

Arkansas Methodist

90th YEAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1971

NO. 15

Hendrix names new board members



Jordan



Teitell

Bachrach Photo

At its meeting on April 1, the Hendrix College Board of Trustees elected Conrad Teitell, an attorney of New York, a member-at-large of the Board. The Rev. Ben F. Jordan, pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Conway, was nominated as a ministerial member of the Board representing the North Arkansas Conference. Mr. Jordan's nomination will be sub-

mitted to the North Arkansas Conference at its meeting in June for its approval.

Teitell is the senior member of the law firm of Pirerau and Teitell, 280 Park Ave., New York. He holds the A.B. degree from The University of Michigan, the LL. B. degree from Columbia University and the LL. M.

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Retired Ministers' Sunday to be observed

by the Rev. George G. Meyer
Chairman, Conference Board
of Pensions

Sunday, April 18 has been designated as Retired Ministers' Sunday. It is good to take the occasion of the first Sunday after Easter to say "thank you" to our retired ministers, their wives and widows. Truly ours is a precious heritage.

There are sixty-one ministers and sixty-one widows of Methodist preachers who have retired from the Little Rock Conference after serving a total of 3523.25 years in the Little Rock Conference. Another thirty-nine preachers, and thirty-seven widows of retired Methodist preachers have served 782 years in the Little Rock Conference but were retired by other Annual Conferences.

Dr. E. Clifton Rule has the distinction of serving the highest number of years in the Little Rock Conference,

having a service record of 48.50 years.

The Rev. John L. Hoover runs a close second with 47.50 years credit. Dr. James Thomas, whose widow sur-

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Size of General and Jurisdictional Conference delegations announced

The secretary of the General Conference, Dr. J. Wesley Hole, has announced the number of delegates which each Annual Conference will elect this year to represent them at the 1972 General and Jurisdictional Conferences.

The North Arkansas Conference will elect eight delegates to General Conference—four ministers and four laymen—and will elect an additional eight delegates to Jurisdictional Conference. (In 1968 North Arkansas elected six delegates to General Conference and an additional ten to Jurisdictional Conference. This means they will have two more General Conference delegates than in 1968 but will have the same number in the Jurisdictional Conference, a total of 16).

The Little Rock Conference will elect six delegates to General Conference—three ministers and three laymen—and will elect an additional eight delegates to Jurisdictional Conference. (In 1968 the Little Rock Conference had six delegates to General Conference and an additional six as delegates to Jurisdictional Conference. This means they will have the same number of General Conference delegates but will be represented in the 1972 Jurisdictional Conference by two additional delegates—a total of 14).

The Southwest Annual Conference will have two delegates—one minister and one layman—in both the General and Jurisdictional Conference.

According to the information from Dr. Hole the total delegation in the General Conference will be 998, with 130 of these delegates coming from former Evangelical United Brethren membership.

The total, which is just two short of the maximum size of 1,000 delegates for General Conference as set by the Constitution, will be selected on the ratio of 87 percent former Methodist and 13 percent former Evangelical United Brethren. The 998 delegates will be half clergy and half laymen.

The figures which have been prepared and given to the Annual Conference secretaries "are binding and cannot be changed," Dr. Hole explained.

According to the Constitution each Annual Conference is entitled to elect as delegates one minister and one layman for the first 46,200 church members and one additional minister and layman for each major fraction thereof. The conferences will also elect as delegates one minister and layman for every 148 ministerial members of the Annual Conference and one additional minister and layman for each major fraction thereof.

The number of delegates which each Annual Conference is entitled to elect to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences was computed on the basis of statistics as of Dec. 31, 1969, according to Dr. Hole.

†

WHEATLEY SANCTUARY IS DEDICATED

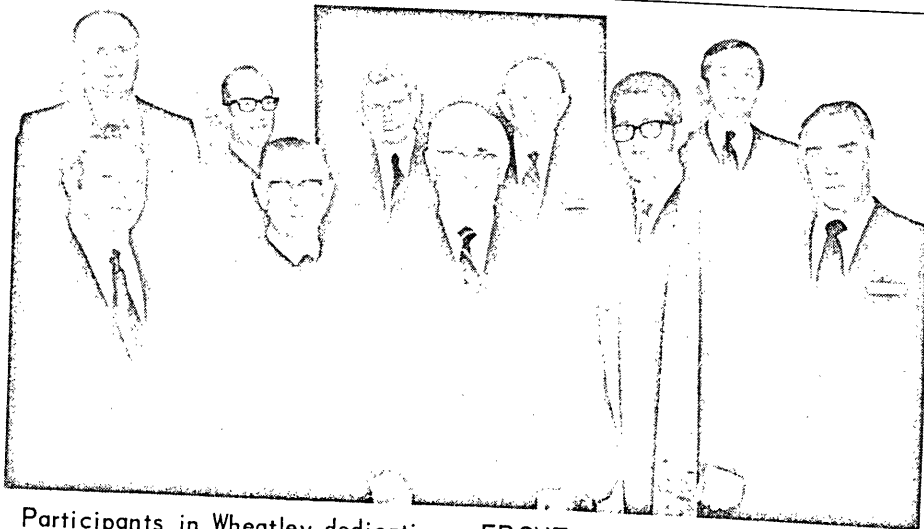
The sanctuary of Wheatley United Methodist Church in the Forrest City District was dedicated on Sunday, March 21. Bishop Paul V. Galloway conducted the service assisted by Dr. Ethan W. Dodgen, Forrest City District Superintendent, and the Rev. Jerry Nichols, the Wheatley pastor.

Many visiting friends and former members joined the congregation for the service and for the luncheon served by the Wheatley ladies following the worship hour.

The new building was constructed in 1965 at a cost of \$56,000, and opened for use in the fall of this year. Members and friends cooperated enthusiastically in clearing the indebtedness on the building on March 9 of this year.

The Building Committee which planned and guided the construction

Please turn to page 2



Participants in Wheatley dedication. FRONT: (l. to r.): the Rev. John Jump, former pastor; Dr. Ethan W. Dodgen, Forrest City District superintendent; Bishop Paul V. Galloway; the Rev. Jerry Nichols, present pastor; the Rev. Gale Anderson, former pastor; BACK ROW: Building Committee Members R. E. Short, Harry Hardwick, Ellis Williamson, N. B. Monroe, and W. L. Horner, Jr.

ARKANSAS NATIVE TO RECEIVE HONORARY DEGREE

According to a recent story in **The Texas Methodist**, the Rev. Kelly Williams, pastor of Chapelwood United Methodist Church, Houston, Tex., and a native of Stephens, Ark., will be one of five persons to receive honorary degrees from Southwestern University, Georgetown, Tex. on May 6.

Since his appointment to the Houston church in 1958 it has grown to a membership of 3200 and leads the Texas Conference in per capita giving.

Others to receive degrees at the convocation are: Miss Ima Hogg, Houston, Tex., founder of the Houston Child Guidance Center and the Hogg Foundation of Mental Health; the Rev. Josue Gonzales, district superintendent of the Northern District of the Rio Grande Conference; Francis Warren Roberts, director of the Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas; and George Lescher MacGregor, chairman of the board of the Texas Utilities Company.

†

from page one **HENDRIX**

degree from New York University. He is the director of the American Academy of Fund Raising Sciences and is an outstanding authority on estate planning.

Rev. Jordan is a graduate of Hendrix College and Perkins School of Theology. He has served as Superintendent of the Conway District of the United Methodist Church and has been the pastor of Methodist churches in Newport, Osceola, Jonesboro and Monette.

†

from page one **WHEATLEY**

of the sanctuary included: Ira Wheeler, chairman; Harry Hardwick, secretary and Building Fund treasurer; R. E. Short, Ellis Williamson, Norville Monroe, W. L. Horner, Jr., P. K. Buerkle, Horace Oehlschlager and Howard Williamson.

†

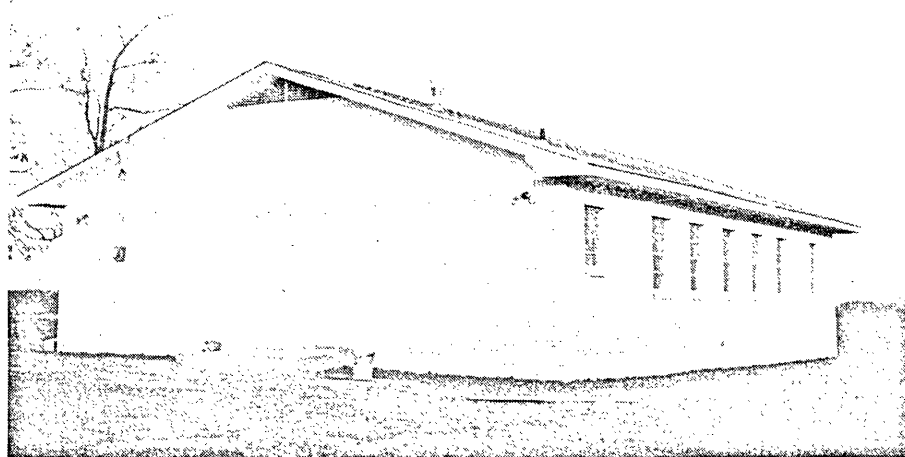
DRUG ABUSE EMPHASIS AT FAIRVIEW, CAMDEN

A program on "Drug Abuse" presented in Fairview United Methodist Church of Camden, March 28, was sponsored by the Women's Society of Christian Service. In an effort to present different aspects of the problem, panelists represented the user, a social worker, and members of the law enforcement and medical professions.

The Rev. Thomas A. Abney, pastor, served as moderator for these speakers: Horace Anthony of Hope, a former addict; Barnett J. Weiss, formerly associated with Phoenix House in New York City, a rehabilitation center for drug addicts; E. H. "Tank" Harrison, a police officer from Memphis; and Dr. James Guthrie, a Camden physician.

Mrs. Lamar Walker is chairman of the WSCS Christian social relations task group which sponsored the program.

PAGE TWO



Rhea Church

Rhea Church dedicated

The United Methodist Church in the Rhea's Mill Community of the Fayetteville District was recently dedicated by Bishop Paul V. Galloway, assisted by Dr. Myers B. Curtis, Fayetteville District Superintendent, the Rev. Woodrow Woods, pastor of the Lincoln Parish and the Rev. L. A. Peters, pastor of the Rhea Church.

The church was completed in December, 1970, replacing one which was totally destroyed by a tornado on June 11, 1970.

A number of memorials and special gifts have been made to assist in the construction. Several presentations

were made during the Service of Dedication. Dr. Curtis presented the church secretary, Gordon Hartley, a check for \$1,000 from the North Arkansas Conference. Mr. Woods presented Bishop Galloway a gavel made out of wood taken from the old church building.

Mrs. Edna Luginbuel presented a pulpit Bible from the Wesleyan Service Guild of the Lincoln United Methodist Church. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Hutchins gave a guest record book and a stand in honor of their parents.

†

Methodist Hospital lays plans for further expansion

The Board of Managers of Methodist Hospital has ratified and approved its Executive Committee's recommendation to proceed immediately with further steps that could lead to the establishment of a 200-bed hospital and doctors' office building in the Whitehaven area. For the past few months Methodist Hospital has been cooperating with professional consultants and research specialists in determining the feasibility of such a facility. The findings supported the need. An architect has been engaged to develop and design documents whereby exact costs can be computed. Should the Board of Trustees and Managers then approve the findings, construction could begin by July 1, 1971.

LAWRENCE FELLOWSHIP HALL DEDICATED AT WATSON

Bishop Paul V. Galloway brought the dedication message in a service at the United Methodist Church in Watson on Sunday afternoon, March 28. Dr. Raymond Franks, Monticello District superintendent, assisted in the ceremony.

The Rev. Charlie Lawrence of Horatio, for whom Lawrence Fellowship Hall was named, brought the morning sermon. At the noon dinner in the hall, the guests honored Mr. Lawrence on his 76th birthday.

Mrs. Garland Thompson, WSCS president, was in charge of the tea which followed the afternoon ceremony. The Rev. Fred L. Arnold of Dumas is serving the Watson Church.

The anticipated \$11,000,000 non-profit hospital will be located on a 10-acre tract within the heart of Whitehaven. C. H. Hottum, Administrator, said: "We feel that in order for a hospital to maintain its position as the health-care center of the community, it must find ways to provide health care conveniently and economically." The multi-unit system of health-care delivery has been evolving for more than 25 years. This concept will insure the public of instant quality care, because the unit hospital becomes an extension of the central unit's degree of service. This eliminates the need for the public to have to wait and suffer while a new and struggling hospital may spend years in developing an accredited source of medical care. The hospital to be located one block south of Raines Road and slightly east of Highway 51, will place a full-service, health-care facility accessible to the

MRS. LOUISE BROOKS BEASLEY

Mrs. Louise Brooks Beasley, 90, died April 3. She was the widow of Sid Beasley and the mother of the Rev. Robert S. Beasley, retired member of the Little Rock Annual Conference.

The funeral service was conducted at Gross Mortuary Chapel, Hot Springs, April 5, with Dr. George F. Ivey of First United Methodist Church, Hot Springs, officiating.

She was born in Searcy, Ark., June 18, 1880, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Black. Her parents moved to Hot Springs before she was old enough to enter school. She was graduated from Hot Springs High School in the class of 1900.

She taught school for three years before her marriage in 1902. She taught in Gardner Grammar School, Hot Springs, and at Wrightsville and Sherrill.

As a young person in high school she joined First Methodist Church, Hot Springs, when it was Central Methodist Church. For many years she was a member of the Missionary Society, now the WSCS, and the Philathea Bible Class. She was one of the oldest members of the Hospital Circle of the Eastern Star.

Other survivors are two sons, William G. Beasley and Edward L. Beasley, and a daughter, Mrs. Louise Sewell, all of Hot Springs, and eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

†

Whitehaven community and residents of South Shelby and DeSoto Counties. This area has experienced phenomenal population growth in the last few years.

Leslie Stratton, III, President of the Board of Trustees, said: "We have a fine Board of Managers and Trustees here at Methodist Hospital, and this decision demonstrates the concern and responsibility which this institution feels in providing a health-care delivery system of which the entire Mid-South area can be proud."

Upon completion of such a project, the number of beds within the Methodist Hospital complex would rise to a total of 1167 and will make it the largest Methodist Hospital in the United States. This includes 150 sub-acute beds now under construction in the form of the J. M. Crews Memorial Wing at Union and Bellevue.

†

International counselors available for Aldersgate

The counseling program at Aldersgate Camp, Little Rock, will be enlarged this summer to include three international students, if the challenge from this institution is answered.

The overseas counselor will serve on the staff of Aldersgate provided some individuals, youth groups or churches help with the \$450.00 needed to help pay the expenses of each. Camp America, the sponsoring agency, will bear the rest of the expense involved. One student is from England, one from Italy, and one from Sweden.

The Rev. Jon Guthrie of Conway,

chairman of the Personnel Committee for Aldersgate, said of this challenge: "One of the strengths of the Aldersgate Camp summer program is credited to the quality of its counselors, their commitment and ability. The possibility of adding an international dimension to the counseling staff promises to make this summer even better."

Those who wish to have a part in this project should contact Ray Tribble, Camp Director, 2000 Aldersgate Road, Little Rock 72205, or telephone 225-1444.

APRIL 15, 1971

Editorial

THE CHRISTIAN QUEST FOR ORDER IN OUR WORLD

Christian concern is mounting for guidelines which will help bring order out of the chaos and tension that are pulling our world apart. Increasingly the newspapers and the news programs of television and radio tell us of people who are searching desperately for solutions to our problems. These media join with the religious periodicals in telling us how urgent these needs are and how essential it is that we find solutions to those problems which are threatening world order in our day. Christian leaders are convinced that they have a responsibility for discovering God's will for these troubled spots—particularly Indochina and the Middle East—and for involving themselves in the human situation in our own land in such a way that peace may result.

We have a feeling that people are becoming involved in the status of world affairs in a commendable way. Despite some voices that would tell us that the mass media are manipulating us, an increasing number of us are seeing that it is through these methods of modern communication that we are being made a part of events as they occur around the world. It is because we are all so close to the problem that we cannot dodge the responsibility to be a part of the solution.

In our time the church has realized, as never before, that she cannot fulfill her obligations to either God or man by just being narrowly concerned about so-called "religious" or "spiritual" realities. Scientific developments have taken place faster than our minds can comprehend them. We have come to see the vastness of the problems of human relations both at home and around the world. We have realized that the problems of one nation are the problems of all the nations, and most of us have accepted the fact that the Christian faith has an obligation to speak and the resources with which to speak to the world challenges of the hour.

To this end, we feel that we should underscore some of the basic guidelines which should

help us as we seek to keep our Christianity relevant to the issues of the day. It seems to us that these are fundamentals of our faith.

First, God is the creator of all things, including all the races of men. Despite any effort to turn us from that reality, we must not be diverted. There are no favored nations—no races that are inherently superior. Occasionally we receive some correspondence which questions the concept of "the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man," but we still contend that this is a primary teaching of the New Testament.

The second guideline concerns the precepts of redemption and reconciliation. At the heart of the Gospel is the good news that God came to earth in human form in Jesus of Nazareth. Since he came as a representative of all men and all peoples, he challenges us to be concerned about building bridges across the chasms that divide men.

There are two sides to the redemptive and reconciliatory process in which all men should take part. One involves a new relationship with God and the other a new attitude toward one's fellow man. Referring to the teachings of Paul, someone has said: "Because they are descended from the first Adam, all men are brothers; because Jesus Christ, the 'second Adam,' calls all men into a new relationship with God, all men are called to a new spirit of brotherliness one to another."

The third guideline is that of the kingdom of God. Jesus did some of his most effective teaching in this area. Through many of his parables he visualized what

the world would be like if the will of God became the major force which motivated people. When we face a challenge concerning the problems of the world, do we dare ask, "What would God want me to do in this situation?" If we only would, we could have a far more effective part in the solutions of problems and the building of the right kind of world.

We have a feeling that in the weeks and months immediately ahead Christians are going to be faced with greater challenges than they have known in a long time. The fundamentals of our faith will provide the foundations on which we act and build.

Surely the church realizes, as never before, that she cannot fulfill her obligations to either God or man by being concerned for "religious" or "spiritual" matters, narrowly conceived. Men are not only religious and spiritual beings, but they are also political and physical ones. We who are a part of the church should have long since discovered that we cannot draw artificial lines between the sacred and the secular. God created it all, and he is greatly concerned about progress in every area of life. We must be aware of the challenges that face us in every area of life.

These are exciting days, and we should be thankful that we have the opportunity to make our Christian witness just now.

ask

the Editor's Corner



Recollections of Passover and Easter

Last week our Lion's Club in Little Rock turned us in the direction of the Jewish Passover under the able leadership of our speaker, Rabbi Elijah E. Palnick of Temple B'nai Israel. This excellent presentation turned our thoughts back to some World War II experiences and to some close ties which we have had with Jewish friends and congregations throughout a good part of our ministry.

In 1944, we were stationed with units of the Fifth Air Force at Nadzab, New Guinea. This was probably the busiest air base in the Southwest Pacific at that time and we were having an enriching ministry. We had just finished a new chapel building and would hold first services in it on Easter.

However, on Friday evening we were guests, with all the other chaplains in the area, at the Seder meal celebrating the Jewish Passover. This was probably the largest single Jewish gathering anywhere in the Southwest Pacific during the entire war. It was truly one of the high spiritual moments of the war years.

It was made more meaningful on the following Easter when we were conducting the first service in our new chapel, and my Jewish roommate let me know that he expected to be a part of my Easter service. When I expressed surprise, he said, "Why are you surprised? You went with me to the Passover Seder. Why should I not attend your Easter service?"

The following year we were a few miles up the New Guinea coast on the little island of Wakde. Here we inherited the responsibilities for Passover services when the Jewish chaplain who had made most elaborate plans and was transferred at the last moment. We will always be grateful to our Jewish chaplain's assistant who guided us through those challenging days.

These and other experiences in the chaplaincy—plus a number of warm Jewish friendships through the years—have helped this writer feel that he has warm ties with many Jewish friends.

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news and views

OF THE WORLD OF RELIGION

by doris woolard

The American Bible Society has sold or given away nearly 2 million copies of its 1971 Daily Bible Reading plan—more than twice the number supplied in the previous year, according to Miss Clarice Franklin, editor of Bible reading materials. Response to radio announcements and newspaper and magazine ads rose as high as 1,500 orders in a single day. One hundred college publications were among media carrying the print ad which featured photos of three leading rock groups, bearing the headline, "Look Who Reads The Bible." Requests for the plan have come from people in all walks of life, Miss Franklin said. Among them are a Nevada State Prison inmate, a Bible study leader in Ohio, a Roman Catholic hospital nun in California and an Army transportation staff sergeant.

Delegates to the annual meeting of the American Baptist Convention will be asked to approve a resolution advocating "immediate action to avoid the collapse of our health services," according to a news release. The resolution cites a shortage of doctors, nurses, and para-medical personnel, inadequacies in the delivery of health care and preventive medicine, and rising costs of health care as "basic problems" for the nation's health services. The resolution urges Baptists to become actively involved in the national discussion leading to change in organization, financing, and delivery of health care. The document states further, "We urge the President, the Congress and the American people to act immediately to alleviate the crisis in our medical system," and calls for a "total reorientation of the U.S. system of health services."

Glenn L. Archer, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, says three cases now before the Supreme Court are the most important church-state cases in 20 years. The cases—one from Pennsylvania, one from Connecticut, and one from Rhode Island—raise the issue of the constitutionality of government grants to church schools. "Now we have the issue of direct government subsidy to sectarian schools squarely before the Court," Archer said. "If we are to break with our own tradition and revert to the kind of church-state union of former times and civilizations the Court should unequivocally say so. The Court should announce the break clearly and honestly." "On the other hand," he continued, "if we are to resist the mounting clerical pressures for church school subsidies, we need a clear re-affirmation of separation of church and state from the Court."

Africans are increasingly turning from tribal religion to Christianity but on their own terms, a Kenya church leader said. The Rev. John G. Gatu of Nairobi, general secretary of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa, said the Christian faith is welcomed among the African people because it cuts across national lines and is adaptable to changing times. But, he added, Africans are including their own forms of expression in worship. He said African tribal worship has much in common with Christianity before the Emperor Constantine (in the early 300s) made it the "state religion of Rome." The clergyman said his people find the sacrifice of Jesus easy to accept since the idea of sacrificing an individual for the good of the community is found in traditional tribal worship.

"The Cross and the Switchblade," a religious-oriented film starring Pat Boone, is the biggest box office hit since "Airport" at a plush suburban theater in Fort Worth, Tex., according to manager Bill Ellis. The movie, based on the book by the Rev. David L. Wilkerson of New York, is the second highest grosser since the Cinema I and Cinema II theaters opened there in December, 1969. In "the film, Wilkerson, An Assemblies of God clergyman, describes his work with drug-oriented youths in the New York ghettos. Ellis said owners of the theaters have shown surprise that a "religious" film proved more popular than the more "spicy" movie fare offered these days.

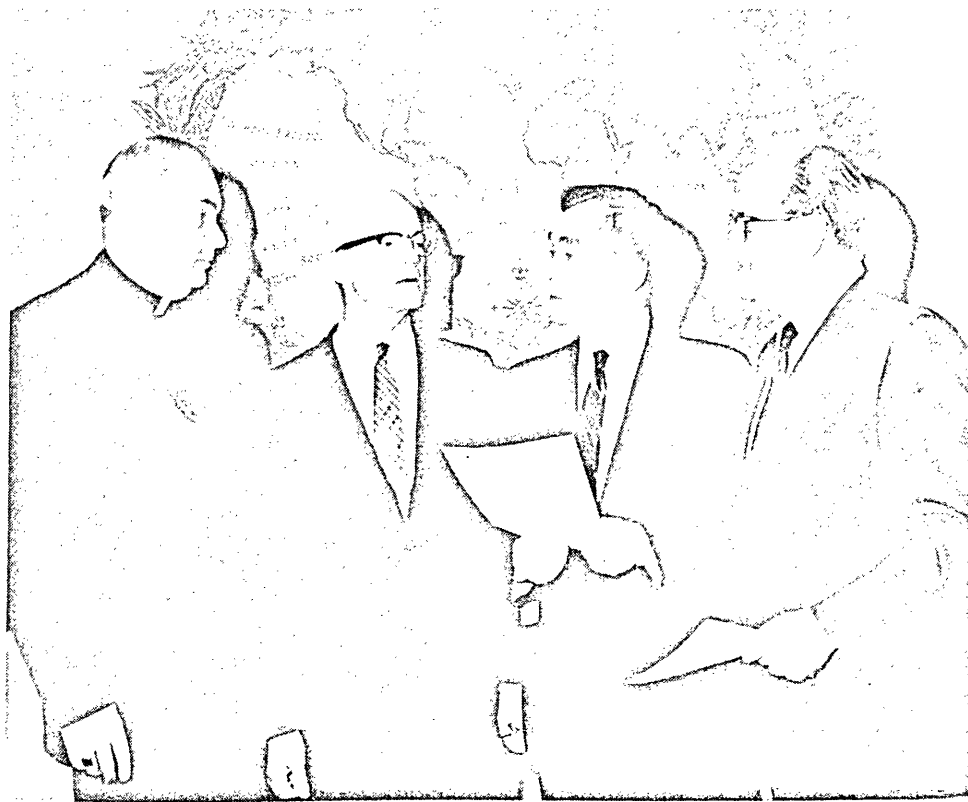
American Lutheran congregations are being asked to designate May 2 as a day of special prayers for peace. Members of the 4,848 congregations are being asked to pray for prisoners of war, persons missing in action, military chaplains and "all the other innocents who suffer the consequences of war."

Protestant and Roman Catholic officials have joined with leaders of the three branches of American Judaism in asking the Soviet Union to review its policies toward Jews and remove the "cruel vestiges of Stalin's rule." The request was addressed to the Congress of the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R. Support for the appeal was given by Dr. R. H. Edwin Espy, general secretary of the Nat'l. Council of Churches, and Bishop Joseph L. Bernardin, general secretary of the U.S. Catholic Conference. The document said "Jews are listed in their identity papers as a nationality, and yet are denied all the facilities to which nationalities are entitled. Their cultural institutions remain closed. Very few of the religious denominations in the Soviet Union are as circumscribed and deprived of facilities as the Jewish faith."

"To excuse parents of parochial school pupils from paying public school taxes ignores the fact that public schools have never been sustained by taxes levied upon parents as such," said Dr. Jimmy R. Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Convention of Texas. Dr. Allen said, "People with no children at all have always been required to pay taxes for schools, just as those who do have children . . . Education is, in fact, the most important public service the nation offers."

"Oracle," an underground newspaper from Haight-Asbury's "flower power" and drug days, is resuming publication as a "Jesus paper," a type of publication growing with the "Jesus People" movement. All rights to "Oracle," which reportedly once had an underground circulation of 100,000, have been transferred to Harvest House, a Christian commune. Its former editor, David Abraham, joined the "Jesus People" last Fall. There are "dozens of underground-type newspapers published by street Christians in the U.S. and Canada," according to Christianity Today, the evangelical magazine based in Washington, D.C. A "Jesus News Service International" has been organized in Berkeley to link the papers, according to Christianity Today.

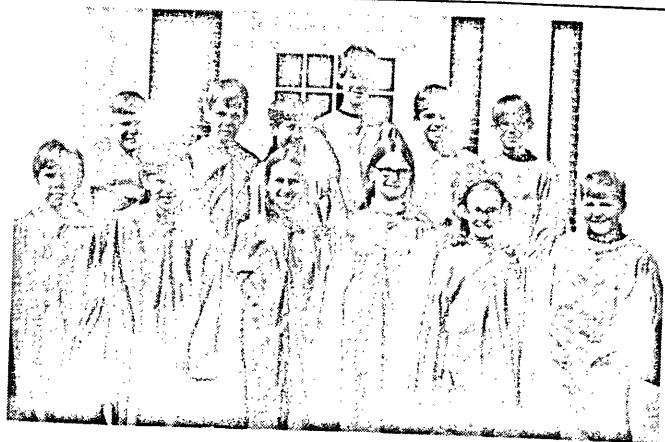
The 1970 census figures will show that more American Indians now live off reservations than on, the first Indian staff member of a national Lutheran organization predicted. Despite his move to the city, the typical urban Indian still regards the reservation as his home, said Eugene Crawford, a Sisseton Sioux Indian who on Jan. 1 became associate secretary for Indian services, Lutheran Council in the U.S.A. "If the Indian is allowed to direct his own destiny, he will make it," Crawford said. "But it will take 2½ to 3 generations."



NEW YORK — Four leading U.S. churchmen appear at a New York news conference to announce a two-week mission to Southeast Asia, hopefully to be climaxed in Hanoi, in an effort to press for peace and the release of prisoners of war. From left are Roman Catholic Archbishop Joseph Ryan of Anchorage; Dr. George Sweazey, immediate past-moderator of the United Presbyterian Church; Dr. Jacob A. O. Preus, president of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and Dr. Nathan Bailey, president of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. Although the men plan to visit several countries in an attempt to meet with representatives of both North Vietnam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam (Viet Cong), Dr. Preus said that they have received no assurance that they will be received by Communist officials. The group also plans to stop in Paris to meet with participants in the stalemated peace talks and hopes for an audience with Pope Paul at the Vatican. (RNS Photo)



Kathy White, 17, an active member of the Youth Council in First United Methodist Church, North Little Rock, was selected from sixty contestants to represent Arkansas in America's Junior Miss Pageant which will be held in Mobile, Ala. in May. Kathy, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken White of North Little Rock, is a member of the National Honor Society, a Y-Teen and a cheerleader. She plays the piano and the guitar, sings with various church and civic groups, and is a ballerina. She plans to attend the U. of Arkansas at Fayetteville in the Fall.



Members of the Confirmation Class at Huntington Avenue Church in Jonesboro, received into the church on Palm Sunday following nine weeks of study and preparation. Fourteen young men and women completed the course. The Rev. W. Leonard Byers is pastor.

News In Brief

A FORMER HIGHLANDS pastor, the Rev. Rufus Sorrells of Osceola, will be guest speaker for the April 19 meeting of United Methodist Men at Highlands Church, Little Rock.

TRI-COUNTY LAYMEN are holding the dinner meeting tonight, April 15, at First United Methodist Church in Morrilton. Bill Pate of Conway will be the speaker. Officers of the new Tri-County Methodist Men's Club are: Dr. Matt L. Ellis of Conway, president; O. H. Duewall of Morrilton, vice president; and Ray Wood of Oppelo, secretary-treasurer.

THE COMBINED CHOIRS of First Presbyterian and First United Methodist Churches in Blytheville presented Dubois' "The Seven Last Words of Christ" on Palm Sunday. Mrs. J. M. Williams, Jr., was director; Ronnie E. Miller was organist.

from page one

RETIRED MINISTERS

vives him is credited with 49 years of service.

Dr. Clem Baker has the distinction of being the oldest living claimant. He was born October 10, 1881. There are several men who were born in the following year.

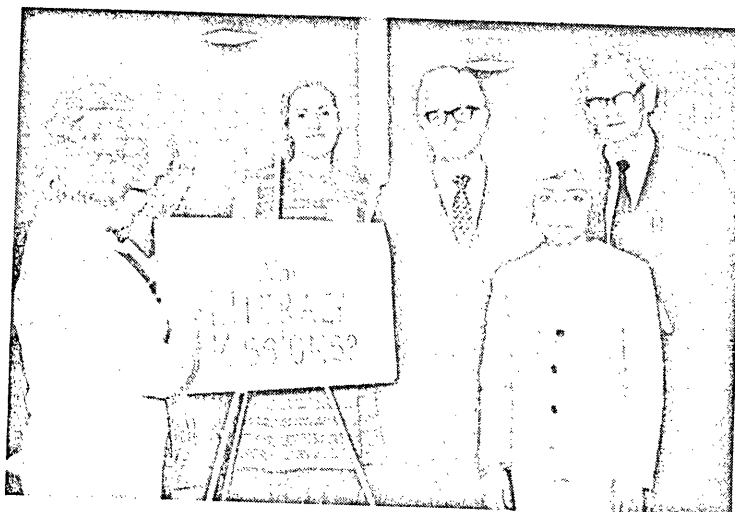
We trust that each local church will find some means of honoring those persons who having entered the "retired relationship" of the conference now reside within their area of responsibility.

DIRECTORS ROUNDTABLE TO AID VCS TEACHERS

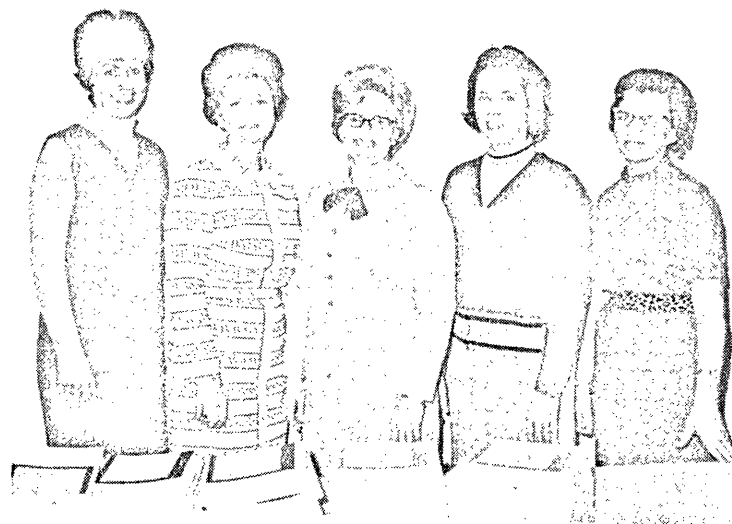
Leaders of vacation church schools will receive assistance in their preparations if they attend the **Director's Roundtable** to be held on Saturday, April 17, at Bethel Church, 815 West 16 Street, Little Rock.

Mrs. Carl Frick of Little Rock, children's work specialist, will be the leader. The training is sponsored by the Arkansas Council of Churches, Division of Christian Education of which the Rev. C. R. Thompson is chairman.

The school will help leaders plan for the use of Cooperative Series VCS materials; gain skills in the administration and directing VCS responsibilities; preview materials and resources; and discuss methods, room arrangements, and need for advance planning.

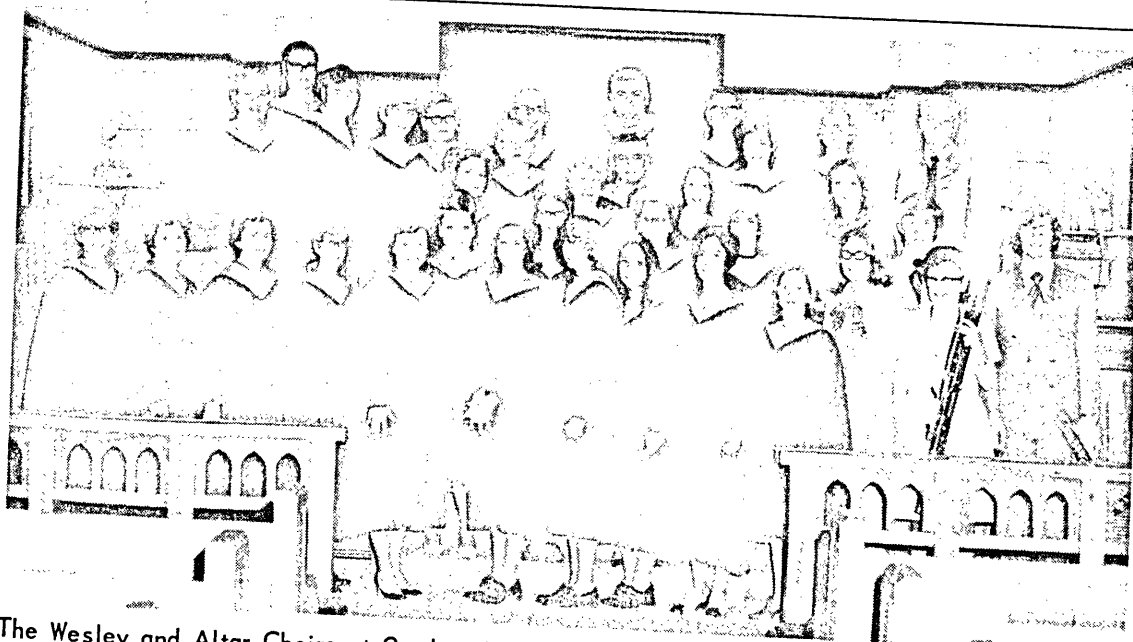


Some of the participants in a recent Adult Literacy Workshop held at First Church, Jonesboro. FROM LEFT: Mrs. W. D. Wood, of Parkin, instructor for the course, Mrs. Leveda Brown, Mrs. Piero Trimarchi, the Rev. David Conyers, Miss Irma Yescas Lopez, of Mexico City and Bill Lytle.



The Literacy Workshop was sponsored by the wives of the Jonesboro Area ministers. Shown above (l. to r.): Mrs. Worth Gibson, Mrs. Watson, wife of District Superintendent J. William Watson, (Mrs. Wood), Mrs. Wayne Jarvis and Mrs. Hillman Byram. Twenty-five adults received instruction and qualified to teach the Laubach Method.

It might be a good idea not to permit churches to report new members until they are fully integrated into the life of the church.



The Wesley and Altar Choirs at Gardner Memorial Church in North Little Rock, presented Handel's Messiah at the 10:50 a.m. worship service on March 28. Dr. Ashley R. Coffman, minister of music, directed the presentation. Soloists were: Harold A. Thompson, C. R. Goss, Mrs. Herman French, Mrs. Arthur Johnson, and Miss Sarah Weir. The choir was accompanied by Miss Mary Jane Goss, organist; Mrs. Larry Weir, pianist; Dr. Lucille Champion, bassoonist; Charles Goss and Newman Fair, trumpeters; and Miss Kay Speed, flutist. The Rev. Floyd G. Villines, Jr. is pastor.

NEWS and NOTES

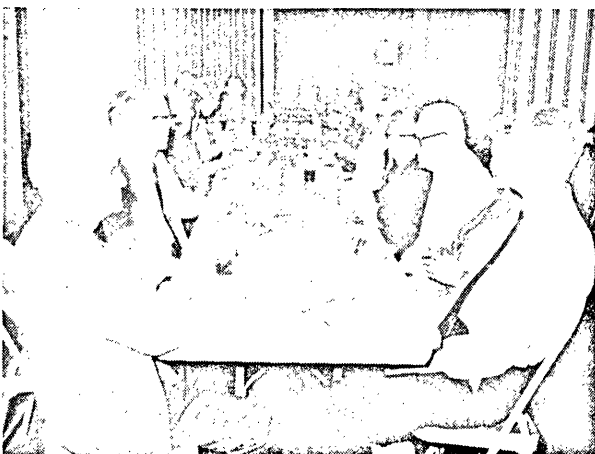
TYRONZA UNITED Methodist Church had as guest speakers on Saturday night, March 27, E. H. (Tank) Harrison and his wife, Dorothy, from Memphis. Many out-of-town visitors who had attended the Lay Witness Mission in the Tyronza Church in January, returned to hear Mr. Harrison. Pot-luck supper preceding the service was served to over 200 people. The program also included a song by Mrs. Geneva Bently from Little Rock. M. E. Brady, Jr., of West Memphis played the piano. The Rev. Cleve Yarbrough was host pastor.

JIM GINGERICH directed Peterson's cantata "Easter Song" on Palm Sunday evening in Grand Avenue United Methodist Church of Stuttgart. The Rev. Louis Mulkey is pastor.

STRING ORCHESTRA, organ and harpsichord accompanied the presentation of the Easter portion of Handel's "The Messiah" in Central U.M. Church, Fayetteville, on Easter at 7:30 p.m. Guest soloists were Jan Groh, Jack Groh, Candice Welcher. Ed Gideon and Harry Budd sang the bass solos. Paul D. Shultz is director of music at Central; Dr. Joel A. Cooper is pastor.

MT. SEQUOYAH was the setting for the Easter sunrise service sponsored by the Fayetteville Ministerial Association. Dr. J. Robert Ashcroft, president of Evangel College in Springfield, Missouri, was the speaker. Don Wright directed the high school chorus.

FIRST CHURCH, PARAGOULD, will be host to a training school for education leaders directed by the Rev. Earl Carter, associate executive secretary of the North Arkansas Conference Program Council, scheduled for Sunday afternoon, Monday and Tuesday evenings, April 18, 19 and 20. A school for lay speakers will be directed by Jim Wiseman of Searcy on May 2, 3 and 4, in Griffin Memorial Church, Paragould.



MRS. INDUK PAHK, Korean Christian leader, spoke in two Arkansas churches this month. On Sunday, April 4, she was in the Asbury pulpit at Little Rock. She was the Family Night speaker in First Church, Texarkana, on Wednesday, April 7. Host ministers were the Rev. Ed Harris at Asbury, and the Rev. Ralph Hillis at Texarkana.

THREE CHURCHES of Malvern combined choirs for the presentation of Stainer's "The Crucifixion" on March 28. Arthur Honeychurch, organist-choirmaster of First United Methodist Church, directed the presentation in the First Baptist Church. The third choir was from the First Presbyterian Church.

AN EASTER CANTATA by Maunder, "Penitence, Pardon and Peace," presented in the Levy U. M. Church at North Little Rock, was directed by Mrs. Guy Russell. Mrs. Joe Hall was organist and Mrs. W. Q. Morrison was violinist. The Rev. Gerald Hammett is pastor.



The recently organized Youth Fellowship of the McNeil United Methodist Church is shown above with the counselors. At right, on back row, are Larry Riddick and Larry Taylor with their wives in front of them. Other counselors are Paula Diffie, back row, third from left, and Mrs. Arnold Crain, fourth from left.



Members of the newly organized UMYF of McNeil Church are shown at left. President Gordon Diffie stands in back with guitar. Teresa Crain is vice president and Betty Black is secretary-treasurer.

The Fellowship Round-Up was organized March 18 at the First United Methodist Church in DeWitt, for the retired and the semi-retired members. They meet each Thursday at noon for potluck meal and fellowship which includes visiting, assorted games and varied programs of entertainment. Due to stormy weather only 19 turned out for the first meeting.

It was a big day in the life of three-month old Lori Lynn MacKay when she was baptized at McArthur Drive United Methodist Church in Jacksonville, along with her father, Staff Sgt. Edward MacKay, a convert from the Roman Catholic Church. Four generations present included her mother, Cathy; her grandmother, Mrs. Doris Slater, and great-grandmother, Mrs. Flossie Burt. The Rev. Irl Bridenthal administered the sacraments.

SUNDAY-AT-SIX PRESENTS CHANCEL CHOIR AT JONESBORO

Handel's "Passion According to St. John" was presented by the Chancel Choir of Jonesboro's First United Methodist Church during the "Sunday-at-Six" program, Palm Sunday. Robert Fuller directed. Jesus was sung by John Erwin, choral director at Trumann High School and First United Methodist Church at Trumann; Pilate was by David Lyttle; the Evangelist by Alan Scott. Other soloists included Jack Ballard, choral director at Southern Baptist College in Walnut Ridge and at First Baptist Church in Jonesboro, and Miss Mary Jane Massey.

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.

April 18—Sun.	Psalms 128:1-6
April 19	Psalms 147:3-14
April 20	Gal. 6:14-18
April 21	Eph. 6:17-23
April 22	Psalms 4:3-8
April 23	Psalms 34:6-14
April 24	Psalms 37:37-40
April 25—Sun.	Psalms 72:1-7

FESTIVAL OF ARTS INCLUDED MUSICAL VESPERS

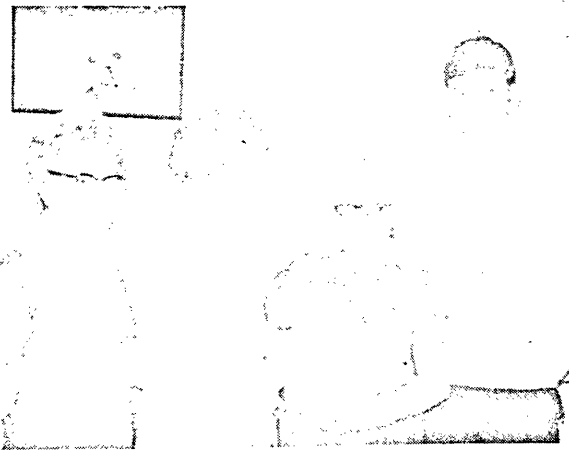
The El Dorado Festival of Arts, held in First United Methodist Church, included singing choirs, illuminated pictures, musical selections and dramatic narrations at the vesper service, March 28. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Betenbaugh, ministers of music, directed. Roy LaMere narrated the script, which was prepared by Mrs. Betenbaugh. Art consultants were Tia Nolan Tattersall and Theodosia Murphy Nattans.

The Palm Sunday Chancel Even-song had guest soloists: Mary Beth Ames, professor of voice at Centenary College, Shreveport, and David Crouse, member of the Southern State College music faculty in Magnolia.

Mrs. Charles W. Butler, Jr. was chairman of the week long festival, which closed on Easter.

H. W. JINSKE, retired Methodist minister, preached in the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Hot Springs on March 14 and 28. His topics were "In Tune with God" and "The Power of the Gospel." He addressed a group of senior citizens April 5, on the theme "Congressional Efforts to End the War in Vietnam."

"**ST. JOHN UNITED** Methodist Church of Van Buren recently organized a Men's Fellowship Club. The men meet on the second Sunday of each month for breakfast and program. The purpose of the club is to promote better fellowship and to stimulate visitation among the members. Officers are: Bill Bell, president; James Abbott, vice president; Gaylon Evans, secretary-treasurer, and Dan Rapiere, reporter. The Rev. George R. Cleary is pastor of St. John.





Members of the invitation committee meet at St. James United Methodist Church, 321 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock, preparing for the Second Anniversary Tea, which will be held on Wednesday, April 21, from 10-12 a.m. in the home of Mrs. James S. Hall, 36 Pinehurst Circle. From left are: Mrs. Jack Volkamer, Mrs. Norman Morton, Mrs. Ducote Haynes, chairman, Mrs. Jim Lile and Mrs. Sheffield Nelson.

CONWAY DISTRICT WSG SPRING MEETING

The spring meeting of the Conway District Wesleyan Service Guild was Sunday, March 28, at the Amboy United Methodist Church in North Little Rock.

"Meeting the Challenge in Worship,

Aldersgate Camperships

(Continued from April 1 issue)

Pearle McCain W.S.G., First Church N.L.R.
John Crouse
Women's Society, Bull Shoals Church W.S.C.S., Prairie Grove
Circle #5 W.S.C.S., First Church, N.L.R.
Leslie W.S.C.S., Leslie
W.S.G., Prairie Grove
W.S.G., First Church, Jacksonville
Friendship Sunday School Class, Huntington Ave. Church, Jonesboro
W.S.C.S., Marked Tree
Fairview Church W.S.G., Texarkana
W.S.C.S., Clinton
W.S.C.S., Capitol View Church, L.R.
Jessie Porter Guild, Geyer Springs Church, L.R.

MEMORIAL CAMPERSHIPS

ELBERT PRUETT
by Billie & Joe Hudson
MAYNARD O. BETTIS
by Mrs. Karl Neal
by Miss Billie Belew
by Mrs. Margaret M. Harrison
JIM GENTRY THOMAS JR.
DAVID LANGE THOMAS
by Mr. & Mrs. Chas. C. Thomas
C. K. WILKERSON, JR.
by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Jones & Don
by Mr. & Mrs. Scott Savage
LERA ANN HIGGASON
by Mrs. Lera E. Higgason
MR. ALLAN GATES
MR. CORTEZ MOORE
by Mrs. John H. Rule
MARGUERITE RIDDICK
by Rev. & Mrs. George Meyer

HONOR GIFTS

Mrs. A. F. Pryor
by Mrs. Hazel Byrd
Miss Mildred Scott
Mrs. Glenn R. Hammond
by Myrtle E. Charles W.S.G.,
First Church, Conway

Song, and Missions" was the afternoon theme. Mrs. Clyde Minton opened the meeting with prayer and Mrs. Dois Kennedy read the scripture. Mrs. Tom McDonald presented the Amboy United Methodist "Christos" in a number of musical selections. Mr. Gene Swepston and a youth group from St. Paul United Methodist Church in Little Rock shared their experiences of a "Week-end Work Mission" with the Bristow, Oklahoma, Creek Indians, through slides, recordings and talks. This was followed by a question and answer period.

Mrs. J. P. Burgess, district chairman, conducted a short business meeting.

Miss Mildred Scott led the memorial service for Mrs. Vida Fry, past president of the North Arkansas Conference Wesleyan Service Guild. Attending were Mrs. Vada Cowan and Mrs. Betty Fry, sister and daughter-in-law of Mrs. Fry. Also in attendance were all the members of the Pearl McCain Guild of which Mrs. Fry was a member.

The offering will be used to place a memorial at Aldersgate Camp honoring Mrs. Fry.

The fall meeting will be held at Lakewood in North Little Rock the third Sunday in October.

The Amboy Guild with Mrs. J. F. Postlewait as president was hostess to a fellowship hour. There were eighty attending the meeting.

COLLEGE HILL WSCS REPORT

The Women's Society of College Hill Church, Texarkana, had eight members to attend the Hope District WSCS observance of "Day Apart." The meeting was held at First United Methodist in Horatio on March 23. Inspirational speaker for the meeting was Mrs. Elmore Norris from El Dorado. Mrs. Gladys Icenhower, member of College Hill Church and conference chairman of Wesleyan Service Guilds, had a part on the program, presenting a creative movement interpretation of "How Great Thou Art."

WSCS members are presently studying Psalms, using Anderson's "Out of the Depths." Leaders are: the Rev. Carl E. Beard, pastor, Mrs. Elwyn Allen, Mrs. Carl Beard, Mrs. Charles Porier and Mrs. Bart Mullins. Mrs. Icenhower was the speaker for the last session entitled "A Table Prepared," held on April 6.

METHODIST WOMEN'S GIVING DECLINES

NEW YORK (RNS) — United Methodist women gave \$710,303 less in 1970 to the denomination's Board of Missions than they contributed a year earlier.

When this drop in giving was combined with a 1969 deficit, the Women's Division was \$1,037,333 in the red at the close of 1970.

Sources of the funds are 36,500 lo-

cal women's groups. In 1970 they gave \$13,055,936. Expenditures for the year totalled \$14,093,270, according to Miss Florence Little, division treasurer.

The percentage of decline in 1970 was 5.16. Income had decreased for the first time in 1969.

The Women's Division is a major funder of the national and world mission programs of the United Methodist Church.

The deficit will be made up with income from bequests, investments and the sale of securities. An emergency appeal has also been made to local women's groups.

Miss Little said she had not yet made a detailed analysis of the reasons for the drop in giving. She did note that many of the regional conferences did not meet their pledges in full.

In a special 1970 offering, one taken every four years, United Methodist women gave \$108,000 for projects in the U.S. and Africa. The sum came from 8,000 persons who attended a quadrennial conference in May.

Among the recipients of the special offering are a practical nursing school in New Mexico, the Delta Ministry in Mississippi, a literacy training program in Nigeria and family counseling work in Sierra Leone.

CALENDAR FOR WOMEN

April 15—Annual Meeting, Aldersgate Camp Board of Directors, Pulaski Heights U.M. Church
April 17-18—Prayer Retreat Wesleyan Service Guilds, Little Rock Conference, Aldersgate Camp
April 25—Study of Psalms Little Rock District WSG Mrs. W. B. Landrum, leader Little Rock First Church
April 28—Spring Meeting Little Rock District WSCS Aldersgate Camp
April 22-25—Church Women United Wichita, Kansas
May 2—Study of Psalms 2nd session, Mrs. Landrum First Church, Little Rock
May 7—May Fellowship Day

Financial Statement

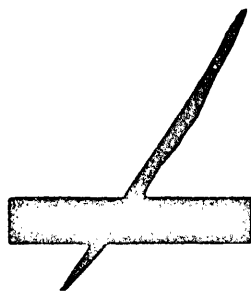
Women's Society of Christian Service
Little Rock Conference
First Quarterly Report December 31, 1970 to March 31, 1971

RECEIPTS	W.S.C.S.	W.S.G	TOTAL
Pledge to Missions	\$22,644.36	\$4,154.41	
Special Memberships	435.00		
In Remembrance	102.00	17.00	
Thank Offering (My World Bank)	274.10	62.82	
Total Pledge to Missions	\$23,455.46	4,234.23	(27,689.69)
Call to Prayer and Self Denial	2,926.18	885.33	
Supplementary Gifts	306.83		
E.T.W. Fund	281.18		
Total Receipts from Districts	\$26,969.65	5,131.56	32,101.21
Miscellaneous Refunds	86.00		
Interest Savings Certificate	509.44		
Taylor Endowment Fund	500.00		
Total Receipts	1,095.44		1,095.44
Balance in Savings and Checking Account December 31, 1970			\$33,196.65
Total to Account for			19,006.17
			\$52,202.82
DISBURSEMENTS	W.S.C.S.	W.S.G.	TOTAL
Pledge to Missions	\$19,804.26	\$3,448.16	
Special Memberships	535.00		
In Remembrance	102.00	17.00	
Thank Offering (My World Bank)	274.10	62.82	
Total Credit on Pledge	20,715.36	3,527.98	(24,243.34)
Call to Prayer and Self-Denial	2,926.18	885.33	
Supplementary Gifts	1,506.83	12.00	
Total sent to Division	25,148.37	4,425.31	\$29,573.68
Administration	100.31	25.70	
Printing	1,271.24		
Audit	71.00		
Church Women United	50.00		
District Cultivation Fund	3,700.00	1,200.00	
Conference Committee Meetings	457.19	148.36	
Connectional Work (Incl. Partial Salary Youth Ministry)	258.40		
E.T.W. Fund (Partial Salary Youth Ministry)	250.00		
Total Disbursements	6,158.14	1,374.06	7,532.20
Balance in Checking and Savings Account			37,105.88
Total Accounted for			15,096.94
			\$52,202.82

Mrs. Hubert Blakley, Treasurer

The Sunday School Lesson

By: Alfred A. Knox



LESSON FOR APRIL 25: The Tragedy of Sin

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE: Amos 1:1; 2:4 through 3:15; 6:8, 8:4-7

MEMORY SELECTION: Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph. (Amos 5:15)

AIM OF THE LESSON: To discover through the prophecies of Amos the types of sins into which Israel had fallen in the days of her prosperity; to discover Amos' message for our time in which many of the same types of sin are to be found.

Out of Tekoa, a small town five or six miles south of Jerusalem, came Amos, a rough citizen of the soil, to introduce a new era in the development of religion. He came to speak against the sins of Israel—acts of human and social alienation that had not been previously classified as sins. From his vivid pictures of one group of people exploiting another came an incisive new picture of God and his will for man.

When one sees the rugged terrain of the region where Tekoa stood he can understand something of the nature of this prophet. It is on the edge of a high plateau from which the land drops off suddenly into the "wilderness of Judah." It is still just that—a wilderness—where canyons and mountains drop 3600 feet to the Dead Sea. It is not far from the place where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. The word "wilderness" aptly describes the view across the desolate rock-bound heights. Traveling this route just a little more than a year ago, we recall the impression that it must have been difficult for people in any age to wrest a living from this region.

Amos had two occupations—he tells us that he was a "herdsman" and also a "dresser of sycamore trees." In this latter work he must have had some skill in the pruning and grafting of the trees which furnished a kind of food for the region.

To this shepherd came a series of visions which led him to believe that God had a mission for him—a mission which was concerned with interpreting the will of God through concern for people. A commission came to Amos—"Go prophesy to my people Israel." This involved a journey, since Amos lived in Judah. It also involved danger, because he had to go into the neighboring kingdom and point out new dimensions of sin which would not make the king or anyone living in the country happy that the man of Tekoa had come their way.

In the time of his preparation Amos found himself brooding upon the way in which the temper of the land was revealed in the perversions of justice and the oppression of the poor. He saw that these acts constituted a complete reversal of a right relationship between God and his people. When he spoke it was in concrete terms concerning specific acts. His messages grew out of human situations and were directed toward conditions that affected men. All through this lesson we should keep alert to sins against which Amos spoke that suggest conditions of human alienation in our own time.

THE BACKGROUND OF AMOS' PROPHECY

As we indicated last week, both Israel and Judah were enjoying a time of prosperity. Many of the sins which Amos spoke against were the fruits of prosperous times. Bitter wars had come to an end, and King Jeroboam II had rebuilt the economy of Israel. We can tell from Amos that this rise in prosperity had not benefited everyone.

Amos had heard of life in the Northern Kingdom, but he knew he would need to have closer knowledge before he could speak concerning it. So

he left his flocks, quit Tekoa, and went to Israel. He knew that he could best observe the land in its capital, Samaria, where king and aristocracy resided. Dr. Emil G. Kraeling says of this field trip: "What Amos, the man of the simple and ascetic life, saw at Samaria was to him unbelievable. Think how some seventeenth-century Puritan would react could he visit New York today, and you will appreciate the reaction of Amos to Samaria."

Archaeologists have uncovered the evidence of the wide discrepancies between the rich and the poor in Samaria. Finely dressed stones and ivory carvings in the residences of the rich stand in sharp contrast to the crowded smaller homes. The evidence is here for the indictments of Amos concerning powerful, prosperous people who were totally indifferent to increasing poverty around them.

Against such a background Amos came speaking of a new concept of God which was very hard for his listeners to accept. He came saying, "God is not primarily the God of Israel, but he is the God of righteousness." His insistence was on the character of God, and we shall see, he was far in advance of anything that had been taught until that time. Dr. W. A. Smart said: "Religion to us means being good; we can't understand anything else. His- torically good; we can't understand anything else. . . . The most outstanding achievement of the prophetic movement in Israel was the fusing of religion and ethics."

AMOS BEGINS WITH THE SINS OF THE ENEMIES

There is one thing we can say about Amos—he was a student of psychology. Coming from the southern kingdom of Judah to tell Israel about her sins, he did not begin directly to do that. Instead he began a long series of attacks on the sins of her enemies—Damascus, Gaza, Tyre, the Ammonites, Moab and Judah. Being a foreigner himself, he would have received a very cool reception had he immediately begun to tell the Israelites what was wrong with them.

This simple herdsman had only a small group to hear him when he started speaking. But the more he said about the sins of other people, the more the Israelites were convinced that he was a smart man and the larger his hearing.

Among the sins which Amos listed in his denunciations against these other people were vicious methods of warfare, the carrying of people into exile following military victory, the ignoring of simple rules of brotherhood, and the crudest kinds of offenses against womanhood. As one runs down his inventory he sees that Amos is very specific in the kinds of actions he condemns in the name of God. We see through him that a major theme of the prophets was poverty and the plight of the poor.

Imagine the reaction of the people of Israel to the preaching Amos was doing up to this point. This was what they liked to hear. That made them feel so much better and momentarily they gloried in their own righteousness. But he was getting closer to home all the time. Then, after declaring the fate of Moab, he moved on to deal with Judah, their sister nation and faithful ally.

THE CARDINAL SINS OF ISRAEL

The Israel to whom Amos next began to speak was a nation guilty of three cardinal sins: inhumanity, intemperance, and immorality. What he tried to say to them was that they were a people who were economically and spiritually at ease. With the thoughts of their last war fading into the haziness of their memories, they were beginning to think that they would never again be invaded by an outside force.

Influenced by this false sense of security they were beginning to take advantage of their economic

prosperity. They were lending money at exorbitant rates to small farmers who had no defense against unfair foreclosures because the wealthy controlled the courts. With the money exacted from the honest sweat of other men's brows they bought silken couches on which to recline in erotic enjoyment while they gorged themselves with rare delicacies.

But more than anything else Amos saw the religion of the people eroded and diluted by the influence of Baal. From the time they first entered the land and came in contact with the Canaanites they had been tempted by the religion of Baal. The fact that Baal was known as the god of productivity left its mark on the Israelites. They knew they were bound to Jehovah who had brought them into the land, but by the time of Amos they had found ways of letting the earthiness and sensuality of the religion of Baal find its way into the practices of their own faith. Amos came to tell them that they could not continue this kind of compromise in their worship.

AMOS WAS VERY SPECIFIC WITH THESE PEOPLE

The prophet was very specific as he dealt with these people concerning their sins. He introduced this section in the same manner as he had begun telling of God's displeasure with their neighbors. We read in 2:6, "Thus says the Lord, 'For three transgressions of Israel and four, I will not revoke the punishment.'" He then got down to cases with them.

It is a terrible inventory he begins, "they sell the righteous for silver and the needy for a pair of shoes," "they trample the head of the poor into the dust of the earth," "a man and his father go into the same maiden," "they lay down beside every altar upon garments taken in pledge."

First, he speaks out against slavery. The law of that time allowed persons to be sold into slavery when they could not pay their debts. All through history slavery has been one of the darkest blots on the record of mankind. Amos spoke for God saying that such inhuman treatment of his creatures would not go unpunished.

Then, he spoke out against the sin of greed. The reference to trampling the head of the poor into the dust referred to a practice of the poor throwing handfuls of dust over their heads to show their misery. Amos said that some of the rich were so greedy that they even coveted the ownership of that dust.

Finally, Amos took his stand against all injustice. The powerful and the greedy "turned aside the way of the afflicted," the "afflicted" being the humble followers of God for whom there was no justice in the courts.

Who can deny that these same sins are to be found in our own time? God's word condemns them all, wherever they might be found. We all have an obligation to examine our own lives to see if we are guilty of any of them.

A REDEFINITION OF SIN

One of the most important contributions of Amos was his redefinition of sin. We may think that an accent on social justice is very modern, but we find him crying out for fair treatment of all the underprivileged and downtrodden eight centuries before the birth of Christ.

It has always been easy for those who do not want to mix the satisfactions they receive from their religion and the social demands of the Gospel to use all kinds of methods of discrediting the prophetic voice. Try to tell any affluent people that they ought to be concerned about the dispossessed and underprivileged, and they will begin to tell you that you are getting away from the legitimate concerns of religion. Well, the next time someone makes such a suggestion ask them if they have ever read Amos. If they are honest enough to tell the truth then you might quote some of these verses from today's lesson.

Amos redefined sin, in God's name, and made it apply to injustices against human beings as well as offenses against God. These were solid foundations for the modern social emphasis in religion. Modern America needs to hear this just as much as ancient Israel did.

"Quote and Unquote"

Two Catholic and Two Protestant journals charged in a common Good Friday editorial that "the U.S. is repeating the crucifixion of Christ through its Vietnam policies" and called on Americans to "unite in shutting down the machinery of war." Entitled a "Call to Penitence and Action," the editorial appeared in the *Christian Century*, *Christianity and Crisis*, *Commonweal* and the *National Catholic Reporter*.

" "

Dr. C. Brownlow Hastings of Atlanta, associate secretary of the Department of Inter-Faith Witness for the Southern Baptist Convention, affirming there is still little zeal for organizational unity among Southern Baptists, recently told a national workshop on Christian Unity attended by 500 U.S. ecumenists: "The worst four-letter words for Southern Baptists are still Pope and COCU (Consultation on Church Union)."

" "

Dr. Leighton Ford, Dr. Billy Graham's associate and brother-in-law, speaking to a recent crusade in Philadelphia on the rock opera, "Jesus Christ—Superstar," said: "The widespread controversy over this rock opera has indicated that young people, turned off by the organized church, are still obsessed as ever before with Jesus . . . The opera is supposedly based on the Scriptures, but it lacks the clear compelling testimony of Scripture on the person of Jesus Christ."

" "

The Rev. Don Stewart, United Church of Christ minister, working under an ecumenical "Night Ministry" in San Francisco, said of his work: "The public doesn't realize that offices and services close up at night. There's just no place to go. You may work at night, but you're expected to need help only in the daytime. It's a terribly neglected span."

" "

Dr. Carl E. Bates, president of the Southern Baptist Convention: "The mark of immaturity is to disagree with a man and as a result of your disagreement rule him off or shut him out from your circle of friends. This is prima facie evidence of immaturity, spiritual and otherwise."

" "

Sir Kenneth Clark, British art historian, in his book, *Civilisation*: "It is a lack of confidence, more than anything else, that kills a civilisation. We can destroy ourselves by cynicism and disillusion, just as effectively as by bombs."

" "

Justice William O. Douglas in a dissent in recent U.S. Supreme Court case holding that young men must be opposed to all wars to qualify as conscientious objectors: "Freedom to differ is not limited to things that do not matter much. The test of its substance is the right to differ as to things that touch the heart of the existing order."

USE MOVIE CODE TO GRADE SERMONS, AMERICAN BAPTIST PASTOR SUGGESTS

POCATELLO, Idaho (RNS) — An American Baptist pastor here has suggested that a code be worked out for grading sermons, similar to that used to classify motion pictures.

"This would be a great help when one is deciding whether or not he should get out of bed on Sunday morning," noted the Rev. Wilbur Rees, pastor of First Baptist church. His proposed code follows:

"G" — Generally acceptable to everyone. Full of inoffensive, puerile platitudes such as 'Go ye into all the world and smile' and 'What the World needs is peace and motherhood.' This sermon is usually described as 'wonderful' or 'marvelous.'

"M" — For more mature congregations. At times this sermon even makes the Gospel relevant to today's issues, in subtle ways of course. It may even contain mild suggestions for change. This sermon is often described as 'challenging' or 'thought provoking' even though no one intends to take any action or change any attitudes.

"R" — Definitely restricted to those who are not upset by truth. This sermon 'tells it like it is.' It is very threatening to the comfortable. It is most often described as 'disturbing' or 'controversial' and usually indicates that the preacher has an outside source of income.

"X" — Positively limited to those who can handle explosive ideas. This sermon really 'socks it to 'em!' It is the kind of sermon that landed Jeremiah in the well, got Amos run out of town, and set things up for the stoning of Stephen. It is always described as 'shocking' or 'in poor taste.' The minister who preaches this sermon had better have his suitcase packed and his life insurance paid up."

†

ECUMENICAL TIES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA SAID STRONG

GENEVA, Switzerland (UMI)—Relations between United Methodists in Czechoslovakia and other Protestant churches are good, the Rev. Vilem Schneeberger, superintendent of the denomination in the country, told Ecumenical Press Service during a visit to the World Council of Churches headquarters here in March.

The superintendent also said that the recent division of cooperation into two ecumenical councils in the nation "should strengthen our work." The recent division into the two councils was taken to make it easier to work with the Ministry of Culture. There are about 5,000 United Methodists in 19 parishes in Czechoslovakia.

†

A United Methodist Said It

"Our task as churchmen today . . . is to discover ways in which we can be leaven in the midst of the world, being used by our Lord in His mission to shape the world of tomorrow. Instead of asking 'What will tomorrow look like?', we should be asking: 'What do we have to tackle today to make tomorrow?'"—The Rev. Merlyn W. Northfelt, newly-installed president of Garrett Theological Seminary.

the British scene



by the Rev. Leslie J. M. Timmins
Director of the
Churches' Television Centre,
British Isles

A long postal strike in this country has at last been settled, and although many organisations and people have managed the inland exchange of correspondence, anything bound for overseas has been seriously interrupted with—hence a long silence in this column. Now at last things are beginning to get back to normal, and we can once again exchange views in this way. The whole problem of the industrial situation in Britain gives cause for concern. Henry Ford visited this country this week—the Ford organisation in Britain is running into problems because of strike action now in its sixth week. He pointed out that he wanted to know that there would be prospect of settlement before any more Ford capital could be invested in the industry here, and we appear to be in a circular situation where men are striking themselves out of a job, yet doing it to try to get more money which is not there.

Tense negotiations are in progress with the USA firm of Lockheed after the shock collapse of Rolls Royce. Perhaps most famous for the motor car with that distinguished bonnet, Rolls Royce are, of course, also well known for aero engines, and their latest the R B 211 ran into trouble to such an extent that the Government had to step in. Now there is still a question mark over the project as thousands of Rolls Royce workers—all highly skilled—are made redundant. It is not a very happy prospect for Spring.

* * *

THOSE BISHOPS

Crockfords Directory is a reference book which gives all manner of details about the Church of England. And the Preface when the revised edition is published each year is often the subject of comment. This year, the author (always an anonymous one) suggests that the office of bishop has become so arduous that those who are appointed are reaching the point where they are glad to be relieved of the office.

The two factors he selects as being the ones which have affected the bishops are the weakening authority of bishops in these days, and the very heavy administrative burden. Not only the Anglican church complains of these two problems, of course. Authority, perhaps in very different forms is desired in a number of different ways, and most people are finding these days that authority is that which is accepted rather than imposed. But the administrative burden is almost inevitable.

Men at the top, whether in Church, State or industry all must accept in these days of fast communication and complicated structures, that the administrative buck stops at the top, nowhere else. The art and craft of leadership is to be able to delegate administrative matters so that there is time to think and be creative where it most matters. And here the church has something to learn from industry, something to learn from men who work exceedingly hard at the secular job, and even then manage to give a lot of themselves to the community.

In hard practical terms, this is one way in which the laymen could and I am certain willingly would, (given the chance) help the leaders of the church.

The role of the prophet in the church, in any case, has not always been fulfilled by those who are officially the leadership of the church. Indeed the opposite has often been the case. Ever since Amos who claimed that he was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, professionally speaking, there have been men who speak in the name of God to the community—and official appointment has had little to do with either man or message.

News ways of thinking about the role of both layman and leader are opening the door to new opportunities for the churches, if we see the problems of today as opportunities in disguise.

†

News in Brief

United Methodism's Boston University School of Theology is the only theological school in the country participating in a comprehensive seminar in suicide and self-destructive behavior sponsored nation-wide by the National Institute of Mental Health.

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The average per capita contribution to World Service—United Methodism's basic benevolence fund—during 1969 was \$2.09, according to the church's Council on World Service and Finance. By jurisdiction, the Western led with \$2.49. Others included North Central, \$2.31, Northeastern, \$2.19, South Central, \$1.90, and Southeastern, \$1.83.

—0—

Bethany Hospital, a 79-year-old facility in Kansas City, Kans., related to the United Methodist Church, is changing its name to Bethany Medical Center as the first step in a planned expansion and diversification of services. Included is a three-phase building program that will eventually include expansion from 300 to 600 beds.

—0—

Social agencies in St. Joseph, Mo., related to the United Methodist and Roman Catholic churches are merging to provide expanded community service in the areas of housing, the aging, community development, family and youth, and child development.

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Spurred by the success of a Baltimore Annual Conference Historical Society tour to England this past autumn, excursions are being planned for this autumn departing from Maryland, Iowa, Ohio, Texas, and Indiana.

MPH president makes optimistic report to Board of Publications

ATLANTA, Ga. (UMI) — The Methodist Publishing House, which closed its last fiscal year July 31, 1970 with a net profit loss of \$1.4 million, is in slightly better condition midway in its current fiscal year, according to President and Publisher John E. Procter.

In his first report to the Board of Publication meeting here March 31, Mr. Procter said that losses are continuing in sales but that reductions in advertising, supplies, salaries, and mailing costs have reversed the overall trend.

Publishing House treasurer John H. Laird reported that net income for the six months ending January 31, 1971 was \$584,889 compared with net income of \$201,092 for the same period last year.

Mr. Procter reported that 11 of the 19 Cokesbury Book Stores showed a loss during the first six months although seven of the 11 are in better condition than at the same time last year. He told the board that a new direction must be taken with the book stores which require \$300,000 subsidy annually. He said more, but possibly different, Cokesbury stores will be needed in the future, particularly in light of increasing postal costs.

Another major concern of the board is the general periodical program of the United Methodist Church. The House publishes **Together** magazine for families and **Christian Advocate** for ministers. Mr. Procter said that these two publications will have to be subsidized this year by between \$350,000 and \$375,000 and that it is unlikely that the magazines will ever be self-supporting. He said a committee of the board is wrestling with the problem.

Following a recommendation from the standing committee on personnel, the board approved 65 as the mandatory age of retirement of all Publishing House employees, both laity and clergy, beginning August 1, 1972.

In another action the board unanimously adopted an "Affirmative Action Program" calling for a proportionate representation of minority employees in all its units. A two-year goal was set for implementation of the program which calls for "hiring employable minority persons as job openings occur with a goal of attaining in each unit a ratio of minority employees at least equal to the local minority population ratios." These ratios will be taken from 1970 census reports.

The plan asks unit administrators to make a "conscious effort" to employ and upgrade minority personnel in replacement situations in order to achieve minimum goals "at the earliest possible date."

This program was presented by Jack B. Russell, Richmond, Va. attorney who also heads the board's committee on Project Equality. He said the new program implements and exceeds most requirements of Project Equality. He also reported that Publishing House management has been making its fair employment policy known to its suppliers asking them to take similar positions.

PAGE TEN

Dr. W. T. Handy, Jr., vice president of personnel and public relations and the first black executive on the Publishing House staff, said that "while we appreciate efforts of Project Equality and the federal government in this area, our prime motivation is not coercion but because we think it is the right thing to do."

The program includes a "statement of intent," saying: "In the selection, placement, and treatment of persons needed to carry forward its work, the Publishing House will strive to demonstrate a particular sensitivity and responsiveness to the peculiar needs and aspirations of minority groups represented in, or seeking to enter, the labor market who, because of their race, color, sex, or national origin, may have been subject to discrimination in their access to, and progress in competitive employment."

UM news in brief

A "Missionary Fund for Social Justice," established by the United Methodist Missionary Conference the past summer at Greencastle, Ind., has grown to \$12,144. Missionaries give to the fund on a voluntary basis and may designate their gifts to either Black Methodists for Church Renewal, the quadrennial program of the Board of Missions' World Division, or Clergy and Laymen Concerned About Vietnam.

Mrs. Alice Sharp, a Methodist missionary in Korea for 39 years, will celebrate her 100th birthday on Easter Sunday. As a child her health was so poor that she had to drop out of school for a time.

TV SPECIAL, WEEKLY RADIO SHOWS WILL DELIVER COCU MERGER PLAN

DALLAS (RNS) — The church merger plan of the Consultation on Church Union (COCU) will be introduced to Texans through a television special and six weekly radio programs.

A half-hour program, "The Quest for Unity," will be aired on WBAP-TV here April 18, and WFAA radio will broadcast the first of six 25-minute programs entitled "A Plan of Union" on the same day.

"We think these programs on the most ambitious church union plan ever proposed in America will be interesting to all Christians," said Dr. Thomas A. Fry, pastor of First Presbyterian church in Dallas and chairman of a committee encouraging study of the COCU plan.

Dr. Fry stressed that everyone, including people opposed to the plan of union, must be involved in the study-response process.

Participants in the television special include Dr. Albert C. Outler, professor of theology at Southern Methodist University; Dr. Kenneth L. Teegarden of Fort Worth, executive minister of the Christian Church in Texas, and the Rev. Orthal H. Lakey, pastor of Cedar Crest Christian Methodist Episcopal church in Dallas.

Dr. Fry and Episcopal Bishop William Paul Barnds of Dallas will also appear. The programs were produced under the supervision of the North Texas Christian Communications Commission, an ecumenical agency.

In addition to the broadcast, the radio programs will be made available on cassette audio tapes for use by church groups.

Lake Junaluska, N. C., will be the site of the 1972 session of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church. The sessions will begin July 11.

INCLUSIVE CHURCH BACKED

LAKE JUNALUSKA, N.C. (UMI) — The man who soon will be come the full-time program executive for the United Methodist Church's nine-state, 3,000,000-member Southeastern Jurisdiction told leaders of the jurisdiction here March 19 that he intends to work for a church that is "inclusive, evangelical and dedicated to human need."

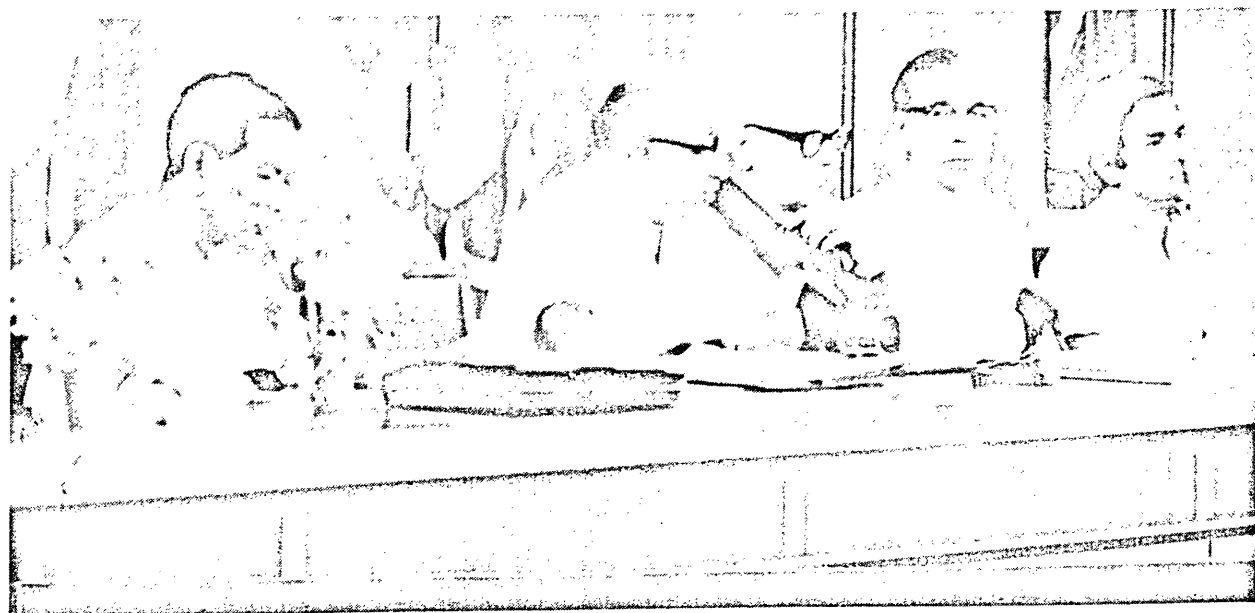
The Rev. Robert F. Lundy put inclusiveness first, as he said that "we (United Methodists) cannot tolerate halfway houses of black annual (regional) conferences overlapping white ones. It is a sub-Christian organizational pattern . . ." He addressed the executive committee of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Council as the Council's executive secretary-elect. Dr. Lundy will become executive secretary June 21 on the retirement of the Rev. D. Trigg James.

Among other business items, the Jurisdictional Council approved plans to step up a program of "community-based self-help efforts on the part of disadvantaged people." The project is based out in cooperation with the Board of Missions' National Division.

Mrs. James D. Martin from the Gadsden, Ala., First United Methodist Church, was soloist at the White House worship service in Washington, D. C., March 7. According to news accounts, Mrs. Martin had been scheduled to sing "Is Christ on the Throne of Your Heart?" after a sermon by Rabbi Joshua O. Haberman, but at White House request for something "a little less Methodist," changed it to "One World."

The Rev. Charles H. Ellzey, professor of church administration at Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill., has also been named to direct the Center for Parish Development at Evangelical Theological Seminary in Naperville, Ill.

(Photo by Leon Howell)



Asian and Western church leaders discussed mission strategy at a "Consultation on Missionary Service" recently in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Through initiative of the Asia Methodist Advisory Committee, and under auspices of the East Asia Christianity Conference (EACC), the Methodist Church focused on the missionary personnel program of Methodism in Asia as a case study. Engaged in discussion at a session are (left to right) Dr. U Kyaw Than, general secretary of the EACC; Dr. Charles C. Parlin, president of the World Methodist Council; Bishop T. Otto Nall of United Methodist's Hong Kong-Taiwan Area; Dr. John F. Schaefer, United Methodist World Division associate general secretary; Dr. Graeme Jackson of the World Council of Churches staff.

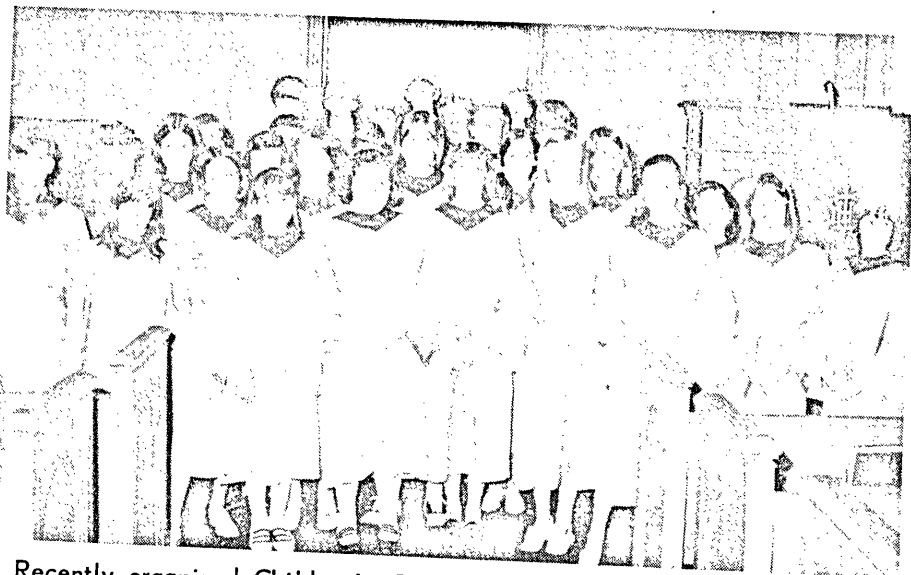
APRIL 15, 1971

Arkansas Methodist Children's Home

The following people gave memorial gifts to the Methodist Children's Home in March 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.

EUGENE C. AIKEN
by Mr. & Mrs. L. A. Joyce
WARREN E. BOSHERS
by Mr. & Mrs. Cecil R. Haun
MRS. P. E. BAYLISS
by Mrs. Minnie Lee Taylor
MARTHA HOLDERBY BOYNTON
by Mrs. R. H. Holderby
MRS. EVA BROWN
by Frances Goodenough
MITCHELL BOND
by Mr. & Mrs. Garvis Pollard
by Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Shepherd, III
by Mr. & Mrs. Mark A. Shelton, Jr.
by Mr. & Mrs. Brent Shinall
DORSEY BEARDEN
by Mr. & Mrs. John De Loach
ROGER BOST
by Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Cowan
MRS. C. L. CABE
by Mr. & Mrs. Roland Culp
by Jeannie & Al Mathews
CLAUDE CHURCH
by Mr. Randolph James
DOROTHY CARTER
by Mr. & Mrs. Charles J. Ready
TOM CHRISTIE
by Mr. & Mrs. Edward Manees
by Miss Mildred Wilson
MRS. CORA G. CALDWELL
by Mrs. T. C. Hundley
WESTON MITCHELL COONFIELD
by Carl & Grace Donner
MRS. KENNETH COLE
by Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Cowan
MR. & MRS. E. D. DODSON, SR.
by Mr. & Mrs. Mike Berg
by Dr. & Mrs. Perry Dalton
by First U. Meth. Church, Camden
MRS. MINNIE DONAHUE
by Mrs. Glenn Coker
BERT DEAN
by Mr. & Mrs. Dale Bumpers
A. C. ERWIN
by Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Toler
by Mrs. Iva Richardson
by Mr. & Mrs. G.H. Stratton & Stelle
by Marie Stephens
by Bess E. Lewis
CABE EDWARDS
by Mr. & Mrs. M. G. Dickey
MRS. ESTHER BOND FOSTER
by Mr. & Mrs. Chris Jones
FRANK GERIG
by The Jack H. Vestals
CYNTHIA GAYLE GRIFFIN
by Grand Prairie Sub-District U.M.Y.
MRS. MARIE GARNFLOW
by Margaret & Orin Ellsworth
by Mrs. Marie L. Gilliam
WALLACE F. HARRIS
by Mrs. Wallace F. Harris
J. C. HIGGINBOTHAM
by Mr. & Mrs. Mercil Bankston
MRS. KATHLEEN HOWERTON
by Mrs. John L. Wall
MRS. VETA HAYES
by Mrs. Don Perry
C. D. HUMPHREYS
by Dr. & Mrs. Perry Dalton & Sons
GARLAND A. HARP
by Mr. & Mrs. C. L. Bell
by Mr. & Mrs. Harris M. Hogue
MRS. C. A. HAMILTON
by Mr. & Mrs. Jack Frank
by Mrs. W. J. Frank
MRS. EMMA RIECHERT HOELTZEL
by Mrs. Ted Francis
by Mrs. Leo Mapes

KENNETHLEE HURT
by Mack & Mildred McCallister
by Mrs. Willie Mitchell
MRS. FRANK HARRELL
by Mr. & Mrs. Bill Singer
MRS. BASIL A. HODGES
by Mr. & Mrs. John A. Williams
JUDGE WESLEY HOWARD
by Mr. & Mrs. Joe Mercer
HUDGENS JETER
by Mr. & Mrs. B. Z. Anderson
by Mr. & Mrs. Sam Luckie
by Mr. & Mrs. Fletcher Townsend
by Mr. & Mrs. Roy Dooley
by Mr. & Mrs. Max Z. Anderson
by Mr. & Mrs. Wm. P. Ball
by Mr. & Mrs. Travis N. Creed
by Mr. & Mrs. Wm. S. Arnold
by Mrs. Jane Garrett
by Mr. & Mrs. John Garrett
by Mr. & Mrs. Frank Fletcher
by Felix Bunch & Family
ANTON KRIEGL
by Margaret Marshall Sub-District
W.S.C.S.
PAT KELLY
by Mrs. Amye J. Webb
MRS. C. N. KINLEY
by Mr. & Mrs. John H. Palmer
by Mrs. Ben C. Jarvis
by Mildred & Parrish Robbins
MRS. KINSEY
by Mrs. P. W. Phelps
A. A. LEGETT
by Mary Martha Class, Smackover
Methodist Church
G. W. LLOYD
by Earl & Jessie Beaton
M. S. MCCORD
by Mrs. Amye J. Webb
V. H. MCKELVEY
by Mr. & Mrs. Donald A. Gilbrech
MERLEE MCGEEHEE
by Mr. & Mrs. Othello Gordon
MRS. DUNCAN MCRABE, SR.
by Mrs. Marcus Justiss
LEE SMALL MORGAN
by Mrs. John H. Dial, Thomas & Elaine
by Mr. & Mrs. Zebe Perry
by Mrs. Dahlya M. Dial
by Mr. & Mrs. Charles S. Shivley
by Mrs. W. A. Barrow
by Mildred Horton
by Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Hall
by Mr. & Mrs. J. R. Collier, Jr.
by Mrs. Ocie Walker
CERAL P. MUNN
by Greater Little Rock Chapter of Alpha Sigma Tau
T. M. MARTIN
by The Jack H. Vestals
by Mrs. R. Burney Wilson
MRS. MILLER
by The Jack H. Vestals
H. P. MADDOX, SR.
by J. Marion Newman
by Reba H. Newman
WALTER MASON
by Mrs. Louise P. Triplett
J. E. MORGAN
by Seekers Sunday School Class, Blytheville
by Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Meyer
MRS. F. GARLAND MAY, SR.
by Mrs. George Wells Clement
by Mrs. W. H. Davis
MRS. W. T. MORGAN
by Mrs. Herman Jones & Jeral
by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Jones
by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hodge
by Lady Belk Class, Fairview Methodist Church
by Miss Gertrude Mann
by Miss Irene Mann
by Mrs. Henry L. Hebert
by Mr. & Mrs. Ray Hebert
by Mr. & Mrs. O. C. Hebert
by Mr. & Mrs. Morrell Hebert



Recently organized Children's Choir at Forrest City First United Methodist Church, attired in new robes, presented a special anthem entitled, "Little Grey Donkey," for the Palm Sunday morning worship service. Under the direction of Mrs. Tom Higgs, the group of fifth and sixth graders was accompanied by members of their own group—Nancy Baskin, pianist, Ann Claire Christenson, flutist, and Tom Lieblong, wood block. This active group of young folk meets in various homes each Sunday evening for extra sessions of Bible Study. The Rev. Byron McSpadden is pastor.

MRS. EDNA FEW ROGERS
by The Jack H. Vestals
SHELTON RUSHING
by Mrs. R. Burney Wilson
MRS. CHRISTINE REEVES
by Mary Martha Class, Smackover
U. Methodist Church
by Good Hope Methodist Church

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ATTENTION ALL METHODISTS INTERESTED IN METHODIST HISTORY!

For the first time in 100 years there is now a book available with the history and letters of all the brothers and sisters of John and Charles Wesley, who grew to adulthood.

This is contained in the new biography of Rev. Samuel Wesley, father of John and Charles... the first of its kind in 105 years, written by Franklin Wilder of Fort Smith.

Rev. Sam Wesley was a scholar, poet, song writer, and called himself "Grandfather of the Holy Club," later nicknamed "Methodists." In all these fields, the father set the pattern, and greatly influenced his two saintly sons.

This book is now on sale at all Cokesbury stores in the U.S.A., at the Baptist Book store in Little Rock, and at various other book stores in the Arkansas-Oklahoma area for \$6.00

"Father of the Wesleys"

Poetry Panorama

by Barbara L. Mulkey

"Christ the Lord is risen today," Sons of men and angels say. Raise your joys and triumphs high; Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply. (Charles Wesley)

Once —by Mary Coffin

Once . . . a star shone brightly
Above a manger stall.
Oh! Could a star shine nightly
In the hearts of all?

Once . . . a Babe came quietly,
A long time ago.
And men still take it lightly
That God came here below.

Once . . . a Cross rose starkly,
Upon a dreary hill.
Will men forever see it darkly,
Will they not listen — still?

Once . . . the sun shone darkly,
God turned His eyes away.
The temple veil ripped sharply,
Christ died, for us, that day.

Once . . . a tomb lay empty,
Oh, many years ago!
And an Angel stated simply
"He's risen! don't you know?"

Once . . . white cloths lay, limply,
For Death obeyed God's will.
Rejoice! God's love's not empty!
Our God forgives us still!

TENDRILS OF LOVE —by Ercil F. Brown

A wind of mercy, clad in robes of dust,
Enshrouded hill and Cross with starless night
To shield the few who followed from the sight
Of precious blood spilled by the cruel thrust.
And, at the last pained breath, a final gust
Swept back to Heaven the Cross-freed Soul . . . delight
Of God and Conqueror of Satan's might —
The Son grown worthy of the Father's trust!
But at the end of Sabbath came the doom
Long prophesied of grave's brief victory
When He arose, and left the borrowed tomb
To share His glory with humanity.
Our Savior's love, with tendrils fast, shall bloom
Upon the Cross through all eternity!

Allan Walker to
receive Upper Room Award

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMI)—Dr. Alan Walker, president of the Methodist Church in New South Wales, world evangelist, and well-known author, will be awarded the annual Upper Room Citation at a dinner in Denver, Colo., August 26, 1971.

Announcement of the twenty-second citation dinner and selection of Dr. Walker as the honoree was made here by Dr. Wilson O. Weldon, editor of *The Upper Room*. Dr. Weldon said the award is being given to Dr. Walker in recognition of his contributions to world-wide Christian fellowship.

The 59-year-old Methodist minister whose father once served as president of the Methodist Church of New South Wales, is known throughout the world for his evangelistic zeal, his involvement in social issues, and his ecumenical leadership.

ESTONIA'S 2,000 METHODISTS
STILL ACTIVE, REPORT SAYS

STOCKHOLM (RNS) — The United Methodist Church in Soviet Estonia continues to be active, according to data received here by Bishop Ole Borgen of Stockholm. The bishop's area covers Estonia.

The Rev. Alexander Kuum, superintendent of the Estonia Church, the only Methodist group in the Soviet Union, said that membership went up 99 in 1970, to a total of 2,208.

Members gave about \$30,000 to the Church, he continued, and four new clergymen were ordained in late January.

The congregation in Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, is the largest with 1,166 members. It had an increase of 51 in 1970 and an income of \$13,000. Tallinn has two ordained clergymen and 20 lay preachers.

Methodism in Estonia was established in 1918.

PLANS ANNOUNCED FOR
RELIGIOUS DRAMA WORKSHOP

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMI)—The Rev. A. Argyle Knight, director of Resources in Drama and Other Arts, for the United Methodist Board of Education's Division of the Local Church, will be among staff supervisors for "The Creative Process" during the Fifth Annual Religious Drama Workshop sponsored by the Midwest Council for Drama and Other Arts (MCDA). The workshop will be held at Rockhurst College in Kansas City, Mo., July 25-31.

Other United Methodists serving as staff supervisors include Dr. M. James Young from the University of Massachusetts Theatre Department, and the Rev. George S. Paris, Topeka, Kan., high school art instructor.

According to Mr. Knight, participants and staff will explore and develop their human potential through expression in the various phases of the arts—music, dance, drama, improvisation, and visual arts. Participants will have the opportunity to specialize in one of four areas: traditional theatre, street theatre, theatre and learning, and celebration.

News in Brief

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Dodge have returned from two years on the staff of Vietnam Christian Service, ecumenical relief agency. They were among 26 persons sent out through the United Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief and worked in occupational therapy among mentally and emotionally ill patients at a large hospital in Saigon.

The Kyodan, the United Church of Christ of Japan, the country's largest Protestant body, has a new head to serve not later than October of 1971 — the Rev. Mitsuho Yoshida. The 195,000-member church is related to the United Methodist Church and other North American denominations.

The Rev. Vilem Schneeberger, superintendent of the United Methodist Church in Czechoslovakia, is chairman of the Czech council of churches, one of two operating in the country —one for the Czech Socialist Republic, and the other in the Slovak Republic.



SCALES MOUND, Ill. — Miss Jessie Williams, 87, has been playing the organ at Council Hill Methodist church for 56 years. Mrs. Williams succeeded her mother in the job back in 1915. The church is near Scales Mound, Ill. (RNS Photo)