

Focus on evangelism and minority needs at Jurisdiction meeting

HOUSTON, Tx. (TMI) — Evangelism and spotlighting minority needs were the major concerns undertaken by the program committee of the 1972 Jurisdictional Conference meeting here last week.

Bishop Kenneth W. Copeland, chairman of the committee, said the call by members of the committee for an evangelistic preaching service on the opening night of the July 10-14 conference is indicative of this emphasis.

"We are going to see a greater focus on the unity of the evangelistic and social dimensions of the gospel than we have seen in many years," said Bishop Copeland.

The Houston Area Bishop went on to describe plans made by the committee which calls for the exposure of Black colleges, Mexican-American concerns, and specific reconciliation

projects as examples of "A greater reality of racial brotherhood."

Many persons consider the primary task of the Jurisdictional Conference to be the election and assignment of bishops. The program committee agreed that this is a major concern of the conference and completed plans for the consecration of the four new bishops in First United Methodist Church here on Friday, the last day of the conference.

Dr. Alva Clark, Omaha, chairman of the Jurisdictional Council, expressed a concern that the conference catch the spirit of being a part of "a global village."

"We've got to eliminate our paternal attitude and substitute a full listening process where we discuss new dimensions of the call of Christ," said Dr. Clark.

"In our South Central Jurisdiction we need to see not only the significance of Black colleges, but see Black colleges along with all other institutions."

Dr. Clark said he was unwilling to let the needs of Lydia Patterson Institute, McCurdy School, and other institutions pass by while the conference concentrates on Black colleges. He said the focus must include more than one need or else the historical global mission of Methodism will diminish.

A preacher is yet to be named for the Monday evening preaching, but the committee insisted that the service be held in the meeting room of the Shamrock Hotel and give testimony to the mood of evangelism expressed by many in the church today.

Mr. Jimmie Walker, Sequin, said he wanted the rally to set the tone

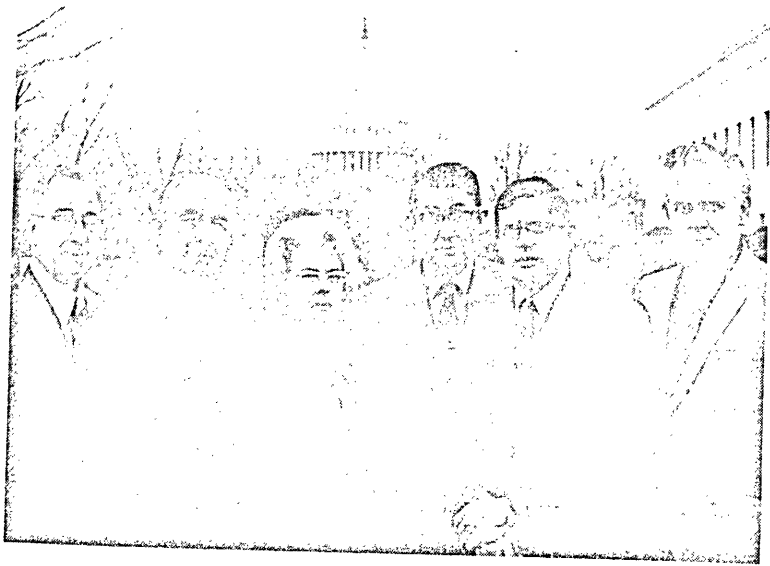
for the five day conference.

"I think it ought to wake them up," said Mr. Walker.

The Episcopal Address and Service of Holy Communion will come on Tuesday morning. There will be a tea honoring the bishop's wives at the Warwick Hotel Wednesday afternoon. Thursday evening the traditional banquet honoring the retiring bishops will be held at the Shamrock Hotel.

It is expected that balloting for the four bishops to be elected will begin Tuesday morning and probably be completed by Friday noon.

Delegates are seated by conferences in position determined by lot. The front row is composed of delegates from Kansas West, Nebraska Southwest, and Rio Grande, while the back row center seats the Central Texas Delegation.



Arkansans who attended recent Jurisdiction-sponsored Washington convocation on the relation of the church and politics during an election year, left to right, Dr. Harold O. Eggensperger, Col. and Mrs. Claude E. Haswell, Homer H. Fulbright, the Rev. Wayne C. Jarvis, and the Rev. Louis M. Mulkey.

Six Arkansans attend Social Concerns convocation in Washington

Six Arkansans were among a group of approximately 60 men, women and youth from the South Central Jurisdiction who recently traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in a convocation on the relation of the church and politics during an election year.

This group included Col. and Mrs. Claude E. Haswell of El Dorado; Homer H. Fulbright, Searcy; Dr. Harold O. Eggensperger, North Little Rock; the Rev. Wayne C. Jarvis, Rector; and the Rev. Louis M. Mulkey, Stuttgart.

During the four-day session, planned by a task force of the South Central Jurisdictional Board of Christian Social Concerns and staffed by resource leaders secured through the General Board, the people heard high government officials and party leaders discuss issues that will be before the voters in 1972.

Dr. A. Dudley Ward, executive secretary of the Board, told the group that "the mission of the church is to the person as he lives in the world." Key issues which he sees include popula-

tion control and ecology.

Ed Alexander, staff member of Common Cause, said: "You have a mandate to do something in your lifetime. There are some who would like for you not to look, not to ask questions because then anything can happen. Church people often say, 'we don't talk to bad people.' I hope you do more than pray for them."

One observer of the meeting noted that many of the speakers did not come prepared to comment on what the church should be doing in the political arena, but seemed to be more interested in partisan "drum-beating."

Bishop John Wesley Lord, episcopal leader of the Washington Area, said, "When the church takes a controversial stand, the cry goes up, 'Who authorized you to speak?' The answer is clear—the New Testament. The option to be silent has no foundation either in the New or Old Testament."

A feature of the four-day session was the opportunity to visit offices and staffs of members of Congress.

Arkansas Methodist

91st YEAR

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1972

NO. 6

Dr. Ellis to retire after 33 years at Hendrix

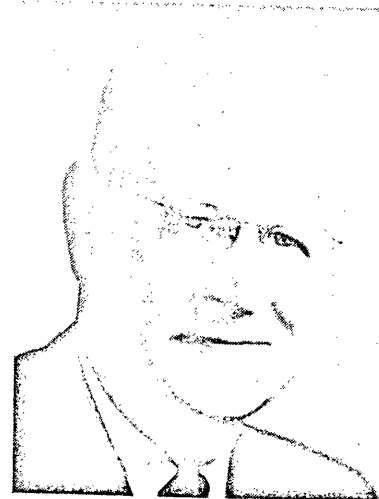
Dr. Matt L. Ellis, president of Hendrix College from 1945-58 and currently professor of philosophy, advised the president of Hendrix, Dr. Roy B. Shilling, Jr., on January 13 that he wished to discontinue his teaching duties at the close of this year. Dr. Ellis will have completed 33 years at the College.

Born in Ben Lomond, Ark., Dr. Ellis attended college at Henderson-Brown, lettering three years in basketball there, and he graduated in 1921 as valedictorian of his class with a degree in philosophy. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Yale University.

From 1921-1935 Dr. Ellis taught at Henderson-Brown, and in 1935 he came to Hendrix College as professor of philosophy and director of the library. In 1941 he left Hendrix to become president of Henderson State Teachers College, and in 1945 he returned to Hendrix to become president of the College. In 1958 Dr. Ellis resigned from the office of president in order to dedicate more of his time and energies to teaching. He served as head of the philosophy department from 1958-1966.

Dr. Schilling stated that he accepted the decision of Dr. Ellis with deepest regret and expressed appreciation for the personal encouragement and support which Dr. Ellis had provided "in

Please turn to page 2



Dr. Judy to address ministers and laymen

Boards and agencies within the Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church in Arkansas will be in session Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 15-16 in the Little Rock area. Those of the Little Rock Conference will meet at First United Methodist Church, Little Rock, while the agencies of the North Arkansas Conference will be in session at Gardner United Methodist Church. The Southwest Conference Agencies plan to meet in March.

A special feature of this year's gathering of the Boards and Agencies will be an area luncheon at First United Methodist Church in North Little Rock Wednesday at 12:00 noon. At this time Bishop Paul V. Galloway, presiding bishop of the Arkansas area,

Please turn to page 2

Arkansas pastor publishes second book

The second book written by the Rev. Merle A. Johnson was released by Fleming H. Revell Co. on Jan. 24. The pastor of First United Methodist Church, Siloam Springs, has entitled his second volume **Beyond Disenchantment**.

The book will be reviewed at an early date, but we would like to share with you the pre-release story from the publisher. The Arkansas Gazette, on Sunday, Jan. 30, carried an excellent personality profile of the author by Farrell Conner, prominent north-west Arkansas journalist.

Here is the Revell release:

"Many a pastor has wondered as he stood in his pulpit looking out over the congregation, 'What are the people out there really thinking?' The average pastor would be very surprised if he knew, according to Merle Allison Johnson, a pastor who believes there is rebellion in the pew. He has set out to analyze the causes of this rebellion in his new book **Beyond Disenchantment** (Revell, \$3.50).

"Why do people attend church, he asks—and the answers he finds are unsettling. Why is church membership

dropping in some parts of the country? Why are offerings getting smaller? And why don't congregations seem enthusiastic anymore? What's at the bottom of it all? What's happening to the church?

"One of the keys to the problem, says the author, is the church's pursuit of 'relevance' for its own sake. When the church attempts to catch hold of every fad and fashion of the contemporary society, it often neglects the needs of its own members—and the results are predictable. In his own words, 'Modern man, like his ancient counterpart, does not want to hear religious practitioners speculate on theories. He wants the church to tell him how to live meaningfully, how to believe in prayer, how to die in peace, and how to believe in a personal God who is vitally interested in his existence.'

"The church's success or failure to fulfill this need is an index of its success or failure in its total mission. How does today's church stand up to these criteria? Mr. Johnson analyzes both its achievement and its potential in this exciting, challenging assessment of the church in twentieth-century America."

Mr. Johnson's first book, also published by Revell, was **How to Murder A Minister**, which he wrote under the pseudonym of "Pastor X."

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Program Directors to Local Churches

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How do we plan a midweek church school? How do we design educational simulations, or settings for individualized learning? How can we better serve the disadvantaged? What are some new ways to enlist and train teachers, or train persons for service and action? How can we plan new approaches in a small congregation?

Numerous church educators around the country are discovering answers to such questions through their own innovative efforts. Their experience can be tapped by others through the Innovation Referral Service of the Division of the Local Church.

Hundreds of reports of creative programs in education are available to curious planners by writing to the Innovation Referral Service, P. O. Box 871, Nashville, Tenn. 37202. Describe the issue, group, or program for which you are planning, and enclose \$3. By return mail you will receive 6-10 reports from the file that best meets your need.

In addition, you may now secure twelve brief guides for creative planning. Each of these guides is based on actual innovative programs of educators in local churches, districts, annual conferences, and the like. The series covers the questions raised above, as well as others. The guides are 10c each, or \$1 for all twelve.

A free leaflet, "Innovations in Education—1972," describes the services

of the Innovation Referral Service and lists the twelve guides. It is available from the Board of Education, as are the guides: Service Department, P. O. Box 871, Nashville, Tenn. 37202.

DUTCH-TREAT LUNCHEON AND AREA PROGRAM COUNCIL

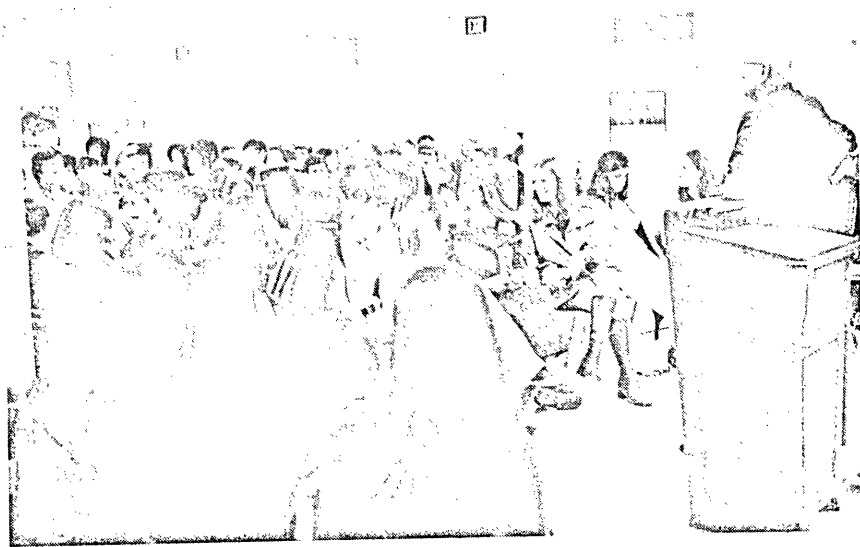
On Feb. 16, at 12 Noon, there will be a Dutch-Treat Luncheon at First Church, North Little Rock. Members of Annual Conference Boards from the entire state are invited. The price is \$2. Tickets should be ordered from your Annual Conference Program Council Office. Dr. Marvin Judy, Southern Methodist University, will be the speaker. You will want to attend this luncheon.

At 1:30 p.m., Feb. 16, at First Church, North Little Rock, the Area Program Council will meet. The Area Program Council is composed of the Program Councils of our Annual Conferences.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb. 13—Race Relations Sunday
Feb. 15-16 — Mid-Year Meetings of the Little Rock Annual Conference Boards at First Church, Little Rock
Feb. 15-16 — Mid-Year Meetings of the North Arkansas Annual Conference Boards at Gardner Memorial Church, North Little Rock
Feb. 16—Ash Wednesday
Feb. 20—First Sunday in Lent



Bishop Paul V. Galloway fielded a broad range of pertinent questions asked by young persons from several Little Rock churches at First United Methodist Church—where he was guest speaker on Sunday evening, Jan. 30. The group of 160 young persons who attended included guest groups from the following churches: Asbury, Oak Forest, Trinity and Western Hills.

Faith at Work Conference planned

A Faith At Work Conference has been planned for March 3-5 at the Albert Pike Hotel, Little Rock, according to a recent brochure. This will be the first time such a conference has been held in Arkansas, and attendance will be limited to 400.

The conference leader will be Tap Hanson, a layman who is vice-president of the W. C. Bradley Co., Columbus, Ga. The conference will open with dinner on Friday, March 3, and close with lunch on March 5.

A registration fee of \$18 will be charged, and participation will be limited to those who have paid this fee. Albert Pike Motor Hotel rates for the conference will be \$7.50 plus tax per day for singles and \$11 plus tax for doubles. Meals at the hotel will be \$4.50 per day per person (\$9 for the entire conference).

Registrations are to be sent to Dr. Dale Cowling, Registrar, 222 East 8th St., Little Rock, Ark. 72201.

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FIRST CHURCH, CROSSETT HOSTING ECUMENICAL MISSION STUDY

Under sponsorship of the Ecumenical Mission Study Committee of Crossett, a Sunday evening study series dealing with "Christian Involvement in a Galloping World," is being held at First United Methodist Church. Mrs. Hazel Dabney of Pine Bluff, president of Churchwomen United in Arkansas, made the first presentation on Jan. 30. Her subject, "A Panorama Study of the Problem," introduced a broad scope of problems for consideration during the four-session series.

Dr. Joseph L. Roberts of Atlanta, Ga., director of Corporate Social Ministries of the Presbyterian Church U.S., spoke on "Violence and Peace" at the Feb. 6 session.

The speaker for Sunday evening, Feb. 13 will be Dr. Raymond Arensman of Evansville, Indiana, dean of the School of Economics at the University of Evansville. His subject "Pov-

from page one DR. ELLIS

some very difficult months." On behalf of the faculty, staff and student body the president stated:

"I know that all of us will find it impossible to express adequately the sense of gratitude which we have for the distinguished service which you have rendered the College.

"We shall respect your wish to have a few moments of leisure, but we shall always hope that you and Mrs. Ellis will continue to be closely identified with the Hendrix community and continue to be an integral part of it in the many activities and programs which are a part of our lives."

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from page one DR. JUDY

will be presenting Dr. Marvin Judy of Southern Methodist University, Dallas.

Dr. Judy is Professor of Sociology of Religion at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University where he has served on the staff since 1952. He has also done extensive research work for the United Methodist Church and the Lilly Endowment, Inc.

His publications are:

- (1) "The Larger Parish and Group Ministry".
- (2) The Cooperative Parish in Non-metropolitan Areas".
- (3) "The Multiple Staff Ministry".

He holds membership in many professional, social, and fraternal organizations. At present he is president of the National unit of the United Methodist Rural Fellowship.

His theme for the occasion is "Ministering Effectively in The Parish".

†

erty and Wealth," will be a presentation of the perspectives of both the "haves" and the "have nots."

The concluding session on Feb. 20 will feature a presentation by Dr. Virgil Sexton of the United Methodist Program Council Office in Nashville dealing with "Pollution and Population."

The Rev. Ferris W. Norton, Jr. is pastor at Crossett's First Church. The sessions, which are held at 6 p.m., are open to all interested persons.

The Report of the Structure Study Commission

Delegates to the approaching General Conference of the United Methodist Church are receiving a number of reports which will be before them when they meet in April. The one which has been most eagerly awaited and which will occupy the greatest amount of time of the Conference is the Structure Study Commission Report. This Commission has worked long and hard at their task of reorganizing the top echelon of our denomination. Since this report will only be in the hands of the delegates, we are going to give our readers the major points and interpret the suggestions as we see them.

Authorized by the 1968 General Conference, restructuring was conceived as necessary for the completion of the process which merged The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church. Paragraph 1421 of the 1968 *Discipline* established the Commission and defined its mandate in the following manner:

"There shall be a Structure Study Commission, appointed with authorization to study thoroughly the board and agency organizational structure of The United Methodist Church and to bring to the General Conference its recommendation for the structuring of the boards and agencies of the Church."

The Commission understood its task to be that of the preparation of a plan for an organic structure which would meet three basic criteria: first, and foremost, that it be the most effective instrument through which the church can fulfill its mission; secondly, that it be responsive to the rapidly changing contemporary scene; and, that the structure be in harmony with the ethos of the historical antecedents of United Methodism, which have continuously been in process of restructuring from the beginning.

It was the Commission's thinking that the United Methodist Church desired five things concerning its boards and agencies: a coordinated program eliminating overlapping and multiple approaches to the annual conferences and the local churches; ongoing accountability between agencies and the total church between sessions of the General Conference; flexibility of decision making in respect to mis-

sional priorities and functions; the recognition of the plurality of the church with participation designed to reflect the inclusiveness of the church; and an obvious reduction in the number of boards and agencies which would have as an end result a more efficient and effective organization.

Suggested as the new Par. 801 of the *Discipline* providing the general provisions for the administrative order is the following:

"The administrative work of The United Methodist Church shall be authorized, defined, and structured by the General Conference. The agencies for administration are the Council of Bishops, the Council on Ministries and the Council on Finance and Administration; the support service agencies are the Board of Communication and Publication and the Board of Pensions; the program agencies are the Boards of Church and Society, Discipleship, Higher Education and Ministry, and Global Ministries."

The report proposes a Council on Ministries which would have wide powers of coordination and planning between sessions of the General Conference. Composed of members elected from the annual conferences from among their delegates to General Conference with elections guided by the secretary of the General Conference so that this Council would at all times be composed of one-third laymen, one-third laywomen and one-third elders in full connection. There are to be an additional 35 members to be members-at-large — five are to be under 19 years of age at the time of their election, five are to be between the ages of 19 and 30 years of age at the time of their election, and 25 are to represent ethnic minorities.

The active members of the Council of Bishops, general secretaries and associate general secretaries of the boards, and presidents of general agencies who are not otherwise members, shall be members of the council with the privilege of voice but without vote.

This council shall have powers between sessions of the General Conference to establish policies and adopt regulations pursuant thereto and consistent with the actions of the General Conference. This will include the power to approve changes in the internal structure of a board and to approve transfer of functions among boards on the recommendation of the board or boards involved subject to ratification of the following General Conference. This council would work closely with the Council on Finance and Administration concerning the quadrennial allocation of World Service Funds. It would also have the authority to make budget adjustments within the quadrennium after consultation with the Council on Finance and Administration and the affected boards and agencies.

The Council on Ministries would elect a staff secretary from among the general secretaries of the program boards and such other staff persons as may be needed to perform its duties.

Next week we will continue this discussion with special reference to where the present functions of program boards would fall in the new structure.

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the
Editor's
Corner



BOOK REVIEW

Merle Allison Johnson, *BEYOND DISENCHANTMENT*, Fleming H. Revell Co., \$3.50, 123 pp.

In his second book the pastor of First United Methodist Church, Siloam Springs, Ark. has clearly established himself as a creative analyst of the rapidly changing religious scene in America. He deserves to be widely read because he has an effective way of cutting through the religious and theological fads of our time and assuring us that there is hope and power in the established church.

After briefly examining the laity and the clergy and the gaps that so often have appeared between them, he closes his book with this challenge: "Christianity is the major religious faith in America. As in other cultures before ours, if the church fails men in their search for answers, then these weary, flagging men will crop their plowshares of acquiescence and pick up the swords of revolution to destroy the useless priests and lay waste their magnificent temples."

In his five chapters the author analyzes the differences in the motivations which bring people to the worship services, the legitimate sources of rebellion that is being experienced by many laymen, the seeds of protest against the establishment, the help that the church can receive from its critics and guidelines which should be followed in the direction of renewal, and finally, suggestions concerning the guidance which the church can well receive from much of the theological confusion of our day.

The book is especially helpful in cutting through some of the confusion concerning the ecumenical movements and the youth movements of our time. Mr. Johnson does not "white-wash" the establishment, but he expresses a deep-seated faith in its ability to change to witness in our time.

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news and views

OF THE WORLD OF RELIGION

by doris woolard

A Christianity Today editorial has recommended that the issue of "religious liberty" be included as a major point on the agenda for discussion when President Nixon meets with Chinese leaders in Peking this month. "No issue is more basic than religious liberty . . . Religious liberty is foundational to all human rights," the evangelical fortnightly stated. It suggested that Chou En-lai and Mao Tse-tung "would be well advised to recognize that it is only a matter of time until Christianity rises again in China—with or without their help—if it is not already doing so." The editorial described the President's planned visit to Peking as "one of the most daring diplomatic exploits of modern times . . . (which) will go down as a pivotal event in history."

Herbert G. Klein, White House director of communications—and grandson of an Evangelical United Brethren minister, told the 29th annual convention of Nat'l. Religious Broadcasters, meeting in Washington, D. C., that this is an age "when we have a great faith . . . the faith that we need if we believe the basic fundamentals of the Bible . . . and in the very fundamentals of American government itself . . . If we're to have growing faith in our religious beliefs, we need to have growing faith in our American system, the system that allows us this opportunity for free worship, an opportunity to build the strongest nation and yet the freest nation the world has ever known."

"New Life in the City," a parish education course, is being developed by the Bd. of Parish Education of the Lutheran Church in America for use in the Summer of 1973 as part of an urban curriculum. The course accentuates "the joys of living in the city" to help balance "the negative attitudes of those who see the city as a place abounding in problems and crises which need to be solved," according to a statement in the course outline. The series is intended to help the urban child to see clearly that "his Christian faith can be alive in the city."

Dr. H. Douglas Stewart, who has recently accepted the pastorate of St. Andrew's church in downtown Toronto, regarded by many as the unofficial "cathedral" of Presbyterianism in Canada, says organized religion isn't dying, it's merely pausing to catch its breath. "There was a trend away from the church, but the pendulum is swinging back," he told reporters at a news conference. "Many of those who were hostile and rebellious two years ago are returning," he said. The minister noted a new interest especially among young people.

"There will always be differences in the form of worship," stated Dr. H. Douglas Stewart, Toronto clergyman. "We won't have a single monolithic Church. The last time we had only one Church it was a chain gang and that's why the Reformation took place," said the former minister of Knox church in Ottawa.

Ten students from Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, just returned from a study tour in the USSR, said they learned that the Soviet Council of Religious Affairs is willing to allow U.S. visitors to bring one Russian-language Bible each into the USSR, if it is brought in "openly." Dr. Steve Durasoff, a theology professor at the university who accompanied the touring group, said the students sang to "standing room only" congregations of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christian-Baptists, an officially registered Church in the USSR.

A new Strategy, Technical and Area Program (STAP) department of the National Council of Churches' Division of Overseas Ministries will have as its director, the Rev. Earl R. Barr, a United Methodist clergyman — formerly with the Bd. of Evangelism in Nashville. The new department is seen as "an area for setting mission strategies, using both the expertise of persons knowledgeable in the wide geographic area where the Churches are at work, and the skills of mission specialists and technicians," according to Mr. Barr. The use of small task forces to expedite mission concerns will be a feature of STAP work. Areas of concern now include agriculture, health, education and communications.

Protestant and Roman Catholic Churches in Northern Ireland have played a greater role than is generally conceded in preventing total civil war, according to the Rev. Andrew Weir, general secretary of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. In "Baptist Times," a London-based publication, Weir was quoted at length on church efforts to establish peace. The church executive reported that Catholic, Anglican, Presbyterian and Methodist leaders have maintained regular contacts during the months of turmoil and periodically issued joint appeals for peace, including rejection of violence and concern for justice. "The main contribution of the church, however . . . has been in the continuing witness of so many clergy and laity in their own parishes," said Mr. Weir.

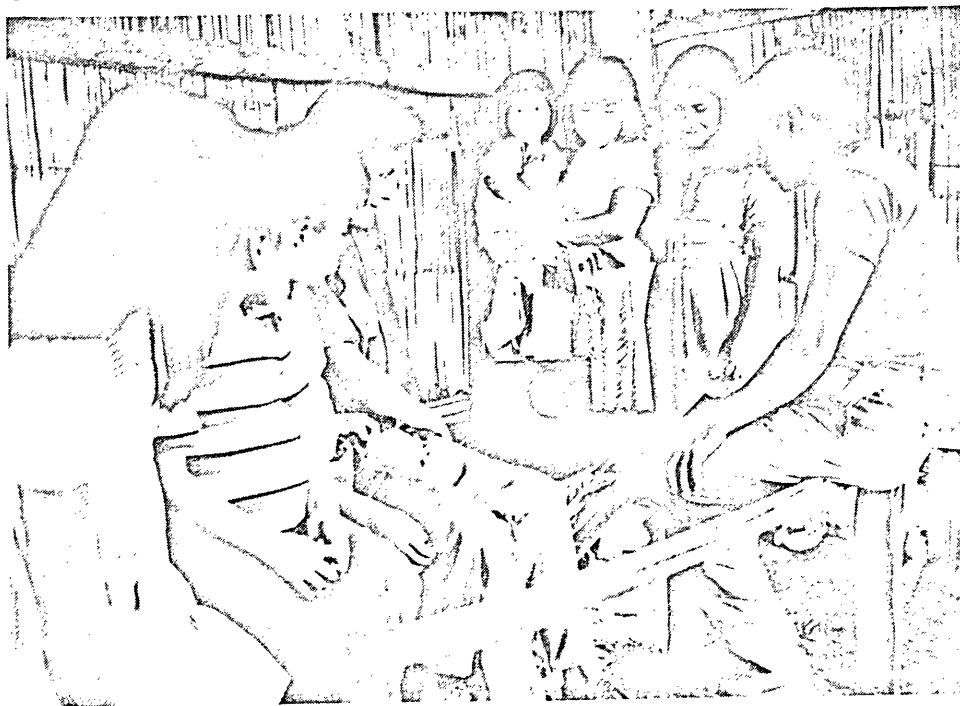
A fishing project established in 1964 on Lake Rudolph in Nairobi by the government and the Christian Council of Kenya is said to have played a major role in reducing from 10,000 to 500 the number of persons requiring food in area "famine camps." Stephen Whittle, researcher for the World Council of Churches, reported that some 165,000 persons, mainly Turkana tribesmen, live in the barren area where in 1961, a great drought required emergency feeding programs by the government and the Christian Council, which used funds given by British Churches. The cooperative is now under the Kenyan Ministry of Tourism and Wild Life, but Churches continue to help by providing boats and nets for persons too poor to buy them.

At a press conference held shortly before the recent arrival of Archbishop Michael Ramsey of Canterbury in New York City, he is reported to have said that unity between Anglicans and Catholics will come when they "recognize one another as two parts of one Holy Catholic Church." The Religious News Service report said that the archbishop did not think the two Churches would ever become a "closely-knit organization." He said "Anglicans might accept the Pope as presiding bishop but not as an infallible figure," the report continued.

"Seminaries, congregations and university religious groups can and should exert what influence they can for a reconciliation among the stricken religious groups of the unhappy communities of Northern Ireland," a Chestnut Hill College sociology professor told the directors of the Greater Philadelphia-Southern New Jersey Region of the Nat'l. Conference of Christians and Jews. Dr. Dennis Clark said "Religious leaders and laymen in Northern Ireland are trapped in a historic tragedy. Men of good will everywhere must extend themselves to support those sick of violence wherever it occurs."

Members of the Church of England will continue to ask God to "lead us not into temptation." The General Synod of the Church of England objected last year to a proposal by the Anglican Liturgical Commission to change this phrase to "do not bring us to the test." A temporary compromise was reached, with the wording, "Bring us not to a trial beyond our strength." However, early in 1972, the liturgical commission returned to the more familiar words.

A recent article written by Mircea Predescu in "Satul Socialist" magazine—a Rumanian publication—outlines some of the objectives of the ideological policy of the Communist party in Rumania as formulated in the July 1971 government "theses" on the social and cultural scene. The Predescu article said that intense atheistic propaganda should be carried out both inside and outside the schools and atheistic concepts should be spread not only by social science teachers but by those in all fields—"botanics, zoology and anatomy, physics and chemistry, history and geography."



QUITO, Ecuador — Indian families in the Amazon basin of Ecuador chuckle over a joke made by an announcer on Radio HCJB — "The Voice of the Andes." Since 1931 when it was founded by Dr. Clarence Jones as the first missionary radio station, HCJB has been broadcasting a variety of programming to South Americans. In many rural areas, the Voice of the Andes provides the only link with the outside world. From their radios, people receive the news of the world, beautiful music, children's programs, educational and public service programs and, of course, spiritual messages. Impoverished families in the rural and village areas enjoy listening to HCJB but are unable to purchase radios. A radio shop has been established to build inexpensive sets and sell them at subsidized prices. Over 14,000 radios have been distributed. (RNS Photo)

North Arkansas Conference Youth Rally

Hendrix College, Conway

Saturday, March 4 — 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

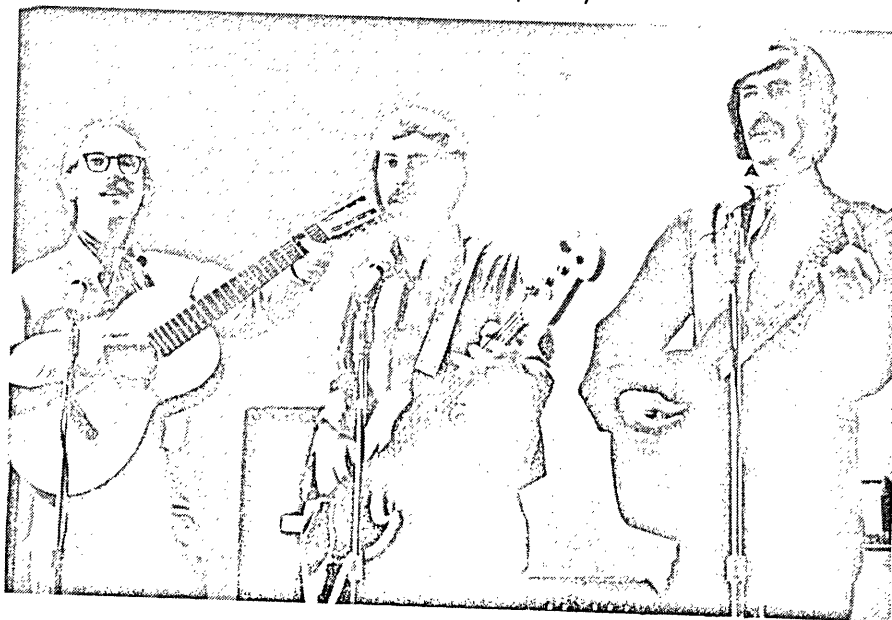
Theme: "Signs of the Times"

featuring

"The Light Company"



Allen Kimbrough,
Chairman, North Arkansas
Youth Council



FROM LEFT: Dave Trout, Bill Hanlin, and Bob Morley who comprise THE LIGHT COMPANY, a musical threesome—all ordained United Methodist ministers who left the local parish ministry to experiment in a contemporary ministry in music—with emphasis on the good things of life, through songs that come from this generation and speak to this generation about responsibility to life and to one's fellow man.

SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m.—Registration at Staples Auditorium
10:10 a.m.—The Light Company
10:40 a.m.—Introductions and Opening Statements
11:00 a.m.—Rev. James Ling—Presentation on the Youth Service Fund
12:00 noon—Lunch
12:20 p.m.—Sing-in at the Library
12:45 p.m.—Short movies: "The Big Thumb," "Hurry, Hurry," "The Great Chase," at Staples Auditorium
1:10 p.m.—The Light Company
2:30 p.m.—Break
2:45 p.m.—Worship
3:30 p.m.—Adjourn

DISTRICTS

QUOTAS or GOAL for RALLY

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Batesville	115	Rev. Harould Scott
Conway	215	Mr. Chris Meyer
Fayetteville	115	Rev. Jesse Bruner
Forrest City	140	Rev. Lowell Eaton
Fort Smith	165	Rev. Frank Clemmons
Jonesboro	140	Rev. Jerry Canada
Paragould	115	Rev. Wayne Jarvis
	<u>1005</u>	

Detach and mail by February 28 to:
Program Council—NAC, 715 Center, Little Rock, Ark. 72201

Registration Fee—\$2.00. This fee takes care of the noon meal and must accompany registration form.

*Meal tickets may be picked up at the registration table.

*All activities will be held in Staples Auditorium unless otherwise indicated.

Conference Youth Rally, March 4, 1972

Name of Church _____
Number attending _____ Amount Enclosed (\$2.00 per person) _____
Make checks payable to: Conference Youth Council

Signed _____
Address _____

Zip _____

REPORT NO. 2

1972 Arkansas Methodist Circulation Campaign

	New	Renew	Not Due	Total
BATESVILLE DISTRICT				
Batesville-Asbury-Oil				
Trough: Cleary	10	28	1	39
Central: Casteel	7	49		56
First: Kennedy	17	80		97
Beebe: Cook	2	33		35
Bradford: Holland	18	21		39**
Cabot: Savage	6	36	3	45
Calico Rock: Southerland	3	8		11
Cave City: Martin	5	19	1	25
Clinton: Scott	6	38	2	46
Quitman: Strayhorn	1	11	1	13
Concord: Woodall	2	12		14
Denard: Shirley: Shell		5		5
Cotter-Bull Shoals: Edwards	4	18	1	23
Griffithville: Cook	6	41		47**
Judsonia: Hunter	3	16		19
Holiday Hills: Cowan	7	29		36***
Kensett-McRae: Daniel	1	29		30
Moorefield-Southside: Lee	2	28		30**
Moorefield Ct:				
Moorefield B: Thomas	1	34		35
Moorefield A: Wilson		12	1	13
Melbourne: Kelly	3	27		30
Mt. View: Hawkins	7	18		25
Newark: Wilson		24		24
Marshall-Leslie: Knapp	6	24	2	32
Searcy-First: Richards	43	96		139**
Horseshoe Bend-Ash Flat:				
Ford	8	14		22
Totals	168	750	12	930

CONWAY DISTRICT

Atkins-Pottsville: Pollard	10	34		44
Belleville: Hutto		1		1
Conway-First: Jordan	5	40	11	56
Wesley-Vilonia: Cordell	3	26		29
Greenbrier: Wingo	7	27		34
Salem: Brumley	2	25	1	28***
Danville: Byram	9	47	4	60**
Dardanelle: Crozier	7	56	2	65
Jacksonville-First: Edwards	16	36		52
McArthur: Bridenthal	6	2	1	9
Mayflower: Soens		5		5
Morrilton: Parsons	14	113	5	132**
Morrilton Ct: Mooney		7		7
N.L.R.-First: Conyers	7	76	4	87
Gardner: McSpadden		1		1
Lakewood: Hays	17	58	1	76
Levy: Hammett	11	29		40
Washington: Renfro		42		42
Indian Hills: Teague	5	16		21
Ola-Plainview: Crossno	8	18	1	27
Perryville: Madison	2	31		33**
Plummerville: Lee	1	18		19
Mallettown: Watson	2	1		3
Russellville: Ramsey	20	57		77
Wesley-London: McClurkin		5		5
Bell's Chapel: Peters	1	3		4
Totals	153	774	30	957

FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT

Bentonville: Lanier	9	46	2	57
Elkins: Qualls	2	4		6
Decatur-Centerton: Burrow		22	1	23
Elm Spgs.-Harmon: Fisher	3	18		21
Fayetteville-Central: Cooper	11	61	2	74
Wiggins: Hilliard	6	19		25
Goshen: Good	3	4		7
Green Forest-Alpena: Woods	5	59	1	65**
Harrison: McCormack	5	49		54
Lincoln-Morrow: Hooker	2	12		14
Huntsville: Southwick/Rolland	3	27	1	31
Jasper-Valley Spgs: Witta	1			1
Omaha-Bergman: Brown		2		2
Prairie Gr-Viney Gr:				
Paysinger	8	10	3	21
Siloam Spgs: Johnson	5	36	2	43
Springdale: Atchley	23	88	8	119
Wesley-Mt. Hebron: Fiser	10	25		35

	New	Renew	Not Due	Total
Harrison-St. Joe: Beck	3	2		5
Yellville: Hestwood	1	20		21
Totals	106	504	20	624

FORREST CITY DISTRICT

Brinkley: Chapman	29	47	1	77**
Clarendon-Shiloh: Bruner	2	36		38
Cherry Valley: Price	6	50	1	57**
Colt: Davis	1	13		14
Cotton Plant: Logan	2	31		33
Earle: Wilson	3	24		27
Elaine: Breazeale		13		13
Forrest City-First: Hughes	20	314		334***
Forrest Hills: Robison		9		9
Holly Grove: Nance	1	12		13
Marianna: Byers	8	29		37
Marvell: Moyers	10	13	1	24
McCrory: Brewer		52		52
Parkin: Anderson		1		1
Tupelo: Couchman	1	5		6
W. Memphis: Burleson	39	121		160**
Rosewood: Linam	1			1
Widener: Reed	5	23	1	29
Wynne		1		1
Totals	128	794	4	926

FORT SMITH DISTRICT

Altus: Lancaster	1	12		13
Charleston-Branch:				
Hazelwood	10	13		23
Fort Smith-First: Bayliss		97		97
Goddard: Boyd	19	164		183
Hendrix Hills: Hollis	25	9		34
Massard: Millard	4	21	1	26
Midland: Cruce	5	36		41
Greenwood-Milltown: Rogers	2	17		19
Hartman: Matthews		1		1
Lavaca: Chaffin	7	23		30
Mt. View: Byrd	1	17		18
Mulberry-Cyer: Blackshear	1			1
Van Buren-First: Lawson	8	28		36
Waldron: Clemmons	5	43		48**
Totals	88	481	1	570

JONESBORO DISTRICT

Blytheville-First: Keeley	16	384	1	401**
Dell-Christ: Wilkerson	3	6		9
Bono: Spurlock	4	29		33
Hickory Ridge-Tilton:				
Barton	6	26		32
Joiner-Turrell: Feagan	5	37		42
Jonesboro: Gibson	71	469		540**
Huntington: Chandler	23	41		64
Leachville: Weatherford	3	19		22
Lepanto-Garden Point-				
Dyess: Van Cleve	2	25		27
Luxora-Keiser: Dorman	1	16		17
Manilla: Dorman	3	25	4	32
Monette-Macy: Hays	6	20	2	28
Osceola: Brannon	25	53		78
Tyronza-Centerview:				
Yarbrough	2	33		35
Wilson: Linam	3	20		23
Weiner-Fisher: Waters	3	33		36
Pl. Valley: Randle	1	4		5
Totals	177	1240	7	1424

PARAGOULD DISTRICT

Black Rock: Sellars	1	18	1	20
Boydsville: Penney		24	1	25
Coming: Clark	4	35	1	40
Hurricane: Thompson	2	4		6
Hardy Ct.: Hall	5	14	2	21
Hoxie: Gilliam	4	20	1	25
Imboden: Stahl	3	25		28
Eli Lindsey: Hance		3		3
Mammoth Spg: Jackson	2	2	2	6

Marmaduke: Reed		38		38
Maynard: Kemp	2	5		7
Newport-First: Conyers	7	61	2	70
Umsted: Strayhorn	6	26		32
Paragould-First: Spence	43	85		128
Griffin: Gatlin	4	30		34
Paragould Parish 3: Craig	2	10		12
Paragould Parish 1: Holland	4	25		29
Paragould Parish 2: Bain		2		2
Piggott: Harris	2	34		36
Ravenden Spgs: Weatherford		5	1	6
Pl. Grove: Southard	2	4		6
Sedgwick: Bruner	3	20		23
St. Francis: Piercy	2	25	1	28
Swifton-Alicia: Luter	5	36		41**
Tuckerman: LeGrand	6	19		25
Walnut Ridge: Meadows	6	33		39
Cherokee Village: Poyner	3	2		5
Old Walnut Ridge: Hance	1	5	1	7*
Totals	119	610	13	742

ARKADELPHIA DISTRICT

Amity: Hemund	2	23		25
Arkadelphia-First: Miles	19	62	9	90
St. Andrews: Davis		12	1	13
Bismarck: Dunaway	2	8		10
Delight: Hunter	2	19	2	23**
Glenwood: Smith	5	36		41**
Gurdon: Richardson	5	35		40
Hot Spgs: First: Ivy		1		1
Grand: Hale	11	33	1	45
Pullman: Hoover	2	11		13
Gum Spgs: Mt. Pine:				
Aronhalt	1	6		7
Tigert: Woody	11	4		15
Fountain Lake: Hoover	3	5		8
Shorewood Hills: McCoy	1	14		15
Malvern-Keith: Mashburn	3	26		29
First: Ashcraft	26	88	2	116
Murfreesboro: Brent	7	42		49**
Totals	100	425	15	539

CAMDEN DISTRICT

Bearden-Thornton:				
Richardson		34		34
Bradley: Jester	5	19		24
Camden-First: Dodson	20	76	4	100
Fairview: Tanner		51		51
Timothy-B. Vista: Graham	5	12		17
Westside: Miller	5	10	1	16*
Chidester: Bailey	8	22		30
Columbia: Justice	4	18	1	23
El Dorado-First: Murray	48	119		167
St. Paul: Connell	5	29	1	35
Vantrease: Hale	17	89	1	107**
Harmony-Lakeside: Eckberg	4	27		31*
Dumas: Green	5	13		18
Holly Spgs: Warren	1	19		20
Huttig-Bolding: Jackson	1	6	1	8
Junction City: Wagner	1	29		30
Lewisville: Hunter	4	40		44
Magnolia-Asbury: Nolley	3	30		33
Greer's: Taylor	8	14	1	23**
Magnolia: Burleson	4	14		18
Emerson: Clegg	1	8		9
Norphlet: Robken		1		1
Pl. Grove: Mathis	1	20		21
Liberty-Louann: Crain	2	6	1	9
Stephens: Ross	2	26	1	29
Taylor-New Era: Miller		25		25
Village: Roden	5	17		22
Waldo: Hamm	5	23		28
Welcome: Yates	4	10		14
Totals	168	807	12	987

HOPE DISTRICT

Blevins: Rushing	3	26		29**
DeQueen: Wilson	14	39		53
Dierks: Bean		5		5

FEBRUARY 10, 1972

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.

Feb. 13—Sunday	Deut. 5:1-10
Feb. 14	Deut. 5:24-33
Feb. 15	Ezek. 37:21-28
Feb. 16	John 12:44-50
Feb. 17	Acts 26:6-19
Feb. 18	Rom. 4:17-21
Feb. 19	Col. 1:12-23
Feb. 20—Sunday	Gen. 9:8-17

NEWS AND NOTES

AT THE RECENT Chamber of Commerce Banquet in Harrison, Governor Dale Bumpers told those present that "next to my own father, the Rev. John McCormack has meant more to my life than any other individual." The governor was baptized and joined the church at Charleston when McCormack was the pastor. He also baptized Mrs. Bumpers, the former Betty Flanagan, at another church on the charge. Mr. McCormack is now pastor of First United Methodist Church, Harrison.

AT CHIDESTER, the School of Missions was held four Sunday evenings in January at the Rushing Memorial United Methodist Church. The Book of Matthew was presented by the Rev. Geo. Bailey, pastor, Mrs. Joseph Purifoy, Miss Lula J. Yarbrough and Dr. Roy Bagley, Camden District superintendent. The children's study, "Why the Spider Lives in Corners" was conducted by Miss Sharon Walker.

THE BATESVILLE CIVITAN CLUB recently presented its Outstanding Citizenship Award to Lloyd E. Williams, a member of Central Avenue United Methodist Church of that city. His pastor, Dr. Charles Casteel, was among those who spoke at the presentation award dinner.

THE HACKETT U.M.Y. sponsored a Chili Supper in Fellowship Hall on January 22. Young people serving the supper were: David Smith, Rex Johnson, Michael and Laurie Rathbun, Debby, Edwina, Beth and Bennie Neubauer. Mrs. Clyde Williams and Mrs. Ed Neubauer, counselors, assisted the young people in this project. The Rev. Roger Glover is pastor of the Hackett Church.

CLINTON UNITED METHODIST Church held a series of special preaching services the week of January 24. Dr. Joe R. Phillips, Jr., pastor of St. James United Methodist Church, Little Rock, was the guest speaker. The Clinton pastor is the Rev. Harould Scott.

MRS. URSUL JACKSON, who has recently retired from The Veterans Employment Agency, was honored at an Open House given by The Open Door Class of The Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church Sunday afternoon, Jan. 30, at the home of Miss Floreta Skinner, president of the class.

WINFIELD UNITED METHODIST Men of Little Rock heard Marvin Vines at the Jan. 26 meeting. Mr. Vines is Farm Service director of KAAAY Radio, and is a member of the Pulaski Heights Baptist Church.



At First Church, Pine Bluff, four WSCS members were recently honored with the presentation of Special Memberships. Those honored, shown above, are from left: Mrs. Roy Hull Smith, Mrs. Mac Hollis, Mrs. J. Richard Pierce, and Miss Laverne Mayberry. Mrs. W. T. Conery is serving as WSCS president. Dr. John Lindsay is their pastor.

"SPIRITUAL ECOLOGY: Five Nights of Spiritual Recycling" is the theme of the revival to be held in First Church, Jacksonville, the week of February 13. Guest preacher will be the Rev. William Dean Elliott, pastor of First United Methodist in Monticello. The Rev. Bob Edwards host pastor.

MRS. WALTER HAZZARD, wife of the president of Philander Smith College in Little Rock, will be the leader for the opening session of the study of Africa in First Church, Arkadelphia, February 13. The Rev. John Miles is pastor.

THE REV. JOHN O. ALSTON, pastor of the Smackover United Methodist Church, was guest speaker January 23 in First Church, Camden, of which the Rev. Ed Dodson is pastor.

DR. HAROLD EGGENSBERGER, Director of Program Council, North Arkansas Conference, conducted a workshop of the mission study, "Matthew on Missions" at the Clarendon United Methodist Church Sunday afternoon, Feb. 6—4:00 to 6:00 p.m. for local leaders who will direct the study for the local congregation. Eight sessions are planned, meeting on Sunday evenings. Following the workshop a pot-luck supper was enjoyed by the congregation, and Dr. Eggensberger led the first session of the study. The Rev. Glenn Bruner is the Clarendon minister.

A SON WAS BORN ON January 11 to the Rev. and Mrs. Billy W. A. McLean of the St. Charles and Pleasant Grove Charge, Pine Bluff District. He is named John Caldwell Calhoun in honor of a South Carolina ancestor.

New Renew Not Due Total

Foreman:Poss	1			1
Hatfield:Lawrence/Harbeson	5	35		40
Hope:Steele	13	66		79
Horatio:Downing	7	18		25
Lockesburg:Callicott	9	41		50**
Mena:White	5	24		29
Mineral Spgs:George	3	29		32
Nashville:Trieschmann	12	52		64
Prescott-First:Fincher	10	76	1	87**
Prescott Ct:Fincher	2	11		13
Rondo:Caldwell	4	6		10
Springhill:Robbins	5	43	2	50*
Texarkana-First:Hallis	10	186	2	198**
Few:Barron	2	10	1	13
Totals	104	668	6	778

LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT

Austin:Poss	9	28	1	38
Benton:First:Hollenbeck	16	26		42
New Hope:Diffie		12		12
Bryant:Elder	5	8		13
Carlisle:Martin	3	26		29
Hamilton:Martin	2	8		10
L. R. -Western Hills:				
Robertson	5	30		35
Geyer Spgs:Diffie	6	30		36
St. James:Phillips	15	96		111***
Asbury:Harris	24	58	3	85
First:Bearden		1115		1115***
St. Paul:Scott	3	37	2	42
Highland:Stephens	5	54		59
Hunter:Kerr	4	31	1	36
Galloway:McCulloch	3	5		8
Oak Forest:Stewart		287		287***
St. Luke:DeBlack	7	35		42
Trinity:Taylor	1	1		2
St. Andrew:Walthall	9	16		25
Winfield:Dunlap	12	59		71

New Renew Not Due Total

Lonoke:Clayton	2	34	1	37
Mablevale:Hines	10	16		26
Salem-Congo:Williams	3	14		17
Sardis-Bethel:Monroe	4	22		26
Totals	148	2048	8	2204

MONTICELLO DISTRICT

Crossett:Norton	5	33		38
Dumas:Simpson	10	160	1	171***
Eudora:Wilson	7	29		36**
Fordyce:Sorrells		11		11
Hamburg:Bell	6	19		25
Hampton-Harrell:Ford	4	32		36
Hermitage:Claiborne	3	9		12
Lake Village:Swift	2	89		91***
McGehee:Garner	7	165		172**
Monticello-First:Elliott	17	39		56
Kingsland:Turner		36		36**
Tillar:Williams	8	52		60**
Watson:Arnold	1	12		13
Wilmar:Abney	9	15	1	25
Parkdale:Wilson	3	15		18
Totals	82	716	2	800

PINE BLUFF DISTRICT

Altheimer:Shaddox	2	56		58**
Carthage:Scott	1	24		25
DeWitt:Masters	16	64	2	82
England-Keo:Sadler	6	72		78**
Gillette:Diffie	9	42		51
Glendale:Ratekin	3	6		9**
Pine Bluff:Good Faith:				
Riggin	4	23		27
Humphrey-Humnok:Barker	1	12		13
Leola:Clanton	11	26		37
Pine Bluff-First:Lindsay	33	111		144
Hawley:Walker	6	40		46
Lakeside:Matthews	21	36		57

New Renew Not Due Total

Whitehall-Redfield:Lea	3	28		31
Roe:Richert	3	30		33**
Rowell:Brown	2	11		13
Sherril-Tomberlin:Patton		17		17
St. Charles-Pl. Grove:				
McLean		8		8
Stuttgart:Beck-First	13	119		132**
Grand:Mulkey	26	85		111**
Totals	160	810	2	972

RECAPITULATION

Report No. 2

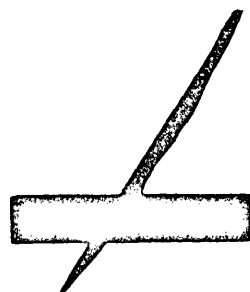
DISTRICT	New	Renew	Not Due	Total	Quota	Per Cent
Jonesboro	177	1240	7	1424	1865	76%
Monticello	82	716	2	800	1106	72
Little Rock	148	2042	8	2198	3658	60
Pine Bluff	160	810	2	972	1711	56
Forrest City	128	794	4	926	1765	53
Paragould	119	610	13	742	1465	51
Hope	104	668	6	778	1563	50
Batesville	168	750	12	930	1876	49
Camden	168	807	12	987	2168	45
Conway	153	774	30	957	2521	38
Arkadelphia	100	425	15	539	1515	35
Fayetteville	100	504	20	624	1949	32
Fort Smith	88	481	1	570	2441	24
Totals	1695	10621	132	12448	25601	49%

* Reached quota
** Exceeded quota
*** Doubled quota

Prayer is the spiritual gymnasium in which we exercise and practice Godliness.—V. L. Crawford

The Sunday School Lesson

By: Alfred A. Knox



LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 20: The Death that Changes Lives

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE: Luke 23

MEMORY SELECTION: By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. (1 John 3:16)

AIM OF THE LESSON: To gain new insight into the meaning of the death of Jesus, its effect on men, and the response which they ought to make concerning it.

Throughout the centuries of the Christian era men have asked the question, "Why did Jesus die?" His own disciples could not understand the necessity of it, the early church could not answer all the questions concerning it, and with the New Testament and 20 centuries of interpretation at our disposal, we find it difficult to explain. In Paul's words: "We preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness." (1 Cor. 1:23).

It is quite interesting to note that our lesson planners this year have included at this date early in Lent a lesson which is usually studied just the week before Easter. Perhaps we can be a bit more objective in considering it at this time, and examine the details more reflectively.

One of the commentators has pointed out that Luke's purpose in writing his gospel was to present his death as the accomplishment of a redemptive mission. We will be considering the unique nature of his crucifixion and the way in which it has extended to all of us the gift of life. The amount of space given in all four gospels to the closing events of our Lord's life and the amazing events which have followed affirm the importance of his death and resurrection.

Sometimes when we read the account of the arrest, trial and crucifixion of Jesus, we wish that somehow the story might have turned out differently. We think how great it would have been if God had intervened in some dramatic way at the very last second. It's a sad, tragic story, and you are gripped by the utter helplessness of the situation. You wish you could leap from your chair and go to Jesus' rescue.

But at this point we must go beyond the events to their meaning. Was Christ's death just an unfortunate miscarriage of human justice? Was it just the usual outcome when a righteous visionary rubs the established powers the wrong way? Was he inviting disaster by the way he openly rebuked the religious authorities? Was it foolish and risky to go about offending the Jews by claiming to be God's Son from heaven?

Having raised these and other questions which people ask, we realize how different the course of history and religion would have been if this event had not taken place. It is truly the death that gives life.

THE THREE CROSSES ON CALVARY

As our drama opens we see three figures on Roman crosses against a backdrop of heavy clouds. The three men are conspicuously different. The one in the center has for some time been the object of the crowd's attention, to such an extent that the two men on either side of him have been all but unnoticed. He is identified by a sign which proclaims him by an extraordinary title: "King of the Jews."

In Mark's gospel both the men who were crucified with Jesus joined the people and the leaders in mocking him, but Luke makes a distinction between

them, drawing a picture of one as defiant and the other as repentant.

The contrasts are dramatically worked out in this poignant picture, probably because Luke knew that this would be of great service to Christian preachers and teachers.

The first to speak is the brigand on the left. Dr. Paul Scherer says (Interpreter's Bible): "He catches up the taunt of the rulers and the soldiers and in bitter mood, fighting back at his fate with all the violence of his unbridled soul, sneers and cries out for help in the same breath: 'What a Messiah you are! Get the three of us out of this! Try your hand at that! Talk later!'"

The other thief, apparently influenced by the calm manner in which Jesus had approached his cross, rebuked his companion saying: "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" And then he turned to Jesus and asked for forgiveness and some consideration in the after life.

In one brief sentence this second thief encompassed the heart of the Christian faith. As one has said: "To become related to Jesus in a saving way, you must get over the stumbling-block of his failure from the human standpoint. We, too, must relate to his power and what it can do for us. If we do not believe that, then there is no point in coming to him."

ALL NATURE CRIED OUT AGAINST HIS DEATH

Luke's major emphasis seems to be, not on the personal agony of our Lord at the time of his death, as on the reaction of the people and the physical surroundings to the event.

Jesus cried out with a loud voice, not from weakness, and committed himself to his heavenly Father. In Luke's account, the only word about his physical reaction was "I thirst." Matthew, John and Mark place other words in his mouth at this moment: "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matt. 27:46) "It is finished" (John 19:30) None of the writers says that Jesus died. Luke and Mark used a word meaning "he breathed forth," while Matthew and John say he "gave up his spirit." One writer has said, "This is probably because they want to emphasize that in the final analysis Jesus gave up his life because he wanted to, when he wanted to, and how he wanted to." In John 10:17,18 he said: "I lay down my life. No one has robbed me of it; I am laying it down of my own free will."

The Pharisees had mockingly asked for a "sign from heaven" and the sun refused to shine. Darkness covered the earth for three hours. Luke does not tell us of any incidents during this time, but it is not hard to surmise that there must have been a deepening sense of horror and remorse among the crowd. And in the Temple the curtain was torn in two. This was called "the veil of the shrine" which hung between the Holy of Holies and the rest of the Temple. It stood for the great gulf between God and man because of man's sin. Only once a year could even the high priest enter the Holy of Holies as he went there to offer a sacrifice for the sins of all the people on the Day of Atonement.

BEFRIENDED AFTER DEATH

The third brief passage which forms the background of our lesson tells of the friendship of Joseph of Arimathea, a member of the Jewish Sanhedrin, and one of the seventy most distinguished members of the ruling class, who came forward and offered

a tomb for the burial of Jesus. Ordinarily, the corpse of a crucified person would have been denied burial and would probably have been thrown into the Valley of Hinnom, the trash dump of Jerusalem.

We are all indebted to Joseph for his compassion and the deed by which Jesus was given a respectable burial. As a member of the supreme court of the Jews, Joseph had access to Pilate. But his actions in going to the governor, removing our Lord's body from the cross, and burying it in the tomb he intended for himself were all part of a courageous public testimony to his faith.

It is quite significant that in his dying, Jesus brought to himself in redemptive experience a varied, unlikely group—a condemned thief, a Roman centurion, and a member of the Sanhedrin.

"CERTAINLY THIS MAN WAS INNOCENT"

The reaction of the Roman centurion to the death of Jesus made a great impression on Luke and he focused on it in Luke 23:47. Because he was one who did not worship his God, his response is all the more meaningful.

He recognized that Jesus did not deserve to be condemned and executed. Dr. Floyd V. Filson says: "The centurion's words did not show full faith in Jesus but suggest he was beginning to believe." The Romans worshiped many different gods, and so do many people today. Such worship is not confined to so-called pagan lands where idols are still found in temples. Our people do not carve idols, but many still worship the Roman gods of pleasure, lust, wine, and war. For such people today the most convincing message we can bring is the message of the crucified Christ.

The manner in which Jesus met his death and the miracles which accompanied it convinced the Roman soldier that he was indeed the son of God. The death of Christ together with his resurrection is still the most convincing proof of his Lordship. We do not know what happened in the life of the Roman soldier after Calvary, but there are many living today who bear witness to the fact that their lives really began on the day when they saw Calvary and understood its meaning for their lives.

THE WILLINGNESS TO DIE

People still ask the question, "What influence did Jesus' death have on my life?" Many theories have been advanced by theologians during the centuries of the Christian era. These include the idea that God was such a stern judge that he insisted on the price of death for man's sin. Another interpretation was that the earth was held captive by Satan because of mankind's sin and that Jesus was paid as a ransom for its release.

We may learn something from these theories, yet no one of them can explain why Jesus died. For his death to move into my life and have a personal effect, I must see that it was his willingness to die which was of most significance. The great central theme which we must accentuate is the voluntary nature of his sacrifice. I cannot feel any warmth within me as a response to any ideas that Jesus was either a puppet or an automation moving mechanically toward Calvary. For my life to be changed I must see him standing at many crossroads with the choice to move away from Jerusalem. Only then does it mean enough to me that he turned his back on those other choices.

OUR COMMITMENT TO THAT DEATH

It is through this supreme act of love that individuals have the opportunity to reach out and join with Jesus in a great venture of faith. Through this act God has given every one of us an opportunity to choose life.

This is God's gift to us and the message of his death is that newness of life comes to us only through acceptance and commitment. It carries us far beyond any idea that we can balance the wrong we have done by any number of good deeds. It is through total commitment of our lives that we become heirs of God's saving grace enacted in the drama of Jesus' death. We must choose, and even to refuse or postpone that choice is in itself a choice of destiny.

Church and Community Workers take a look at themselves

by **Connie Myer**

(Board of Missions,
Interpretive Services staff writer)

"Invisible missionaries" is an apt description for the Church and Community Workers of the United Methodist Church's Board of Missions. The 71 workers, who are mostly women, including 36 deaconesses and five US-2s as well as lay persons, receive much less attention and concern than the church's missionaries overseas.

Until about a year ago, these "missionaries" at home could only look forward to an average annual starting salary of \$3,100, depending on experience. In some cases, they received no pension when they retired.

Despite discouraging economic conditions, Church and Community Workers have served the church loyally and faithfully. Fourteen-hour days are routine for these persons, who work primarily in rural parishes and with rural people.

Church and Community Workers, however, began to stir themselves about a year ago. Meeting for the first time as a group in Sept., 1970, in Kansas City, Mo., they formed an organization composed of a leadership team and task forces. Quietly, but persistently, they began a sharing process with the Board's National Division in which they began to assume more responsibility in determining their own role in the church. Working closely with them was the Rev. Ralph W. Nichols of the Department of Town and Country Ministries, program administrator, who had long been concerned about the importance of their work.

Now, a year later, the minimum starting salary for a Church and Community Worker with a bachelor's degree is \$4,800 annually with a higher rate for those with advanced degrees or with work experience. Salaries of the present workers have been upgraded until the national average is \$5,700. As yet there is no annual increment plan, but one is being studied. Local and conference leadership where workers serve are asked by National Division to assume a portion of their total support.

Each worker also now receives medical and hospitalization coverage and cars are provided for those who need them for their work. In the past, only those workers who also were deaconesses received pensions, but now all Church and Community Workers are assured of getting an annual pension based on \$50 per service year.

Improvement of salaries and pensions is far from being the sole concern of the Church and Community group. Now that the National Division and the Board of Missions are in the process of reordering their priorities, Church and Community Workers want to cooperate with the Board in setting priorities for themselves. The task forces they formed are laying foundations for this.

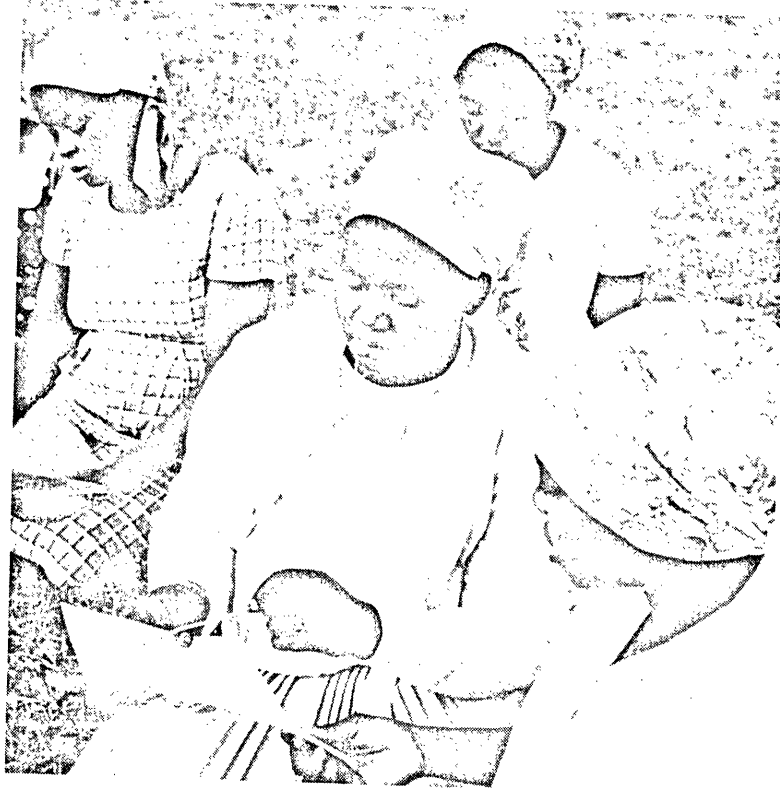
Each worker now receives \$200 each

year for two years from supplemental Women's Division funds to use for training programs to upgrade efficiency. Each worker chooses what he or she wishes to participate in.

Emphases include increased ecumenical approaches to rural parish services, more stress on community as well as church concerns and preparation of General Conference legislation to clarify and amplify the place of Church and Community Ministry in United Methodism. A set of guidelines which the Board of Missions Joint Committee on Missionary Personnel will use to select future Church and Community Workers has been designed.

Besides all these new concerns, workers are still primarily committed to Christ and to spreading his word among all peoples. And one of their main aims is to strengthen and develop leadership within the churches as well as in the community.

Religion is not a way of looking at certain things, but a certain way of looking at all things.—Sunshine Magazine



Women who learn to read at Cambine, Mozambique, will become village leaders. They and their husbands are enrolled at the Central Training School. The course of study covers Bible, evangelism, Christian education and agriculture—subjects that contribute to the spiritual, social and economic development of African villages. The World Division of the United Methodist Board of Missions receives more than one-fourth of each World Service dollar.

A church advertised for "Used Pews." We wish ours were used more. —from First United Methodist Church, Jennings, La. bulletin

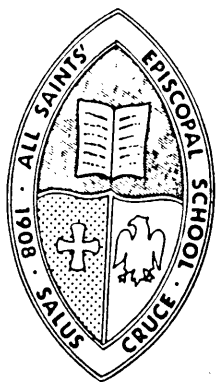
He who sincerely praises God will soon discover within his soul an inclination to praise goodness in his fellow man.—Oliver G. Wilson

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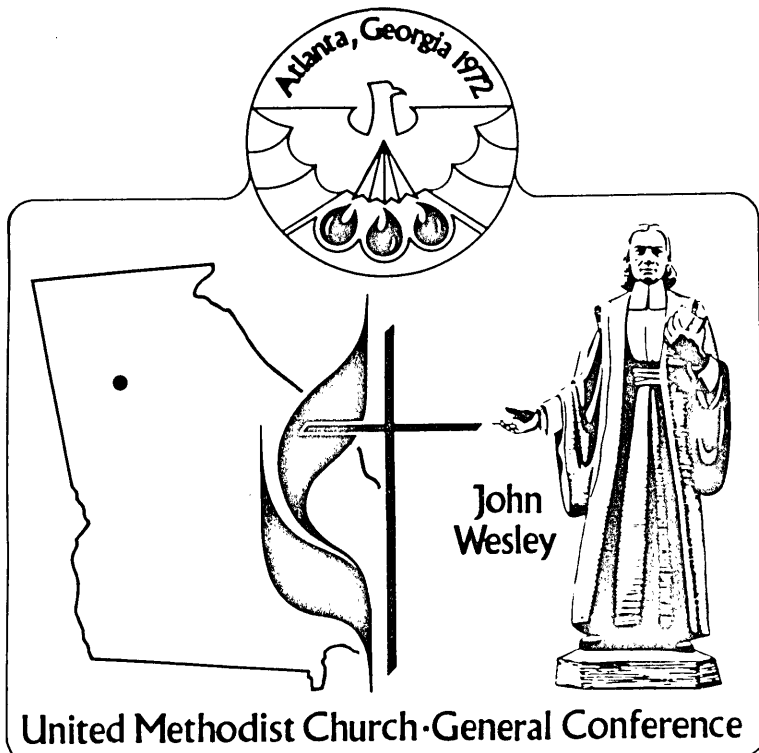
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MEDALLION for General Conference badges this session departs in shape from the usual round design. From left is an outline of the state of Georgia with a dot marking Atlanta, the United Methodist cross and flame, and a depiction of the statue of John Wesley recently erected in Savannah. At the top of the medallion is the symbol of Atlanta, a Phoenix rising from the flames.

Council of Secretaries meets

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMI)—Several forward steps toward relating all United Methodist agencies to Project Equality (interfaith fair employment program) were taken at the denomination's Council of Secretaries meeting here Jan. 26-27.

During its two-day session, the council also took action to develop guidelines for investment policies of church boards, discussed restructuring proposals for general agencies and heard progress reports on several other matters.

Dr. Roger Burgess of Evanston, Ill., presided at the meeting, and the Rev. Earnest Smith of Washington, D.C., served as secretary. Dr. Burgess is general secretary of the Board of Health and Welfare Ministries, and Dr. Smith is an executive of the Board of Christian Social Concerns.

The council approved a recommendation that there be one representative for all United Methodist general agencies on national Project Equality and that this membership be through the United Methodist Agencies Committee on Project Equality.

The Rev. Woodie W. White, Washington, D. C., executive secretary of the church's Commission on Religion and Race, headed the special committee which presented the Project Equality report to the Council.

For fiscal year 1972, the executive committee was asked to work out a plan to fund Project Equality to the amount of \$10,000, with payments to be channeled through the Commission on Religion and Race.

Looking ahead, the Council of Secretaries voted to recommend to the 1972 General Conference that \$20,000 per annum be provided for national Project Equality during the next quadrennium.

Implementing earlier endorsement of Project Equality by the church's 1968 General Conference, the council also

voted to ask the forthcoming General Conference to adopt a policy statement which would commit all United Methodist annual conferences, local churches, institutions, boards, agencies, commissions and organizations to

—Recruit, hire and promote persons for all job classifications without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, sex or age, except where creed, sex or age is a bona fide occupational qualification.

—Provide equal opportunities for training during employment.

—Insure that all other personnel practices such as compensation, benefits, transfers, layoffs, return from layoff, education and tuition assistance will be administered on a non-discriminatory basis.

—Periodically conduct analyses of all personnel practices and develop plans to insure that equal opportunity is supported through an affirmative action program, making full use of the services of Project Equality, Inc.

Another action of the Council grew out of recent revelations of church investments in war-related industries as reported in a National Council of Churches' study of "Church Investments, Technological Warfare and the Military-Industrial Complex."

A task force was named to bring together guidelines for the investment of trust funds which the Council of Secretaries might recommend to constituent boards and agencies. The task force will also consider the development of a composite statement relating to church agencies' investments.

Dr. Burgess said, in commenting upon the work of the task force, that in addition to the question of investments in industries involved in war contracts, the task force would consider companies' employment practices, questions of racial discrimination, etc.

Board looks at concerns of United Methodism's education program

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMI) — "Shall education continue as a primary concern of the church?"

That question, along with four others termed "critical," was asked here January 24 during opening sessions of the United Methodist Board of Education annual meeting.

Dr. Howard M. Ham, one of three general secretaries of the board, said education which has undergirded a religious movement across 25 centuries is threatened by the lack of financial support, fragmentation by special interest groups, and possible restructuring which will no longer make education identifiable as one of the primary concerns of the church.

Also featured in the opening session was a presentation from the higher education task force of the Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR) presented by BMCR president Gilbert H. Caldwell, New York; the Rev. Richard R. Hicks, Atlanta, Ga.; and BMCR staff executive Cain Felder, Atlanta.

Among requests to the Board from the task force were the employment of a black staff member with responsibility for recruitment of blacks to the ministry; a black staff member to interpret the scholarship and loan program to black churches, black colleges, and students; a black staff member to work with black young adults; and a black person to fill at least one of the two general secretary staff positions open because of retirements. One of the positions was filled during the meeting when the Rev. Dr. Ewart G. Watts, Topeka, Kans., was elected to succeed the Rev. Dr. Henry M. Bullock as general secretary of the Division of Curriculum Resources and editor of church school publications.

In response to the requests, the Board:

1) agreed to call a consultation on the black church and ministry and declared "its intention to employ a staff person in the Department of the Ministry, whose major task will be to coordinate the recruiting of black ministers and to interpret the black ministry to a variety of publics both without and within the United Methodist Church."

2) did not take specific action regarding the employment of a black scholarship and loan officer but did

agree to call together the presidents of the 12 black United Methodist colleges to see if such a staff position would be helpful.

3) approved the employment of a black staff member to work with young adult ministries "pending the ability to find the right person and finances for the work." This request was referred to the Board's "Crisis Task Force" headed by the Rev. Dr. William James, New York City.

4) instructed a search committee seeking a successor to the Rev. Dr. Myron F. Wicke to look for "the best qualified person without regard to sex, race, or age."

During its three-day session, the Board heard the summary of a two-year study of the church school. The dominant theme of the lengthy, 137-page report is that the teacher is the key to the success or failure of the church school program.

Five district superintendents were acknowledged for their superior leadership in Christian education: William R. Persons, Salt Lake City, Utah; M. Stanford Strosahl, Janesville, Wis.; Clare J. Hayes, Shawnee Mission, Kans.; Garland H. Holloman, Greenwood, Miss.; and George F. Goodwin, Scranton, Pa. Each man will be honored this spring at his respective annual conference session.

The Board and the respective divisions also honored nine retiring staff members: Henry M. Bullock and Mrs. Harvey W. Couch of the Division of Curriculum Resources; Mrs. Lois Benton, William E. Clark, and Mrs. Elizabeth McKnight of the Division of Higher Education; M. Earl Cunningham, A. Argyle Knight, J. Irvin McDonough, Edward D. Staples, of the Division of the Local Church.

Twenty-seven persons retiring from the Board because of age or maximum tenure were also honored.

Organizational meeting of the 1972-76 Board will be held Oct. 3-4, 1972.

Presiding over sessions of the Board meeting here was Bishop O. Eugene Slater, San Antonio, Tex., president.

Chairmen of the three divisions are: Bishop James W. Henley, Lakeland, Fla., Higher Education; Bishop Francis E. Kearns, Canton, Ohio, Curriculum Resources; and Bishop W. McFerrin Stowe, Topeka, Kans., Local Church.

... Overseas exchanges ...

LAKE JUNALUSKA, N. C. (UMI) — Anyone interested in short-term service in exchange with someone overseas would do well to check with the World Methodist Council's office here.

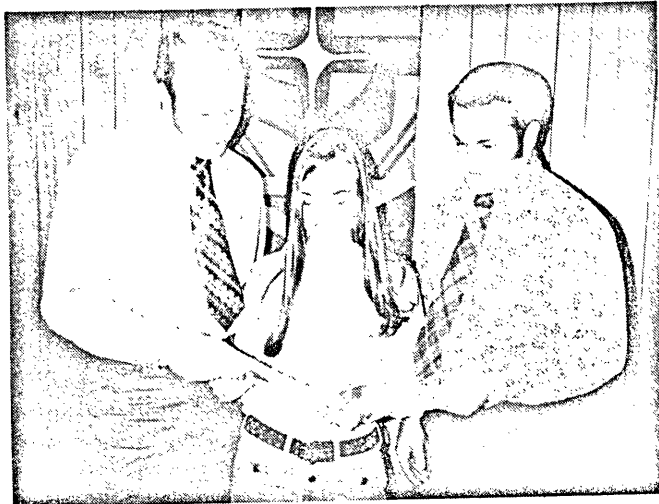
For many years, the Council has arranged summer pastoral exchanges especially between ministers in the United States and England, but in recent years the list has included other countries as well, and this year there are opportunities that involve teachers as well as clergymen.

According to the Rev. Russell L. Young, Jr., of Lake Junaluska, administrative secretary of the Council, there are currently at least four overseas assignments that are simply waiting for the right applicants.

These opportunities include two year-round pastoral exchanges from July, 1972, through June, 1973—one in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and the other at Burton-on-Trent, England.

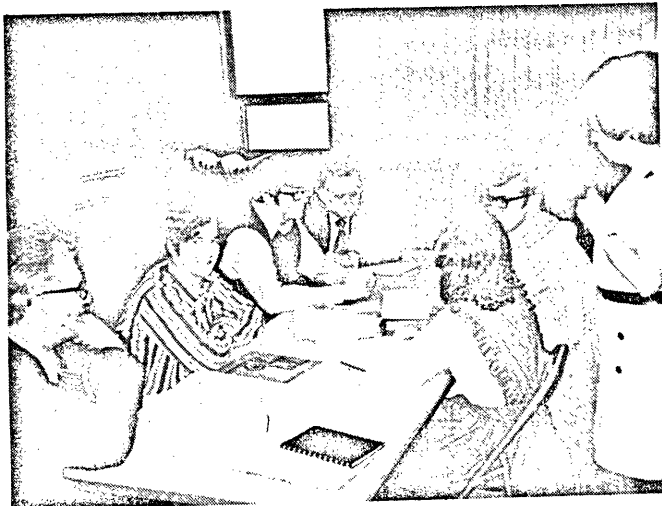
In the educational field, there is an exchange opportunity for a college teacher to serve in the department of religion at Newcastle Upon Tyne in England for the summer term of 1973 (roughly April through July), and need of a prep school music director in Cambridge, England, for the academic year, September, 1972, to June, 1973.

Persons interested in further information about any of these positions should contact the Rev. Russell L. Young, Jr., World Methodist Council, Lake Junaluska, N. C. 28745.



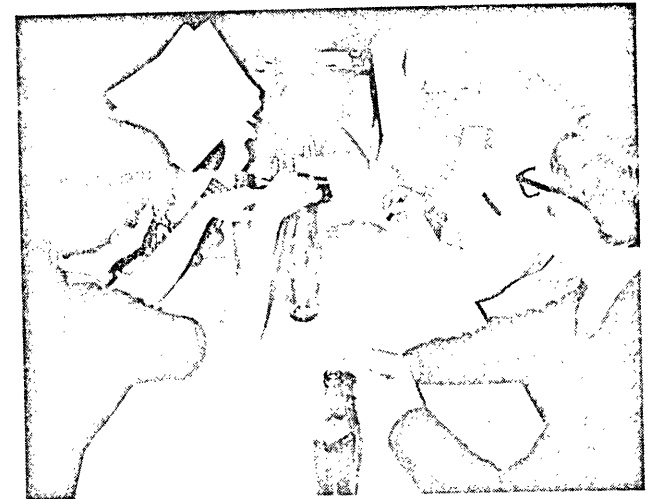
LEFT: Leaders for Jan. 22 Conway District Youth Ministry Workshop held at First United Methodist Church in Russellville. FROM LEFT: Chris Meyer, district youth coordinator, Brenda Moores, and the Rev. Bill Williams. Teams of youth and adults attended the all-day event from Wesley Church and First Church in Russellville, Morrilton, Danville, Dover, and Dardanelle. The next Youth Ministry Workshop for the Conway District will be held at First Church, North Little Rock on Feb. 19.

Youth Ministry Team from Danville



Persons in Youth Ministry Teams from Dardanelle and Morrilton

Youth Ministry Team from First Church, Russellville



POETRY PANORAMA

by barbara mulkey

In Matthew 8:15 is recorded . . . "And he touched her hand and the fever left her; and she arose and ministered unto them." Some poet unknown put it this way . . . "He touched her hand, and the fever left her. He touched her hand as He only can; With the wondrous skill of the great Physician; With the tender touch of the Son of Man."

Then Jesus Smiled

With breaking heart and yearning love
Christ heard my silent cry.
A cry made still by sin and self
As time and life went by.
A spirit bent and almost stilled,
Not made for Godless strivings.
Lord Jesus knew and loved and cared
And heard my silent crying.

When most alone in silent depths,
The valley of the shadow,
A dying self's last whispered breath,
"Thy name alone is Hallowed."
Then hark, I felt in hell's dark grave,
Someone with me was dying.
Alarmed, I opened long closed eyes,
"Oh God! It's Jesus! Crying!"

Then God's great healing heavenly voice
Called awfully out to me,
"My child, take heart, have hope, believe,
I sent my Son to thee."
"Sweet blessed Lord," my cry burst forth,
"Forgive, take all of me.
You cared and died, and live again;
I want to live for Thee."

Then Jesus smiled and touched my head,
The black and shadows flew.
Warm heavenly light spread all around,
My soul was born anew.
My voice now sings in thanks and praise
With prayer for all souls dying.
Lord Jesus knows and loves and cares
And hears the silent crying.

-by Mantha Caraway King



Snapshots here tell the story of a Camden District Arts and Crafts Festival planning meeting held last week at Marysville United Methodist Church. Mrs. John L. Tucker (nearest camera in photo ABOVE, RIGHT), Little Rock Conference director of Children's Work is the coordinator of the Conference-wide Arts and Crafts Festivals planned for this Spring. Seated beside her is Mrs. Fred Haustein, Camden District coordinator of Children's Ministry, and the Rev. Fred Haustein, pastor of the Marysville church. Nearest camera in photo at left is Mrs. Roy Bagley, wife of Dr. Roy Bagley, Camden District Superintendent. Beside her is the Rev. Hal Richardson, pastor at Bearden. The ladies in LOWER PHOTO were among 29 persons who represented 11 churches from over the district at the planning workshop. Plans call for separate showings in the Magnolia, Camden and El Dorado areas as well as in other districts over the conference.

