well-known friendship with many Chinese and Taiwanese people, some of whom have not looked with favor on the role of the present government in Taiwan."

The Thornberrys went to Taipei in 1965.

CHURCH WORKERS ASKED TO LEAVE SOUTH AFRICA

NEW YORK (UMI) — Three young American church workers were ordered by the South African government to leave that country by March 14, according to reports received here.

A. Gus Kious, San Leandro, Calif., United Methodist special term missionary, and Mr. and Mrs. Reed Kramer, Knoxville, Tenn., were served with deportation orders to become effective with the expiration of their temporary resident permits.

The Kramers were serving under a special overseas program sponsored by mission agencies of the United Church of Christ, the United Presbyterian Church and the United Methodist Church. The three have been working in youth programs of the Methodist Church of South Africa, the Kramers in a project called "Give a year of your life" and Mr. Kious as deputy director of a ministry to drug addicts.

No official reason was given for the deportation orders, although several news accounts speculated that they may have been related to multiracial aspects of the young workers' programs.

British Methodist-Anglican Union Backed

NOTTINGHAM, Eng. (UMI) — British Methodists will feel so frustrated that if the Church of England again turns down union with them they might turn to other Free Churches for partnership, Conference President Rupert Davies warned in a broadcast here reported in Religious News Service.

Mr. Davies, who will serve as Methodist president until the next conference this summer, spelled out what the impact would be on Methodists if the Anglican Church failed to approve union when it comes up for discussion and decision. He said such a failure would result in "almost crushing frustration" to many ministers and lay people in the Methodist Church.

A PLAN FOR CHURCH UNION

16. The National Assembly

In the proposed new church the National Assembly would be the equivalent of the General Conference in The United Methodist Church. It would meet at least every two years, and the Plan states that "It shall be composed of not less than 750 and not more than 2000 representatives."

Representatives to the National Assembly would be chosen by the region. All of the regional bishops would be members, but only a representative number of district bishops would be elected to membership. There would be other ordained ministers and lay representatives in such proportion that there would be one bishop to two other ordained ministers and six lay representatives.

Representatives would be elected by the district meetings after nomination by the region. In making these nominations, two names shall be proposed for each position and each category.

Power of National Assembly: The National Assembly would legislate regarding all matters which concern the whole church. It would oversee the regions and develop overall objectives for their program planning. It will receive and allocate resources, and provide "services for the whole church that can be performed more economically in one place."

Presiding Bishop: The chief executive officer of the National Assembly shall be the presiding bishop. He shall preside at any meeting of bishops at which he is present and, with the moderator of the National Assembly, shall represent the church in all of its relations with other churches, with the federal government, and with secular organizations which are national or international in jurisdiction.

The presiding bishop shall be elected by the National Assembly on nomination of a nominating committee elected by the General Council. He shall be elected for a term of four years and may be re-elected for one four-year term. Unless the incumbent is nominated for re-election, he must be of a racial background different from that of the bishop who last held the office. He shall be elected by a majority vote of the ministers and lay delegates voting separately. Although he is the executive officer, the National Assembly shall elect a moderator to preside at the business sessions. Any member of the National Assembly, except the presiding bishop and his staff shall be eligible for election as moderator.

General Council: The National Assembly shall elect a General Council consisting of not fewer than five bishops, ten other ordained clergy, and thirty lay representatives to advise the presiding bishop and to carry out the work of the National Assembly between its meetings. This Council shall conduct the business affairs of the National Assembly and shall also be the trustees or directors of the National Assembly Corporation.

Rocky Mountain Conference Adopts New Structure

DENVER, Colo. (UMI) — A new structure for work of the United Methodist Church in Colorado, Utah, and part of Wyoming was approved by a special session of the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference here February 5.

The plan provides for decentralization of the annual conference programs so that district and regional groups have greatly-strengthened roles in planning and utilizing the resources of the church, and it calls for focusing the church's mission in the local congregation, according to a conference official.

Role of Women in Church To Be Studied

CINCINNATI, Ohio (UMI) — More effective program planning, implementation, interpretation, and evaluation was the central focus of the United Methodist Planning Council during its semi-annual meeting here February 15-18.

Specific actions taken by the council included the approval of a study of the role of women in the denomination, providing up to \$4,000 to help Hispanic-American representatives, and scheduling a convocation of district superintendents and annual conference program directors for September of 1972.

Youth Conference Studied

EVANSTON, Ill. (UMI) — A conference of Roman Catholic and United Methodist educators to study "more effective ways of bringing the message of Jesus Christ to the young" is being proposed by leaders of the dialogue panels of the two churches.

It is hoped that such a session would aim for both statements and action and that it would utilize and foster experimentation in and demonstration of more effective methods, according to a statement released March 2 by the steering committee of the dialogue. The recommendation will be carried to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the United Methodist Council of Bishops, parent bodies of the dialogue, by the chairmen—the Most Rev. James W. Malone, bishop of the Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio, and Bishop F. Gerald Ensley of Columbus, Ohio, head of the United Methodist Ohio West Area.

News in Brief

United Methodist women gave \$108,000 in 1970 in the special offering related to the quadrennial Assembly of the Women's Society of Christian Service and Wesleyan Service Guild in Houston, Texas. The total included contributions by 8,000 women attending the assembly and by women in local societies and guilds across the nation.



Dust and Ashes regroup to resume ministry in song

Dust and Ashes, popular folk singing duo, has regrouped and will resume its nationwide ministry this month.

The original team of Tom Page and Jim Moore terminated their association with the General Board of Evangelism in October, 1970. Moore and his wife, Vivian have since moved to the Tacoma-Seattle area in Washington state to engage in a ministry of the inner-city.

Recently Page has teamed with long-time friend and musical associate, Jim Sloan, and together they will continue the ministry of Dust and Ashes while performing in concert and leading in contemporary worship celebrations.

Page and Sloan hope to bring to churches, colleges, high schools and coffeehouses the simple message that in Christianity God has most perfectly revealed himself and his will to mankind.

Page and Sloan began performing together in 1963 while in college. Their professional relationship was interrupted in 1968 when Sloan was drafted by the army. He returns to singing after a year in Vietnam.

Page, an ordained United Methodist minister, continues his ministry with Dust and Ashes under special appointment of his annual conference.

Dust and Ashes has one album released, "From Both Sides," available through Tidings of the General Board of Evangelism. "The Dust and Ashes Songbook," containing the seven original songs from the album will be published in early May through Abingdon Press, Nashville, Tennessee.

Dust and Ashes are currently accepting engagements. Further information may be obtained by writing to Dust and Ashes, 1808 Warfield Drive, Nashville, Tennessee, 37215, or phone: (615) 297-7403.

The Protestant Church of Belgium, which resulted from a union of the Methodist and Evangelical Protestant churches, is one of three churches in the country that have begun negotiating church union. The other two are the Reformed and the Flemish Reformed churches.

Schedule for World Methodist Conference sessions

LAKE JUNALUSKA (UMI) — A preliminary program for the Twelfth World Methodist Council/Conference has been released here by the Rev. Dr. Lee F. Tuttle, general secretary of the World Methodist Council.

Sessions are scheduled for Denver, Colorado, August 16-26, with the Executive Committee and Council meetings set for the first three days and the inaugural session of the Twelfth World Methodist Conference scheduled to open on Wednesday evening, August 18.

Dr. Tuttle reported that advance registrations had been received from 1619 persons as of February 11.

Major features of the preliminary program follow:

Wednesday, August 18

7:30 p.m. — Inaugural Session — Twelfth World Methodist Conference, with Dr. Charles C. Parlin (U.S.), president, presiding and giving presidential address. Memorial Service. Welcome from Denver officials. Keynote address by Dr. Russell Hindmarsh (England).

Thursday, August 19

8:40 a.m. General Session. Presiding, Rev. Hugh B. Sherlock (Antigua). Worship — Bishop John Wesley Shungu (Democratic Republic of Congo). Address, "The Church and Race," Hon. John J. Akar (Sierra Leone). Reactor: Dean Walter G. Muelder (U.S.A.).

4:00 p.m. General Session. Presiding Bishop Carlos T. Gattinoni (Argentina). Address, "The Church and Poverty," Mr. Joseph Samuel Annan (Ghana). Reaction: Dr. Colin Morris (England).

5:15 p.m. Hour of Preaching. Preach-

er: Rev. Gabriel Setiloane (Zambia). 7:30 p.m. General Session. Multi-Media Celebration of Christian Worship. Dr. James Hull (U.S.A.), Director. Friday, August 20

8:40 a.m. General Session. Presiding, Bishop Herbert Bell Shaw (U.S.A.). Worship, Bishop Yap Kim-Hao (Singapore). Address, "Moral Authority," Dr. Kenneth Greet (England). Reactor: Bishop Dwight Loder (U.S.A.).

4:00 p.m. General Session. Presiding, Dr. J. B. Webb (South Africa). Address, "New Issues in Education," Mr. Stuart Maclure (England). Reactor: Bishop James S. Thomas (U.S.A.).

5:15 p.m. — Hour of Preaching. Bishop Mortimer Arias (Bolivia).

7:30 p.m. — Presentation.

Saturday, August 21

8:40 a.m. General Session. Presiding, Dr. Eric W. Baker (England). Worship: Miss Theresa Hoover (U.S.A.). Address, "Peace and Justice," Dr. Emilio Castro (Uruguay). Reactor: Mr. Eric Rogin Mitchell (India).

7:30 p.m. Festival of Music. Junaluska Singers, directed by Mr. Glenn Draper (U.S.A.).

Sunday, August 22

11:00 a.m. Worship Services throughout the city. "Meet the Americans" Program. Also at 11 a.m., Conference Preaching Service. Presiding, Bishop Cornelio Ferrer (Philippines). Preacher: Bishop Roy C. Nichols (U.S.A.).

7:30 p.m. Conference Preaching Service. Presiding, Bishop B. Julian Smith (U.S.A.). Preacher: Dr. Colin M. Morris (England).

Monday, August 23

8:40 a.m. General Session. Presiding, Dr. Patrocínio Ocampo (Philippines). Worship, Dr. C. Edgar Wilkinson

(South Africa). Address, "The Local Church in Mission," Dr. Robert E. Goodrich (U.S.A.). Reactor: Rev. Edwin L. Taylor (Bahamas).

4:00 p.m. General Session. Presiding, Mrs. E. S. Cooper (Liberia). Address, "Evangelism," Dr. Philip Porter (Jamaica). Reactor: Bishop F. Gerald Ensley (U.S.A.).

5:15 p.m. Hour of Preaching. Sermon, Bishop H. P. Andreassen (Angola).

7:30 p.m. Address by John Cardinal Willebrands (Holland).

Tuesday, August 24

8:40 a.m. General Session. Presiding, Rev. Wilfred F. Ford (New Zealand). Worship, Dr. R. Benjamin Garrison (U.S.A.). Address, "The Role of Theology in the Church," Dr. John Deschner (U.S.A.). Reactor: Dr. Leslie Davison (England).

4:00 p.m. General Session. Presiding: Bishop C. Ernst Sommer (Federal Republic of Germany). Address, "The Ministry," Dr. Alan Walker (Australia). Reactor: Bishop William R. Cannon (U.S.A.).

5:15 p.m. Hour of Preaching. Sermon by Bishop Alejandro Ruiz (Mexico).

7:30 p.m. Presentation in Aena.

Wednesday, August 25

8:40 a.m. General Session. Presiding, Dr. Cecil F. Gribble (Australia). Worship, Rev. Brian Duckworth (England). Address, "Ecumenical Affairs," Bishop Frederick Jordan (U.S.A.). Reactor: Miss Lois Miller (U.S.A.).

10:30 a.m. Panel, "The World Methodist Council—The Way Ahead." Leader, Bishop Roy H. Short (U.S.A.).

2:00 p.m. New World Executive Meeting.

5:15 p.m. Hour of Preaching. Sermon, Rev. W. R. Laws (New Zealand).

7:30 p.m. Presentation.

8:40 a.m. General Session. Worship, Dr. James Doty (U.S.A.). Presiding, Dr. Charles C. Parlin (U.S.A.). Reading of Message Dr. Willis I. Tate (U.S.A.).

10:30 a.m. Induction of Officers for 1971-76.

12-Adjournment

Dr. Willis Tate will be general chairman of the workshops, which occur most days from 10:30 a.m. until noon. Rev. Peter Bolt will be secretary.

Leaders and the workshop topics follow:

The Church and Race, Miss Dorothy McConnell and Bishop Stephen G. Spottswood.

The Church and Poverty, Mr. Leonard Slutz and Rev. Maclean Kumi.

Moral Authority, Rev. A. Raymond George and Bishop Stephen Trowen Nagbe.

New Issues in Education, Bishop H. Ellis Finger, Jr., and Rev. Douglas Hubery.

Peace and Justice, Bishop James K. Mathews and Mr. Mark Sheldon.

Local Church and Mission, Bishop Eric Mitchell and Dr. Ernest H. Howse.

Evangelism, Dr. Wilson O. Weldon and Dr. Byron Stroh.

Role of Theology in the Church, Dr. Tracey Jones and Dean Robert E. Cushman.

The Ministry, Miss Pauline Webb and Dr. Stanley Sudbury.

Ecumenical Affairs, Rev. Cecil Gribble and Miss Lois Miller.

Director of campus ministry receives new appointment

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMI) — Dr. Eugene A. Ransom, director of the department of campus ministry for the United Methodist Board of Education's Division of Higher Education, has been appointed director of the office of personnel and chairman of the personnel committee for the United Ministries in Higher Education (UMHE).

Dr. Ransom's time as an officer in the ecumenical student affiliation will be contributed by the Board of Education. He will continue as director of the department of campus ministry for the United Methodist Board with offices in Nashville.

Dr. Ransom's new responsibilities will include facilitating placement of campus ministers for the 10 denominations who cooperate through UMHE. He succeeds Dr. Verlyn L. Barker, New York, who was recently named president of the UMHE national commission.

PAGE TEN

Puerto Rico Conference Meets

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (UMI) — Consideration of a changed status for the United Methodist Church in Puerto Rico, debate over whether two companies should begin controversial copper-mining operations, a vote to transfer title on Methodist properties from the mainland to the island and celebration of a "Festival of Puerto Rican United Methodism" were highlights of a recent meeting here.

Looking toward the future, clerical and lay delegates attending the annual meeting of the Puerto Rico United Methodist Conference February 3-7 authorized a seven-member special committee to study alternatives for a possible change in status for the conference. The action specified that any change should be in the direction of "more autonomy and self-determination" for the church in Puerto Rico.

News in Brief

In 1970, \$10 million in loans were processed by the (United Methodist) Department of Church Expansion for new churches and for the relocation of congregations.

UM CHOIRS INVITED TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO SING AT 1972 GENERAL CONFERENCE

ATLANTA, Ga. (UMI) — Choirs of local United Methodist churches and denominational educational and other institutions wanting to sing for the 1972 General Conference here have been invited to make application to the conference's Commission on Entertainment and Program.

It is expected that up to eight choirs will be chosen, and each will sing during a morning worship hour in Atlanta's Civic Center, seat of the conference business sessions, and before an afternoon preaching hour in First United Methodist Church.

Choirs interested in taking part should submit a recent performance tape and program by June 15 to the conference's director of music, Dr. Carlton R. Young, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas.

In making the announcement, the Commission on Entertainment and Program said that travel to Atlanta and housing while there would be the

Portland chosen site for 1976 General Conference

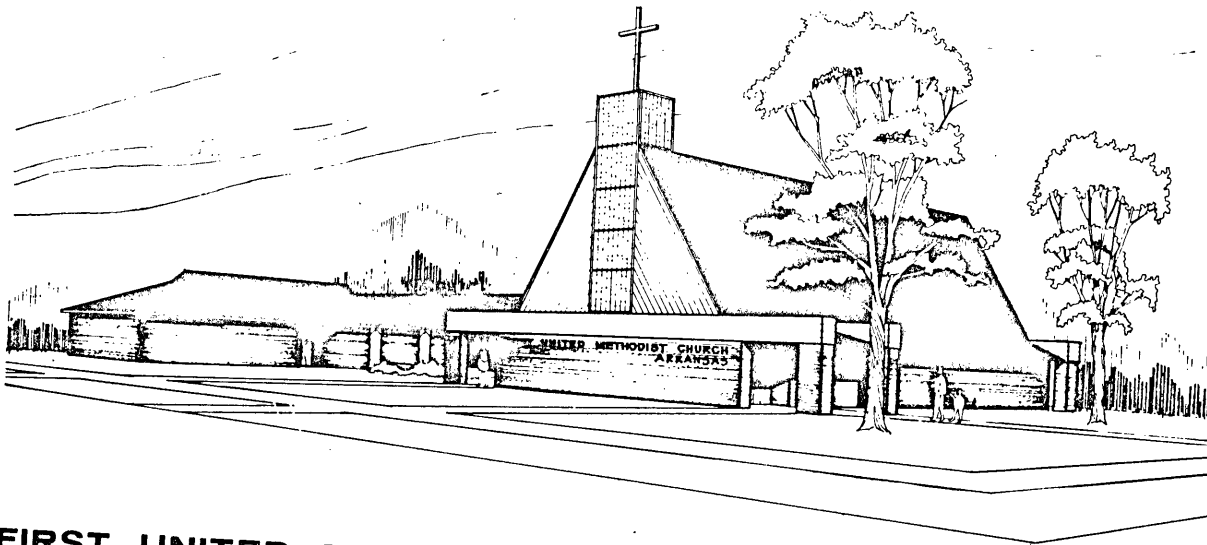
ATLANTA, Ga. (UMI) — Portland, Ore., has been chosen as the site of the 1976 United Methodist General Conference.

The decision of the site was made here February 26 by the conference's Commission on Entertainment and Program. The dates were set as April 25-May 8. The 1972 session of the church's top law-making body will be held in Atlanta's Civic Center beginning April 16. In announcing that Portland had been chosen unanimously for 1976, A. G. Jefferson, Lynchburg, Va., chairman of the commission, said that strong invitations had been received from Indianapolis, Ind., and Milwaukee, Wisc., but that the decision had been made in keeping with the policy of holding the sessions in various jurisdictions of the church.

responsibility of the choir, or its sponsoring institution, and would not be provided by the General Conference.

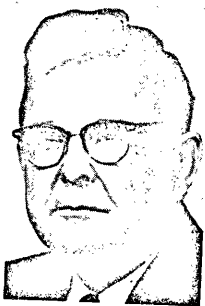
MARCH 18, 1971

\$45,000 worth of bonds sold in 45 minutes for new Des Arc United Methodist Church



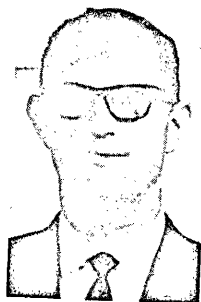
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
COLVIN, MILLER & SHIREMAN
ARCHITECTS

DES ARC, ARKANSAS



Mr. J. E. Berry, Postmaster for thirty years and **Chairman of the Board of Trustees** of First United Methodist Church, Des Arc, said, "I certainly want to commend Security Church Finance Company and Mr. J. W. Pennell,

their representative, for the efficient manner in which they prepared for and conducted the Bond Sale. Our church is **extremely happy** with the job they performed. We are looking forward to a great growth for our church. I feel that we will be blessed by a larger attendance and that we will benefit spiritually because of this endeavor."



Reverend Bennie Ruth, pastor of the church for the last 13 months and during which time there have been 65 additions to the Congregation, said, "As for Security Church Bond Finance program, I think it is tops. I have been

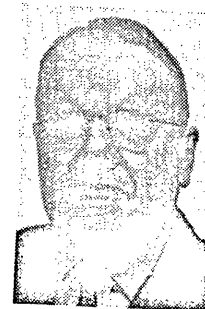
through several building programs before, but this is my first time for a Bond program. I must say that we are all impressed with Mr. Pennell and the excellent manner in which he carried out the program. Working with us in every way in planning and preparing for "Kick Off Day." The company did an excellent job of printing, mailing and informing us of what we should do. I know we could have sold \$150,000 worth just as easily as we did the \$45,000, because the people were informed and Mr. Pennell was prepared to lead us.

Security Church Finance is a wonderful company. Nothing was left undone. Nothing was done haphazardly. It's just Great!!

If at anytime in the future I am involved in a building program, I will contact Security Church Finance first.

I must say that this has been one of the most interesting and exciting events I have ever had a part in during 23 years of work in the ministry.

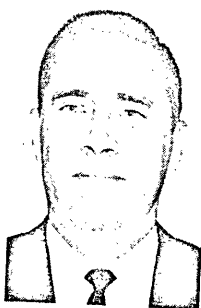
I would recommend to anyone Security Church Finance and Mr. J. W. Pennell to finance any amount of Bonds. We hope to do business with them again."



Mr. C. J. Rister, member of the Church for 50 years and **Secretary-Treasurer** said, "I want to personally praise Mr. J. W. Pennell for the fine work that he has done on presenting the Church Bond Sale. We were very much

impressed with Security Church Finance Bond program when first presented to us. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the company and Mr. Pennell for the business-like manner that everything has been handled."

Mr. R. L. Morton, a banker for twenty years and **President of the Farmers and Merchants Bank in Des Arc**, said, "As Chairman of our Stewardship and Finance Committee of the First United Methodist Church of Des Arc, Arkansas,



I was **really pleased** with your company's bond program. **Mr. J. W. Pennell**, your representative, and the one who serviced this issue for us did a very outstanding job. Our Committee and our Church Congregation was so well informed that within one hour the Congregation had purchased all of the bonds. Mr. Pennell was very courteous and helpful in any way that he could assist, and I would **recommend him and this program to anyone.**"

Dr. C. Ray Hozen-dorf, Little Rock District Superintendent: "Congratulations on the response to the sale of bonds last night. I was delighted when I discovered the sale was complete. You and your people are to be commended on the wonderful spirit of cooperation and loyalty."



J. W. Pennell,
Area Consultant
P. O. Box 9669
Little Rock, Arkansas
72209
A/C 501 562-7322

**SECURITY CHURCH
FINANCE, Inc.**

Sixth Floor,
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2200 S. Post Oak Road
Houston, Texas 77027



Three of the participants in Feb. 26-28 Lay Witness Mission held at First Church, Springdale. FROM LEFT: Bill Bennett, song leader, Ft. Smith; Rex Pettijohn, coordinator, Stigler, Okla.; L. A. Moore, witness, Wagoner, Okla. Dr. and Mrs. Oscar Kimbrough were local chairmen for the mission which included 64 adult and youth witnesses from Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas; the Rev. Clint M. Atchley is pastor. The Saturday evening Sharing Groups attracted nearly 400 persons.



Kindergarten class taught by Mrs. Virginia Lindley, Jonesboro, at Laboratory School held at First Church in Newport on Feb. 7-9 and 15-16. Other classes included: Elementary, taught by the Rev. Wayne Jarvis, Jonesboro, and Youth, with Mrs. Vicky Allen, Conway, as resource leader. The Rev. David Conyers is pastor of the Newport Church.

Following a series of studies on the lives, techniques and works of various artists, the junior high and mid-high youths at Asbury UM Church in Little Rock have engaged in a "Paint-Out for God." For three Sunday mornings 21 youth have created paintings, collages and sculptures employing soft colors to portray the goodness of God, bright colors to celebrate His greatness, and darker colors to represent how it is without God. Teachers giving leadership have included Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Conatser, V. G. Reel and F. E. Williams. The Rev. Edward W. Harris is pastor.

United Methodist-related American University in Washington, D.C., has been selected for training Latin American graduate students in development banking in a \$176,500 program sponsored by the Inter-American Development Bank.

Former Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde-Terry has joined United Methodist-related American University in Washington, D. C., as a visiting professor of Latin American studies to teach a course in socio-economic cooperation.

ALL ABOUT ARKANSAS

THE PINE BLUFF CIVIC CENTER,

COMPLETED IN AUGUST, 1968,
WAS DESIGNED BY
WORLD-FAMOUS ARCHITECT
EDWARD DURELL STONE,
A NATIVE OF FAYETTEVILLE

A MONUMENT
IN THE TOWN SQUARE
AT
MARIANNA

HONORS
CONFEDERATE GENERAL
ROBERT E. LEE,
FOR WHOM
LEE COUNTY WAS
NAMED.

MARIANNA CELEBRATED
ITS CENTENNIAL
IN 1970

VILLA MARRE 1321 SCOTT
LITTLE ROCK
IS AN EXCELLENT
19th CENTURY
RESTORATION

THE MANSION IS
OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC WITH
GUIDED TOURS
MONDAY
THROUGH
FRIDAY

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ARKANSAS, WRITE
ARKANSAS STATE PARKS/RECREATION & TRAVEL COMMISSION - STATE CAPITOL, LITTLE ROCK 72201 2/71

Poetry Panorama

by Barbara L. Mulkey

"Men look for God and fancy him concealed; But in earth's common things he stands revealed . . ." (Minot J. Savage)

I MET GOD TODAY

I saw God today
In a little boy's smile.

God led me today
When a little girl took my hands.

Oh, the delights of God
Seen in the simplicity of childhood.

-by Jean Holder

COMMON THINGS

A little bit of "common things" -
A little bird that sweetly sings;
A little gust that stirs the trees;
A little pleasant hum of bees;
Some flowers blooming in the lawn;
A little streamlet's liquid song;
The hills, the valleys, and the plains;
The clouds that send refreshing rains;
True love at home and peace abroad;
A soul that looks for help to God;
A pleasant word, a cheerful smile;
A heart that beats contented, mild;
A little aid if once we fall;
A little sunshine over all -
These are the things that make life sweet;
A cushion to our weary feet.
For never fame and riches first
Will bring the joy for which we thirst.

-by Walter Edison Isenhour

MARCH 18, 1971