

# Arkansas Methodist

90th YEAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1971

NO. 12

## Plans developing for "Arkansas Convocation for Christ"

Plans are being rapidly completed for the "Arkansas Convocation for Christ" to be held at Gardner United Methodist Church, North Little Rock, April 23-24, according to Raymond Hillis, Malvern, publicity chairman. The theme for the two-day session on evangelism is "The Living Christ for Today."

Included in the leadership for the convocation are: Dr. Harry Denman, former executive secretary of the General Board of Evangelism and world-renowned evangelist; Dr. Robert Coleman, Department of Evangelism, Asbury College; Dr. Arnold Prater, superintendent of the Joplin District of the Missouri West Annual Conference; Dr. Ira Gallaway, superintendent of the Fort Worth East District of the

Central Texas Conference; Dr. Harold Rogers of the staff of the General Board of Evangelism; the Rev. Gaither McKelvey, Grand Avenue United Methodist Church, Fort Smith; James Wellons, Little Rock layman; and the Rev. Frank Warden, Jr., Dallas, Tex., pastor.

Seminars and workshops will deal with the following subjects: Sunday School evangelism, Coffee Pot and One-to-One evangelism, prison ministry, visitation evangelism, Lay Witness Missions and others to be announced.

Seminar leaders will include: Dr. Fred R. Harrison, Dr. Alvin C. Mur-

ray, Dr. Milton Harbuck, Leslie McCullough and Henry Caldwell, and the Rev. Eugene Efird.

The convocation will open Friday, April 23, at 10 a.m., and will close with a consecration service which begins at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 24. Dr. Ira Gallaway will lead the closing service.

Charles Stuck of Little Rock is chairman of the Executive Committee which has been planning the convocation. Working with him are Bill Woodsmall, Tom Fulton, Frank Warden, Sr. and Raymond Hillis.

## Dr. Schaller to lead planning workshops

Dr. Lyle E. Schaller, Director of the Center for Parish Development, Naperville, Illinois, will direct the Workshops on Establishing Priorities, Goal-setting and Long and Short-range Planning March 29-30, 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. at Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church, Little Rock. The pastors, the chairmen and members of the Council on Ministries of all local churches are expected to attend. The purpose of the workshop is to help train new members of the Council on Ministries in the task of long and short-range planning, goal setting and evaluating.

Dr. Schaller is well qualified to direct a workshop of this nature. He was trained in City Planning at the University of Wisconsin. He received his seminary training from Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill. He served as director of the Church Planning Office in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1968 he joined the Center for Parish Development at Naperville, Ill. He is the author of several books including "The Local Church Looks to the Future" and "Planning for Protestantism in Urban America."

In addition to the evening workshops, special interest meetings will be held with Dr. Schaller directing.

1. For suburban church pastors and selected leaders, March 29, 12:00-2:00 p.m., at the Golden Host Cafeteria.

2. For rural churches turning urban pastors and selected leaders, March 29, 2:00-4:00 p.m. at Hunter Memorial Church.

3. For the Hunter Memorial Church pastor and officials from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

4. For small-membership church pastors and leaders, March 29, 10:00-12:00 a.m., at Asbury Church.

5. For older central city church pastors and selected leaders, March 30, 2:00-4:00 p.m., at Winfield Church.

## Awards made for Health and Welfare leadership

DENVER, Colo. (UMI) — United States Supreme Court Justice Harry A. Blackmun was one of seven individuals honored at the 31st annual convention of the National Association of Health and Welfare Ministries of the United Methodist Church.

Justice Blackmun was cited for 16 years of service as a trustee of Rochester (Minn.) Methodist Hospital. Other Trustees Awards were made to George J. Kunze, Phoenix, Ariz., for service to Desert Crest, a retirement residence in Phoenix, and to the late Mrs. James A. Crippen, Ann Arbor, Mich., who served for 12 years on retirement facility boards in the Detroit Conference.

Inducted into the Hall of Fame in Philanthropy by Bishop Paul V. Gallaway, Little Rock, Ark., president of the General Board of Health and Welfare Ministries, were: Dr. Thomas G. Ross, Jackson, Miss., who was cited for 25 years of voluntary medical services in behalf of the Methodist Children's Home of Jackson and other activities in his annual conference in the health care field; and Bert E. Miller,

retired power and light executive, who has had many years of service with the Methodist Hospital in Madison, Wisc., including 11 years as administrator.

Other recognitions at the meeting included:

Health Careers Award to Miss Laura Diann Jenkins, Johnson City, Ill., senior student at Barnes Hospital School of Nursing, St. Louis, Mo.

Administrator's Award to the Rev. Bolton Boone, chief operating officer of Methodist Hospital, Dallas, since 1948.

Also presented at the Awards Luncheon on March 17 were recognitions for long periods of service to 36 employees of denomination-related health and welfare facilities.

The Baltimore Annual Conference Board of Health and Welfare Ministries was cited for their "Assembled Families" program under which couples are recruited to serve as "parents" of up to five children in a home. Five homes are in operation at the present, serving 19 black children.

## Academy of Religion Lectures at Fayetteville

Dr. Leroy Howe, associate professor of philosophical theology, Perkins School of Theology, SMU, will deliver the Academy of Religion Lectures at Central United Methodist Church, Fayetteville, March 26-28.

The lectures will deal with Christology under the theme, "Son of God and Son of Man." Dr. Howe will speak on March 26 at 7:00 p.m.; on March 27 at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00

p.m. He will also preach at both morning worship services at Central Church on Sunday, March 28.

Dr. Howe received the A.B. and M.A. degree from the University of Miami, and the B.D., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Yale Divinity School. Before joining the Perkins faculty he taught at Florida Southern College and Central Michigan University.

## Little Rock accountant named to Hendrix post

Rodney D. Todd, 27, of Little Rock, a certified public accountant with Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company, has been named chief accountant and business manager of Hendrix College, effective April 1, 1971, according to an announcement by Dr. Roy B. Shilling, Jr., Hendrix president.



Todd

Todd is a native of Heber Springs and a graduate of Heber Springs High School. He received the bachelor of business administration degree from Southern State College in 1966. He has been employed by Shell Oil Company in New Orleans and has been with Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company for the past four years. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Arkansas State Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Dr. Shilling said that Todd would carry a significant share of the responsibility for the operation of the fiscal affairs area. "We are delighted to be able to announce the appointment," Dr. Shilling said. Todd has served as a member of the audit teams that have made recent Hendrix audits, having

## Religious Emphasis Week at HSC March 29-April 1

"Celebration of Life" is the theme for this year's Religious Emphasis Week at Henderson State College in Arkadelphia scheduled for March 29 through April 1. Man's relationship with God will be explored through forums, music, and guest speakers.

Each afternoon at 4 o'clock, forums are scheduled in which current issues will be discussed from a religious perspective.

On Monday the subject will be "War and Peace;" Tuesday's subject will be "Religion and Race;" Wednesday's subject, "The Population Bomb," and Thursday's subject, "The New Morality."

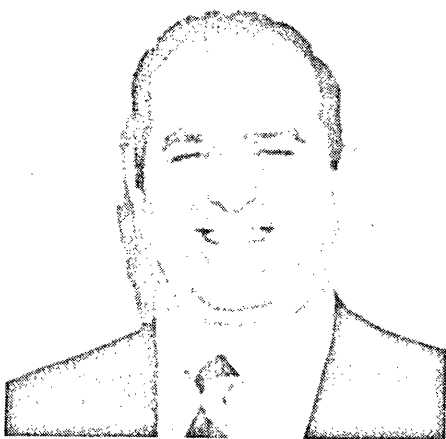
Monday evening's guest speaker will be "Tank" Harrison, a Memphis police officer and a devoted Christian. The Concert Choir under the direction of Eugene Kuyper will provide music for the program.

Tuesday evening, the Howard Hangar Trio, a versatile group from Atlanta, Georgia, will present types of music ranging from a Bach Chorale to contemporary music including Brubeck, Ramsey Lewis, Bob Dylan, and the Beatles. Also the Choral Union under the direction of Kuyper will share the program.

Wednesday evening, members of the University of Arkansas chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes will speak. Again the HSC Concert Choir will provide music.

Thursday evening's program entitled "Media: A Journey through Our Time" will be presented by the HSC Reader's Theater.

Evening activities will begin at 7:30. All activities will be held in the Student Union Ballroom. The public is welcome.



"Tank" Harrison, well known to Arkansans as a member of the Memphis Police Department and as a devoted Christian, will speak at Henderson State College in Arkadelphia, Monday evening, March 29 at 7:30, and on the following morning at a 7 o'clock policemen's prayer breakfast at Continental Motor Inn Restaurant. Breakfast will be served at \$1.55 per person, and members of local and state police departments are urged to attend. Tickets may be purchased from the Rev. David Hankins of the Wesley Foundation in Arkadelphia.



Bishop Paul V. Galloway (right), who presented the evening sermon at Camden District Convocation, held at First Church in El Dorado on March 10, shown with Dr. Leland Clegg during dinner hour.

## Camden District holds Convocation on "Life and Ministry of the Church"

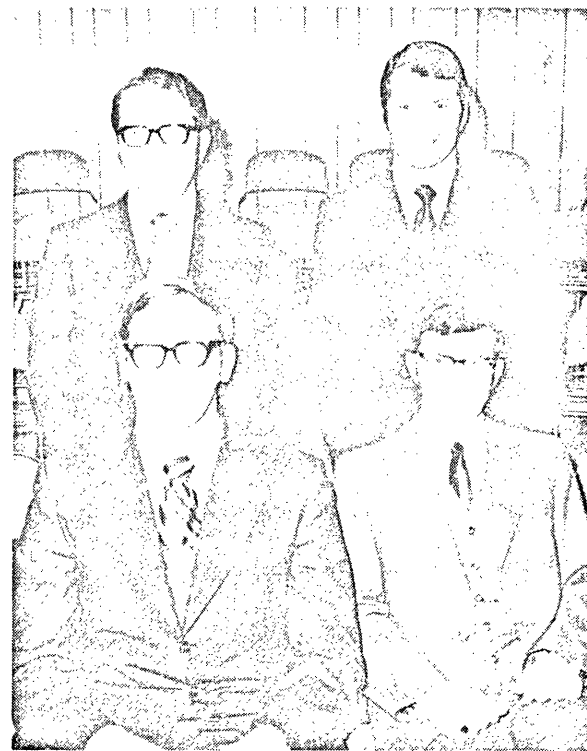
"The Life and Mission of the Church" was the theme for the Camden District Convocation held at First United Methodist Church, El Dorado, March 10.

Dr. Roy I. Bagley, district superintendent, presided over the meeting in which was also combined the business of the District Conference. Bishop Paul V. Galloway brought the closing message at the evening worship hour.

The convocation opened with a panel discussion on the theme "Christ Calls Us to New Life and Mission." Participating on this panel were the Rev. Darrell Van Smith, the Rev. David F. Prothro, the Rev. F. Gladwin Connell and the Rev. Fred H. Hausstein.

Leaders for the small group dis-

Panelists who set the tone for the Camden District Convocation in their discussion of "Christ Calls Us to New Life and Mission." BACK ROW (from left): The Rev. F. Gladwin Connell, pastor, St. Paul Church, El Dorado; the Rev. Darrell Smith, pastor, St. Mark's Church, Camden; FRONT (from left): the Rev. Fred H. Hausstein, pastor, Marysville Church, and the Rev. David Prothro, associate pastor, Camden First Church.



## FT. SMITH LAYMAN WRITES SECOND WESLEY VOLUME

Franklin Wilder, active United Methodist layman of Fort Smith, Ark. and a practicing attorney has written his second volume on the Wesley family.

The new book is **Father of the Wesleys**, a biography of the Rev. Samuel Wesley, father of John and Charles Wesley. His first book, which had wide acceptance was **Immortal Mother**, a biography of Susanna Wesley.

Published by Exposition Press and announced for a March 27 release, the book is called "A long overdue, full-length biography—the first in over 100 years and the only one in print."

Mr. Wilder, commenting on his research for the book, said that these were some of the things which impressed him about Samuel Wesley.

"He was the only man in English literary history to have his books dedicated to three different British queens. He was a scholar in Hebrew, Latin and Greek and taught his daughter, Hetty, to read the Greek New Testament when she was eight years old. He was one of the first ministers to introduce congregational singing and wrote hymns for the people to sing. He was interested in world missions and advised General Oglethorpe in the establishment of the colony of Georgia. He helped John and Charles Wesley in their activities of the "Holy Club" at Oxford, calling himself the "grandfather" of it."

## ALFRED I. DOSS HONORED

The Rev. Alfred I. Doss, former pastor in the Little Rock Conference, now located at New Boston, Texas was chosen the outstanding minister of the Texarkana District. The award was made on February 9 at a dinner during Ministers' Week at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas.

The Association of Methodist Colleges in the State of Texas chose the outstanding minister in each district on the basis of preaching, pastoral leadership, administrative skill and cooperation with district and conference programs.

## From Our Bishop

I have been given the names of those who will be speaking at the Convocation for Christ in the Gardner Memorial Church in North Little Rock on April 23 and 24.

Dr. Harry Denman is known around the world for his uniqueness and commitment. Dr. Ira Gallaway, of Texas, was an outstanding and successful layman who went into the ministry and had brought a deep commitment and wide understanding.

I am sure that the men representing the General Board and Asbury Seminary are capable men. It is good to know that we have three Arkansas men in it.

The Reverend Gaither McKelvey, of Fort Smith, is one of our good preachers and pastors.

Mr. James Wellons is a faithful worker in his Church in Little Rock and is a good speaker.

The Reverend Frank Warden, Jr., of Dallas, Texas has been a successful lawyer and gave up his practice to enter the Seminary. Even before this he had a doctor's degree in jurisprudence. He has an outstanding commitment and a great message. He is one whom I hope I do not miss hearing.

I'm sure that all of us can benefit from these and the seminars that follow.

*Paul V. Galloway*

## Bishops' Emergency Fund to aid disaster areas in states

NEW YORK (UMI) — About \$300,000 from the Bishops' Emergency Relief Fund of the United Methodist Church is to be made available for relief, rehabilitation and rebuilding in the wake of two natural disasters, according to Bishop Dwight E. Loder, Detroit, Mich.

The funds are to provide aid in southern California, where 15 United Methodist churches, a retirement home and one parsonage were destroyed or damaged in the February 9 earthquake, and in Mississippi, where five churches and a parsonage were demolished or damaged in tornadoes February 21.

Chairman of the United Methodist Council of Bishops' committee ad-

ministering the Fund, Bishop Loder said the committee has been in touch with Bishop Gerald H. Kennedy of the Los Angeles Area and Bishop Edward J. Pendergrass of the Jackson Area. The committee has voted to set aside about \$200,000 for earthquake relief and about \$100,000 for tornado relief. The money will come from the balance remaining in the Bishops' Emergency Relief Fund (formerly called the Camille Fund), which came from a churchwide offering after the devastating Hurricane Camille in 1969. "We hope these amounts will go far toward helping to meet needs that have become apparent as of now," he said. "though, of course, additional needs could yet be discovered."

have been distributed.

Two periods of study have been set for *A Plan of Union* and its projected "Church of Christ Uniting." From now through November, 1971, cross-denominational study is encouraged; from December, 1971, through May, 1972, study within denominations will be encouraged.

### APPALACHIA PLANS MAPPED

NEW YORK (UMI) — All future social welfare, health, education, economic and community development projects supported in the Appalachia Region by the National Division of the United Methodist Board of Missions are to be referred to the United Methodist Appalachian Development Committee for study, review and recommendations.

That action was approved by the National Division board of managers which met in New York February 11-13. Division projects already are submitted for similar review to the Commission on Religion in Appalachia (CORA), an agency representing 16 Christian communions, 11 state councils of churches and related ecumenical groups. The United Methodist Appalachian Development Committee, organized about three years ago, represents annual conferences in 12 states.

### BRAZILIAN CHURCH APPROVES CHANGES

NEW YORK (UMI) — In a special February session, the quadrennial General Conference of the 58,000-member Methodist Church of Brazil, autonomous since 1930 and the largest Methodist body in Latin America, approved a number of changes in procedures, according to reports received by the United Methodist Board of Missions in New York.

Among other things, the delegates abolished election of bishops at General Conference and instead will elect and consecrate the leaders in annual conferences for four-year terms. Also adopted was a new Social Creed which deals more with causes of social ills than with their manifestations. An ecumenical step was giving church members the option of affirming previous baptism in the Roman Catholic Church.

## United Methodist Bishops study United Nations

NEW YORK (UMI) — About 60 bishops of the United Methodist Church participated in the recent "United Nations Program for the Council of Bishops" which was held March 2-4 at the Church Center for the United Nations.

The funds will be used, Bishop Loder indicated, for aid in such broad categories as pastoral salaries, compensation for personal losses, and rebuilding/rehabilitation of property. He said the bishops' committee is working with committees in southern California and Mississippi, and that the National Division of the United Methodist Board of Missions will process the funds for the bishops' committee.

Principal architects for the program were Bishop John Wesley Lord of the Washington Area, president of the Council of Bishops, Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke of the New York Area, and Dr. Carl Soule of the staff of the United Methodist office for the UN.

The Council set three purposes for its meeting: "to learn more about the United Nations, its program, its power, its weakness and its future," "to understand the extent to which United States foreign policy during the last 25 years has strengthened or weakened the UN," and "to form convictions about how the bishops and the United Methodist Church can help all governments, especially the government of the United States, to make the UN the force for peace, justice and progress which it ought to be."

The final session of the program was a luncheon in the Delegates' Dining Room of the UN Secretariat Building, followed by an off-the-record briefing by the UN Secretary General U Thant.

## COCU Union Plan receiving serious consideration

NEW YORK (UMI) — Despite some reports of apathy toward the Consultation on Church Union (COCU), the denomination's chief ecumenical affairs executive believes there are encouraging signs that study of COCU's *A Plan of Union* is being taken seriously by many in the United Methodist Church.

Dr. Robert W. Huston, general secretary of the United Methodist Commission on Ecumenical Affairs, said recently that more church members should avail themselves of the opportunity to study *A Plan of Union*. He added that it is essential to understand that the study does not imply acceptance either of A Plan or of organic church union, but rather indicates willingness to be open to new insights and to offer constructive criticism.

Acknowledging that he hears reports of apathy, and occasionally of opposition, to COCU, Dr. Huston said there are also several encouraging reports.

These signs of hope include a recent survey taken by Dr. Ezra Earl Jones of the staff of the United Methodist Board of Missions in connection with a doctoral dissertation. This survey revealed that 19.4 per cent of United Methodist ministers surveyed approved participation in COCU. It also showed that although 60 per cent of the laymen surveyed were not acquainted with COCU, more than three-fourths of those acquainted with it approved participation.

Dr. Huston was quick to add: "These findings certainly do not mean that three-fourths of United Methodist ministers who know about COCU would necessarily be in favor of organic union, but they do indicate that knowledge and study of COCU and *A Plan of Union* can be of great importance in developing attitudes of openness."

He said he was also encouraged by a positive commitment by youth to the ecumenical dimension in the church's mission, and by reports of the large number of persons who have already started their study of *A Plan of Union*, more than 400,000 copies of which

## A PLAN FOR CHURCH UNION

### 17. Relationships With Other Groups

Chapter IX of the Plan outlines the responsibility of the united church to continue to seek union with churches not included in the Consultation on Church Union and to conserve the ecumenical ties now held by the participating churches.

The church is challenged to "seek to initiate, maintain, and strengthen relations and common action with other Christian churches, with Christian councils, coalitions and consortia; with world confessional associations; with the Jewish communities; with other religious communities; and with other humanizing disciplines and agencies." There is expressed a desire to be especially close to uniting churches in Canada and the West Indies.

**Guidelines:** In relationships with other churches the Church of Christ Uniting adopts guidelines which affirm: the church shall maintain the ties and multiple patterns of interconnection with churches in the United States and other countries; it shall continue "support in prayer and concern" for churches in other parts of the world linked historically to any of the uniting churches, affirming that "personnel and funds for such churches continue on the basis of consultation among all parties"; and "the united church shall seek communion and union with other churches in the United States and elsewhere."

This chapter also states that any presbyter in full communion with any of the uniting churches may preach and administer the sacraments in any congregation of the united church and that any ordained minister who is in communion with any of the uniting churches shall, when he is accepted for service as a minister in the Church of Christ Uniting, be received in a rite comparable to the rite of unification of the ministry.

Other guidelines affirm that the united church will welcome agreements with other churches in the world that would allow reciprocal exchange and seating of delegates, with or without vote, in each other's highest legislative bodies. It is also stated that efforts shall be continued to strengthen "fraternal understanding, theological dialogue, and cooperation in mission with the Roman Catholic Church, the Orthodox churches, and various other Christian churches with which full communion has not yet been established."

**Councils:** Active membership is reaffirmed in the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches, and, wherever applicable, in state and local councils. The united church will be expected to continue the participation which any individual church has had in conciliar ecumenism.

It will also be expected to maintain the present relationships with world communions and confessional associations with which the uniting churches have been related.

**Other Relations:** The united church will seek occasions for theological dialogue, cooperation, and common action with Jewish people.

It will also seek greater knowledge of other world religions and be open to dialogue with them and to the application of shared interests and concerns. The last paragraph of this chapter affirms that, "The united church is committed to its own constant reform and the establishment of internal structures to continue the ecumenical education, experience, and action of its members. Creative experiments in theological education, liturgy, discipline, and polity that will involve and include the wide Christian community of scholarship and experience will be pursued for the sake of a growing wholeness in the church of Jesus Christ."

MARCH 25, 1971





Dr. A. Purnell Bailey, of Washington, D. C. will be the 1971 speaker for the United Methodist Series of the Protestant Hour. Dr. Bailey is considered one of America's most gifted preachers. He is executive secretary of the Commission on Chaplains for the United Methodist Church, writes a nationally syndicated newspaper column, and his syndicated radio programs have been broadcast on stations throughout the U.S., Canada and Japan. He was an Army chaplain in World War II.

## "Survival" theme for 1971 UM Series of Protestant Hour

A national chaplains' official and choirs of servicemen and university students will be featured on the 26th annual United Methodist Series of the Protestant Hour.

Thirteen 30 minute programs will be broadcast over the 548 radio stations during the month of April, May and June. Speaker will be Dr. Purnell Bailey of Washington, D.C., Executive Secretary of the Commission on Chaplains of The United Methodist Church.

Music on the programs will be sung by the U.S. Army Chorus, the Navy Band Sea Chanters, the Fort Myer Military Chorus, the Tan Son Nhut Chapel Choir from Saigon, the Naval Training Center Bluejacket Choir, the Duke

University Chapel Choir and the Candler Choraliers of Emory University.

Theme of the United Methodist Series is "Survival." Dr. Bailey will explore man's faith as an instrument for survival and peace.

The Protestant Hour is produced and distributed by the Protestant Radio and Television Center at Atlanta, Ga. The United Methodist Series is sponsored and produced by the Joint Radio Committee of the Southeastern and South Central Jurisdictions of the United Methodist Church and the Television, Radio and Film Communication Commission of the denomination.

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The music on the United Methodist Series of the Protestant Hour will be provided by choirs made up of men in uniform from around the world. One of these—the Naval Band Sea Chanters—is known internationally for its performances.

## New procedures proposed for endorsing chaplains

WASHINGTON, D.C. (UMI) — Approval of steps aimed at further developing procedures for endorsing United Methodist ministers for possible service as chaplains in the military services and civilian institutions marked a meeting of the United Methodist Commission on Chaplains and Related Ministries here March 9-10.

Also on the docket of the 21-member Commission were: a statement on the priority of continuing visits to chaplains "to let them know their church cares;" a tribute to Dr. Fred H. Heather who retired recently after 18 years of service; a request that the Commission aid clergymen in the transition from chaplaincy to parish ministry; and the announcement that the Commission had deposited \$30,000 in black banks.

Presiding at the meeting was Commission Chairman Bishop H. Ellis Finger, Jr. of the Nashville Area.

Bishop Dwight Loder, chairman of the Commission's Endorsement Committee reported several steps designed to regularize and more fully develop procedures by which ecclesiastical endorsement is granted by the Commission on behalf of the United Methodist Church. He said, "We are developing basic qualifications for the several chaplaincy fields, and we believe our endorsement will take on increasing significance as this standard-setting process moves forward."

The importance the Commission staff attaches to personal contacts with chaplains was emphasized in the report of Dr. A. Purnell Bailey, executive secretary. He said, "We believe our foremost staff responsibility is to visit our chaplains and their families. We have more than 725 chaplains

who need visitation and encouragement," adding that the 3-member staff plans to spend at least half of its time with chaplains in the field."

One of two service chief of chaplains who is a United Methodist, Rear Admiral Francis Garret, Navy Chief of Chaplains, asked that the Commission seek to aid United Methodist ministers making the sometimes difficult transition from chaplaincy to local parish ministry upon retirement.

The dinner honoring Dr. Heather was held at the National Presbyterian Church Center. Among those giving "remarks in recognition," Chaplain Gerhardt Hyatt, a Deputy Chief of Army Chaplains, presented the "Silver Medallion of the Four Chaplains" on behalf of Maj. Gen. Frank Sampson, Army Chief of Chaplains, saying, "There is no one who deserves it more."

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Commission on PR and  
UMI hears analysis  
of ecumenism

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (UMI) — There is a new ecumenism emerging in Christianity today that stresses the unity of mankind rather than union of churches alone, the president of the United Methodist Church's Commission on Ecumenical Affairs said here March 12 at the annual meeting of the Commission on Public Relations and United Methodist Information.

Bishop Paul A. Washburn of Minneapolis said, "Society at large shows little interest in ecumenism which seeks to unify the churches, but will gladly join with Christians in an ecumenism which seeks the unity of the human family."

In business sessions during its two-day meeting, the Commission agreed to put emphasis this year on encouraging formation of communications committees in local churches of the denomination.

Bishop Eugene M. Frank of St. Louis was recognized for three quadrenniums of leadership as chairman of the Commission, and Mrs. Charlotte O'Neal, New York, administrative assistant, was cited for 20 years of service

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TASK FORCE DEVELOPING  
NEW RESOURCE MANUALS

EVANSTON, Ill. (UMI) — A new set of resource manuals for use in local United Methodist Church administrative boards is now being developed by an interboard task force of the denomination.

According to Dr. David Self, general secretary of the General Board of the Laity here, the resources will be similar to those released in 1970 for the Council on Ministries in the local church. Dr. Self said that the work was being done in accord with responsibility given the Board by the church for preparation and distribution of aids for the administrative board and its four administrative committees.

William B. McPherson of the Board of Laity staff is heading the project.

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# 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 Leman, 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

**THE DARDANELLE** Lay Witness Mission is scheduled for April 2-4. Leon Woolbright is to be the coordinator. Tom Anderson is general chairman with Mrs. Garrett Jones serving as co-chairman. Neal Goins is lay leader. The Rev. Clyde Crozier is pastor.

**MRS. CHARLES HATFIELD**, Fort Smith District coordinator of children's ministry, led the church school workers' conference in Midland Heights U. M. Church, March 22. The Rev. Tom Weir, pastor of Wyatt Memorial Church, will lead the April 26 session concerning the youth ministry. Mrs. Elmus Brown, minister's wife who is accredited by the United Methodist Board of Education, will lead the adult workers on May 24. The Rev. Pryor Cruce is the Midland Heights pastor.

**THE GIRLS' CHOIR** from the Arkansas Training School for Girls sang in the Geyer Springs United Methodist Church of Little Rock on Sunday, March 7. Col. John Floyd, Ret., directs the group and also brought the message. The Rev. Rayford L. Diffie is the Geyer Springs pastor.

**THE NASHVILLE UNITED** Methodist Church held a revival the week of March 7 with the Rev. Charles Ramsay, pastor of First U. M. Church of Russellville, as guest evangelist. Mr. Ramsay is a former resident of Nashville and was an attorney there before joining the ministry. The present minister at Nashville is the Rev. R. W. Trieschmann.

**WALNUT RIDGE** First United Methodists held a revival the week of March 7-11. The Rev. George Wayne Martin, superintendent of the Arkadelphia District, was the evangelist. Bob Fuller, director of music in Jonesboro's First Church, was song leader. The Rev. James Meadors was host pastor.

**DR. FRANCIS CHRISTIE**, dean of Hendrix College, was the speaker in First Church, Morrilton, Sunday morning, March 14. Ansel Swain, lay leader, presided. The Rev. Harold Spence, Morrilton pastor, was in Denver, Colorado, where he attended the Annual Convention of the National Association of Health and Welfare Ministries. Mrs. Spence accompanied her husband.

**THE HUNTINGTON AVENUE** United Methodist Church study of drugs brought in as guest speakers Don Coggins from the Arkansas State Police and Wayne Ward from the Jonesboro Police Department.

## NEW CHURCH BEING BUILT AT KEISER

Construction has begun on a new church plant at Keiser United Methodist Church in the Jonesboro District. The new building will include a sanctuary, fellowship hall, classrooms, pastor's study, kitchen, choir room and rest rooms, according to the Rev. Arvest Lawson, the pastor.

Being built of haydite blocks and brick veneer, the new building will be centrally heated and air-conditioned. It is anticipated that the new facility will be ready for occupancy by mid-May. The sanctuary is altar-centered and will seat about 125 people.

The members of the Building Committee are: Henry Mills, chairman, Woodrow McDonald, Harvey Barton, and Buford Jarrett.

**NOON LENTEN SERVICES** at First United Methodist, Little Rock, will feature the Rev. Eugene Efird, director of the Release Guidance Foundation, on Wednesday, March 31, and the Rev. Earl B. Carter, associate director of the North Arkansas Conference Program Council, on April 7. The Most Rev. Lawrence P. Graves, auxiliary bishop of the Little Rock Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church, was scheduled to speak March 24. Friday organ recitals will present Karen Kuespert on March 26, and Diane Woolard on April 2.

**SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED** to Mrs. Joe E. Taylor, wife of the pastor of Trinity U. M. Church, Little Rock, in the loss of her mother, Mrs. F. A. Lowry, on March 12. In addition to Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Lowry is survived by her husband, the Rev. F. A. Lowry, a retired Baptist minister living in Advance, Missouri, and a son and another daughter.

**DISCIPLINE AND DISCOVERY** is the theme of the weekend emphasis in First Church, North Little Rock, March 26-28. In preparation for the spiritual renewal, a weekend retreat was held by the leaders at Aldersgate Camp, March 20 and 21. The Rev. Lloyd Conyers is the pastor.



On Sunday, March 28th, the Sanctuary Choir of St. James United Methodist Church will sing "The Seven Last Words of Christ" by Theodore Dubois. The sacred cantata will be presented at the 10:45 worship hour. Soloists are: Mrs. Bob Coleman, Mrs. Betty Drake, Mrs. Harold Hawley, Mrs. William Hibbard, Dr. Roger Bost, Lou Griffin, Don Howard, Fred Jans, Richard Jans, and Gar Puryear. The Music Ministry Program at St. James is under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Thompson, Jr. Dr. Joe R. Phillips, Jr. is pastor.

A **REVIVAL** in Griffin Memorial U. M. Church, Paragould, next week, March 28-April 2, will have the sermons brought by the Rev. James Keith, pastor of Sylvan Hills United Methodist Church, North Little Rock. The Rev. Wayne Clark, pastor of First Church, Corning, will be the worker with youth. The Rev. J. Albert Gatlin is pastor at Griffin Memorial.

**DR. VIRGIL D. KEELEY**, pastor of First United Methodist of Blytheville, was evangelist for the revival held in the Manila United Methodist Church the week of March 7. The Blytheville Youth Choir sang at the opening service. The Rev. Wendell Dorman is the Manila minister.

**THE FATHER-SON** banquet in Hawley Memorial Church of Pine Bluff, March 18, had Mike Brown and David Spriggs, Pine Bluff High School athletes, tell of their experiences with the national Fellowship of Christian Athletes. The Rev. John Walker, Jr. is pastor.

**DR. J. KENNETH SHAMBLIN** spoke in Little Rock, March 19 at the Annual District Conference of Rotarians. Dr. Shamblin is a former pastor of Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church. Since 1961 he has been pastor of St. Luke United Methodist Church in Houston, Texas.

**THE LONOKE BAPTIST** and Methodist Churches sponsored the meeting at First United Methodist Church, March 7, when Arkansas Razorback Linebacker Mike Boschetti told about work with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. The Rev. Mike Clayton is the Lonoke Methodist minister.

**THE PHILLIPS COUNTY** Laboratory Training School, held in First Church, Helena, March 21-23, had the Rev. Earl Carter of North Little Rock leading adults; the Rev. Joe Black of Cape Girardeau, Mo., with youth leaders; and the Rev. William Haltom of West Helena and Mrs. Mauzell Beal of Helena with children's leaders.

## 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.

Mar. 28—Sun.	Psa. 119:113-117
Mar. 29	Psa. 146:1-10
Mar. 30	Jer. 17:5-7
Mar. 31	Hosea 2:14-18
April 1	Jer. 29:4-7
April 2	I Tim. 2:1-6
April 3	Lev. 26:3-12
April 4—Sun.	Prov. 16:1-7

## DR. COFFMAN ELECTED BAND DIRECTORS' PRESIDENT

Dr. Ashley R. Coffman, head of the music department at Hendrix College, was elected president of the Arkansas College Band Directors' Association at the Annual Arkansas Intercollegiate Band held last weekend on the A.M. & N campus. Homer A. Brown, Jr., band director at State College of Arkansas, was elected vice president.

This was the 16th Annual Intercollegiate Band held in Arkansas and was made up of selected top musicians from each of the Arkansas college and university bands.

In 1972, the event will be held on the Hendrix campus and some new ideas will be tried which will hopefully make the experience of playing in and hearing the band more meaningful for the players and the college and high school directors in attendance. The reading of more material of various difficulty levels which might be used by both high school, college, and university bands is planned.

**THE REV. JON GUTHRIE**, minister to students at Hendrix College, was guest speaker in the DeQueen United Methodist Church, March 14. Mrs. Guthrie, the former Jan Rinehart, served as youth director in DeQueen a few years ago.

**THE 48-VOICE JOHN BROWN** University Cathedral Choir and the Contemporary Group presented a program of music at Gardner Memorial Church, North Little Rock, on Sunday, March 14. Sixty people were entertained in the homes of members. The Rev. Floyd Vilines Jr. was host pastor.

**THREE NIGHTS FOR CHRIST** in the Hamburg United Methodist Church brought the Rev. Roy Poyner of Washington Avenue Church, North Little Rock, as guest speaker, March 14-16. The Rev. Virgil Bell is the Hamburg pastor.

**AUGUSTA UNITED METHODISTS** are making it possible for their minister and wife, the Rev. and Mrs. Harold Wilson, to visit the Holy Land and Europe. Their flight leaves New York March 31 and returns April 22.

**BOB GANNAWAY**, layman of First Methodist, Little Rock, was the speaker for United Methodist Men of Highland Church, March 15.

MARCH 25, 1971





Mrs. Edgar F. Dixon of Little Rock is shown above at center as she met with a church panel from six denominations in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Jan. 21-22. Panelists discussed the pro and con of copper mining in the island. Recommendation was that the Kennecott Copper and the American Metal Climax Companies postpone mining because of the danger such mining will be to the health and well-being of the people.

## Miss Van Horne devotes life to literacy work

by Elizabeth Meredith Lee

A tall, rosy-cheeked young woman with twinkling eyes, her arms bulging with books came rushing along the corridor of Interchurch Center, New York City, one hot August day.

"Are you just home from Timbuktu?" a friend queried, bumping into her. "What about vacation?"

"Vacation!" Marion Van Horne laughed. "Next Monday I'm off again to Fiji. From there I'll skim across to India to lead the Writer's Workshop at Octacamund. It takes a heap of going to help supply simple books for the world's newly literates, especially children."

Hurrying on, this peripatetic traveler called back merrily, "Marvelous job though! Lifting the world!"

This new type of internationalist was quickly out of sight, rushing to a committee meeting where she'd report her latest ventures in teaching some of the world's people to write simple books, and plan with her New York colleagues about next assignments. To thousands of newly literate adults in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America and to untold numbers of children this enthusiastic scholar is known and loved.

Marion's title explains her task. Since 1957 she has served as Literature Director of both the Committee on Christian Literature for Women and Children and of Lit-Lit. Around the world today, Marion is affectionately dubbed Flit-Flit because she is always on the wing.

Marion was well trained for her worldwide work. She had earned a B.A. in religious education at Schuylker College of Religion and Social Work and an M.A. in religion at New York University, with courses in journalism at Syracuse. Her earlier task had been as National Director of Youth Work of the Reformed Church in America.

In 1942 the above committees became interested in helping the world to realize that 700 million adults didn't know how to read or write. The man who cannot read panics because he cannot understand what happens before his very eyes. He is disqualified

for any trade demanding use of the printed word. People who can't read or write are the same men and women who suffer because of poverty, superstition and spreading disease.

A door opened when Dr. Frank Laubach, missionary to illiterates in the Philippines, developed a simple, pictorial method by which adults could be taught to read. Gradually the question arose: What good is it to teach folk to read unless they have books in their own languages? How could this come about?

Christian publishers began to experiment. They published simple booklets on such practical themes as: Clean Water, Better Farm Animals, Home Nursing, War Against Pests, How To Keep Food from Spoiling. With such helpful materials village life took on new meaning.



After experimenting in several countries Miss Van Horne's deepest concern gradually ripened. How to produce books for children in their native tongues? In only a few spots did any exist. She realized that she herself had neither time nor competence to learn foreign languages in which such books must be written.

Soon her conviction became crystal clear. "I must teach others how to write simple books for children, in the lands where they live. They need stories in their own tongues about familiar things. In Moslem lands where dogs are considered unclean a book about a dog would have no meaning to children who had never seen such a pet."

difficult to know where she is in any one month. To mention only a few spots at random reveals the extent of her activities.

In Chiangmai, Thailand, she held a workshop on *Marriage and Family Life*, in which students learned to write about *The Christian Home*. A Haitian group wrote Children's books in Creole. For delegates assembling from 15 islands in the South Pacific she directed a workshop in Suva, Fiji. Coming together from rural India and Pakistan, twenty-two young men and women learned to write simple stories for country children. In a training school at Ootacamund a child-psychologist from Vellore Medical College and a

## DUPLICATE LITERACY CLASSES AT FAYETTEVILLE

Mrs. Lela Tisdale of Fayetteville is conducting the duplicate literacy classes being held to train teachers in the Laubach method. Day classes are from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. on March 15, 22 and 29. Night classes are from 7 until 10 o'clock, March 16, 23 and 30. All sessions are in Wesley Hall, Central United Methodist Church, Fayetteville.

**CORRECTION:** The Rev. E. E. Stevenson, retired member of the North Arkansas Conference, is living at 602 Oxford, West Memphis. Mrs. Stevenson is a patient in the Heritage Nursing Home, Helena.

In 1962, after some experimentation and with Lit-Lit backing, Miss Van Horn organized and carried through the International Christian Writers Conference, at Green Lake, Wisconsin. The 9-weeks course offered intensive training to 67 young men and women delegates—nationals and missionaries—from 36 countries. Collectively, they spoke 44 languages and represented 30 denominations. All were deeply committed to writing books for children though some might be for adults as well. The faculty came from Egypt, Costa Rica, England and the United States.

Returning to their homes, this first group began to produce manuscripts. Out of this stimulating international experience and the student's urging, Miss Van Horne produced her first book, *Write the Vision*. Her cue was from the Old Testament prophet Habakkuk (2:2), "Write the vision; make it plain upon tablets, so he may run who reads it." This volume has become a writer's guide for all the world.

Because Flit-Flit travels so fast it is

## Guilders Schedule Prayer Retreat

A prayer retreat will be held at Aldersgate Methodist Camp, Little Rock, on the weekend of April 17 and 18, sponsored by the Wesleyan Service Guild of the Little Rock Conference.

Mrs. Doris Gubbs, a member of the Highland Church Guild, Little Rock, is chairman of the task group planning the event. Mrs. Gladys Icenhower is conference chairman of Guilds.

Registration will be from 2:30-4 p.m. Saturday, April 17. Sessions will conclude after lunch Sunday.

**AT STUTTGART,** United Methodist Men of the Grand Avenue Church had a program presented by members of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, March 10. The February program was a presentation of the local school situation by Ned Moseley, school superintendent. Charles Hoskyn is president of the men's group; Jack Jacobs is program chairman; the Rev. Louis Mulkey is pastor.

**DR. ROBERT B. MOORE, Sr.,** former pastor of First Church, Camden, led a session of "How the Word Gets Around" in that church on March 7. Now retired, he is serving as minister of visitation at Winfield Church, Little Rock. The Rev. Edwin B. Dodson is the present Camden pastor.

leader of the Christian Literature Society of Madras enhanced this study. A Children's Literature Workshop produced manuscripts which marked the beginning of a Children's Book Program for the entire Middle East. A conference at Chung-Chi University, Hong Kong, launched a children's and youth series of books called *The Children's Library*. Manuscripts initiated in Johannesburg were accepted for *The Children's Reader for South Africa*, published in three vernaculars—Tswana, Xhosa and Tsonga. And thirty publishers from 12 nations composed a study-conference under Dr. Van Horne's guidance in which they proposed that every publisher's program should give priority to books for children.

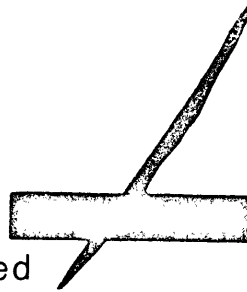
In every country, Dr. Van Horne summarizes, the demand for education outweighs every other social striving. Even the poorest illiterate wants his child to read and write, confident that only thus can he hope to lead a fuller life. Teaching reading, however, means little unless the child has a steady stream of interesting, easy-to-read books. Notwithstanding the world's needs, there is still only a smattering of such literature.

Marion's courage never wavers. Recently she has launched a compelling plan to help produce 80 miles of children's books in various languages within the next five years. This means 500,000 books, or 100 titles of 5,000 editions each.

No wonder Flit-Flit claims, "It's a marvelous job!"

# The Sunday School Lesson

By: Alfred A. Knox



## LESSON FOR APRIL 4: Christ Acclaimed and Rejected

**BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE:** Matthew 21:1-17, 33-46

**MEMORY SELECTION:** The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner. (Matthew 21:42)

**AIM OF THE LESSON:** To understand how the Jewish teachings concerning an expected Messiah conditioned the reception Jesus received when he entered Jerusalem; to see the shallowness which caused some people to praise Jesus on Palm Sunday and cry for his crucifixion later in the week.

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We are aware that people can change their minds quickly when they are under great emotional stress. This is demonstrated by the way in which the same people who praised Jesus on Palm Sunday called for his crucifixion a few days later. We all have known people who could be so easily swayed, so we will be looking for some modern meanings in this experience of Christ acclaimed and rejected.

The triumphal entry on the first Palm Sunday was an occasion of great dramatic pageantry. Jesus had been telling his disciples what was ahead for him: condemnation, death and resurrection. Many who were nearest to him had not accepted these things, and some of them believed that they might force him to declare himself a king. He had other ideas in mind as he arranged for a quiet and humble entry into Jerusalem. However, the crowds that packed the streets of the city for the Passover observance went wild with their enthusiasm. They thought that this must surely be their long-awaited Messiah. However, it was just a few days until these who had sung "Hosanna" would be shouting "crucify him!" Between these two events Matthew records some of the Master's most significant teachings and a number of very dramatic events.

For an understanding of this lesson we must take a look at the concept of Messiahship. Only as we comprehend that great teaching can we appreciate why the people acted as they did. Someone has said that many of the characteristics which cause us to believe that Jesus was the Christ provided his own people with grounds to believe that he could not be their Messiah. This dream had motivated the Jewish people for such a long time, and we ought to try to see just how much it meant to them. Just as we sometimes fail to grasp the whole meaning of the cross, we also can misunderstand how the expectation of the Messiah sustained them.

One of the commentators has said that the triumphal entry into Jerusalem was a dramatic parable intended to emphasize the true nature of Messiahship. One lesson which our Lord had not been able to teach successfully was that "the suffering servant" was a more concise portrait than the image of a king putting all people under his power. The entry on Sunday and the complete rejection later in the week are parts of this drama. Zechariah had prophesied concerning the Messiah's coming in humble fashion (Zechariah 9:9), and the writer of Matthew was clearly influenced by that prophet.

### THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

The events of the significant day we have come to call Palm Sunday had their beginning at Bethphage, a little village on the side of the Mount of Olives, within sight of Jerusalem. Jesus stopped outside the village and told his disciples to go in and find an ass and a colt for his march into the city. He pointed out to those who might be hesitant that this is in fulfillment of Zechariah's prophecy. Then he quoted from the prophet: "Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of

an ass." (Zech. 9:9)

There are many opinions concerning Jesus' motivation in deciding to enter Jerusalem in this dramatic fashion. He seemed determined now to announce what he had been urging his disciples to keep secret—that he really was God's Messiah. He planned it so they would see that he was not a Messiah in the pattern the Jews had been anticipating since the days of Exile. He took pains to show that he led no movement of fanatical nationalism or armed revolt; he had chosen another way.

A king astride a donkey! A triumphal entry that led to a crucifixion between two thieves on a hill called, "the place of the skull"—this is the strange paradox at which we look today. We observe again the Sunday that has come to be known as Palm Sunday, because great multitudes sang "Hosanna" and made a carpet of their garments and palm branches for Jesus. The entry was truly triumphant, but not in the way they expected.

The city was full of pilgrims arriving for the Passover, and they were emotional as they approached the Temple. Their enthusiasm knew no bounds as the word got around that this was the Messiah. Most scholars agree that Jesus could have sparked an armed revolution against Rome, and there is no doubt that a great number of those who shouted and sang thought this was the movement they were joining.

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### THE DREAM OF THE PROMISED ONE

As we indicated earlier, we cannot understand the emotions of Palm Sunday without recalling the background of the hope of the Messiah. Since the days of the Exile, it was the dream of a restored monarchy and a Jewish king in Jerusalem that made life tolerable. In the days of the Babylonian captivity, the exiles came close to the breaking point many times. Their leaders kept their faith alive by recalling some of the promises God had made to the patriarchs and the days of the glory of King David and King Solomon. They told them that God would again put a king on the throne who would crush all their enemies and restore them to power.

In the early days there had been the dream of such glory; then the kingdom had come and lasted for such a short time under David and Solomon. So the prophets of the Exile dreamed of a kingdom that would be greater than they had ever known. Prophets like Nahum, Habbakuk and Jeremiah began to go beyond the idea of a Messiah for Israel. The idea grew, but the large majority of the people saw the dream as one of military and political restoration. It was difficult not to think in terms of revenge against one's ancient enemies and power for one's family and friends. It had been so long since they had known anything like this.

Several times in the centuries between the Exile and the birth of Jesus outstanding personalities had appeared on the scene and for a brief time seemed to fulfill the attributes of Messiahship. Some thought the Messiah would come leading the armies of heaven; others thought he would come primarily as a judge; while with others the figure of a king seemed appropriate. These ideas all had their champions in Jesus' day. This is why he frequently warned his followers not to tell what he had done or what he had told them. There was one party known as the Zealots, who were ready to achieve national deliverance by force. There are those who believe that Judas Iscariot was a Zealot and betrayed Jesus because he thought it would trigger the expected revolution.

There can be no doubt that Jesus came to regard himself as Messiah. His period of earthly ministry was devoted to telling his disciples what kind of Messiah he was to be. The Palm Sunday came and with it the moment of declaration.

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### NOT THE KIND OF MESSIAH THEY EXPECTED

When we read how Jesus' champions of the triumphal entry turned out to be "fair weather friends," we often become quite disturbed and ask, "How could they have been so blind?" We are inclined to say "How foolish they were?" And yet he was not the kind of Messiah they had expected.

The Jews of Jesus' day possessed a heritage that was more than eight centuries old which pictured a great leader coming to establish a mighty temporal kingdom. In the second century before Christ Antiochus had led the Jewish armies in campaigns which gave promise of liberation. He was regarded briefly as Messiah and several of the Psalms were inscribed to him.

Jesus did not fit their pattern. It would really have been impossible for them to have stuck with him. He rode on an animal that was the symbol of quietness, not on a war horse; palm branches not spears, were his escort; the songs of children, not the shout of soldiers, were his welcome. And yet he was kingly. Dr. George Buttrick says: "The root meaning of the word 'king' is 'the one who is able.' Christ is able to lift life above its low estate to an eternal verity. He is able to redeem its dross and make it kingly gold. He rules the world as light rules—with beauty and bounty."

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### THE PARABLE OF REJECTION

Jesus, who had used parables on many dramatic occasions, told another in the midst of the rapidly-developing events of the last week in Jerusalem. He said a man planted a vineyard, and then rented it out while he traveled in a far country. When the harvest approached he sent his servants to collect the rent. We read of their fate in today's Scripture material: "The tenants took the servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another" (Matt. 21:35) This is the story of the prophets who had come to call man to accountability for his stewardship.

Then, we read that the man sent his son, saying, "They will respect my son." However, the tenants believed that if they destroyed the son the property would be all theirs. This is the reaction of many who reject Jesus in our time. They think that they can get rid of him and then have their own way and their own will. **The Interpreter's Bible** points out that this parable is a symphony of the providence of God in the light of the freedom which he has given man. The major theme of the parable is the same as that of the events of the days about which we are studying. It points to the climactic rejection of Jesus in the crucifixion.

We should note that the conclusion of the parable promises swift judgment. Jesus said in so many of his parables that the world is of God, it is moral, and it does not tolerate immorality. Like the tenants we may defy God's spokesmen, but we do not break his law. Instead we are broken by it.

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### THE REJECTED CORNERSTONE

Jesus moved on to apply the parable to the events of his day, and we should note how we can apply them to the events of our time. He quoted Psalm 118:22, 23, which talked about the builders' rejecting a stone that ultimately would become the cornerstone. One commentator has observed, "It's interesting to note that these verses come just before those from the Psalms that the crowds were shouting at his triumphal entry."

Then, Jesus said, because the cornerstone has been rejected, the nation would also be rejected. The Kingdom would be taken away and given to others. This is a theme that is echoed throughout the writings of the Apostle Paul. Almost every sermon Paul preached had this as its central message—Israel has rejected her Messiah. However, before we take any kind of false pride in piling blame on the Jews, we should take a careful look at our own treatment of Jesus. Is it not true, that most of us have rejected him again and again?

There is a possibility in every one of us for praise or for rejection of the Lord Jesus Christ. God has given us every opportunity to respond with praise, yet we persist in rejecting him. Do not leave this lesson today pointing your finger of accusation at others. Look in the mirror, and say to the one you see there, "Thou art the man!"



# news and views

OF THE WORLD OF RELIGION

by doris woolard

Rabbi Joshua O. Haberman of the Washington Hebrew Congregation delivering a recent sermon at a White House religious service, labeled both ecumenical and international, noted that the major stumbling block or obstacle in the way of human progress is sin. He said, "Unmanageable youths are called 'maladjusted.' The cause of marital friction given as 'incompatibility,' and infidelity is attributed to 'indiscretion' or 'emotional immaturity.'" The Rabbi queried "Why all this verbal masquerade? What are we trying to hide?" "We are resisting responsibility . . . We are resisting the concept of accountability, the idea of sin, which would locate the stumbling block of evil within ourselves," Rabbi Haberman continued.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Washington, D.C. that opposition to all war is essential in qualifying a man for conscientious objector status. The 8 to 1 decision said that the basic test, despite religious convictions, is whether opposition applies to war in general. Therefore, the right of "selective objection," or opposition to "particular wars" such as Vietnam, was ruled unlawful. Written by Justice Thurgood Marshall, the majority opinion went against the expressed wish of several U.S. denominations.

Dr. Ernest L. Wilkinson has announced his resignation as president of Brigham Young University which is affiliated with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon). During the two decades of his administration, the university has grown to an enrollment of 25,000 day students and is now one of the largest private institutions in the U.S. About 90 per cent of the student body which represents 57 nations—is Mormon.

Pope Paul VI, speaking from his window overlooking St. Peter's Square before his customary Sunday noon blessing, March 7, urged that church construction be stepped up in Rome. Remarking that his stress on church building in a city which "tourists find already too full of churches," might come as a "surprise," the Pope said: "It is a fact, however, that Rome is in a process of continuous expansion, and there simply are not enough churches to accommodate the increasing population."

A computerized "job bank" listing nearly 7,000 missionary positions has been compiled by Intercristo, a non-profit, non-denominational group "dedicated to matching God's people with the world need." Intercristo was established in Seattle last year by a group of "concerned Christians" to spur mission activity in the Churches and among youth — and to serve as an international "placement agency" in the mission field. It is not affiliated with any denomination. More than 100 Christian agencies, mostly Protestant groups, are now filling positions through "Intermatch," the job placement facet of Intercristo.

Economics and availability finally caught up with the Catholic Church's insistence on olive oil as the only means for sacramental anointings. A new directive issued in Vatican City states that any vegetable oil may now be used in the composition of holy oil, previously blessed by a bishop and used symbolically in the sacraments of confirmation, baptism, ordination, and the anointing of the sick.

Steps to define a "tent-making ministry" for the Lutheran Church in America have been taken by the denomination's Executive Council. The Church is seeking to define the terms under which a clergyman may engage in another occupation and still be considered as having a call of service to the Church. Popularly known as "tent-making ministries" after the practice of the Apostle Paul who made tents to support himself, the practice was commended by a Commission on the study of the ministry.

The Lincolnia United Methodist Church, located just outside the Alexandria, Va. city limits, has what it thinks may be the answer for congregations worried about poor attendance on Sundays prior to the new Monday holidays. When three-day weekends occur—as on Washington's Birthday this year—Lincolnia church will have worship on Thursday evenings in addition to Sunday worship. The board said it was not going to give members an opportunity to say the church did not offer worship when they could attend.

English-speaking Christianity is currently marked by a lack of concern about the Old Testament and its authority, according to Dr. James Barr, British scholar from the University of Manchester. Speaking at an Anniversary Colloquium celebrating 25 years of "Interpretation," the quarterly journal of Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, a Presbyterian school, the specialist in Semitic languages explained how important the O.T. was in "neo-orthodox" theology, a term applied to a dominant stream of Protestant confessional thought which preceded the so-called "secular theology" of the 1960s. The theological centrality of the O.T. will have to be "restated for a new generation, which itself sets out from a different starting point and with a different idea of authority," Dr. Barr said.

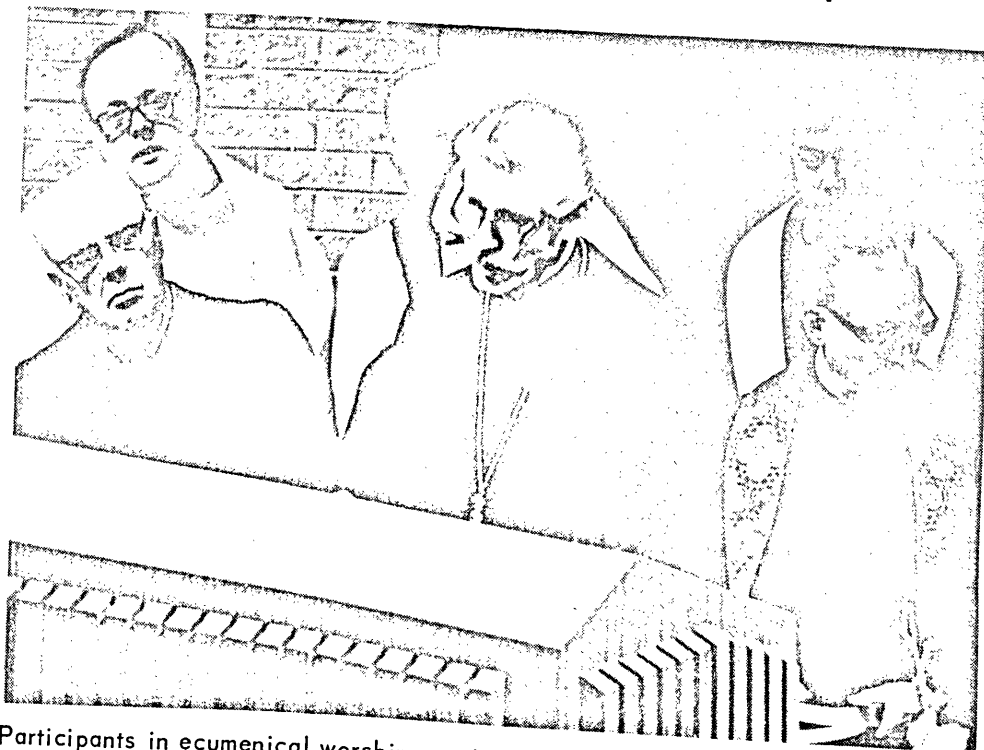
More pastors are needed to serve nearly 350,000 Finns who have migrated to Sweden, according to a committee for cooperation between the Churches of the two countries. Finns pay Swedish church taxes, but there are few Swedish pastors who know the Finnish language, the committee pointed out. Migration to Sweden is the result of heavy unemployment, especially in the northern part of Finland.

Churches which try to stand still in the modern world are "slowly committing suicide," Dr. Carl F. H. Henry, founding editor of Christianity Today and noted evangelical theologian said. Speaking at Eastern Mennonite College (Harrisonburg, Va.), Dr. Henry urged earnest and energetic commitment to social reform while advising churches not to identify with revolutionary causes concerned only with the overthrow of existing structures. He said the church must proclaim both "the God of justice and the God of justification and truth."

Vatican Radio has reported that Pope Paul VI has decided that a priest who has been dispensed from his priestly vows and obligations may perform only one function—"to hear the confessions of the dying." According to the papal decision, a broadcast said, former priests will not be permitted to undertake any other pastoral, liturgical, administrative or teaching duties within the Church.

The moderator of the United Presbyterian Church said during an interview in Detroit that his denomination is not prepared to accept the nine-Church merger proposed by the Consultation on Church Union (COCU). Dr. William R. Laws, minister of First Church in Columbus, Ind. for 21 years, said, "I am inclined to think that the national mood now makes church union very difficult if not impossible." He cited pressures from many areas to stay away from new bigness: The national Administration's move to share financing with the states, the spirit of "isolationism" which is fed by anti-Vietnam war protestors, coupled with the spirit of domestic isolationism among conservatives, and "regionalism," a move among Presbyterians and others to set up decentralized and stronger regional administrative units.

Reports reaching London said Gabon's President Albert Bernard Bongo has ordered all foreign Protestant pastors to leave the country by March 31. His order came after two councils of the Gabon Evangelical Protestant Church were dissolved. Gabon is the former French Equatorial Africa where the famed Albert Schweitzer conducted his medical mission for 50 years.



Participants in ecumenical worship service at First Baptist Church in Austin during recent Texas Conference of Churches' second meeting since its organization as an ecumenical body in 1969. FRONT ROW (l. to r.): Dr. Monroe Vivion, United Methodist clergyman and a TCC board member; Dr. Leonidas C. Contos, president of Greek Orthodox Hellenic College, Brookline, Mass., and Dr. Carl D. Burkle, United Church of Christ clergyman and TCC board member; BACK ROW: Father George H. Sallaway, Roman Catholic priest and TCC associate director; (partially obscured) the Rev. Reynell M. Parkins, Episcopal clergyman, and Otto J. Hoffman, Society of Friends, both members of TCC board, and Father Robert Flores, TCC associate director. (RNS Photo)

MARCH 25, 1971

# Editorial

## A CONCERN FOR ECOLOGICAL MORALITY

Voices are being lifted from all sides to remind us that Christian stewardship must concern itself with resisting the threats to the environment in our day. Institutions of the church are being asked to take a new look at the businesses in which their funds are invested, and individual Christians are being challenged to become aware of their responsibilities for clean air, clear water, and a clean earth.

A long-accepted maxim states that "Nothing is as powerful as an idea whose time has come." There can be no denying that this is the day of ecology — a time when all good men are being called to the aid of clean air, clean water and a clean earth.

Prophets have cried out before concerning industrial, public and private practices of pollution, but it has been only recently that they could see evidences of being taken seriously. Having felt for so long that they were "voices crying in the wilderness," they can now feel the rallying of supporting forces behind them. Ecology has now become one of the major concerns of Christian stewardship.

In a recent news release concerning the manner in which some church property was being disposed of in Milwaukee we saw the use of the term "ecological morality." We were reminded that such terminology might be applicable to any number of confrontations about which we have been hearing. Among these calling us to carefully re-evaluate our stewardship are:

—The struggle concerning the construction of an oil pipe line across the state of Alaska. Here a number of very harmful effects are anticipated from the flow of hot oil across the frozen subsoil. It is also believed that a number of things could happen that would be destructive of the wild life that is native to Alaska.

—The debate in Congress over the development of the Super Sonic Transport (SST) plane. Persons on both sides of this long and bitter struggle are carefully re-examining their positions on this issue. Some tell us that the equilibrium of our atmosphere is threatened while others affirm that world leadership in the aviation industry is in jeopardy.

As is often true, the debate is so loud and so long that it is difficult for the average citizen to make up his mind. However, this does not free us from an obligation to weigh these opposing positions in a spirit of Christian stewardship.

—The rapid deterioration of our bodies of water brings us to another area in which we are forced to do some prayerful thinking. Lakes and streams are moving toward a "Dead Sea" status because of wastes being dumped into them. As Christians with a sense of responsibility for all the resources God has put at our disposal we face the challenge of becoming better stewards. This problem has so many implications that none of us can hide from the challenge to discover the truth and then act with Christian conviction.

—Some months ago we read of the conflict that developed in southern Florida concerning the construction of a giant airport on the edge of the Everglades. Under construction before a large part of the population were aware of it, this project threatened the wildlife in that strategic Florida wildlife habitat. Fortunately aroused opinion was registered and the planners were told to look elsewhere for a site.

—"Strip coal mining" is another kind of environmental disturbance which is coming in for serious consideration, especially in the enforcement of regulations regarding the rehabilitation of the land. It is our understanding that most states have laws that would protect the land if they were enforced. Here again stewardship principles are being seen in a new light.

—A great deal is being said and many groups are taking positive action about the litter across our land. The question of just what kind of containers should be used in packaging popular products is being raised. Technological advancements have released on the market a floodtide of cheap packaging materials, and we are being told that these are a threat to our environment. Some feel that the answer is in re-cycling glass, metal and paper products, and a few pioneers have already moved into this field.

—Studies have been underway for several years concerning the use of certain insecticides. A number of guidelines have already been developed because of some side-effects on beneficial insects and the polluting influence of some of the chemicals on the streams near agricultural lands.

We have mentioned but a few of the areas of activity in which men and women of real dedication have "zeroed in" on the ecological problems of our time. As we look at this list and think in terms of the guardianship of the natural resources we must surely see that this is a part of our Christian stewardship responsibility.

*ack*

†

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## Preparation for Annual Conferences

When does Annual Conference begin? For some it is the moment at which the bishop raps the gavel and announces the singing of the traditional hymn, "And Are We Yet Alive." For others who have advance responsibilities Conference begins long before that.

Over a number of years we have been impressed with the care being taken to get delegates ready for Conference. It has been our privilege to participate in a number of planning meetings during the past few weeks looking toward the 1971 sessions.

For a number of years we have had the assistance of the Pre-Conference Journal. The placing of the printed reports in the hands of the delegates in advance of the session has made it possible for the proposals to receive much more careful consideration when they come before the body.

As we attend the mid-year board meetings we begin to feel something of the seriousness with which these agencies approach their responsibilities. This year the meetings in Louisiana were especially significant as the agencies of Louisiana Conference A and Louisiana Conference B looked ahead to their merger session in June. They met together separately to write their final reports and then in joint sessions to begin their planning for the new Conference.

The boards and agencies of the Little Rock and North Arkansas Conferences held their meetings during February, and it was again our privilege to meet with a number of their groups. In every instance, this editor felt a sense of pride in the opportunity that is his to be a part of all these carefully-planned meetings which contribute so much to the implementation of the mission of the church.

Just ahead are planned meetings to give the lay delegates to Annual Conference an opportunity for advance discussions of what will be before them at Conference. Many of our districts will have such meetings, and we know that they will make a real contribution to the sessions and the decisions made there.

†

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## Arkansas Methodist Children's Home

The following people gave memorial gifts to the Methodist Children's Home in February as a tribute of their love, sympathy, and respect for a loved one or friend. A memorial card has been sent to the family notifying them of this remembrance.

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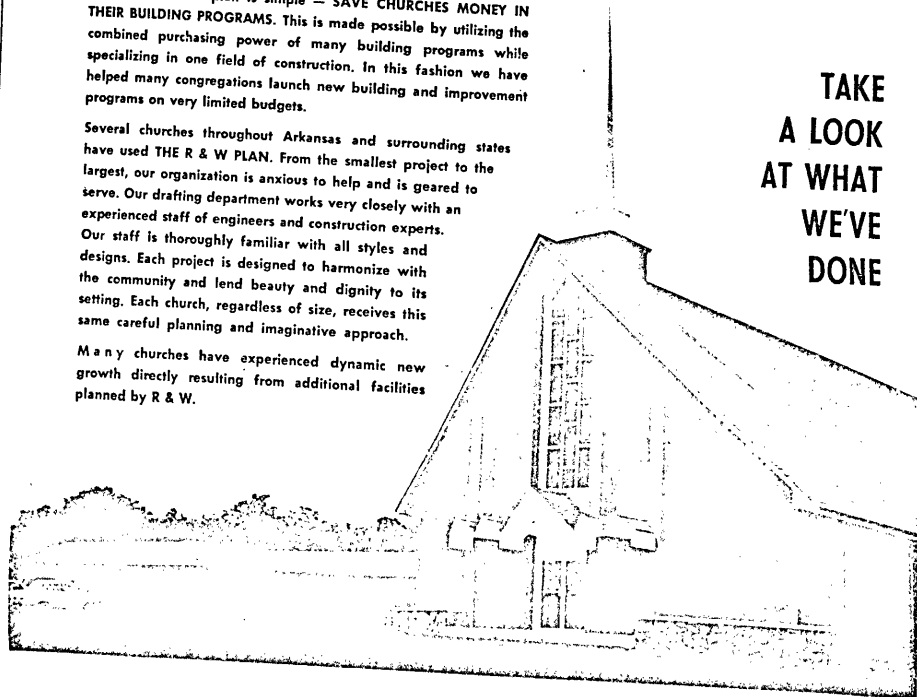
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DONE





## Poetry Panorama

by Barbara L. Mulkey

*Part of a statement of faith, written as a conclusion to a group discussion on religion as a source of happiness and joy, reads . . . "Self-sacrifice is necessary for happiness . . . Suffering is not good in itself, but it shifts our expectations for happiness from without to within."*

### TO THE VALIANT

This is courage: A quiet thing -  
No trumpets blare, no bells ring.  
A secret flame within the soul  
Imparts the strength to live the role  
By Fate decreed.

This is courage: A lonely thing -  
Forged in the crucible of suffering,  
Of inner battles, fought and won.  
A scarlet banner proudly flung  
Into the face of adversity  
And nameless fears.

This is courage: A lovely thing -  
The Spirit's finest offering  
Of selfless sacrifice and loss.  
A radiant bearing of the Cross  
To distant hill -  
Where, starkly stripped of all pretense,  
Vulnerable, without defense  
To meet the challenge -  
Quite alone.

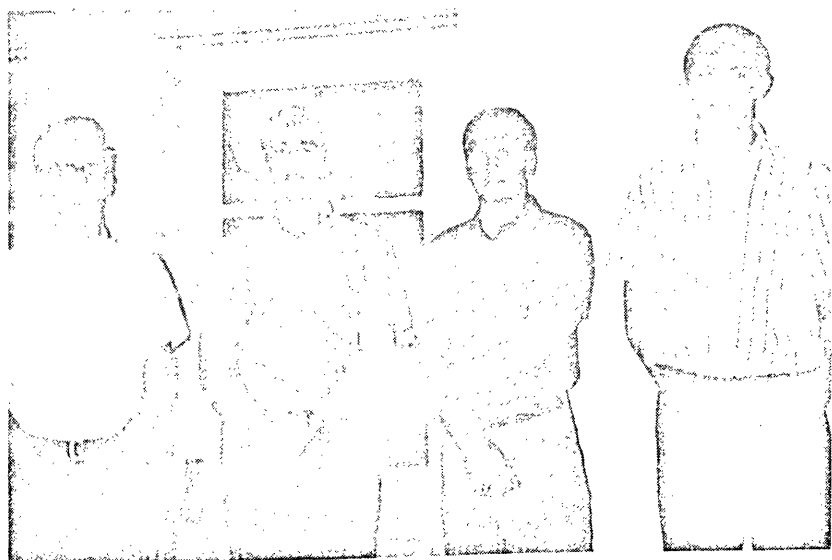
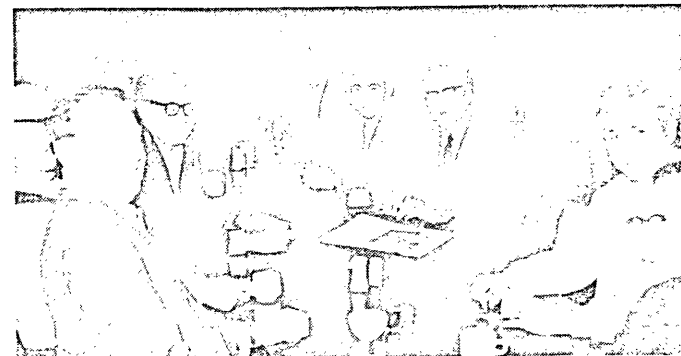
-by Dorothy Price Scheckenbach



AT RIGHT: Two scenes from the March 5-6 Fayetteville District Pastors' Retreat held at Mt. Sequoyah Assembly. District Superintendent Myers B. Curtis (third from right, upper photo) sponsored the Retreat. A resource team from the Department of Drug Education from the Governor's office, directed by Jack Rorex, provided leadership for the program.



Organizers for the current building program at Hope First United Methodist Church are (left to right): Don Johnson, vice-chairman of mechanics; Lloyd Hendrix, chairman of organizational personnel; Wayne Russell, vice-chairman of visitation; and George Frazier, vice-chairman of education. (Mrs. Albert Graves is vice-chairman of women's work). The Rev. Norris Steele is pastor.



The Quitman Methodist Men's Club recently honored the Quitman High School Class B 1971 State Championship Boys' Basketball team, along with the Girls' team and cheerleaders, at a hamburger supper. Pictured here are three "starters" on the Quitman Wolverine team who are members of the United Methodist Church. FROM LEFT: Lee Humble, Tommy Logan, (Tommy Spinks, former Louisiana Tech University football star, who was guest speaker for the occasion), and Shelby Green. The Rev. Otha Strayhorn is pastor of the Quitman Circuit.

Thirteen-years-old Thomas Duncan Huntley III is the regular pianist at Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church in Pine Bluff District. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Huntley and his brother, Eddie, are also leaders in the Mt. Carmel church. The Rev. Louis L. Averitt is pastor of the Rison-Mt. Carmel Charge.

