

Arkansas Methodist

90th YEAR

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1971

NO. 36



Dr. McCracken

Former Riverside pastor to deliver Pierce Lectures

Dr. Robert J. McCracken of New York will be the speaker for the fifth annual series of Pierce Lectures to be held at First United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, beginning Sunday morning, Sept. 19 and continuing twice daily through Tuesday, Sept. 21.

Dr. McCracken, who was pastor for 11 years of Riverside Church, New York, will use as his theme for the lectures, "Getting Religion Into Life." His subjects will be: Sunday morning, "The Need for Roots"; Sunday evening, "The Need for Standards"; Monday morning, "The Need for Heroes"; Monday evening, "The Need for a Good Conscience"; Tuesday morning, "The Need for the Human Touch"; and Tuesday evening, "What God Requires of Us."

There will be an informal fellowship hour immediately following the Sunday evening lecture and all weekday lec-

tures to give the people an opportunity to visit with the lecturer. Dr. McCracken's books will be on sale at this time.

The Pierce Lectures are a gift to First United Methodist Church and the Pine Bluff community by Dr. and Mrs. J. Richard Pierce, Jr. and family in memory of Dr. Pierce's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Richard Pierce. Dr. John W. Lindsay is the pastor of First Church.

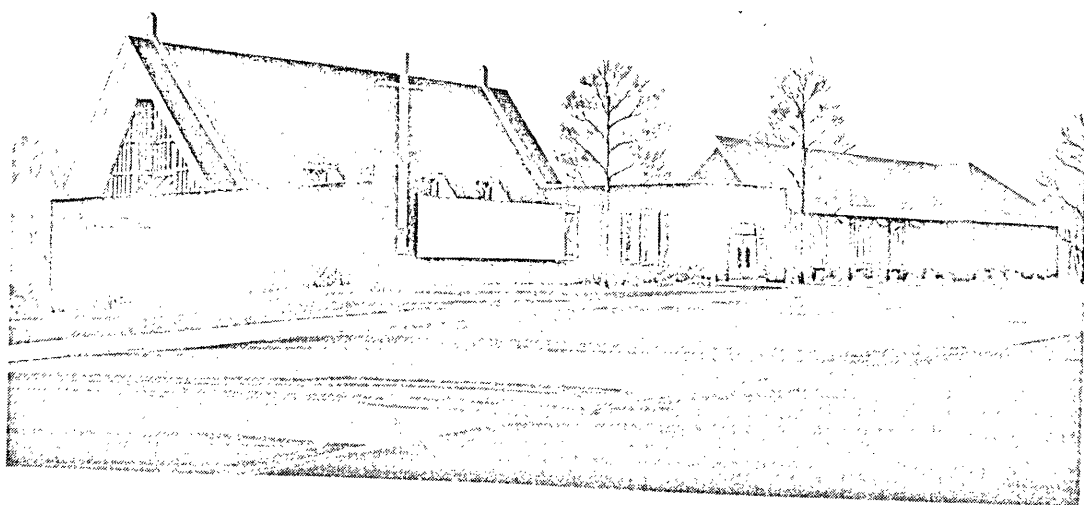
Dr. McCracken, a native of Scotland, served Baptist churches in that country and was a lecturer at Baptist Theological College of Scotland. He was associate professor of Christian Theology and Philosophy of Religion at McMaster College, Hamilton, Ontario, before coming to Riverside Church in 1946. He also served as lecturer in practical theology at Union Theological Seminary, New York, during that pastorate. He is the author of four books and has had an extensive ministry on radio and television.

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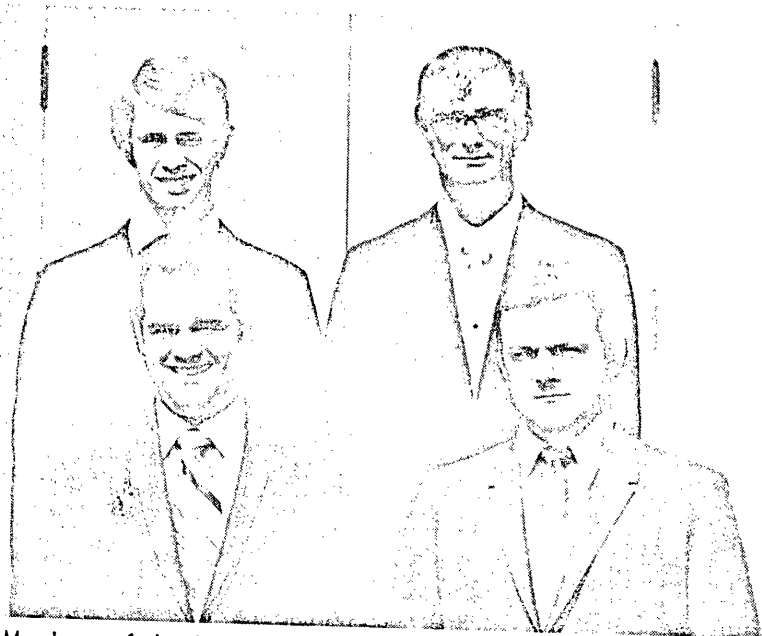
Sylvan Hills Church to hold Consecration

The Service of Consecration will be held Sunday, Sept. 19, for the new sanctuary, foyer and administrative offices which have been recently completed at Sylvan Hills United Methodist Church, North Little Rock. Bishop Paul V. Galloway will officiate at the service, assisted by Dr. J. Ralph Clayton, Conway District Superintendent, the Rev. James D. Keith, the pastor, and the Rev. John Workman, former pastor.

The new sanctuary will seat 380, and the total cost of construction, exclusive of furniture, was \$127,000. The architects were Roark and Perkins of Little Rock, and the contractor was James Cone Construction Co. of Little Rock.



Architect's drawing of new Sylvan Hills United Methodist Church.



Members of the Little Rock Conference who are entering Perkins School of Theology this fall. BACK ROW, left to right: Eston Williams, Harold Rogers; FRONT: Daniel C. George, Travis D. Langley.

Six Arkansas youth entering Perkins for ministerial training

DALLAS, Tex.—Six students from Arkansas are included among the new class enrolled in Perkins School of Theology as it begins its 57th academic year.

They are: **Little Rock Conference:** Daniel C. George, Travis D. Langley, Eston Williams and Harold Rogers; **North Arkansas Conference:** Marc Cooper and Jim Brown.

They heard Perkins Dean Joseph D. Quillian, Jr., urge them to exercise their trust in God and maintain a steady practice of worship and personal devotions. Dr. Quillian added that systematic study and a lively sense of humor are vital.

Southern Methodist University President Willis M. Tate reminded the students to be prepared to have their faith tested in the fire of study and scrutiny. He said that such a process would give them a faith truly their own, adding that the Church is the hope of the world and that young seminarians are the hope of the Church.

During the theology school's service of acceptance for the new students, faculty, and staff, Bishop W. Kenneth Pope of the Dallas-Fort Worth Area reminded the Perkins community that

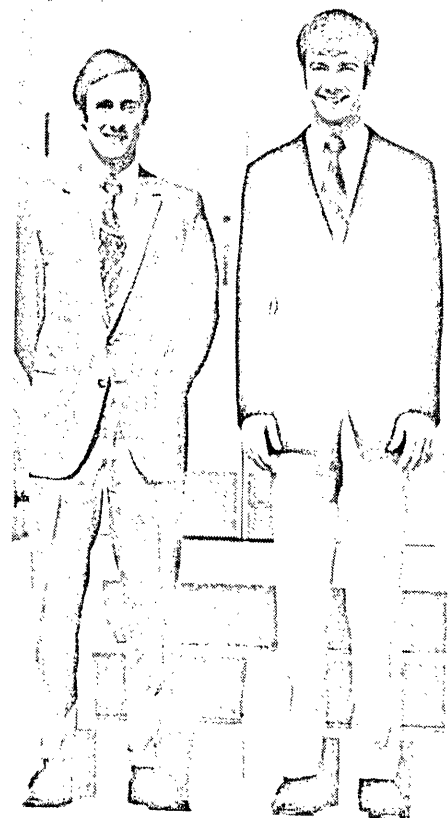
it must look up for guidance and never look down with condescension on the people it is to serve.

The orientation process for new students is aimed at pointing up the continuing aim of the school: the development of an alert, thoughtful, effective leadership for the Church.

Most of the students at Perkins are preparing for the pastoral ministry. Others are preparing for Ph. D. studies or for work as missionaries, religious education and church music directors and in other specialized fields.

Some students are interested laymen, who may or may not enter the professional ministry of the Church. Students come to Perkins from many states and several foreign countries.

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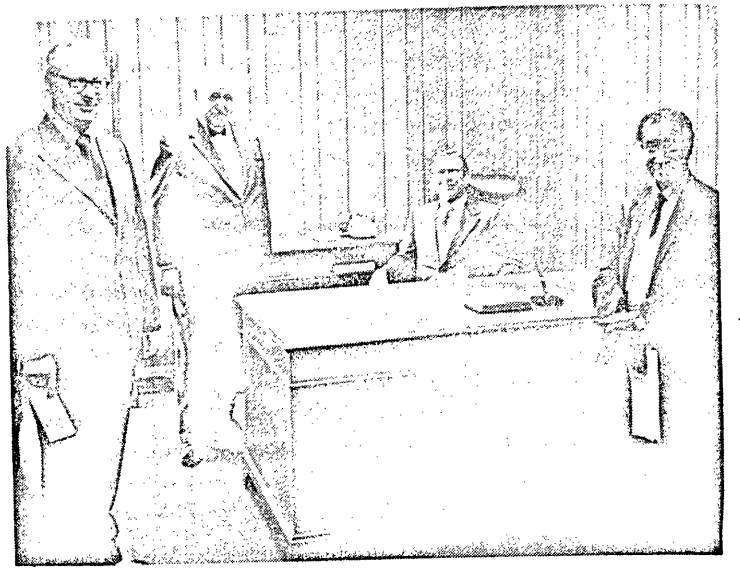
North Arkansas ministerial students entering Perkins School of Theology. FROM LEFT: Marc Cooper, Jim Brown.

"Open House" at new United Methodist Headquarters

715 Center Street
in Little Rock



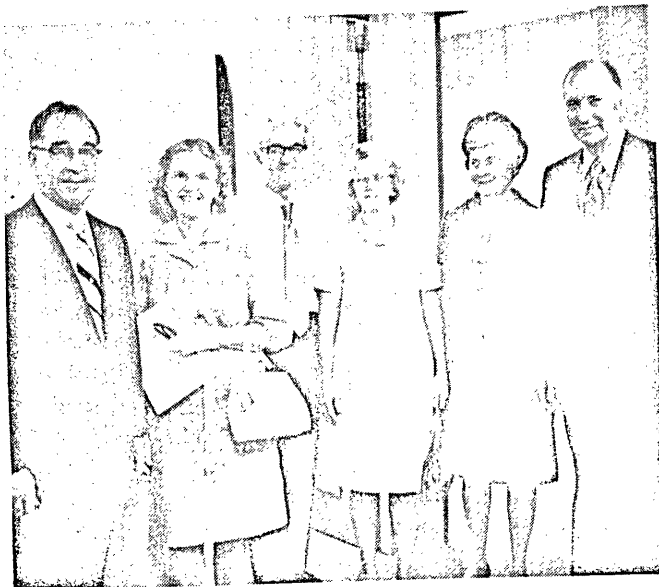
Bishop and Mrs. Galloway visited with Mr. and Mrs. Misael Bruna of Little Rock in the Bishop's Suite.



Dr. C. Ray Hozendorf, Little Rock District Superintendent of the Little Rock Conference, sits at his desk as he is visited by (from left): the Rev. Rayford Diffee, pastor of Geyer Springs Church, Little Rock; Dr. Harold D. Sadler, pastor of First Church, England; and the Rev. W. H. D. Bright, pastor of the Newport Church of the Southwest Conference.



The Rev. and Mrs. John H. Thompson greeted Miss Floreta Skinner and Miss Ruth Burnet. Dr. Thompson is Little Rock District Superintendent, Southwest Annual Conference.



Dr. Harold O. Eggensperger, left, Program Director of the North Arkansas Conference, the Rev. Earl B. Carter, right, associate Program Director, and Mrs. H. E. Calhoun, second from right, office secretary, greet Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Davis and Mrs. Eugene McNabb of Little Rock.



The Rev. and Mrs. James E. Major and Dr. and Mrs. Roy B. Shilling, Jr. of Hendrix College were pictured as they visited in the offices of The Arkansas Methodist.

Council on Social Welfare plans Sept. 19-21 meet

The 1971 annual meeting of the Arkansas Conference on Social Welfare will be held Sept. 19-21 at the Lafayette Hotel and First United Methodist Church in Little Rock. The meeting theme is "New Directions in Social Welfare," according to Ted Newman, program chairman.

Dr. Roy Nicks, chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Nashville, will bring the keynote address at 7 p.m., Sept. 19 at First Church.

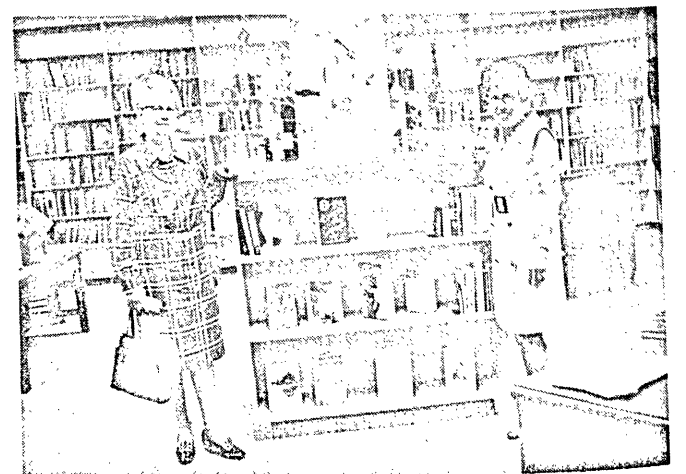
At noon of Sept. 20 the National Association of Social Workers, Arkansas Chapter, will sponsor a luncheon at the hotel. C. Ray Tribble, Chapter president, will preside. Representative Leroy Blankenship of Walnut Ridge will speak on legislation in social welfare.

Monday afternoon will be devoted to workshops on rehabilitation, day care, legislation, community mental health programs, manpower programs, church and social services, and camping and recreation.

The annual banquet will be held at the hotel on Monday evening. The



A group of visitors in the new Church Parlor at Little Rock's First United Methodist Church.



Admiring the enlarged library of First Church were Mrs. Catherine Ellis and Mrs. A. T. Albright of the church's library committee.

master of ceremonies will be Mr. Tribble and entertainment will be furnished by Dr. John McCollough Smith of Little Rock. The banquet program will also feature presentation of the Noland Blass Award and the Mrs. David D. Terry Award.

Dr. Roger B. Bost, director of the State Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services, will address the group at its general session on Tues-

DES ARC CHURCH NEARING COMPLETION

The Rev. Bennie G. Ruth, pastor of First United Methodist Church, Des Arc, has announced that the new building is rapidly nearing completion

day morning. Newly-elected officers will be installed at the close of this session.

and that the congregation expects to hold its first service in the new sanctuary on Oct. 1.

Bishop Paul V. Galloway has set the date of Oct. 31 for the Consecration Service for this new building. He will be assisted in the service by Dr. C. Ray Hozendorf.

The new chapel was recently completed with new carpet installed and new pews delivered and installed.

THE QUEST OF THE MINISTRY

As we come to Ministry Sunday, 1971, we are reminded by voices from every direction that the role of the minister is a changing one. The theological seminaries are facing this reality in the development of their programs, the minister in service is recognizing this as he seeks to up-date his skills and maintain his sensitivities during the years of his ministry, and the minister who comes to the time of retirement recognizes that the pulpit from which he steps down is different in many ways from the one he ascended at the beginning of his ministry.

William H. Likins, writing in a recent issue of *The Interpreter*, spoke of the doors that are opened to us through the observance of Ministry Sunday, September 19. He says that the day provides a setting for the local church or the campus to begin or advance in a quest to understand the nature of the Christian church and the purpose of its ministry.

This staff member of the Department of the Ministry of the Board of Education's Division of Higher Education, says, "A quest—whether for a Holy Grail, the moon and space beyond, or an inward or outward journey—involves exploration, risks and expectancy. In short, it is a learning experience."

First, let us give consideration to the exploration involved in the ministry in our time. One of the major accents in the development of management skills whether within the church or elsewhere speaks of a careful consideration of the needs of the group to be served and the many possible methods of meeting those needs. Mr. Likins calls on us to "help our fellow members explore the kinds of ministries needed in a context of accelerating change. This study forces us to wrestle with tough questions in a fresh way."

Involved in such a study is the consideration of a number of pertinent questions. What is the nature of the church and its ministry? Who is a minister, and what are the reasons for ordaining and setting him apart? What is the responsibility of the connection, the annual conference and the local congregation in continuing the sense of "calling"?

Questions like these cannot be adequately answered during a once-a-year observance of Ministry Sunday. We would quote again from the Likins article: "Interpreting ministry and ministerial education in the 1970s is a continuing process." In an increasing number of congregations the Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations is facing its responsibility for exploration in these matters. He reminds us that, "Exploration is risky. Risks usually involve both excitement and threat. We are uncertain, perhaps fearful of what we may find. The more personal the risk, the greater the anxiety is liable to be. Prejudices may be exposed. Self-pity may be discovered. Illusions may be unmasked. Mixed motives may be revealed. We may encounter demands for change."

The second reality in this effort to better understand the nature of the ministry is risk. Ministers and laymen are discovering together the risks of service in these days. Mr. Likins put it this way, "Risking ourselves to gain new understanding is more than a word; it is a way of living our lives."

We are continually thrilled as we read the accounts of innovations that are taking place within the churches of our constituency. None of these comes without the taking of some risk. None of these is successfully implemented without the glorious realization that this is the direction in which God is calling us. Ministry Sunday is an appropriate time to pledge oneself to be a part of such risk-taking in our day.

The final characteristic of this search for meaning in the ministry is related to expectation. As our friend has put it, "Exploring the context and content of ministry, and risking ourselves to gain new understanding create a climate wherein something significant happens. A quest is often sustained by anticipating something significant being found or experienced."

When we ask God to show us what he wants us to do, he may answer our prayer. Writing on the way God renews the church, Dr. W. A. Visser 't Hooft, said, "Expect great things from him, and get ready to do what he commands."

None of us can deny that the role and image of the ministry are constantly changing, but these three important elements of exploration, risk and expectation continue in whatever consideration we give to the important subject on Ministry Sunday or any other day of the year.

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"Listening to the Church"

We have been excited during the past few days by a new paperback book from Abingdon which reports on a survey of feelings and opinions concerning the present and the future of the established church.

Written by Dr. Virgil Wesley Sexton of the staff of the United Methodist Program Council, this book provides a "talk-back" from local churches throughout the United States.

Bishop W. Ralph Ward, in his Foreword, calls the well-documented material in the book "a message to the church from its basic constituency." The author says that the source of the material is "probably the most thorough, comprehensive, and inclusive survey in the history of the church."

Referring to the accusation that much of the program of the church has been "handed down" in the past, Dr. Sexton reflects in this book a process of "grass roots" expression that he says may characterize the programming in the church during the middle years of the 70s.

Some persons may be shocked at what young people think of the "establishment." Some of the boards and agencies of the church may cringe at what the survey says about needed changes. Regardless of personal opinions, the fact remains that the insights of all are important and must be recognized if the established church is to survive.

Dr. Sexton displays a remarkable skill in making the report of this survey quite readable. We agree with the author's closing sentences: "These data, and their analysis, help show United Methodism where it stands. Continuing examination of the response in the light of Christian purpose will help church people, clergy and laity together, discover what they should be doing and where they should be going."

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news and views

OF THE WORLD OF RELIGION

by doris woolard

Dr. Michael Novak, presenting the keynote address to a three-day Christian Family Movement conference at the University of Notre Dame, labeled the American school system as the nation's No. 1 religion. The Catholic philosopher said "Education is how many facts you can store and how well you can analyze them," and noted that the accumulation of facts is the necessary ingredient for the current machine structure. Novak told the conference that America's search for values is impeded by the "machine culture that is geared to destroy human personality." However, he cautioned his listeners not to be afraid when the feeling of nothingness overwhelms them. "At the core of every culture is an abyss" . . . "God manifests Himself in life almost always in defeat and almost never in triumph," he said.

The Iowa State Bd. of Public Instruction has again exempted all Amish children from state education standards for another year. Amish spokesmen have said they want to continue using their own Amish teachers—who usually have only an eighth-grade education—because they fear a college-trained, certified teacher would inadvertently steer their children away from the plain, farm-oriented Amish faith. Following a tour of inspection to several of the schools, Gov. Robert Ray recommended the Amish be given another year to upgrade their schools, citing the religious freedom issue.

Eighty-seven of the 100 largest Sunday schools—all over 1,000 in membership—in the nation are Baptist, according to a survey by Christian Life magazine in its Sept. issue. Of the 12 largest schools, 10 are reported to have affiliation with Baptist denominations. First Baptist Church, Hammond, Ind., with 5,074 enrolled, is reported to have the largest school.

Christian Life magazine, which last year predicted that the 1970s will form the decade of the "large Sunday school," cited six trends for Sunday schools over the next decade: expansion of busing, growth of paid leadership, more "larger" classes, emphasis on evangelism rather than education, "marriage" between Sunday school and preaching, with the minister giving leadership in both and the Sunday school serving as the basis of multi-service ministries.

The Bible movement has brought Roman Catholics and Protestants together on a basis of mutual scholarly respect, according to Father Raymond Brown, S.S., newly-elected president of the Catholic Biblical Assn. of America. He pointed out that the Assn., organized in 1936, was originally all-Catholic but that it now includes 50 or more Protestants among its membership of 650. Brown told newsmen that the increasing joint study of the Bible "prohibits or at least minimizes overstatements and stereo-types" formerly common on both sides.

Anglican Bishop Eric Treacy, prelate in England well-known for hard-hitting, down-to-earth comments on modern life, observed in his Sept. diocesan newsletter that noise, speed, and "the pursuit of size" are making the practice of Christianity "exceedingly difficult" in modern urban society. He noted that these are three conditions of life which are the opposite of everything which nourishes the spiritual life. "People find it hard to pray these days because their minds and souls are so jarred that they cannot find the peace which is essential to devotion."

The Catacombs of Rome, once used for underground "churches" by persecuted Christians, are now reported to be serving as dismantling workshops for enterprising car thieves. Where once the subterranean vaults contained the relics of Christian martyrs, they now contain the remains of stripped-down Fiats, Alfa-Romeos and other stolen autos. "The Catacomb tunnels twist and turn for something like 12 kilometers (eight miles) and the thieves obviously have some secret entrances we don't know about," said police officer Antonio Zuchi.

Thanksgiving is an "anti-Indian" festival and it "dehumanizes" the Indian for the U.S. to teach that Columbus discovered the hemisphere, the Rev. Homer Noley told a national seminar of United Methodists meeting in Lincoln, Neb. "To teach that Columbus was the first man to discover America is dehumanizing for Indians," he said, suggesting that Columbus' voyages may have discovered America for Europeans but not for the people who already lived here.

Dr. Joseph B. Tyson, chairman of the religion department at Southern Methodist University, will conduct an informal adult education course on "Contemporary Expressions of Jesus." In an interview Tyson stated that Christians and non-Christians in every age tend to see Jesus in terms of their own values. He expressed doubts about the so-called "Jesus Freaks." The latter, he said, "seem to claim they have discovered the historical Jesus, but their expressions about him would make this questionable. Like most others, they have made Jesus their own contemporary and have not really gone into an historical study."

During the past three years, some 1,100 alcoholics have undergone rehabilitation at a ranch which is part of an Indian mission of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Yakima, Wash. area. James W. Oldham, director, observed that in his experience younger and younger persons are becoming alcoholics. He attributed the trend to the relaxing of parental restraint on drinking and increasing affluence among youth.

Dr. C. Penrose St. Amant, professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., was elected president of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Ruschlikon, Switzerland. During his sabbatical leave from Southern Seminary in 1970-71, Dr. St. Amant was guest professor of church history at the Swiss seminary and developed a warm relationship with students and faculty. St. Amant has been professor of church history at Southern since 1959 and dean of the school of theology for 10 years.

Tunis Radio has reported that Pope Paul has assured Tunisian Foreign Minister Mohammed Almasmudi that the Vatican will continue its efforts to gain a permanent international status for Jerusalem as an open city for Christians and Muslims as well as Jews. The Israeli government has thus far resisted pressures to internationalize the city and reportedly is ready to defend its position before the U.N. Security Council if the question is debated.

The current economic crisis in America is creating "harvest time" for churches, according to a black minister. "I hate to admit it," said the Rev. Walter L. Battle, "but the economy has caused inner-city people to return to Church." Earlier this year, he said he was ready to sell his four buses used to transport people from inner-city residences to the church in Minneapolis. Now, he's buying more.

Archbishop Michael Ramsey of Canterbury, the Anglican primate, has declared that Britain's entry into the Common Market would mean "immense new responsibility and opportunity" for the churches. Parliament is expected to vote on the controversial proposal, now the subject of intense national debate, toward the end of October.

For the first time in its 25-year history, the United Bible Societies will meet in Canada. The UBS, which embraces 50 national Bible societies will meet near Toronto Sept. 21-25. Dr. Laton E. Holmgren of the American Bible Society will preside. Plans will be laid for the 10-year program of advance to be launched in 1972.

The Rev. Arthur Blessitt, famed for his work on Hollywood's Sunset Strip, left earlier this month for an extended "Jesus People" crusade in the British Isles. Blessitt said in an interview that the trip to Britain was part of a plan to take the cross around the globe in an attempt to awaken people to the Christian Gospel. He said that a part of his organization will remain in America to conduct an intensive spiritual campaign in New Hampshire just before the nation's first Presidential primary there in March. "There are spiritual issues the Presidential candidates should respond to," Blessitt said.

Dr. Oswald C. J. Hoffman told the annual convention of the Lutheran Laymen's League that American people are discovering "from bitter experience" that money, production know-how, military power, or political experience cannot of themselves make or keep a nation great. The best way we can celebrate the 200th anniversary of the founding of our country is to take a new hold on the Good News of Christ . . . with all the joy there is in it."



CLAYMONT, Del. — The Rev. George W. Goodley (right), pastor of Atonement United Methodist church near Claymont, Del., and Keith Harper, general chairman of the church's Fall stewardship drive, ponder a huge 40 x 60-inch jigsaw puzzle of the church building. A piece of the puzzle has been mailed to each of the 1,200 members of the congregation. As each fits his piece into the master puzzle which will be displayed in the church foyer, he makes his stewardship commitment to the church in time, money and talents.

—RNS Photo



Edward Lester

L.R. attorney named Hendrix Loyalty Fund chairman

Edward Lester, a Little Rock attorney has been named general chairman of the Hendrix College 1971-72 Alumni Loyalty Fund. Dr. Roy B. Shilling, Hendrix president, announced the selection.

The goal for the annual drive is \$100,000 with 1,200 former Hendrix students participating. The 1970-71 Loyalty Fund exceeded its \$90,000 goal with \$99,233.50 contributed from 1,031 alumni.

More than 50 Class Agents will assist Lester in the campaign. One person from each graduating class since 1921 has been selected to serve as the agent for his class. All classes graduating prior to 1921 will be canvassed through the Hendrix Half-Century Club headed by one agent.

Lester is a 1943 graduate of Hendrix. He is also vice chairman of the Hendrix College Board of Trustees and on the Finance Committee of the Board. In 1961-63 Lester also served as president of the Hendrix College Alumni Association.

Lester served in the U. S. Navy for three years and he was the commanding officer of the destroyer USS Jacob Jones. After World War II, he attended the University of Arkansas Law School, graduating summa cum laude in 1948.

In his professional life Lester has served in many leadership positions. He is an active churchman and has been chairman of the Administrative Board of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Little Rock.

He married the former Mary Evelyn Markham of Little Rock.

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GOLDEN F. MOORE, SR.

Memorial Services for Golden F. Moore, Sr., age 69, of Lonoke were conducted August 19 in the sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church of Lonoke with the Rev. Michael R. Clayton officiating.

Moore was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Lonoke where he held many offices through the years. He was a member of the Chancel Choir and, for many years, a

SEPTEMBER 16, 1971

Guidance Fd. and Prison Ministry expand services

The Arkansas Guidance Foundation and the Arkansas Prison Ministry are now joining forces to provide a strengthened ministry for inmates in prison and parolees returning to the community.

Regular prison visitation has been in process at Tucker intermediate Reformatory for the last four weeks. Groups of laymen from all over the state are interested in participating. The idea is to come just to share in a period of fellowship with the boys while meeting in small groups. The volunteers will help the boys to know that someone cares and will be ready to help on a job therapy program when the boy returns to the community. Volunteers and Foundation Staff have already begun to find jobs for the boys.

Similar work is beginning with a newly organized woman's Auxiliary which will visit regularly with the women in prison. Plans are also being made for volunteer work at Cummins prison farm.

The Arkansas Prison Ministry was funded with a \$15,000 grant by the Lutheran Church in America for the purpose of starting a pre-release program. It is an unincorporated organization which has official representation from ten church bodies.

The Arkansas Guidance Foundation is an independent, non-profit, incorporated body which has the endorsement of a number of church bodies but no direct representation.

The Arkansas Prison Ministry will continue to seek funding for the pre-release program through church and foundation grants. Meanwhile, the Arkansas Guidance Foundation is looking toward enough funding through private and church sources to cover the cost of the pre-release program if necessary and to expand both the residence for youth in crisis and statewide volunteer program.

—Eugene Efird, director

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"There is one striking similarity between the first century of the Christian era and today. It is that the Christian faith is a minority movement with a world to win."—Dr. Alan Walker of Australia.

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lay member of the Little Rock Annual Conference. He was well known for his involvement in the life of Arkansas Methodism.

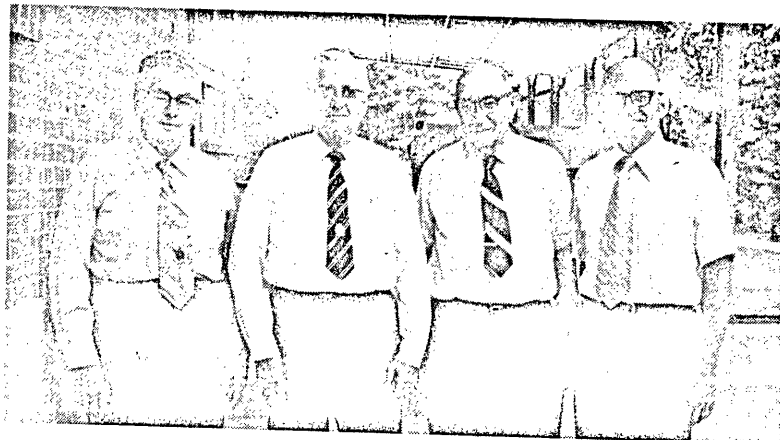
Moore was a Mason and a former Arkansas State Representative from Lonoke County. He was a retired school administrator. At the time of his death, he operated an insurance, accounting, and tax agency in Lonoke.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Margaret D. Moore; two sons, Golden F. Moore Jr. of Carlisle and the Rev. Robert L. Moore of Chicago who is a member of the North Arkansas Conference. Other survivors include two grandchildren, two brothers, and three sisters.

Burial was in the Concord Cemetery in Lonoke County.

Little Rock Conference Laymen's Assembly

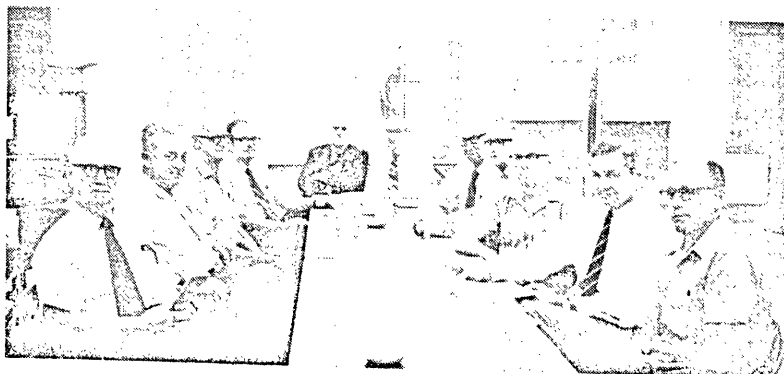
Camp Tanako, Sept. 11



Among the leaders were (l. to r.): Wm. B. McPherson of the staff of the Board of the Laity, Evanston, Ill.; Bishop Paul V. Galloway; S. H. "Herb" Allman, Conference Lay Leader, and Dr. Alvin C. Murray, El Dorado, who directed the small group emphasis of the meeting.



Dr. Alvin C. Murray, second from right in second row, with the leaders for the small groups which met during the laymen's meeting.



Bishop Galloway and Conference Lay Leader Allman, center, are shown during the meeting of the Conference Board of the Laity which met Saturday morning at Tanako. They are (from left): E. C. Cobb, W. M. Shepherd, Thornton Stewart, Ted Nichols, T. A. Prewitt, Sr., John H. Simpson, Milton Teague, Pratt Rempel, and Armin T. Dressel.

S. LLOYD LAWRENCE

Samuel Lloyd Lawrence, 78, retired manager of the Arkansas Power and Light Co., died Sept. 7 at his home in Harrisburg. The funeral service was held Sept. 9 at First United Methodist Church, Harrisburg, with the Rev. Bob Orr, pastor, officiating.

A native of Brinkley, Mr. Lawrence had made his home in Harrisburg for many years. Prior to that he had lived in Clarendon where he held the position as manager of A. P. and

L. for a number of years.

He was a member of Harrisburg United Methodist Church, a 32nd degree Mason, and member of V.F.W. and an Army veteran of World War I.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Ella Guarnette Lawrence; one daughter, Mrs. Dana Collins of Harrisburg; one sister, Mrs. S. C. Johnson of Little Rock; three brothers, Bill Lawrence of Santa Rosa, Calif.; the Rev. Charles E. Lawrence of Rolla, Mo.; and Fred Lawrence of Little Rock; and two grandchildren.

NEWS and NOTES

CLIFTON RULE JONES, Marianna High School band director, will also work as youth director in First United Methodist Church of Marianna this year. He is working with the Rev. Leonard Byers, pastor.

THE KOUPLERS CLASS of Wiggins Memorial Church, Fayetteville, and the Adult Class of St. James United Methodist Church, Southwest Conference, both in Fayetteville, are combining for a period of study and discussion of a series of Sunday school lessons. The Rev. Allen Hilliard is the Wiggins pastor, and the Rev. Lewis Chesser is serving as pastor at St. James, as well as serving as Wesley Foundation director.

PAUL HANKINS, son of the Rev. and Mrs. David Hankins of Arkadelphia, has been employed at First Church, Malvern, as part-time youth director and assistant to the Rev. Charles Ashcraft.

DR. KENNETH SPORE, retired minister of the Little Rock Conference, now living in Springdale, was guest speaker in the Bentonville Church, August 22, while the Rev. Maurice Lanier was on vacation.

DR. WILLIS ALDERSON, administrative assistant at Hendrix College, was guest speaker in the Lonoke Church, August 22. The Rev. Mike Clayton is pastor.

GURDON METHODIST MEN heard District Superintendent George W. Martin entertain with guitar and singing at the family night supper, September 3. The Rev. Cagle E. Fair is the Gurdon minister.



Floyd Horton is the oldest member of the Marshall United Methodist Church. He is shown with Mrs. Horton on his 90th birthday, August 22, in the Marshall Church. The Rev. Orville Knapp is their pastor.

SOUTHSIDE UNITED METHODIST Church, Batesville District, held a Lay Witness Mission last weekend with Bill Woodsmall and Harold Davidson coordinating the visiting witnesses. Both are members of Washington Avenue Church of North Little Rock. Harold Martin and Cecil Millikin served as local chairmen. Laymen who helped to make preliminary plans were Harold McDonald, admissions counselor at Arkansas College and member of Central Avenue Church, and Tom Fulton, of Gardner Memorial Church, North Little Rock. The Rev. John W. Lee is pastor of Southside and Moorefield Churches.

DR. ALFRED A. KNOX, editor of the Arkansas Methodist, is leading a series of three studies of COCU (Consultation on Church Union) for adult classes in St. Paul Church of Little Rock. Mrs. T. D. Hendrickson is chairman of ecumenical affairs in St. Paul. The Rev. J. Robert Scott is pastor.

ST. PAUL CHURCH of Fort Smith held a Ladies' Night, sponsored by the Men's Club, on September 7. Guest speaker was the Rev. Arvest Lawson, pastor of the Van Buren First United Methodist Church, who gave a slide lecture concerning his recent trip to the Holy Land. The Rev. W. L. Douglas was host pastor.

MARION UNITED METHODISTS heard the Rev. Leon Wilson of Earle tell about his recent trip to the Holy Land, during the Sunday evening service, September 5. The Rev. B. W. Stallcup is the Marion minister.

THE REV. FRANK WARDEN, associate minister of evangelism in University Park United Methodist Church, Dallas, will be the speaker for the September 20 meeting of Methodist Men in Lakewood Church, North Little Rock. Mr. Warden is a former member of the Lakewood Church, of which the Rev. John B. Hays is pastor.

THE NOW SINGERS of First United Methodist Church, Benton, under the direction of Mrs. Ed Hollenbeck, presented special programs recently at First Church of Harrison, Mid-High Camp at Tanako, First Church of Haynesville, Louisiana, and Grace Church in Ruston. Mrs. Hollenbeck has been assisted by Bob Moore and Kristi Garrison.

MRS. DON WILLIAMS has been employed as part-time director of Christian Education in the West Helena Church. She will be working with the Rev. William C. Haltom, pastor.

LAY SPEAKER in the Midland Heights pulpit at Fort Smith, August 29, was Mrs. Ray Ragsdale, church school teacher and chairman of missions in that church. The Rev. Pryor R. Cruce is the pastor.

THE VALLEY GROVE United Methodist Church of Murfreesboro, in the Southwest Conference, had fine attendance on Sunday, September 5, at which time the message was brought by the Rev. Mrs. Mammie B. Davie. Her text, "Let Her Alone," was from Mark 14:6. The Rev. H. A. Davie is pastor at Valley Grove.

THE REV. DON R. WILLIAMS, pastor of the Salem United Methodist Church in Benton, was the evangelist for the revival held in Morning Star United Methodist Church, September 6-10. He is a former pastor of the Morning Star and Tigert Churches, near Hot Springs. The present pastor is the Rev. Robert E. Woody.

THE MT. OLIVE HOMECOMING was held at the traditional fourth Sunday in August. Mrs. J. P. Mason, Jr. was chairman of the event, assisted by Mrs. Linda Richardson and Mrs. Sue Duff. Morning worship was led by the Rev. Paul Wilson, pastor of the Mt. Olive and Lamar churches.

THE SMACKOVER United Methodist Church had as guest speaker on Sunday, August 29, the Rev. James E. Major, vice president and director of development at Hendrix College. The Rev. John O. Alston is the Smackover pastor.

THIRTY-FIVE MEMBERS of the Siloam Springs United Methodist Fellowship went to Tulsa Saturday, September 5, where they attended "Jesus Christ, Superstar" at The Assembly Center. They were accompanied by their counselors: Mr. and Mrs. David Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Wasson, Dr. and Mrs. James Tinnin and Miss Debbie Nolan, youth director.

THE REV. HAL SESSIONS, a chaplain at the Methodist Hospital in Memphis, was guest speaker at Marion in August. Julian Fogleman, chairman of the Administrative Board, led the worship service. The Rev. B. W. Stallcup is pastor.

WESTERN HILLS SENIOR UMYF members gave assistance at the Methodist Children's Home the week before school started. On Sunday, the 15 children of one home, with their house parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Russell, were guests in the Western Hills Church at church school and worship. They heard a sermon by the Rev. Bob Robertson, pastor.

MRS. LOIS SPARKS HIGHTOWER would like for her friends in Arkansas and Louisiana to know that she has retired from teaching. She has lived in many places during her teaching career and earlier when her father was a minister in both states. Her present address is Route 2, Box 100, Florien, Louisiana, but she and her husband will live at Toledo Bend Lake, Louisiana, after December 1, when he retires.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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.

Sept. 12—Sunday—Matt. 18:23-35
Sept. 13 Luke 8:11-15
Sept. 14 Luke 21:15-19
Sept. 15 Rom. 5:1-5
Sept. 16 II Cor. 6:1-10
Sept. 17 Col. 1:3-18
Sept. 18 II Thessa. 1:1-4
Sept. 19—Sunday Titus 2:1-8

IN PROMOTION DAY Services at the Holly Grove United Methodist Church, Jerri Lyn Richardson received a 13-year perfect attendance pin, Brenda Richardson an 11-year pin, Nell Spurlock an 8-year pin, Lisa Spurlock and David H. Richardson 5-year pins, and Charles Wesley Nance a 1-year pin. The Rev. Charles Nance is pastor.

CENTRAL CHURCH of Fayetteville is offering two adult courses this fall. "Basic Concepts of Our Faith" is being taught by the Rev. Lewis Chesser, Wesley Foundation director. Mrs. Walter Richards is serving as coordinator for the course "Church and Community: What's Going on in Community Service." Guest speaker for the opening session was Mrs. Robbin C. Anderson on the subject "Foreign Students in Fayetteville." Dr. Joel Cooper is pastor of Central Church.

NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS of the Senior High UMYF at Siloam Springs are Mack Freeman, president; Melody Peters, vice-president; and Terry Gibson, secretary-treasurer. Counselors for the group are Mr. and Mrs. David Jackson. The Rev. Merle Allison Johnson is pastor.

DAVID DRIVER, summer youth director for the Heber Springs First United Methodist Church, was honored with a church-wide potluck supper on Sunday evening, August 30, at the conclusion of his summer's work. A love offering of several hundred dollars was presented to him by grateful church members for his outstanding contribution to the church during the summer. David will begin his final year at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, at Atlanta in September. The Rev. Bill Womack is pastor of the Heber Springs Church.

MISS BECKY KNAPP of Earle has received her 25th pin for attending Sunday School for 25 years without missing a Sunday. For her devotion and dedication, the First United Methodist Church of Earle presented her with a bouquet of flowers and a corsage with a large "25" in the center during promotion services on Sunday, September 5. The Rev. J. Leon Wilson is her pastor.

SEPTEMBER 16, 1971

SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS RECOMMEND WOMEN'S GOALS

(Marjorie Hyer)

LINCOLN, Nebraska (UMI) — Fuller participation of women in both church and society was repeatedly underlined in recommendations of some 240 women from throughout America attending the National Seminar of the Women's Division, United Methodist Board of Missions, here August 23-31. That emphasis emerged in several organizational goals recommended for United Methodist women:

— "to encourage and prepare women for full, responsible participation in the total life of the church and community.

— "to challenge women to work actively and openly for the elimination of injustice and for the liberation of oppressed peoples.

— "to continue self-direction of the Women's Division and its program by its membership.

— "to work through developmental processes that all women may achieve empowerment as whole persons."

Also recommended by the Seminar was a single organization for women in the United Methodist Church to supersede the long-standing Women's Society of Christian Service and Wesleyan Service Guild. In recommendations directed to the October annual meeting of the Women's Division, the Seminar called for "one new inclusive organization with a new name, with flexible, creative opportunities and activities in the total program which meet the needs and interests of all women.

The Women's Division, which is the national policy-making body for the approximately 1.6 million Society and Guild members, must approve Seminar recommendations before they can become official and operative.

It was recommended that "adequate representation" from both the Women's Society and the Guild formulate plans for the new women's organization in time for presentation to the 1972 United Methodist General Conference in Atlanta, with an objective of implementing the plans within two years following General Conference. The Seminar envisioned the relationship of the proposed new organization to the Women's Division. It was recommended that the latter "be an autonomous body within the Board of Missions, determining its own policy, including securing and using of funds."

The emphasis on liberation and empowerment of women also emerged in program priorities which the women recommended. The first priority called for "broad participation of women of varying interests, ages, ethnic groupings, life styles everywhere in our organization to provide means and resources to raise women's consciousness of their worth and role in the social, political, cultural and economic life of our Church and community."

Other priorities and goals recommended by the women emphasized the urgency for involvement of church women's groups in politics, the peace movement, ecology and movements for liberation.

The recommendations agreed on by the women reflected a concern for the

CALENDAR

Laubach Literacy Classes
September 27, 28 and 29
9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Pulaski Heights U.M. Church
Woodlawn and Monroe Streets
Little Rock

North Arkansas WSG
October 2 and 3
First Church, Blytheville

North Arkansas WSCS
October 5 and 6
First Church, Blytheville

Little Rock Conference WSG
October 3
Camp Tanako

Little Rock Conference WSCS
October 13
Asbury Church, Little Rock

Southwest Conference
Women's Society Annual Meeting
October 15 and 16
Wesley United Methodist Church
Tulsa, Oklahoma

responsibility of Christians to involve themselves in the social, political and economic problems of the world. They made it clear that the mandate for their concern lay not in a humanistic idealism but was rooted in the gospel itself. They set as their first goal, the development of "one inclusive community of women, to be open to and freed by the fullness of the gospel of Jesus Christ." High on the list of program priorities was the Seminar's call to women "to study and interpret through articulation and action the revolutionary message of the gospel, with its implication for personal and community growth."

Another priority approved by the Seminar urged women's organizations "to create in the Church a movement for peace and justice," to "make every effort to end the war in Indochina and all wars" and at the same time work for the "conversion to a peacetime economy."

Church women's groups were called on "to learn to organize politically and to strategize for action in dealing with issues." A study of the "economic and political systems, what they do to and for people" was called for, with the added suggestion that church women should "work to effect necessary change."

Chairman of the Seminar Planning Committee was Mrs. John Paul Stone, San Diego, Calif., a vice-president of the Women's Division.

†

"News in Brief"

PEARL McCain was the speaker for the Pearl McCain Guild, named in her honor, at the North Little Rock First United Methodist Chapel, September 13. Dr. McCain recently retired after serving 42 years on mission fields in China and Japan, and is now living in Little Rock.

Literacy program gains support in Corning area

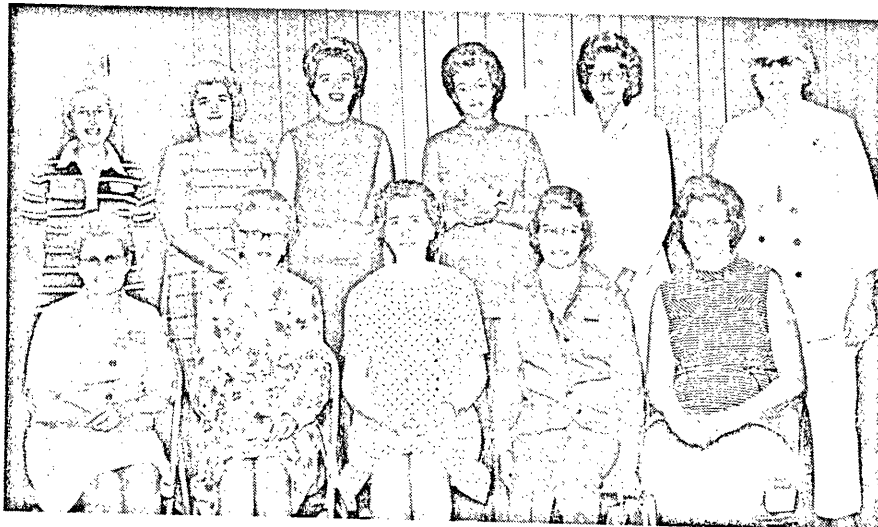
A school of instruction for the Laubach Reading Program was held three days in August in the Corning United Methodist Church. Instructor was Mrs. W. B. Wood of Parkin, assisted by Irma Lopez, native of Mexico, who learned to read and write English by the Laubach method. Two VISTA workers, four wives of Methodist ministers and one Methodist minister were among the 24 students who took the training.



Mrs. W. B. Wood (at right), assisted by Miss Irma Lopez, demonstrates the Laubach teaching method to Mrs. Wayne Clark, wife of the Corning Methodist minister.



The Rev. and Mrs. Lorne Piercy of St. Francis Charge were among participants in the Laubach workshop at Corning.



Some of the students in the Laubach Literacy program were photographed by the Clay County Courier. First row above, from left: Mrs. Ralph Waldon, Mrs. P. L. Oliver, Mrs. George Bridges, Mrs. Winfred Polk, all of Corning, and Mrs. G. A. McKelvey, minister's wife from Pocahontas. Second row: Mrs. C. R. Black, Jr., Mrs. William Keith, Mrs. Wayne Clark, Mrs. John O. Black, Mrs. J. R. Stanley, all of Corning, and Mrs. James Weatherford of Pocahontas, wife of a retired minister who serves Raven- den Springs.

THE REV. JON GUTHRIE, campus minister at Hendrix College and former missionary to the Congo, was the speaker for the September 14 meeting of the Markham Church Women's Society at Little Rock.

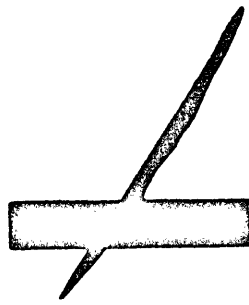
THE PARAGOULD DISTRICT Women's Society of Christian Service held a one-day retreat at Wayland Springs Camp, Sept. 8.

MONTICELLO DISTRICT Women's Society of Christian Service plans a Day Apart to be held at Hamburg, September 29.

MRS. GUY NORWOOD gave a review of the book "Jesus, The Son of Man" at the September 7 meeting of the Women's Society in First Church, Springdale. Mrs. J. R. Dodson gave the devotional.

The Sunday School Lesson

By: Alfred A. Knox



LESSON FOR SEPTEMBER 26: God Gives Meaning to Life

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE: Psalms 73; Ephesians 1

MEMORY SELECTION: He destined us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will. (Ephesians 1:5)

AIM OF THE LESSON: To take a look at the widespread lack of meaning among people of our own day, and suggest how God can give new direction to these lives when he is given a chance.

* * *

Following our discussion of last week concerning God's revelation of himself, we move now to a study of the meaning that comes to life when men become aware of God and his purpose. One has only to listen to the music of our time or expose himself to the literature and movies of the day to feel the widespread meaninglessness which is so widespread. Inside the church there is a massive effort to rediscover the mission of God's people, and significant numbers are "dropping out," because they fail to see purpose in the institution. Outside the church great numbers of people are affirming by their words or actions that meaning must be found somewhere else.

Notice that the title of today's lesson is stated affirmatively, and so we want to keep the accent there. Great numbers of people are seeking professional help outside the church because life has become meaningless and futile to them. Others are expressing their bewilderment and despair by rebelling against authority and abandoning moral restraint. They argue that if life makes no sense, then what is the use of playing by the rules. However, there are encouraging currents within the family of God, and thousands of people are discovering that God does give meaning to life. The purpose of our lesson is two-fold: to underscore great affirmations that God does give meaning to life, and to help members of the class have such an experience.

The 73rd Psalm is the personal testimony of a man who found real meaning for his life through a rediscovery of God. Many great Christians have paid tribute to the high spiritual insights of this psalm. We would hope that our study of it might be used to help others evaluate their problems and doubts in the light of God's revelation of himself and of his ultimate purpose in Christ.

How much we need to understand and interpret the reality of God in all the experiences of everyday living! His will and his way need to find their way into the center of so many of the areas of contemporary living. This will happen only after he has found his way into the hearts of the individuals who have responsibilities for helping shape the decisions of our day. If God's will is to be known in the collective decisions of labor relations, race relations, and in the arenas of war and peace, it will have to first be known in the lives of the individuals who sit in the conferences and around the tables where such decisions are hammered out. It is also essential that those of us who fill smaller roles in life understand how necessary it is to look to God for meaning as did the psalmist of old.

* * *

"MY STEPS HAD WELL NIGH SLIPPED"

We cannot be sure who wrote Psalm 73, but we do know that it tells us of one who successfully completed a pilgrimage from futility to faith. He began with a great affirmation. "Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart," (verse 1). But then he moves quickly to say "my steps had well nigh slipped . . . when I saw the prosperity of the wicked."

This psalm speaks to us of both victory and struggle, beginning with the abiding conclusion which had emerged from the time of conflict — that God is truly good. This psalm should have special meaning for us because it describes a common experience for every person who has thought about the meaning of what he sees happening around him every day. We should take note of the fact that he begins his poem with a declaration of praise. He did not leave his readers in suspense but shared with them at the very beginning his conclusion that it pays to serve the Lord.

Having made his beginning there, he moves quickly to tell of his experiences of grave spiritual peril resulting from the unanswered questions in his life. Dr. Charles M. Laymon says in International Lesson Annual: "Even when we recognize that God created his world in a certain way and that we must live in it accordingly if we are to discover life's meaning, there are some experiences that cannot be readily explained. In the presence of certain tragedies it is useless, even sacrilegious, to apply patent answers."

* * *

THE PROBLEM OF EVIL

Psalm 73 deals primarily with the problem of evil, standing out in the literature of Israel along with the eloquent discourse on the theme by the prophet Habakkuk, and with such great dramatic power by Job. Dr. W. Stewart McCullough says in Interpreter's Bible: "Because the Hebrew people were morally sensitive, the problem was never far from them, and their efforts at an understanding found varied formulations. We have here a poet's reflections which were the result of bitter personal experience. It is neither involved nor for us definitive, nor is there any indication that he thought it might be anything more than a personal testimony. If, however, he was able to resolve the matter in a way that was satisfactory to his own morally astute spirit, there should be profit in our study of it."

As the writer carries us along on his spiritual pilgrimage, we see a time in his life when he was in grave spiritual peril. He tells us that he was a man of principle and integrity, but that he was brought into contact with godless people who, though they defied God and man, seemed immune from the troubles that beset others. The physical health and security did not invite the censure of our writer. They seemed to summon his envy. At one point he suggests that maybe God does not know about this, "Is there knowledge in the Most High?" (verse 11) Then, at the lowest level of his depression concerning this problem, there began to dawn the understanding which in the end reaffirmed his belief in the goodness of God.

* * *

THE BEGINNING OF UNDERSTANDING

The psalmist goes on to say in verse 15 that he would have been "untrue to the generation of thy children" if he had persisted in taking the negative point of view. Dr. McCullough points out that there were three factors that entered into his contemplation of the problem and that saved him from accepting the popular judgment.

First was a sense of perspective. He felt that it was necessary for him to be true not only to his own times but to the generations to come. He said that each time we are tempted to grow morally lax in our own time, if we will only think in terms of the generations to come, we will see the godless and the apparent triumph of their way in a new light.

The second factor was the realization that morality required more than logic. The third factor was

the effort to set his problem within the dimensions of the religious experience.

When he decided to figure out the answer for himself, the psalmist concluded that it was a "wearisome task." He could not put the pieces together himself; he could not reconcile the apparent discrepancies he saw between what he knew of God and what he saw in the world. This is the first step always toward a solid faith. You must decide there are some things you can't figure out for yourself. This is the hardest thing for many people to accept, that there are some things we can't completely understand.

* * *

THE ANSWER OF GOD'S COUNSEL

As the poet finally realized that spiritual perception comes from God, he moved into the magnificent words with which the Psalm closes. He admitted that he was dead wrong about his understanding of what was going on in the world. This is the folly of man's impatience with God, and yet it is not so foolish because it is by this route alone that he comes to an understanding of life and its meaning.

The closing stanza of the poem (vvs. 24-28) is a truly beautiful statement of the faith of a saint. After he has expressed his envy of the prosperous he has been restored to an affirmation that his whole desire is met by having God. Truly verse 25 is one of the outstanding texts of the Bible: "Whom have I in heaven but thee? And there is nothing upon earth that I desire besides thee."

* * *

THE FULFILLMENT OF GOD'S PURPOSE

We started this lesson on a rather minor key asking if there could be any meaning to life. It is so easy to get caught up in the mood of those lines and the prevailing attitude of many in our own time. A second portion of Scripture brings us to a positive climax to our discussion. Take a look at Ephesians 1:9 and 10. Here Paul gives a most adequate description of what is the underlying purpose of God in the world.

Paul says: "Having made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he has purposed in himself; that in the dispensation of the fullness of time he might gather together in one all things in Christ." The context of the first 14 verses of Ephesians is an enthusiastic expression by Paul of his confidence that God's developing purposes are all centered in Jesus Christ.

The Apostle affirms that it is possible to discover what life is all about. He says that we can know the thread that ties all of the events of history together. They center in Jesus Christ. So many people are looking everywhere else but to him for meaning and purpose. It should be no surprise to us that hundreds of people who were lost in the slough of despair are standing courageously in congregations and in small groups today making their witness that life has taken on meaning for them now in their personal experiences of Jesus Christ.

* * *

A MESSAGE FOR THE DISILLUSIONED

God can use us to communicate the great reality of today's lesson. Amidst all the despair and defeatism around us we can speak of purpose and meaning. At the heart of much of the unrest among young people is their difficulty in finding meaning in life. People everywhere are asking, "Who am I and why am I here?" There is no satisfactory answer to be found apart from God.

The psalmist looked through and beyond the temporary prosperity of the wicked and his own suffering to find peace of mind and release by clinging to God alone. Remember what the writer of Hebrews said, "Let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith." (Heb. 12:1, 2)

Dr. Charles Laymon says (Adult Bible Studies): "Christ's life, death, and resurrection bring a new meaning into our daily existence. We become more sure of God, more certain of the significance of public and personal events."

A Christ-related life is the greatest guarantee of knowing and fulfilling the design of God in our daily existence.

the British scene



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

One of the favourite spectacles for American visitors to London is the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace. Between 11 a.m. and noon the thousands who throng the Mall and the great open space in front of the Royal residence number a good representation from across the Atlantic. This week, as I write, some of them would be very disappointed people. For instead of the flash of gold and scarlet, and the brassy sound of the Guards' Band, there was silence and no marching.

The reason was that another battalion of the Brigade had been posted to Northern Ireland, and there were not enough of the Brigade of Guards to change the Guard every 24 hours—the change was reduced to one every 48 hours for the time.

It all underlines the seriousness of the situation in Northern Ireland, where, according to present views there is a real and terrible danger of civil war. Overhanging the summer recess of Parliament is this dire threat, and no one can see with any degree of clarity the end of this affair. The real difficulty is to get at the truth—so much partisanship is now present that to get a clear story is becoming almost impossible. The plea of Eric Gallagher of the central Mission in Belfast to stop hating and start loving is one which somehow must be heard above the snap-shots of the snipers if there is to be any hope.

* * *

ANOTHER WORLD

A recent book by Professor Peter L. Berger is "A Rumour of Angels." In it he spends a good deal of time arguing that the supernatural and belief in it has not vanished. In some ways this is a self-evident truth, and

as Alan Brien in the New Statesman has commented, there seems little need to spend so much time establishing the obvious. Young people today have never been so willing and ready to believe that there must be more in life than meets the eye, says Alan Brien, and he sites his conviction that there is "an almost Babylonian trust in astrology, a mediaeval sensitivity to the presence of evil forces and personal demons."

The rest of Mr. Brien's comments on the book are foreseeably agnostic, but the point he makes is an interesting one. One of the things that the church is so far failing signally to do is to take the visionary and idealistic attitude of many young people seriously. This is because the young do not want to accept their life experience in the ready-made packages of yesterday. The preacher or teacher who adopts the stance which says implicitly: "If you will push your life-experience into this religious shape I have designed, I will recognise you are a man with a spiritual quest . . . but if not I don't want to know you" is asking for rejection.

Maybe too many of us have been guilty of just that kind of thing. I am not pleading for some kind of vague pantheism which will be so all-embracing that it is only some kind of unrecognisable muddle. But I am suggesting that if we are to have any kind of chance with thoughtful young people we have to be prepared to sit down and listen to them, perhaps far more than talk.

After all, it was Jesus who told us so forcibly that we could not put new wine in old bottles. And he got into terrible trouble by refusing to accept what his contemporaries had taken for granted for so long. We tend to forget his revolution because we have succeeded in formalising his teaching—sometimes even moulding it to our own shape rather than following Him to see where He is leading us. If there is to be more than a rumour of angels in the days to come, it may be that we will have to look at how flexible the gospel really is.

†

Gray Lectures to be delivered at Duke Divinity School, Oct. 25-27

DURHAM, N.C. — The Rev. Dr. Paul Louis Lehmann, Briggs Professor of Systematic Theology at Union Theological Seminary, New York, will deliver the James Gray Lectures during the 1971 Duke Divinity School Convocation and North Carolina Pastors' School to be held on the Duke campus between October 25-27.

Other speakers during the three day program will include Bishop Paul A. Washburn of Minneapolis, the Bishop's Hour Lecturer; The Very Rev. Edward Patey, Dean of Liverpool Cathedral, England, the Frank Hickman Lecturer on the Ministry; the Rev. James M. Lawson, Jr., Centenary Methodist Church, Memphis, the Convocation Preacher; Dr. Cecil Robbins, president, Louisburg College, N. C., Alumni Lecturer; and Bishops Hunt and Cannon of the United Methodist conferences in North Carolina, together again in "The Bishop's Panel."

Doctrine of Holy Spirit emphasized at Christian Experience Conference

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (UMI)—More than 600 persons from 35 states attended a weekend meeting here August 20-22 to consider the meaning and action of the Holy Spirit in today's world.

Featured speaker at the "Conference on Christian Experience" was evangelist Oral Roberts who declared that "everywhere I see new life in the United Methodist Church, which is the movement of the Spirit." He praised the Lay Witness Movement as the "greatest thing in the church today."

Sponsor of the Conference was the United Methodist Board of Evangelism.

Using his popular admonition to "expect a miracle," Mr. Roberts called on persons to live out their lives by giving. "Love is not love until you give it away," he said.

Participants at the conference were mostly laymen with many families and 100 youth attending.

Dr. Leslie Davison, secretary of the Department of Home Missions for the British Methodist Church, decried what he observed as a neglect of the doctrine of the Holy Spirit during the past 100 years. The Holy Spirit, he said, is never given to anyone for his own personal edification. "Always, in the Bible, it was given to equip persons to serve God, to help build each other."

Dr. Robert Tuttle, Jr., a pastor at the Colorado Springs First United Methodist Church, host church for the conference, called for unity among Christians and asserted that the "Spirit-filled life" is a life that works. "It produces an inner peace that then manifests itself in the community. If it

doesn't work in the home and the community then your faith just isn't worth it."

Two lectures were given by the Rev. David Semands, pastor of First United Methodist Church, Wilmore, Ky. Speaking on "The character of the Holy Spirit," he said Methodists have ceased being creators of a movement and have become curators of an institution. He added, however, that "God is doing new things in the church."

The Rev. Walter Albritton, director of the Board of Evangelism's Department of Koinonia Ministries, gave one address and served as director for the conference.

Laymen on the program included Jack Archer, an independent oil operator in Corpus Christi, Tex., and David E. Norman, a million-dollar-a-year life insurance salesman from Milwaukee, Wisc.

Music for the conference was directed by Richard Bradford, music-youth minister of Immanuel Baptist Church, Wichita, Kans.

Most of the conference agenda was devoted to 40 small groups which met six times during the weekend.

†

Associates in Christian Education certified

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMI) — Twenty-six persons from 21 annual conferences have completed their fourth and final summer seminar qualifying them to become certified as Associates in Christian Education in the United Methodist Church.

They become the third class to complete the special academic courses of study. A total of 158 persons participated in 1971 summer seminars at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Tex.; Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C.; Scarritt College for Christian Workers, Nashville, Tenn.; and the School of Theology at Claremont, Calif.

According to the Rev. R. Harold Hipps, Nashville, Tenn., staff member of the United Methodist Board of Education's Division of the Local Church, the seminars are designed to relate the resources of the school to the task of giving full-time, non-certified Christian educators an opportunity to develop theoretical and practical skills in learning and teaching.



World Communion Sunday
Oct. 3, 1971

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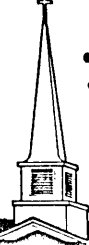
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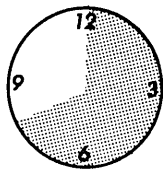
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World Methodist Council Executive Committee members announced

NEW YORK (UMI)—Members of the Executive Committee of the World Methodist Council for the 1971-76 quinquennium were elected at Council meetings at the World Methodist Conference August 18-25 in Denver, Colo., as were officers and members of other Council committees.

The Executive Committee is the Council's key unit, as it oversees and guides work of the Council between sessions of the full body. Chairman of the Executive Committee is Bishop Prince A. Taylor, Jr., episcopal leader of the United Methodist Church's New Jersey Area. Vice-chairmen are the Rev. Kenneth G. Greet, secretary of the British Methodist Conference, and Bishop Yap Kim Hao of the Methodist Church of Singapore-Malaysia.

United States Members of the Executive Committee represent the African Methodist Episcopal Church, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, the Free Methodist Church, the Primitive Methodist Church, the United Methodist Church and the Wesleyan Church. U. S. members (including officers):

African Methodist Episcopal Church — Bishop George N. Collins, Jacksonville, Fla.; Bishop D. Ward Nichols, New York, N. Y.; Bishop H. Thomas Primm, Denver, Colo.

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church — Bishop Herbert Bell Shaw, Wilmington, N. C.; Bishop Stephen Gill Spottswood, Washington, D. C.; Bishop A. G. Dunston, Philadelphia, Pa.

Christian Methodist Episcopal Church — Bishop B. Julian Smith, Memphis, Tenn.; Bishop Norris S. Curry, Dallas, Texas; Dr. Lucius M. Pitts, Jr., Birmingham, Ala.

Free Methodist Church — The Rev. James Mannoia, Ventnor, N. J.

Primitive Methodist Church — Rev. Richard L. Purnell, Centerdale, R. I.

United Methodist Church — Bishop F. Gerald Ensley, Columbus, Ohio; Bishop Prince A. Taylor, Jr., Princeton, N. J.; Bishop Fred P. Corson, Philadelphia, Pa.; Dr. Charles C. Parlin, Englewood, N. J.; Mrs. A. B. Pfeiffer, Aurora, Ill.; the Rev. Lee F. Tuttle, Lake Junaluska, N. C.; Bishop Roy H. Short, Louisville, Ky.; Bishop H. Ellis Finger, Jr., Nashville, Tenn.; Bishop William R. Cannon, Raleigh, N. C.; Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke, New York, N. Y.; Bishop Dwight E. Loder, Detroit, Mich.; Bishop Paul Washburn, Minneapolis, Minn.; Bishop James S. Thomas, Des Moines, Iowa; the Rev. R. Franklin Thompson, Tacoma, Wash.; the Rev. Byron F. Stroh, Indianapolis, Ind.; the Rev. Wilson O. Weldon, Nashville, Tenn.; the Rev. Tracey K. Jones, Jr., New York, N. Y.; Edwin L. Jones, Charlotte, N. C.; John R. Harper, Philadelphia, Pa.; R. Bryan Brawner, Evanston, Ill.; Dr. Willis Tate, Dallas, Texas; Leonard D. Slutz, Cincinnati, Ohio; Mrs. Joe J. Perkins, Wichita Falls, Texas; Miss Marian Derby, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. John E. Eby, Auburn, Wash.; Mrs. Claire Collins Harvey, Jackson, Miss.; Mrs. Robert Zeigler, Meadowbrook, Pa.; Miss Laura Sue Dill, Decatur, Ala.; Gregory Palmer, Darby, Pa.; Miss Brenda Walker.

Wesleyan Church — The Rev. J. D. Abbott, Marion, Ind.

Chairmen and other officers of

World Methodist Council committees other than the Executive Committee are:

Theological Education Committee — The Rev. Roberto E. Rios, Argentina, chairman; the Rev. Gerald O. McCulloh, Nashville, Tenn., vice-chairman.

Publishing Interests Committee — The Rev. E. Keith Ditterich, Australia, chairman; John E. Proctor, Nashville, Tenn., vice-chairman.

Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies Committee — The Rev. A. Raymond George, England, and the Rev. Dow Kirkpatrick, Evanston, Ill., co-chairmen.

Family Life Committee — Dr. Nalla Tan, Singapore, chairman; the Rev. J. O. Young, Park Ridge, Ill., vice-chairman (earlier reported as chairman).

Social and International Affairs Committee — Dr. Howard Souster, England, chairman.

Youth Committee — Bishop Mortimer Arias, Bolivia, chairman; the Rev. Monk Bryan, Columbia, Mo., vice-chairman.

Exchange of Pastorates Committee — The Rev. Stanley Leyland, England, chairman; the Rev. Russell Young, Lake Junaluska, N. C., vice-chairman.

Worship and Liturgy Committee — The Rev. Frederick de Silva, Ceylon, chairman; Bishop Lance Webb, Springfield, Ill., vice-chairman.

Nominating Committee — Bishop Herbert Bell Shaw, Wilmington, N. C., chairman.

Finance Committee — Bishop Franz Schaefer, Switzerland, World Methodist Council treasurer, chairs the committee.

Members of the Executive Commit-

tee from countries other than the U. S. are:

Africa Central Conference — Mrs. Eunice S. Kasongo.

Argentina — Bishop Carlos T. Gattinoni.

Australasia — Miss Jean E. Skuse, Rev. C. Kingston Daws, Raymond J. Latham.

Belgium — Dr. Andre Pieters.

Bolivia — Bishop Mortimer Arias.

Brazil — Ulysses Panisset.

Liberia — Bishop S. Trowen Nagbe, Jr.

Malaysia and Singapore — Bishop Yap Kim Hao.

Mexico — Bishop Alejandro Ruiz.

New Zealand — Rev. W. R. Laws.

Nigeria — S. A. Yerokun.

Northern Europe — Mrs. A. M. Collin, Ragnar Horn.

North India — Bishop Eric S. Nasir.

Pakistan — Dr. Anwar M. Barkat.

Peru — Bishop Wenceslao Baha-

monde.

Philippines — Dr. Emerito P. Nacpil, Dr. Patrocinio Ocampo.

Evangelical Methodist Church in the Philippines — Rev. George Castro.

United Church of Christ, Philip-

pines — Joel P. Alino.

Rhodesia — Mr. Abraham Israel Mwadiwa.

Samoa — Rev. Amani.

Sierra Leone — Rev. S. Leslie Wal-

lace.

South Africa — The Rev. Stanley B. Sudbury, Rev. Edgar Wilkinson,

Miss Jeanette Abrahams, K. M. H. Guzana.

Southern Asia — Bishop Eric A. Mitchell, Dr. Faith Rolston.

Tonga — The Rev. John A. Havea.

United Church of Canada — Mrs.

Vivian Shoemaker.

United Church of Zambia — Rev. Jackson Mwape.

British Methodist Conference — The Rev. Eric W. Baker, the Rev. Kenneth G. Greet, the Rev. Harold Roberts, Phillip Capper, Professor Russell Hindmarsh, Dr. Howard Sou-

ster, Sister Clare Powers, Miss Pamela Hone, Rev. Peter Bolt, Rev. Rupert Davies, Rev. Christopher Bacon.

Caribbean and Americas — Dr. Hugh Sherlock.

Central Conference in D. D. R. (East Germany) — Miss Lina Minor.

Central Conference in German F. R. (West Germany) — Bishop C. Ernst Sommer.

Central and Southern Europe — Bishop Franz Schaefer.

Ceylon — B. E. Fernando.

Chile — Bishop Raimundo Valen-

zuela.

Church of Christ in China — One to be named.

Cuba — One to be named.

Dahomey-Togo — Rev. Harry Y. Henry.

Estonia — Rev. Alexander Kuum.

Fiji — Rev. Mikale T. Drau.

France — One to be named.

Ghana — Rev. Thomas W. Koom-

son.

Hong Kong-Taiwan — Mrs. Lincoln E. Lee.

Indonesia — Bishop Johannes Gul-

ton.

Ireland — Mrs. Dorothy Ross.

Italy — Rev. Mario Saffi.

Ivory Coast — Rev. Samson Mand-

jui.

Kenya — Rev. L. P. Imathiu.

Korea — Rev. Sa Haeng La.

Uruguay — Mr. Nelson Morales.

Worship Consultation stresses importance of Lord's Supper

DENVER (UMI)—More than 80 leaders from 17 countries explored some of the essentials of Christian worship and shared in several innovative services at the World Methodist Consultation on Worship here Aug. 26-29.

The meeting, held at Iliff School of Theology, was the last in a long list of ancillary gatherings held in connection with the 12th World Methodist Conference during August.

Hammered out in group discussions and plenary sessions were a number of recommendations for improving worship which will be transmitted to the world, especially theological professors, pastors and administrators of appropriate regional units.

Serving as co-chairman of the consultation were Bishop Lance Webb, Springfield, Ill., head of the United Methodist Church's Commission on Worship, and the Rev. Rupert Davies, past president of the Methodist Church, Great Britain and principal of Wesley College, Bristol, England.

During the four-day meeting, delegates shared in three services of holy communion: a relatively new service from the British Methodist Church, an alternate order for the Lord's Supper prepared by the Commission on Worship in the United Methodist Church, and the liturgy developed by the Consultation on Church Union (COCU) in the United States.

In its findings, the Consultation on

Worship concluded that "the holy communion is our central act of worship," and without setting specific goals, urged that the Eucharist be used with greater frequency in the churches.

"Innovative or experimental worship is necessary but difficult, calling for hard work, time, money and imagination," the summary said.

In other action, the consultation called for greater emphasis on worship at the next World Methodist Conference four or five years hence. Specifically, the group urged that at least one major address be devoted to the theme of worship and that there be a conference-wide service of communion. This year optional services of the sacrament were held in a neighboring church but the entire assembly did not commune as a body.

Without minimizing participation by the laity, the consultation placed heavy responsibility upon the clergy and called upon them "to exercise their full role as leaders in worship as partners with the rest of God's people." This partnership, they pointed out, involves the minister's leading his people in studying the meaning of worship and in the preparation of new forms of worship.

Professor H. Grady Hardin of Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, serves as chairman of the committee on alternate rituals, which developed the trial order for the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, which was used at

the recent World Methodist Conference and at the World Methodist Consultation on Worship, where it met with great favor. After further revision and use at the 1972 General Conference, the alternate order will be made available to the church-at-large.

One veteran observer who participated in the latter service as a worshipper reported that he had never been so deeply moved at a communion service in more than 50 years of church attendance.

The Rev. Dr. David J. Randolph, assistant general secretary of the Board of Evangelism, who serves as director of the Project on Worship—a joint enterprise of the board and the Commission on Worship, reported on the vast collection of worship materials which the project has assembled on the favorable acceptance of published materials.

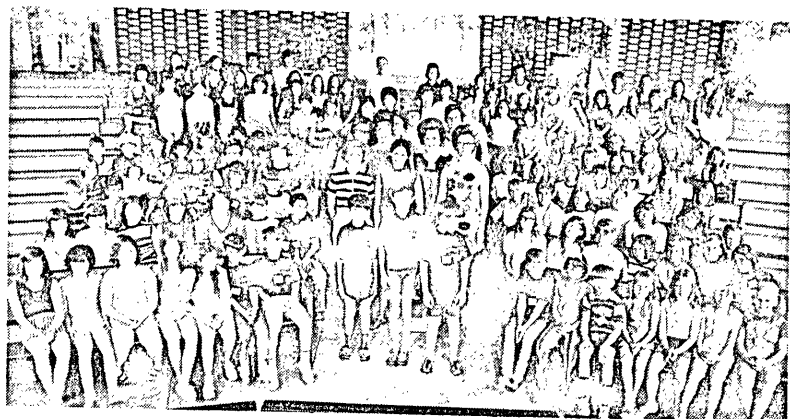
Ventures in Worship, edited by the director and published by Abingdon Press in 1969, received swift and wide acceptance, selling 21,915 copies by the end of July this year. This prompted publication of Ventures in Worship 2, which has already sold well over 12,000 copies.

A collection of hymns and songs and a folk service of holy communion, adapting the former Methodist and former Evangelical United Brethren rituals, is scheduled to appear early in 1972 under the title, Ventures in Song. It will bear the Abingdon imprint.

SEPTEMBER 16, 1971

ANNOUNCING

ADVANCE CHURCH REGISTRATION FOR
**4th Annual
Little Rock Conference**
Children's Choir Festival & Camp



COST: \$10.00 per church
Payable before October 1st
This church registration fee along with the offering taken at Choir Festival used for the expenses of the projects.

OPEN TO: All interested Churches in the Little Rock Conference who wish to participate in the Children's Choir Festival and Choir Camp.



Hoffland

CHILDREN'S CHOIR CAMP –
Camp Tanako – Early June 1972

Only those churches whose choirs participate in the Festival are eligible to send children to Choir Camp. The church's Children's Choir Director must attend camp if the church sends any children. Music – Recreation – Swimming – Handicrafts – Fun – Fellowship – Worship – Inspiration.

Guest Conductor: Richard D. Hoffland
Instructor of Church Music
Director of Choral Activities
Milikin University
Decatur, Illinois

~~~~~



Mrs. Butler

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR FESTIVAL –**  
Spring 1972

A worship experience in which all choirs attending sing from memory music selected for the service and sung under the direction of a guest conductor. No individual choir performances.

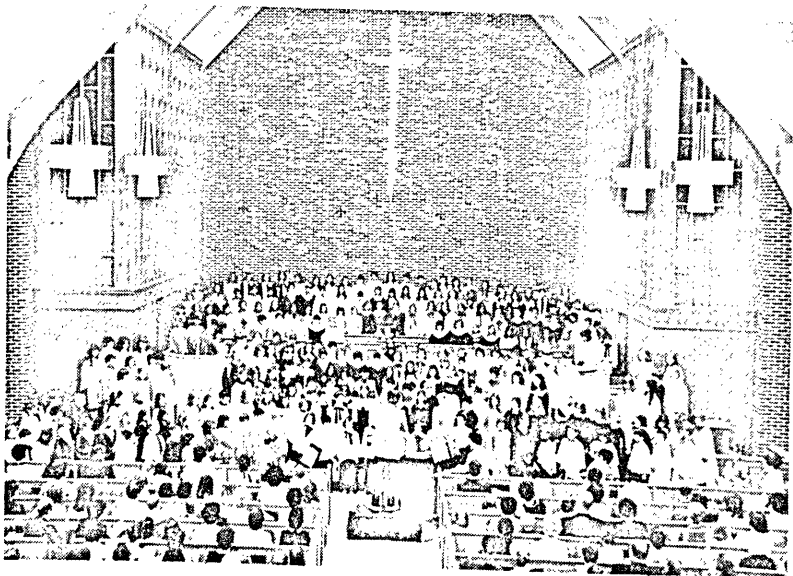
Guest Conductor: Mrs. A. L. Butler (Jo Ann)  
Instructor of Music Education  
and Voice  
East Central State College  
Ada, Oklahoma

**FESTIVAL WORKSHOP**

Held in conjunction with Choir Festival. Reading session – New anthems – New ideas – New music.

Clinician: Mrs. A. L. Butler (Jo Ann)

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**4th ANNUAL LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE
CHILDREN'S CHOIR FESTIVAL & CAMP
REGISTRATION CARD**

Name of Church _____ Minister _____

Director of Children's Choir _____

Address of Church _____ City _____ Zip _____

A \$10.00 Church Registration fee must accompany this registration card –
List of music for Festival will be sent upon receipt of registration fee.

Send to: Mrs. Felix Thompson, Jr.
St. James United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 5417
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Three small churches combine resources for VCS and adult study

We began three years ago having our vacation church school at night so that we could have an adult class in addition. One of the reasons this came about was to get teachers for the school. Many of the mothers work and were unable to help during the day, but they were free at night. The first school of this type was one of the best most had attended.

Everyone worked together to make it successful—by everyone I mean the entire Okolona Circuit of three churches—Center Grove, Okolona and Trinity. The adults enjoyed the Bible study as much as the children enjoyed the school. The adults, some of whom were Methodist, some Nazarene, and some Baptist, have enjoyed it and have gained more knowledge and meaning from the Bible.

The first year they studied A Survey of the New Testament; the second year they studied the Four Gospels, and this year they worked with the Old Testament.

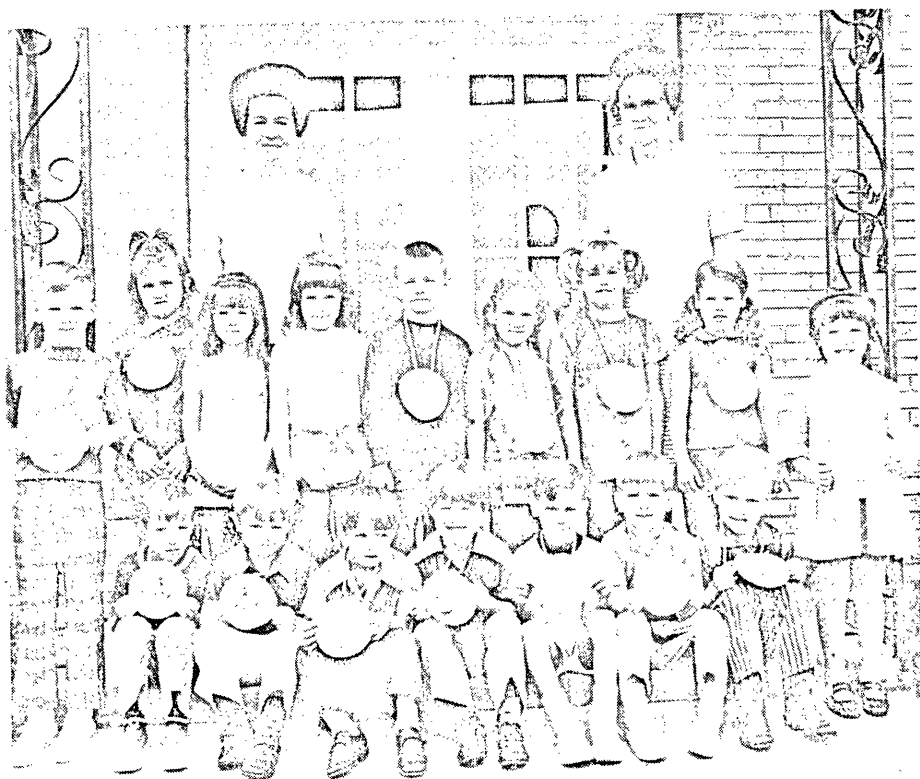
We begin an Sunday night and close on Friday night with a sharing pro-

gram. Classes begin at 7 p.m. with a 15-minute break for refreshments, and the sessions close at 9 p.m. This year refreshments of cookies and punch were purchased and the cost was included in the total cost of the school, with each church paying one-third of the cost.

This kind of study and vacation church school has proved successful for the entire Okolona Circuit. The parents don't have to worry about bringing the children and then coming back to pick them up—they, too, have a good place to go and learn more about the Bible and God's work. And we have plenty of help in all the classes, with three or four workers in each.

Since the Okolona Circuit is three small churches, this combined effort brings a large enough group together to have a successful vacation church school. It also provides good fellowship with the people of the other churches.

—Wilma Whitley,
Rt. #1,
Okolona, Ark. 71962



A Week-Day Kindergarten for five-year-olds opened at First United Methodist Church in Gurdon, Sept. 1, with 18 boys and girls enrolled. This is the third year for the school. Teachers are Mrs. Paul Barringer and Mrs. R. H. Levins; the Rev. Cagle E. Fair is pastor.

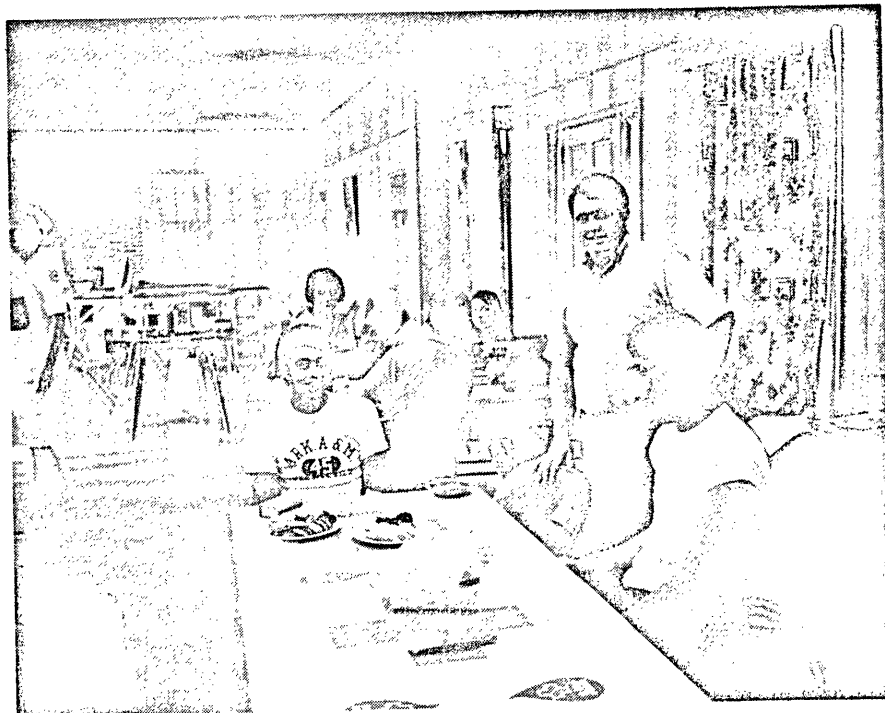
HEARD AT WORLD METHODIST MEETINGS

"The church must accept the good things implicit in what we have called the sexual revolution, rather than undertake a massive and blindly Puritanical resistance to all new perspectives."—United Methodist Bishop Earl G. Hunt, Jr.

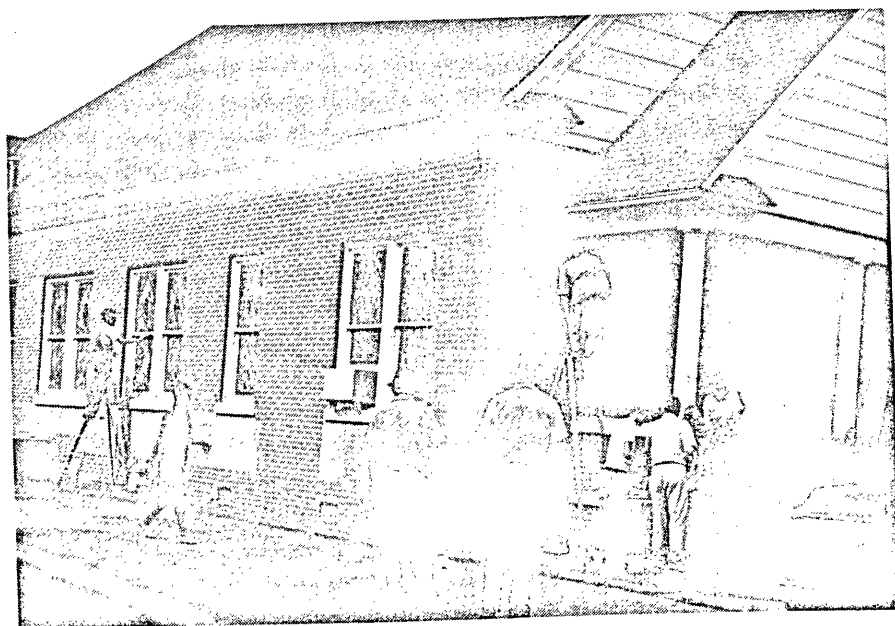
"Human development and progress has been limited so far to the masculine section of humanity. Many nations refuse to tap the full reserves of feminine talent because of prejudice."—Miss Brigalia H. Bam, World Council of Churches executive.

"One of the saddest things that can be said of a couple is that the last time they were seen in church was on their wedding day." — United Methodist Bishop Roy C. Nichols.

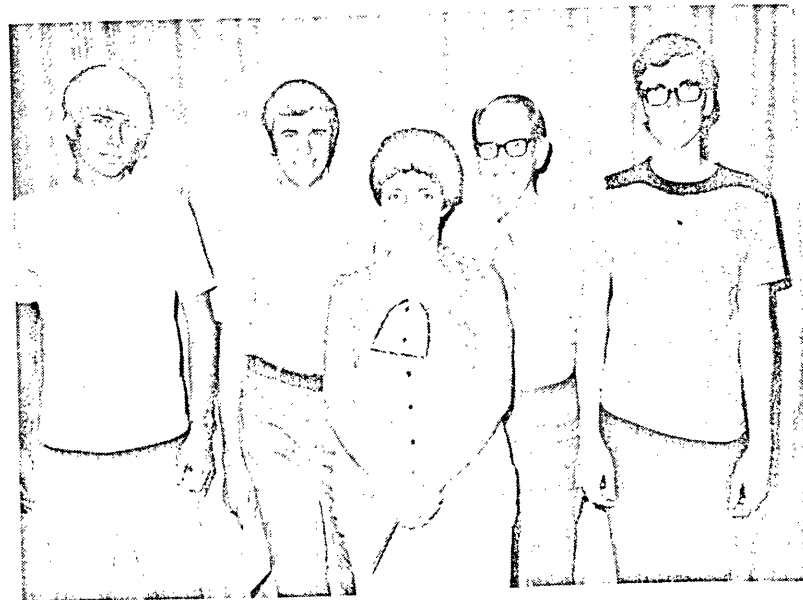
"The Church has rejected black people by its long history of continuous abandonment and neglect of all black people. That it would seek to fulfill its missionary mission in Black Africa while systematically aiding in the crucifixion of American blacks of African extraction in the U. S. is another manifestation of its hypocrisy . . ."—John J. Akar, former Sierra Leone ambassador to the U. S.



The above photo was made during a recent blood drive sponsored by the Wesley Foundation at the University of Arkansas at Monticello. The scene is the canteen and recovery area, with some of the donors in evidence. Student volunteers assisted Red Cross workers. The Rev. Thomas A. Abney is director of the Wesley Foundation.



Members of Monette United Methodist Church engaged in "clean-up-fix-up" activities, including the painting of trim. Supper was served by the Guild. The Rev. DuBois Pettit is pastor.



Leaders for the Discipline and Discovery Weekend held at Paris United Methodist Church Sept. 6-8. FROM LEFT: Brian Vick, youth coordinator; John Ross, general chairman; Mrs. Ray Vines, trainer for small group leaders; Leon Woolbright, weekend coordinator; Bruce Vick, youth coordinator. The Rev. William Hightower is pastor.