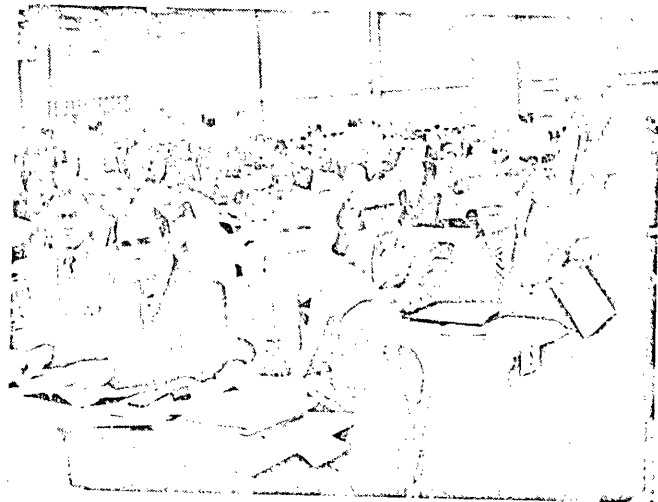


North Arkansas Conference delegation (FRONT, left to right): Joel A. Cooper, Earl B. Carter, Myers B. Curtis, Charles P. McDonald; Second Row: H. H. Fulbright, E. Clay Bumpers, Henry M. Rainwater, Matt L. Ellis.



Southwest Conference delegation: Dr. W.D. Lester, Little Rock, and Mrs. Alice Preston, Murfreesboro.



Little Rock Conference delegation: Front (from left): C. Ray Hozendorf, George W. Martin, Robert E. L. Bearden; Second Row: Mrs. E. T. Davenport, Gordon B. Carlton, Carl C. Hall, William B. Shepherd.

Major actions to come during final week of General Conference

by AAK

As the 1972 General Conference entered the second week in Atlanta the business moved from the committee rooms back to the conference floor where debate will begin in earnest on the hundreds of calendar items that stand between now and adjournment

late Saturday.

In contrast to the first week of the conference during which the major item of the news came from the reports which were presented and then referred for study by legislative committees and from controversies raging around extra-curricular activities of

the meeting, the big news of the second week will come when the business items which appear on the calendar will be considered for passage by the United Methodist Church for its guidance during the next four years.

On Monday morning, April 24, the

delegates heard the report of the Quadrennial Emphasis Committee presented by Bishop James Mathews of Boston, and then moved into the presentation of the reports from the legislative committees. Three-a-day plenary sessions are expected to be

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Arkansas Methodist

91st YEAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1972

NO. 17



Dr. Griffith

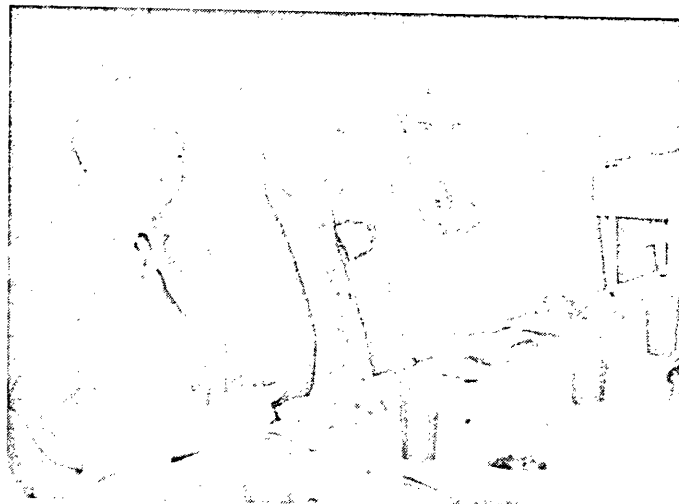
Canadian clergyman to deliver 1972 Raney Lectures

Dr. Leonard Griffith, preacher and lecturer of note throughout Canada, Australia, the United States and the British Isles will present this year's T. J. and Inez Raney Lectures at Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church in Little Rock, during the period from May 8-11, according to Dr. James B. Argue, pastor.

The lectureship was established in 1951 as a memorial to the late Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Raney by their children in recognition of their parents' contribution to Methodism in the area, and to afford opportunities for clergymen and laymen to hear some of the distinguished ministers of the day.

Dr. Griffith, pastor of the Deer Park United Church in Toronto, Canada, was born in England in 1920 and emigrated with his parents to Canada in 1929. He holds degrees in Arts and Theology from McGill and Queens Universities, and the United Theological College in Montreal, and has studied at Oxford University. He has served pastorates at Trinity United Church in Grimsby, Chalmers United Church in Ottawa and in 1960 was granted leave of absence from the United Church of Canada to succeed Dr. Leslie Weatherhead as minister of City Temple in London, England. In 1966 he returned to Canada to accept the pastorate at Deer Park Church.

Following the general theme, "We Have This Ministry," Dr. Griffith will present lectures on May 8 at 7:30 p.m. and on May 9, 10 and 11 at 10:30 a.m. daily and again at 7:30 p.m. nightly. Specific topics will include: "Between God and Man"; "Putting Persons First"; "As One that Serves"; "Enabling the Few"; "Reaching Out"; "To Tell the Truth"; and "Making Men Well".



Seated at head table during Aldersgate Camp Board of Directors' annual dinner meeting, April 13: FROM LEFT: Byron E. Hummon, director of Pulaski County United Way, and a guest speaker; Ray Tribble, camp director; Tom P. Williams, Jr., recently reelected president for a second term; and J. R. "Rod" Jones, director of Arkansas Council on Aging, also a guest speaker.

Aldersgate Board adds new members

The 25th anniversary of Aldersgate Methodist Camp was noted when the Annual Board Meeting was held in the camp dining room April 13. However, little time was spent in reminiscing about the early days when a turkey ranch was converted to camping facilities which currently serve hundreds of persons in thousands of camping days.

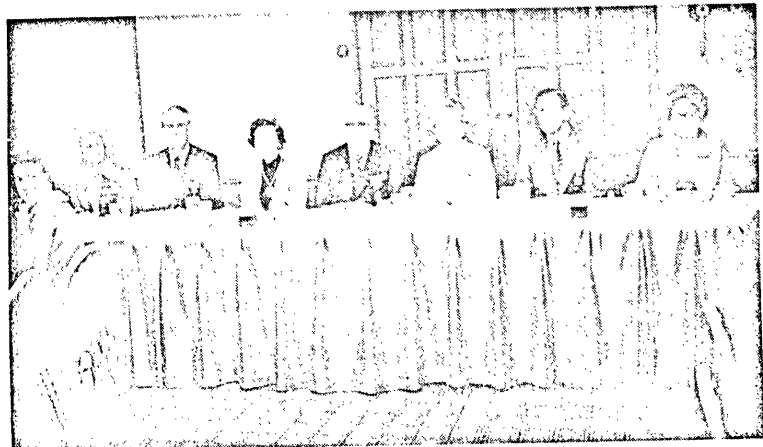
Focus of the program was on the

future as plans were explained for making the camp serve more people on a year-around basis.

Two speakers updated board members on new programs available to the camp. Byron E. Hummon, director of Pulaski County United Way, gave information concerning the "Title IV-A" service. This four-to-one matching money is available for fam-

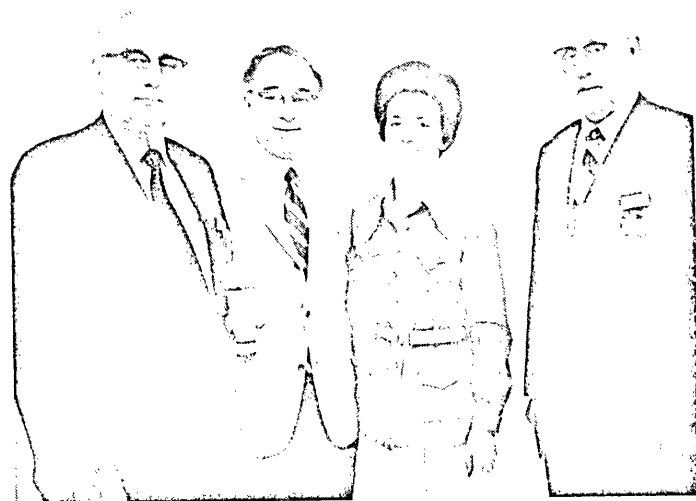
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Arkansans seen in Atlanta



Seen at April 22 luncheon honoring Bishop and Mrs. Paul V. Galloway (from left): Mrs. Harold O. Eggensperger, Mrs. Joel A. Cooper and Dr. Cooper, Mrs. C. Ray Hozendorf, Bishop and Mrs. Galloway, Dr. Hozendorf, and Mrs. H. H. Fulbright.

Bishop Paul V. Galloway, Dr. and Mrs. Harold O. Eggensperger and Dr. Bryan Brawner.



Little Rock District Arts and Crafts Festival

Asbury United Methodist Church at 1215 Schiller in Little Rock will be the host church for the Little Rock District Arts and Crafts Festival to be held on Sunday afternoon, April 30 from 2 to 5 o'clock. United Methodist Churches from throughout the district will exhibit items made by individual members of their local congregations. Entries will be judged in their different categories, and the first and second winners will be displayed at Annual Conference in May at First United Methodist Church in Little Rock, along with entries from other districts in the Little Rock Conference.

†



Members of the Youth Council of the Little Rock Conference who attended several sessions of General Conference. Adults attending with members were Dr. Edward B. Hollenbeck, Benton; the Rev. and Mrs. Allen Bonsall of Magnolia; and the Rev. Joe Arnold, Little Rock.

Forrest City District Youth Rally, May 12-13

The Forrest City District Youth Council announces a District Youth Rally to be held in First United Methodist Church at Forrest City on May 12-13. The rally will open on Friday evening at 7:30 with Ben Allen, Jr. and Jeff Rettig from Little Rock speaking, according to the Rev. Lowell Eaton, district youth coordinator.

The event will close on Saturday following the lunch hour. The multipurpose rally is planned to strengthen the Sub-district units, as an opportunity to become better acquainted, to elect a District Youth Council and to find out more about the United Methodist Youth program in general.

†

from page one — ALDERSGATE STORY

ily and child services. Mr. Hummon revealed that the Aldersgate program could benefit through State Health, Welfare and State Social Rehabilitative Services—the family and child service division. The plans are to implement the day camps and residence camps this summer, with possibly some weekend services all year for children and youth referred by character building agencies. Also, a day care center for children aged three to five is being planned.

J. R. "Rod" Jones, director of the Arkansas Council on Aging, presented

the possibility of enlarging the camping program to include year-around activities for senior citizens.

Entertainment at the dinner was by a string ensemble from Central High School, under the direction of Mrs. Ferrol Hicks. The Rev. John S. Workman, vice-president, was chairman of the program committee.

Tom P. Williams, Jr., presided at the business session and introduced the following new board members: Mrs. W. E. Arnold, Graham R. Hall, Dr. Erwin L. McDonald, Charles Osler, Mrs. Curtis Packard, Tommy

Smith and Travis Walton. The election of Dr. McDonald, a Southern Baptist, to board membership enhances the ecumenical aspect, according to Mrs. Cliff Peck, chairman of nominations. Other denominations are represented by the Rev. Lester Bickford, United Church of Christ (Dis-

ciples), Mrs. Cal Ledbetter, Presbyterian, and Mrs. Frances Wood, representing the Council of Churches in Arkansas.

New staff members introduced were Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Smith, Sam R. Smith, and Roy Duncan.

†



Past presidents who attended the Aldersgate 25th anniversary dinner were the Rev. J. Robert Scott, Mrs. E. D. Galloway, Mrs. Russell McKinney, Mrs. Earl Cotton, Miss Jessie Ehlers, and Mrs. J. Gordon Wilson.



The Aldersgate Country Fair, scheduled for Saturday, May 6, was promoted at the annual board meeting at Aldersgate by this group. From left: Mrs. Ray Hozendorf, Mrs. Harold Eggensperger, Mrs. Winston Faulkner, Mrs. Richard M. Jones, Mrs. Ed Harris (general chairman), Mrs. E. D. Galloway, and Rush Holt.

Hopeful signs in Atlanta

As we move into the second half of the General Conference in Atlanta, we see a number of hopeful signs concerning the future of the United Methodist Church. We recognize that a number of people think that the very prospect of legislation of the General Conference is slow and tedious, and we agree that this is so and needs some serious restudy. However, as we look beyond the turning of the wheels we see many signs of encouragement which we would like to share with you.

First, there is the recognition of several actions already taken, of a place for pluralism within our denomination. There were only 17 negative votes when the conference adopted a report of the Commission on Doctrine and Doctrinal Standards. The guidelines adopted in this report affirm that there will continue to be a place within the United Methodist Church for many different positions concerning doctrines. Our church has never been willing to allow differences of opinion to break the fellowship, and it is our conviction as well as the conclusion of Dr. Albert C. Outler that a serious use of these guidelines will help to ease many of the sharp edges of polarity which we have seen during recent years.

Although there was a large amount of material placed in the hands of delegates and visitors as they came and went at the meeting, we feel that there is a strong sense of unity and fellowship on basic issues within the conference.

Next, there is ample opportunity being given for voices to be heard from wherever they come. Even when the business seems to be moving in what appears to be a snail's pace, the agenda committee and the presiding officers have indicated patience and calmness in allowing the time needed for differing viewpoints to be registered. Even though some delegates and visitors have raised the question about the place of innovation within the church, this observer feels that this is the mood of the

times, and by this means the church is being renewed in a healthy manner.

Another healthy sign is the approach made by the conference to the issue of merger of the four remaining Black Annual Conferences of the church. Although the vote has not been taken on this at the moment, we have not been able to sense any real tension about this question, and do not feel that it will be a matter of great debate when it comes up later in the week. We would like to say that the Commission on Religion and Race made a most constructive presentation before the sessions, as did the Black Methodists for Church Renewal. It is our opinion that we will move ahead now in a constructive manner to bring about this oneness in the church which we see indicated by all recent church legislation.

Then, we believe that the report of the Structure Study Commission has been most interesting to observe. We wrote in last week's paper that we thought the report might fall by the wayside. However, during the intervening time we have seen a gradual change regarding the significant issues. Now we believe that there is a strong possibility that the major portion of the restructure will be authorized. As we have visited in the halls and in the sessions, we have observed such a positive approach. We are willing to help interpret this action to all of our readers that they might appreciate its significance in the total church life in the days ahead.

There have been several suggestions that the General Conference be greatly altered, one proposal being that the quadrennial session be changed to a meeting every two years. If this would entail an effort to conduct the business within a one-week span, we would seriously object since we remember the 1970 Special Session in St. Louis, in which time ran out before all the business was completed. It could be that the new patterns can be devised for electing delegates and planning the conduct of business, but we have a feeling that we would preserve the patterns of democracy better in our denomination by continuing with the quadrennial session of General Conference.

It has been this writer's privilege to attend all of the sessions of the General Conference since 1938, and it continues to be his conviction that this is a great way of developing a program of United Methodism, and that it is an essential factor in maintaining our health and strength.

aaK

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A peripheral view of General Conference

A weekend visit to General Conference furnished the writer some of the atmosphere of the entire proceedings. We were impressed by the high points—and the contradictions.

Noticeably visible were the extremes which would pull apart the mechanism of the church if it were not for the enormous balance wheel typified by the majority of delegates.

On the right are those groups who are so extreme that they have pulled out of the United Methodist body, and, although they have no vote on the conference floor, they use their voices in the halls and on the street and flood delegates with printed material beseeching them to leave the United Methodist Church and join their independent Methodist Churches.

At the other extreme are the minority groups that believe the only way for the church to survive is to destroy the structure.

Meanwhile,—back on the conference floor, reports are being heard and those speaking to the reports frequently inspire the delegates to rise in thunderous applause. Attempts are immediately made to pass recommendations and resolutions, but too often in the first week, these were relegated to a "committee" for further study.

Youth groups become frustrated by the "rules of order", foreign delegates become confused by the "amendments to the amendment to the motion", the women's caucus alarms the Family Life Committee by its insistence on sublimating that which family life is striving to build up—the father image, and white male delegates realize that all of the minority groups are now the majority.

The flying visit to Atlanta enabled us to visit the scene of an early chapter in our lives when the editor was a student in Candler School of Theology at Emory University, and yours truly was a book worm,—pardon, a book saleslady at Davidson's Department Store.

—the editor's wife

†

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Editorial and business offices: United Methodist Headquarters Bldg., 715 Center Street, Little Rock, Ark. ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE to Box 3547, Little Rock, Ark., 72203. Articles other than editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editor.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE—\$3.00 per year

Published every Thursday except weeks of July 4 and Dec. 25 at United Methodist Hqrs. Bldg., Little Rock, Ark. Second class postage paid at Little Rock, Ark. When asking for change of address please include key number, new and old address and pastor's name.

POSTMASTER: MAIL FORM 3579 to Box 3547, Little Rock, Ark., 72203.

MEMBER: Associated Church Press, United Methodist Press Association, and news sources including United Methodist Information (UMI), United Methodist Board of Missions, National Council of Churches, and Religious News Service (RNS).

ADVERTISING RATES on request. Represented nationally by Jacob's List, Inc., Clinton, S. C.

news and views

OF THE WORLD OF RELIGION

by doris woolard

Top-ranking Roman Catholic and Protestant leaders from Ireland have accepted invitations to attend a massive interdenominational service of intercession for peace in Northern Ireland in Methodism's Central Hall at Westminster in London on May 24. The event will coincide with "Wesley Day" which marks the day in 1738 when John Wesley had what is recorded in Methodism's history as a "remarkable religious experience." The Rev. Kenneth L. Waight, Methodist Conference president, said, "One of the most agonizing features of the Irish tragedy is that nobody feels he can do anything. This, of course, is not true. For the Christian there is the great power of prayer, and it is because of this that I want to draw the attention of the whole Methodist Church to the meeting."

Value analysis is becoming an important part of fund-raising for religious causes, more than 200 professional fund-raisers from dozens of Churches were told as they met in Cincinnati recently for a Conference on Christian Philanthropy. Dr. George S. Siudy, Jr., of the United Church of Christ said that new approaches to young adults are necessary because the "now generation" spends its money as fast as it is made. For churches that have been accustomed to expecting large chunks of estates, this is creating a need to develop methods of bridging value systems, he said. Fund-raisers should make their calling "Christian philanthropy" and not "money grubbing," he added.

The American Baptist Convention has asked the U.S. Navy to promote Chaplain Andrew Jensen recently acquitted on widely publicized adultery charges, and give him a new assignment that is approved by the denomination, according to a recent news report. Following the acquittal, the denomination said it would take steps to see that Mr. Jensen received "full restitution." The Church wants the Navy to pay the approximately \$15,000 needed to defend the chaplain.

Presiding Judge Thomas Cooper has launched a policy of opening sessions of Durham County Superior Court (in N. Car.) with prayer. He said although there has been some controversy concerning public prayers in recent years, "I intend to open this court with a prayer. And if it offends any of you, you may leave." Nobody left.

Comprehensive "super tours" around nine-centuries-old Westminster Abbey and its precincts in London will be introduced by the dean and Chapter for the coming tourist season. From May 1 on, there will be two such tours daily, one in the morning, one in the afternoon, each conducted by a multi-lingual verger on the abbey's permanent staff. Parties will be limited to 20, and a fully inclusive fee of \$2.60 will cover a visitor's entrance to the royal chapels, the Chapter House, and parts of the abbey not normally open to the general public.

Ezra Taft Benson, a Mormon leader and one-time U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, told the 142nd annual conference of the Mormon Church meeting in Salt Lake City that communism is still the greatest threat to God's work. Warning of dangers ahead for our nation, he said: "By court edict, Communists can run for government office, teach in our schools, hold office in labor unions, work in our defense plants, serve in our Merchant Marine and so on." Benson charged further that, "As a nation, we are helping to underwrite Communist revolutionaries in our country."

A resolution "to recognize the providence of Almighty God in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the schools" has been approved by both Houses of the Kentucky Legislature. The resolution said in part: "It is evident with each passing day that our schools and our system of government will surely fail without God." It also declared "that it is in keeping with our national heritage that the Providence of Almighty God be recognized in every appropriate way in our public schools, and that voluntary, non-compulsory prayer and Bible reading and the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag be encouraged in our schools and commended as a way of life for the children of the Commonwealth."

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to call a Constitutional Convention to propose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution which would permit the offering of voluntary prayer in the public schools has been adopted by the Arizona House of Representatives and reprinted in the Congressional Record by Sen. Barry Goldwater. New Jersey, Maine and Nebraska have submitted similar resolutions to Congress according to Father Robert G. Howes, national coordinator of Citizens for Public Prayer.

One of the major points expressed at a "Conference on Jewish Living" in Tarrytown, N.Y. was a greater stress on the "uniqueness" of Judaism, perhaps even teaching this concept to children at the age of three years, is becoming necessary for Jews in order to cope with problems caused by inter-marriage. Conference officials emphasized the point that "uniqueness" was not to be interpreted as the idea of Jews being "God's chosen people," an idea that some people have felt smacks of racial superiority, but rather as the idea of Jewish "identity."

American soldiers serving in Europe are now permitted to engage in a wide range of off-duty "Spiritual Adventure Training" programs. Among 12 types of activities listed in an appendix to the U.S. Army—Europe "Modern Professional Army Program," is included "A troop visit to an elderly people's home, and/or to an orphanage, as a 'scouting' visit in preparation for a troop-designed and troop-executed program of assistance to those same homes." Another project called Partnership Worship Services, brings together American and West German soldiers in a denominational and/or ecumenical service "to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood of all men under the fatherhood of God."

Dr. W. Stanley Mooneyham, head of World Vision, is reported to have told government officials in the Philippines that "God cares not only about the sweet bye and bye but also about the nasty here and now." The evangelist recently conducted a series of meetings in the Tacloban area at the invitation of local churches in cooperation with the national Christ the Only Way Movement composed of more than 50 denominations in the Philippines.

Religious broadcasters were urged to do more "target programming" for specialized audiences at a session of the Nat'l. Religious Broadcasters held in conjunction with the Nat'l. Assn. of Evangelicals' convention in St. Louis. "The window is open and a fresh breeze is blowing on religious broadcasting," declared Tommy P. Thompson, director of domestic operations for the international broadcast of The Lutheran Hour, "with updated and creative methods being used to get out the 'old, old story.'"

Religious people are "notably happier" than non-religious people, according to a recent research study on consumer attitudes, conducted by the public relations firm of Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn, Inc. The study showed eight different elements connected with happiness, with religion the one that correlated most highly. The report showed people who claimed to be "very religious" were 12 times more likely to be "very happy" than "unhappy."

John Knox Press, the book agency of the Presbyterian Church, U.S. (Southern), is turning over distribution of its materials to Harper & Row, New York-based publishing house. The move is said to be one of the first in which a denominational book publisher has made an arrangement for distribution with a major independent firm. Beginning May 1, the religion department of Harper & Row will be the sole U.S. representative for selling John Knox books to stores, libraries and educational institutions.

Seventh-day Adventists sold more than \$48 million worth of Christian literature in 1971, according to the denomination's world headquarters in Washington, D.C. William A. Higgins, associate director of the publishing department commented: "People are more serious-minded. They are fed up with permissiveness, and there is a swing to religion. For instance, a book on death recently published is almost a best seller." The Adventists operate 48 publishing houses, and their publications are printed in 266 languages.

Young people from the nation's three largest Lutheran denominations will hold their first All Lutheran Youth Gathering in Houston in 1973. Between 17,000 and 20,000 youths are expected to take part in the sessions at Houston's Astrodome, Aug. 4-8, 1973. "With Eyes Wide Open, will be the theme of a meeting held for "inspiration, celebration and motivation for service."



"Key 73," the continent-wide evangelistic campaign planned for next year, is picking up a wide variety of support from Christian denominations, both liberal and conservative. To date, 130 Churches, regional groups or Christian organizations have agreed to take part. The planning for "Key 73" has brought together groups which have never before in history worked with each other. Among the participants are groups as divergent as the Salvation Army, Campus Crusade for Christ, several Roman Catholic dioceses, Pentecostals and Mennonites. Participants may function ecumenically or separately; local areas and individual congregations will determine their activities to a large degree.

The program calendar calls for a period of "Advent Repentance and Prayer" in late 1972. On Jan. 6, 1973, "Key 73" will be formally launched with a Faith-in-Action network television special. A series of witness surveys, mission and Bible study, lay witnessing, youth outreach, state fair missions, impact weeks and other celebrations follow throughout the year. —RNS Photo

Program Directors to Local Churches

SEED SOWING

I. Coffee Seeds:

The other day a minister thought to himself: There must be a way of creating a better sense of Christian fellowship among members of a local congregation and to involve new people in the fellowship. He meant involved to the extent that they will really become concerned about each other and their needs. That is the goal as he sees it.

The time allotted would be twelve months (incidentally each minister is appointed to a church for one year at a time).

Procedure

This is the way he thought the goal might be attained. **Coffee time (or coke or both)** meeting places are designated by a task group from the local church Council on Ministries. A leader would be selected and encouraged to accept certain responsibilities such as making the necessary arrangements.

Meeting places could be: 1. offices; 2. Church parlor or kitchen; 3. Restaurants; 4. Homes. Meetings could be held as desired but it would be well to have a stated meeting at least once a week. Occasionally a breakfast could be included in this type of meeting.

Topics of discussion might be: 1. Issues of the day; 2. How to befriend those in need; 3. Newcomers and how to aid them; 4. Great Christian beliefs; 5. Others as selected by the group.

Cost — Negligible — each person pays his own. **Resource** — The creative minds of Methodists requesting the guidance of God's Spirit in this new ministry.

II. Life Seeds:

RURAL LIFE SUNDAY is **MAY 7**. This day can be of great value to the Church. Here are some ideas for observing the day:

(1) **A RURAL CHURCH OR PARISH** can invite 20 or more members from an urban church to be their guests for May 7.

- Attend Sunday School and Worship.
- Basket dinner at noon in central church.
- Short program in afternoon focused on the changing rural scene for ministry there.
- Tour of a modern farm in afternoon.

(2) **AN URBAN CHURCH CAN:**

- Send out several carloads of its members to visit rural churches on May 7, invited or uninvited.
- Ask its pastor to exchange pulpits with a rural minister for the day.
- Ask rural laymen to make a five minute statement in the morning worship service, about the rural church and its changing ministry.
- Receive a special offering for a special project of a rural church.

LITERACY WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

The literacy movement in Arkansas is gaining momentum this spring since the addition of a director. Jim Bales of North Little Rock, on loan full-time for a year from the Xerox Corporation, has set up an office in the Winfield United Methodist Church in Little Rock, from which he coordinates volunteer efforts in the Laubach "Each One Teach One" method of training non-readers.

Many tutor-training sessions are being held over the state to train additional volunteer teachers. Recruit tutors in the Arkadelphia-Hot Springs area were trained on April 14 and 15 in the First Baptist Church at Arkadelphia.

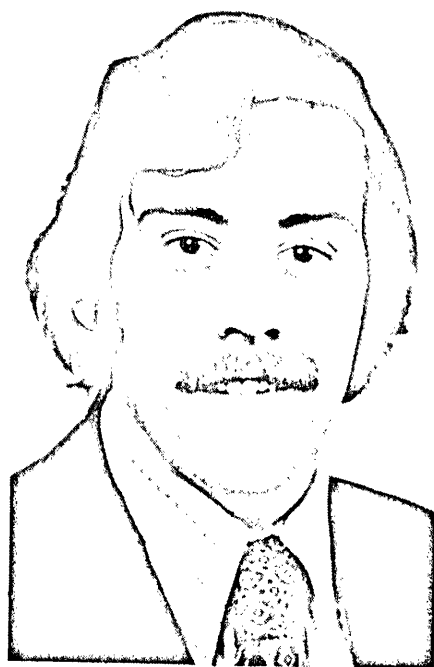
Training sessions are scheduled at the following places: **Pine Bluff**, April 28 and 29, from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., at Lakeside United Methodist Church, with Mrs. Roy Snider of Camden as tutor-trainer.

Helena, May 1 and 2, at First United Methodist Church.

North Little Rock, May 15, 16 and 17, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., and May 15, 16, and 17 and 18, from 7 until 10 p.m., at Park Hill Baptist Church. Leaders will be Mrs. Betty Harp, Mrs. Linda Reeves and Mrs. Harriet DeLano.

†

MRS. E. J. HOLMANN was chosen as Arkansas Mother of the Year for 1972. Mrs. Holmann is an active member of First United Methodist Church in Little Rock.



Russ Chitwood of Little Rock will head the Hendrix College Student Government Association during 1972-73. Chitwood, a junior, was elected president in a run-off election on April 13. Carl Crow of Hot Springs will serve as SGA vice-president.

SENATE MEMBERS elected to serve in the 1972-73 Student Government Association at Hendrix College are: Susan Cloninger of Fort Smith, senior class president; James Hennesberger of Little Rock, junior class president; Vern McKimney of Fayetteville, sophomore class president. Living unit **REPRESENTATIVES** are: Dawne Benafield of England, Veasey Hall; Beck Jones of Little Rock, Raney Hall; Gail Atkinson of Magnolia, Galloway Hall; Kent Chrisman of North Little Rock, Couch Hall; Bob Lambert of Sikeston, Mo., Townmen Hall; Karen Hunt of Hot Springs, Townwomen Hall.

†

NEW ALTAR APPOINTMENTS are now in use in the First United Methodist Church, Monticello, consisting of a hanging cross, matching vases and candlesticks, all of brass. They were purchased from the Memorial Fund under the direction of the Committee on Worship with Mrs. James Jordan as chairman. The Rev. William D. Elliott is the minister.

COOKS WANTED

Camp Tanako, located on Lake Catherine, Hot Springs

WEEKDAYS:

Monday-Friday — \$60

WEEKENDS: Friday supper through Sunday lunch — \$25

May stay in A/C Sleep-In Cottage and use other camp facilities or may commute

APPLY TO:

REV. JOE E. ARNOLD
715 Center, Suite 202
Little Rock, Ar. 72201

Poetry Panorama

by Barbara L. Mulkey

"They took away what should have been my eyes, (But I remembered Milton's Paradise). They took away what should have been my ears, (Beethoven came and wiped away my tears). They took away what should have been my tongue, (But I had talked with God when I was young). He would not let them take away my soul: Possessing that, I still possess the whole." Even before the author is identified the great courage and deep religious conviction of Helen Keller shines through.

Thank You, Lord

Thank You, Lord,
Because of your embracing love
That met my tiny, newborn eyes,
And promised, ere I understood,
To love me through eternities.

Thank You, Lord,
For tender, deep maternal love
I knew in days of buoyant youth,
For strong, paternal guiding grace
That testified your precious truth.

Thank You, Lord,
For counseling my ardent years,
When worldly goods did gleam and glow;
Position, wealth, all seemed to woo,
And tempt me down their paths to go.

Thank You, Lord,
That in these later, mellow times,
Your presence seems so very near.
With aging senses I still know
Your endless grace so very dear.

—by Charles A. Stuck

His Presence

Nearer than the hand can reach
And closer than the sea,
Sweeter than a baby's touch
His presence is to me.

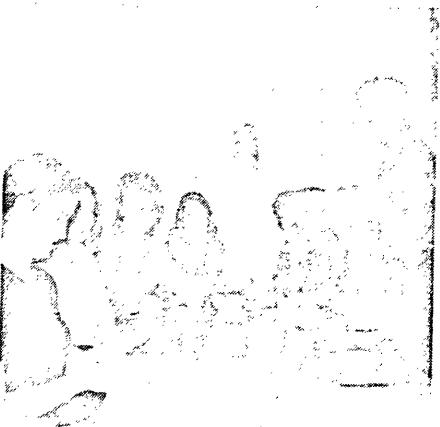
My life is naught without His voice,
I'm restless as the sea;
But when I chart my course by Him
It's wonderful to me.

I feel His tender loving care
About me day by day,
And if I wander from His love
I try to find the way —

Back to the shelter of His arms
So I might bask within.
Then stumbling on, rejoicing,
I come back to the world again!

—by Betty Heidelberger

†



Members of experimental class sessions held recently at First United Methodist Church in Jonesboro. The sessions, sponsored by the child growth and development committee of the Council on Ministries, were limited to mothers and teachers of pre-school children. Mrs. Virginia Lindley was instructor for the course; "The Child Under Six," by Dr. James Hymes was used as a textbook. The Rev. Worth Gibson is minister at First Church.

NEWS and NOTES

THE HUTTIG CHURCH, Camden District, recently presented a 15-year attendance bar to Mrs. Cecile Hanna for perfect attendance in church school. Mrs. Hanna also has perfect attendance of six years for the morning worship services. She was presented the attendance bar by her present pastor, the Rev. Robert H. Jackson.

PARAGOULD DISTRICT Parsonettes met on Wednesday, April 5, in Piggott in the home of Mrs. J. B. Harris, with 21 ladies present. The devotion was given by Mrs. Mary Reed, followed by a brief business meeting, fellowship and a sack lunch.

THE "YOUTH QUAKE" in Louisville, Kentucky, this weekend will be led by 37 young people, accompanied by 10 adults from First United Methodist Church of Jonesboro.

THE ROSE CITY-BEACON Church of North Little Rock held a revival during Holy Week with the Rev. Charles Watt, pastor, bringing the messages. Recent youth activities in the church have included a "Youthspiration" and a "Youth Night." Sponsors are Mr. and Mrs. Olen Harper and Mrs. Betty Turner.

THE YOUTH OF WESLEY Memorial Church, Conway, sponsored a weekend youth revival, April 14, 15 and 16. Each evening, two ministerial students from Hendrix College brought messages. These included: Randy Seamon, Cliff Christopher, Bubba Smith, Dennis Spence, Mike Kubat and Mark Lasater. Wesley youth read scriptures and sang in the choir. Melinda Morse and Bob Anderson, Hendrix students, led the singing. Mr. and Mrs. James V. Anderson, Jr. and Sherry Mattniller, youth sponsors, report that the entire church participated and were blessed by the experience. The Rev. Britt H. Cordell is pastor.

P. K. KORNER

SARAH FAYANN PETERSON was born in Houston, Texas, March 26, to Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Peterson. She is their second daughter, and is the grand-daughter of Dr. Roy I. Bagley, Camden district superintendent, and Mrs. Bagley. Mr. Peterson is political cartoonist for the Houston Chronicle.

EDWARD BARROW HILLIARD was born on March 20 to Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Edward Hilliard of Dallas. He is the first great-grandchild of Dr. and Mrs. Neill Hart, who are now retired and living in Little Rock.

PAGE SIX



The Holly Grove United Methodist Church, which celebrates its 100th anniversary on Sunday, has occupied this building since 1933. The parsonage, at right, will be dedicated Sunday afternoon, April 30.

FORMER PASTORS INVITED TO HOLLY GROVE CENTENNIAL

The Rev. Charles Nance and members of the Holly Grove United Methodist Church are inviting all former pastors and friends to the Centennial Observance which will be held Sunday, April 10. Worship is scheduled for 10 a.m., dinner will be at the church, and the parsonage will be dedicated at 2:30 p.m.

The history of the Holly Grove Church is traced by T. G. Trice in a

recent brochure. Although the first Methodist Church building was not erected until 1872, Methodists worshiped in school houses and private homes before the Civil War. The first church building was constructed by the Presbyterians at Macedonia Cemetery in 1866. Methodists also used the church until it burned in 1871. James Kerr, a pioneer settler, gave the lot for the first Methodist Church. He, with help of Isaac L. Pride, Jell Kerr, James A. Kerr, and R. L. Kerr, built a frame church which burned at Christmas in 1883. The next frame

building was completed in 1884. In 1896, W. C. Swift and T. G. Trice added the vestibule and belfrey. The brick church in present use was completed in 1933, and dedicated by Bishop Hoyt M. Dobbs when the Rev. A. N. Story was pastor.

Ministers since that time have included C. C. Burton, H. J. Couchman, John Glover, J. M. Harrison, C. P. McDonald, O. M. Campbell, George McGhehey, John R. Chapman, Wendel Dorman, Luther K. Wilson, James McCammon, and Irl Lancaster.

FRANCES SUE WOOD COLLECTION HONORS FORMER HENDRIX PROFESSOR

The children's literature collection in the O. C. Bailey Library at Hendrix College has been named in honor of Dr. Frances Sue Wood, who retired last spring after serving ten years as chairman of the Education Department of the College.

The formal dedication of the Frances Sue Wood collection was made on April 19 by Dr. M. Francis Christie, academic dean, at a dinner sponsored by the Hendrix chapter of the Student National Education Association. Featured speaker at the dinner was Dr. Rose Berry, professor of education at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, who spoke on children's literature. The Hendrix SNEA initiated a fund-raising drive for the collection which received contributions from over one hundred of Dr. Wood's former students and faculty colleagues.

The dedication of the Frances Sue Wood collection was a part of the observance of National Library Week at Hendrix College.

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THE LAY WITNESS MISSION conducted at the Lakeside United Methodist Church at Lake Village, March 24-26, was a time of renewal, inspiration and challenge. On Sunday morning a number of people re-dedicated their lives. Seven were received into the church the following Sunday on profession of faith. Five weekly share groups have resulted from the mission, of which Jay Lawhon of McCrory was coordinator. Jack Rhodes was the local coordinator and the Rev. Clyde Swift is pastor.

THE NORTH ARKANSAS GUILD Retreat will be held at Aldersgate Camp Saturday and Sunday, April 29 and 30, led by the Rev. Ross Whetstone of Nashville, Tenn.

McCORMACK HEADS MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE

The Harrison Ministerial Alliance has 15 minister-members and is seeking to add five others. The Rev. John McCormack, pastor of First United Methodist Church, is serving as president, and the Rev. Joe Tucker, Episcopalian, is secretary.

At a recent meeting, an Episcopalian layman outlined the summer program of the Lakeside Ministry. The Alliance recently successfully opposed the granting of a liquor license in the dry county, and successfully supported the increased millage for public schools.

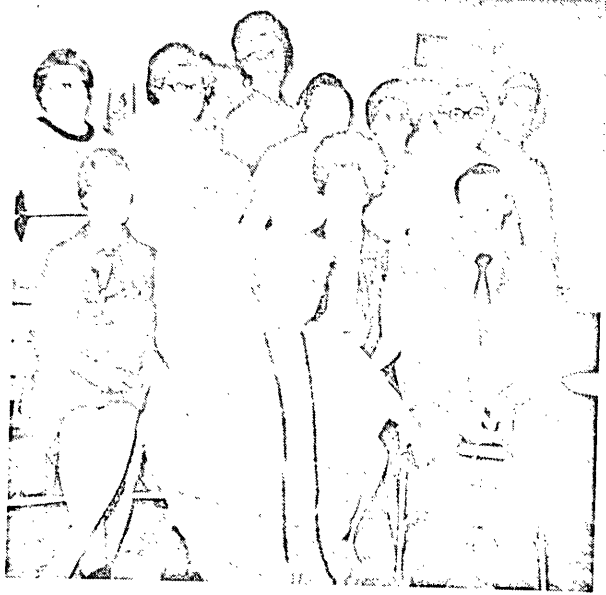
Monthly breakfast meetings are now being held at the Twin Lakes Vo-Tech School Cafeteria, at the invitation of Weldon Stevenson, superintendent, who is a Methodist layman.

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.

April 30—Sunday	I Cor. 15:51-58
May 1	Isa. 55:1-13
May 2	Hosea 6:1-3
May 3	Matt. 5:1-12
May 4	I John 2:21-29
May 5	I John 5:11-21
May 6	Jude 20-25
May 7—Sunday	Job 13:3-16

APRIL 27, 1972



Mrs. Roy Weld, center front, was hostess for the study of Africa held by the First Church WSCS at Fisher. The Rev. Sherman Waters is pastor.

STUDY OF AFRICA HELD AT FISHER, ARK.

The study of "The New Generation in Africa" for women of First United Methodist Church at Fisher, Arkansas, was held in the home of Mrs. Roy Weld, chairman of the local Program Area of Missions. Mrs. Weld also serves as president of the Jonesboro District Women's Society.

The morning program, following worship, had topics presented by Mrs. Jack Gunter, and a skit with Mrs. Raymond Ford, Miss Mildred Osment

and Mrs. Anna Wixson. The hostess, dressed in an African hostess gown, carried out the hand-washing ritual before the Rev. Sherman Waters, pastor, offered the noonday thanks.

The afternoon session included a playlet "Whose Manners are Better?" by Mrs. Charles Freese, Mrs. Bennie House, Mrs. Dale Houchin, Mrs. Magdalene Beal and Miss Osment.

"Apartheid and the Church of South Africa" was reported by Mrs. Charley Dale. "To Be Black in South Africa" was described by Miss Osment. A filmstrip and the benediction in song closed the study.

Letter from Missionary David Bauman

Methodist Mission
GODHRA, Gujarat, INDIA

Dear Friends:

I write this from Yeotmal, my first visit to the fastest growing theological seminary in India. This year its enrollment is 140. Its strong evangelistic emphasis, coupled with a high scholastic standard, has a real appeal, and has also attracted a number of our students from Gujarat. I am here attending a seminar on church growth under the inspiring leadership of Dr. Donald McGavran, who has made a real study on how the Gospel spreads and how churches are planted. Some of you have read his book, Bridges of God.

Much has passed under the bridge since our last letter. I shall list just a few events:

1. We moved from Nadiad to Godhra in July, where I am district superintendent. Faith continues her all-conference women's training work.

2. Two Vacation Bible Schools in October. There were eight of us in our team; four teachers, beside Faith and me, our driver and his wife, who did the cooking for us. We stayed in one village, held the school there each morning and in the nearby village each afternoon.

3. The special christmas program, put on by our Godhra young people, was presented in five nativity scenes, accompanied by carols in English, Gujarati and Hindi.

It is hard to know how much to write about the recent events in Bangla Desh, culminating in the two-week war. But it is hard to keep silent on it. We wonder what sort of impression you have had at that distance. Some news coverage has been very good, and the leading article in Reader's Digest for December 1971 states the case well, although a little too briefly. Our impression is that the world community seemed generally indifferent to this unprecedented massacre and savagery, that was certainly one of the greatest tragedies of this century, although some have responded very well to the suffering of the refugees. The stance and actions of President Nixon have been incomprehensible to us, and a cause of shame and embarrassment to Americans in India. As one missionary lad put it, "I never thought I would live to see the day when I would be thankful for the Soviet veto in the United Nations, nor when I would see the United States on the side of communist China in condoning such slaughter, and opposing the humanitarian activity of the world's greatest democracy."

Anyhow, we are thankful that the war has ended quickly, without other countries becoming involved, that self rule and democracy have been established in Bangla Desh, and Sheikh Mujibur Rehman has been released to become its rightful head, and that the conditions have been created for the return of the millions of refugees, after their nightmare of suffering.

Please pray for us, for our church and workers, and for our witness for Christ among the people of this great land.

Yours in Christ,
David B. Bauman

P. S. I have just completed a set of slides with script and tape recording on the work we are engaged in in Gujarat, and sent them to the Audiovisual Resources of the United Methodist Board of Mission. If you would like to use this set in your church, write to Audiovisual Resources, Joint Commission on Education and Cultivation, Board of Missions of the United Methodist Church, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, New York 10027

Southwest Conference Women to meet in Brinkley

Miss Norene Robken of Texarkana will be the guest speaker for the Annual Meeting of the Women's Society of Christian Service and Wesleyan Service Guild of the Little Rock District Conference, when they meet in Brinkley, May 5 and 6, in the Wesley United Methodist Church.

Miss Robken served for 25 years as a Methodist missionary in the Congo. She will speak Friday night, wearing a native costume, showing films and artifacts.

Presiding at the meeting will be the district president, Mrs. Marie Watkins of Little Rock.

†



Miss Robken

CORE-PLANNING GROUP SPONSORS SEQUOYAH WEEKEND

In response to many requests, the core-planning group of the South Central Jurisdiction Society/Guild is sponsoring an enrichment weekend for United Methodist women at Mt. Sequoyah, Fayetteville, Arkansas on June 9-11, 1972. This will be a time for women working together to find ways of expressing Jesus Christ in their communities.

Registration should be made directly with the Rev. N. Lee Cate, superintendent of Mt. Sequoyah Assembly, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 72701. Total cost for housing, meals, insurance and registration is \$19.00. If there is a physical need for special housing, Reverend Cate would need to know this at the time of registration. (If a delegate to the Regional School is attending the enrichment weekend, she should notify Reverend Cate of this when registering.)

The planning committee is composed of Mrs. John Howe, Jr. of York, Nebraska, program coordinator; Mrs. Hugh Hardin, of Ft. Smith, Arkansas; Miss Lita Hernandez of Bryan, Texas; Mrs. Geneva Robertson of New Orleans, Louisiana; and Mrs. Pearl Thomas of Okmulgee, Oklahoma with Miss Freda Betts, Chanute, Kansas as chairman. The program will open with dinner on Friday evening, June 9th, continue through Saturday and conclude mid-morning Sunday, June 11th. The entire weekend will be quite informal in dress, procedure and atmosphere. Walking shoes are recommended.

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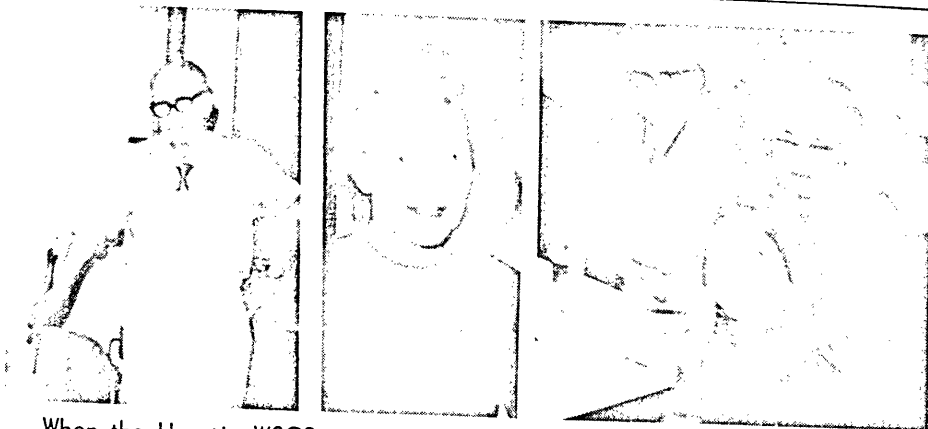
MAY FELLOWSHIP DAY is May 5

May Fellowship Day is being observed throughout the nation by church women of all faiths on Friday, May 5. Central theme of the program this year is "Behold the Woman." Materials for the program were printed for Church Women United by the American Bible Society. The offering on that day will be kept in the state, 50 percent for local use and the rest for state ministries.

The Central Arkansas area will have services at 10 a.m. at Church of the Good Shepherd, Little Rock. The Business Women's Group will have a dinner meeting at 6 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal, Little Rock.

Early registrations are suggested as the capacity of the camp is limited. Registration will be accepted on a "first come, first served" basis with the deadline May 15. If after registering someone finds she cannot attend, refunds of all money except the \$3 registration can be made if Reverend Cate is notified by June 5.

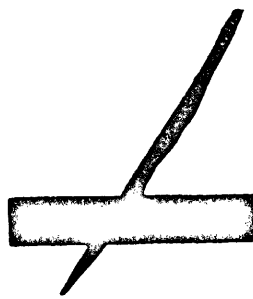
In programming for this event the committee is starting from the common base: "we are Christian; we are women" and asking the question "Can we go on an international pilgrimage with Jesus Christ?" Their hope is that many United Methodist women will be challenged to join them in this search.



When the Horatio WSCS gave a chili supper recently, Mr. Faye James, at left, furnished and cooked chili for 160 persons. Miss Ellen Pride, center, handled tickets. AT RIGHT: The Rev. C. E. Messer, retired, and Mrs. Messer sit with Brooke Mouts, grand-daughter of the Rev. Guy J. Downing, pastor.

The Sunday School Lesson

By: Alfred A. Knox



LESSON FOR MAY 7: Involved With Human Need

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE: Matthew 25:31-46; Luke 22:24-27; Hebrews 13:1-3; James 1:27; 2:14-17

MEMORY SELECTION: As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me. (Matthew 25:40)

AIM OF THE LESSON: To help persons understand the Christian's responsibilities for involvement in human need wherever it is found.

The Christian has always been involved in the needs of his brother. Because this is true it seems so foolish to become involved in some of the prolonged and heated debates that still go on concerning the emphases that are being renewed on the ministry to persons in need. So let us not become bogged down today in the revival of any controversy over the social gospel. Let us rather face the reality that the first Christians were involved with persons in as need, every generation of the church has been since then.

We are in a series of lessons which we hope will aid us in developing a true image of the church. The material from the Bible helps us to see that the church really is seen in terms of what he did when he lived among men. Remember that he said in Luke 22:27: "I am among you as one who serves."

If one is alert to developing trends within the church he sees that a great effort is being made to develop church programs that are the result of recognized needs. Almost everywhere we see local congregations as well as larger segments of the church developing instruments by which they can involve their people in ascertaining just what the priority emphases should be.

A part of our background material for today comes from the Book of James. This writer placed a great emphasis on faith in action, affirming: "So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead." (2:17). I can remember that Dr. Andrew Sledd, my New Testament professor at Candler School of Theology, in speaking of faith said, "It is not what we believe. It is what we do about what we believe."

We reaffirm that the church is involved with human need, and it is exciting that we have an opportunity also to find our place in such a challenging type of church program.

Dr. William J. Carter, writing in Adult Bible Studies, says: "The religious life outlined by Jesus was remarkable because it was hardly 'religious' at all. Whenever he was asked to describe it, he referred to personal acts of lovingkindness rather than to the performance of sacred duties. His whole emphasis was on serving, loving, and being compassionate."

Aren't we glad that our church gives us so many opportunities to be involved with human need?

"WHICH SHALL BE THE GREATEST?"

We have a passage before us today in which some of the disciples disputed among themselves concerning who of them should be the greatest. Luke describes this confrontation in 22:24-30 and sets it around the table at the Last Supper.

There seems to be some question about whether the question was raised by Judas, to cover his own sense of shame and guilt, or whether the disciples may well have been thinking of their own supposed priority as a group. Nevertheless, there followed an object lesson in humility. Jesus recognized that there was some question about the preferred seats at the table, but he makes it clear that his place among them is as a servant.

We have so often become confused about pre-ferment in God's scheme of things. The Master left no doubt concerning the standard that should be used. The greatest shall be he who undertakes willingly the most menial of tasks. Dr. Paul Scherer says in Interpreter's Bible: "The watchword of all true greatness is not privilege but devotion. It came as an offense to the Jews. Such a Messiah was not to their liking. It comes as an offense to us. 'We do not want this man to reign over us' (Luke 19:14)."

Jesus gently rebuked the disciples by telling them they were acting like men of the world. This was one of several occasions when he used a gentle bit of sarcasm to get his point across. He made it perfectly clear that there was no place for selfish ambition or violence among his followers.

Instead of aspiring to rank and position, Christians should establish service to others as the goal of their lives.

"LET BROTHERLY LOVE CONTINUE"

In our brief passage from Hebrews we are told to "let brotherly love continue." The previous chapter has been speaking of Jesus as the great high priest. Now the writer presents us with a very practical application of Christianity. We are reminded that all of Jesus' ministry is closely related to matters of daily life and the conduct of the Christian with regard to them.

We find in this chapter a great emphasis on brotherly love and hospitality, with love of God and love of neighbor being seen as two central characteristics of the Christian religion.

The writer of Hebrews speaks of the extending of hospitality to traveling people, especially fellow Christians. This same passage spells out the concern which Christians are urged to have with the imprisoned. He is called upon to feel with the prisoner as though he himself were imprisoned. Dr. Eric Titus says in International Lesson Annual: "The point is that the Christian's attitude is one of compassion to the point where he takes upon himself the pain and suffering of others."

The major emphasis of this passage from Hebrews affirms that empathy is more than sympathy, which can be expressed in words only. Empathy demands action since it means identification with the person in need. The writer of Hebrews is restating something that Paul had said in 1 Corinthians 12:26 as he recognized that when one member of the body suffers, all others suffer with it. All persons should be so knit together in love that the adversities of one are felt by all and made the concern of all.

SOCIAL CONCERNS THROUGH THE AGES

Sometimes I am greatly disturbed by letters which come to the editor's desk declaring that the church has only in recent years concerned itself with social concerns. Our Scripture passages for the lesson indicate that this emphasis was strong in the church from its beginning. The church members were first concerned to see that all the members of the church and their widows and orphans were adequately cared for. But involvement with human need soon spread beyond the bounds of the church and eventually was felt in the whole world.

Even in the period when the church had to be concerned about its own survival under the unfriendly persecutions of Rome, it found time to develop ways of reaching out to help other people. Dr. Carter points out that "hospitals, orphanages, hostels for travelers, and almshouses were established in

some areas by the fourth century."

During quite a long period it was in the monasteries that social services were largely concentrated. But even so, voices were being heard that indicated a firm belief in the social challenges that rightly belonged in the life of the church. The rights of women and the needs of children came within the circle of concern. Although some people have wrongly accused the church of being a laggard in pushing for social reforms, the impetus of concern was usually planted in the hearts of the leaders of these reforms by the churches of which they were a part.

Of these letters to which I have previously referred those which are most disturbing are those which call for a return to "old fashioned Methodism" and a diminishing emphasis on social concerns. These people simply do not know their Methodist history. John Wesley was involved with meeting human need from his days of membership in the Holy Club at Oxford. It has been said that the Methodist movement saved England from a fate similar to the French Revolution.

CHRISTIAN INVOLVEMENT IS A SIGN OF CHRISTIAN MATURITY

We can clearly recognize that the dispute which arose among the disciples concerning their own greatness in the kingdom was a mark of immaturity. Jesus gave them the key to real spiritual maturity as he reminded them that he was among them as a servant.

In every age it has been essential for Christians to grow beyond the immaturity of self-centeredness in their interpretation of their faith, and find their place in the servant church which offers them an opportunity to become involved in the needs of others.

How exciting it is to read the bulletins and newsletters of the churches in Louisiana and Arkansas and see how many of them are at work in the great number of undertakings aimed at meeting the needs of people. We read of telephone crisis ministries like "Contact," of participation in various kinds of metropolitan ministries, of hundreds of workers in the Laubach literacy program, and of thousands who are lending a hand in the many facets of the war on poverty. These are all signs of Christian maturity.

INVOLVEMENT IS A SIGN OF LOVE

There are so many needs still unmet. In any community — large or small — there are elderly people, children, youth and adults who need to be convinced that they are loved. People are starving in many parts of the globe, just as persons are starving within our own communities.

A church that does not love all mankind enough to involve itself in their needs can hardly be the body of Christ at work in the world. Dr. Charles M. Laymon says: "In Jesus' own day the sin of the religious leaders was their exclusiveness that shut out persons they labeled as sinners and non-Jews. They were the 'in-crowd'; others were outsiders. But the compassion of Christ is a mark of the true church, dedicated to helping all mankind."

Heaven help us to become involved so that we will be the true church.

FAITH REACHES COMPLETION

May we look back at the Book of James as we bring this lesson to a close. Here was an early Christian who truly believed that faith finds its fulfillment through service to others.

As we seek for the maturity of our own faith let us become familiar with all that is being done through special agencies of the local, state, and federal governments and through many private agencies that are dedicated to the improvement of our world. Our faith may reach full maturity as we find our niches in some of these programs that are making a great impact on the needs of people in our world today. Won't you look around you and find the place in which you should be at work?

from page one

GENERAL CONFERENCE

the order of the day during the second week of the conference.

On Monday morning Thomas Matheny of Hammond, conference lay leader of the Louisiana Conference and president of the National Association of Conference Lay Leaders, became the first person under the age of 40 to be nominated for the United Methodist Judicial Council. Earlier in the morning, the General Conference had changed the legislation which previously required age 40 for such a nomination. Mr. Matheny is 38.

The proceedings of the conference during the first week Tuesday April 18

On Tuesday morning the delegates received three more major reports from commissions which have been at work for the past quadrennium under a mandate from the 1968 General Conference.

The Commission on Doctrine and Doctrinal Studies: Dr. Albert C. Outler, professor of Perkins School of Theology, chairman of the commission, said of this report, "This is not a new creed, nor a new set of the articles of religion, nor a new confession of faith. The old ones are still retained smack in the middle of the text in their original version, but it is not a simple affirmation of the status quo, either. The old articles and confession and rules have been set in a new context of interpretation and this means a decisive change in their role in the theological enterprise of the United Methodist Church."

This report seeks to put into historical context traditional theological formulations to appreciate the ancient creed and confession afresh, and then to repossess their living truths in the light of radical new experiences.

Supporting statements were received from committee members Dr. J. Bruce Behney, Dayton, Ohio; the Rev. William G. Smartt, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Dr. Emerson Colaw, Cincinnati, Ohio; and Bishop William R. Cannon, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Social Principles Report: The Social Principles Report was delivered with two of the 32 commission members dissenting. The report contains a "social creed" which is a short theological statement, and "social principles", which are generalized statements about a number of issues in society. When the report comes back with the recommendations of the Legislative Committee on Social Concerns, a great deal of debate is expected on sections dealing with human sexuality, a statement on alcohol and marijuana, an affirmation of the rights to adequate food, clothing, shelter, education and health care, and an affirmation of the rights to disobey unjust laws, opposition to capital punishment, and an affirmation of selective conscientious objection (rejection of service in particular wars).

The Commission to Study the Ministry: In the presentation of the report of the Commission to Study the Ministry, task forces were requested to look to the eventual plans of having one seminary in each of two areas "the Greater Chicago region" and the "Ohio region", each of which present-

ly has two United Methodist supported seminaries. The commission asks that general church support be limited to only one seminary in each of the areas after 1976.

Other recommendations were: that both seminaries in the Greater Atlanta area be continued for the present but with continuing study toward becoming one; that a consultation task force be created to devise a timetable of reducing four seminaries to three in the Eastern Seaboard region; and that the four theological schools in the Western region be continued for the present; and that a Division of the Ministry be created to replace the Department of the Ministry in the General Board of Education.

Seating of youth delegates: One of the issues which became central early in the session of General Conference was that of the seating of three young people who had been elected delegates from their Annual Conferences. Two of these were under 21 years of age at the time of their election and were ruled ineligible in a decision of the Judicial Council. One who happened to be younger than the other two was 21 years of age when her conference elected her and she was seated. Later in the week when the Judicial Council reaffirmed its earlier stand, the delegates authorized the seating of the two young people with voice but not vote, and with their expenses paid.

Legislative Committees: The 14 legislative committees which were organized on Monday evening began to meet each afternoon and evening to get started on the tremendous task which was theirs. More than 21,000 separate petitions are to be acted on in the committees and brought back in reports to sessions of the General Conference by the time of adjournment on April 29.

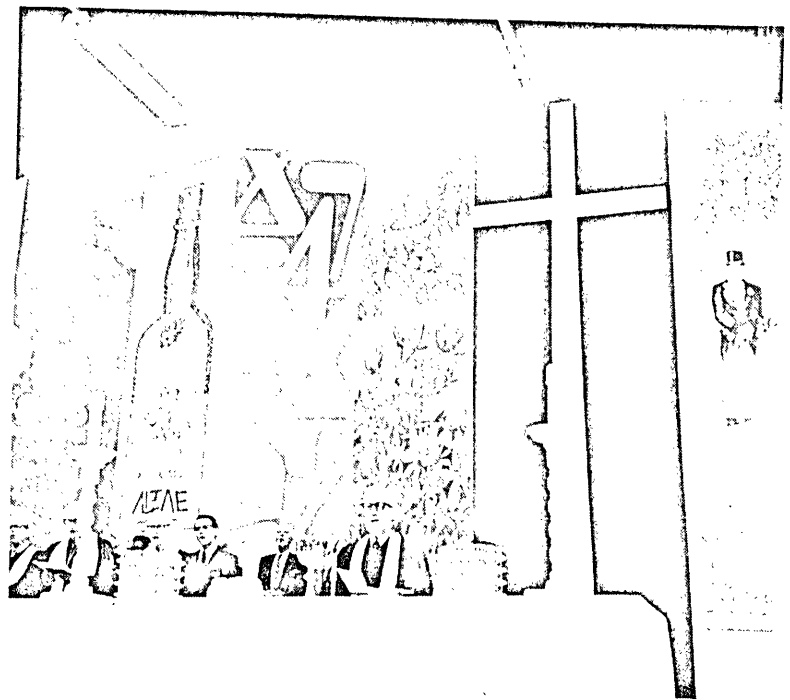
Wednesday, April 19

Ecumenical Emphasis: Messages from a Roman Catholic bishop, a Protestant ecumenical leader, and a Jewish mayor were among the highlights of the Wednesday morning session.

The Most Rev. James W. Malone of Youngstown, Ohio, representing the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, characterized himself as an "unabated optimist" regarding Christian ecumenism. Noting that threats, fears and distrusts had disappeared as various groups dialogue, he lauded efforts both within the Consultation on Church Union, and between Protestants and Catholics. Declaring that the world needs to be shown what Christians mean by "peace, sharing, fulfillment, and a living faith," the bishop urged that "We should not wait for perfect accord before we address ourselves to the problems of a suffering society."

Consultation on Church Union: Speaking for the Consultation on Church Union (COCU) was the Rev. George C. Beazley, Jr., of Indianapolis, its chairman, who reminded the delegates that churches do not drift or emote into union. Admitting that parts of a plan for a united church as now being considered by the denominations must be "radically rewritten", the Disciples of Christ ex-

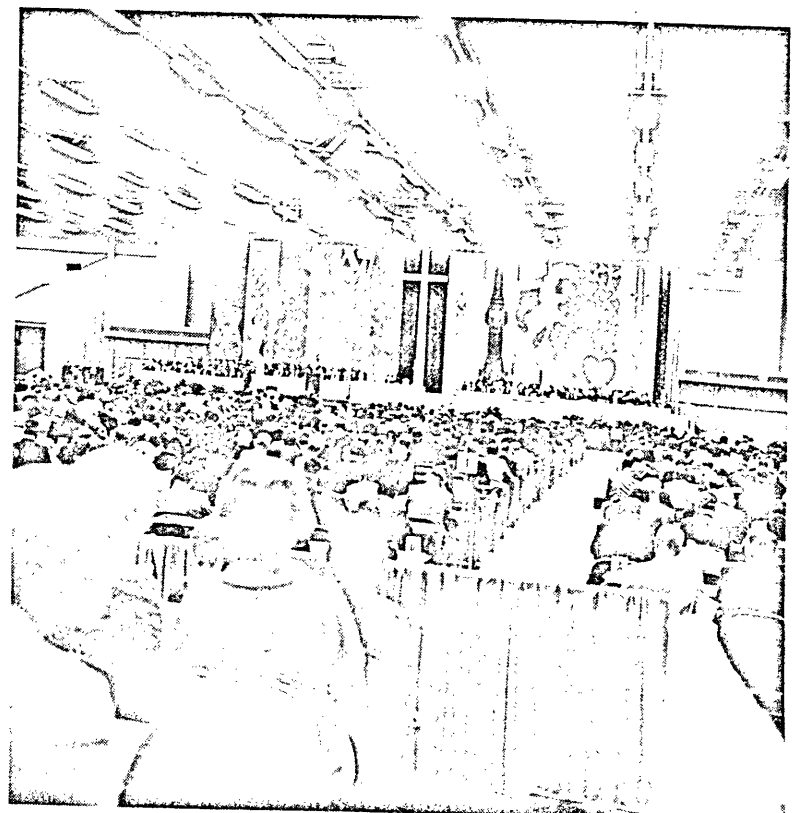
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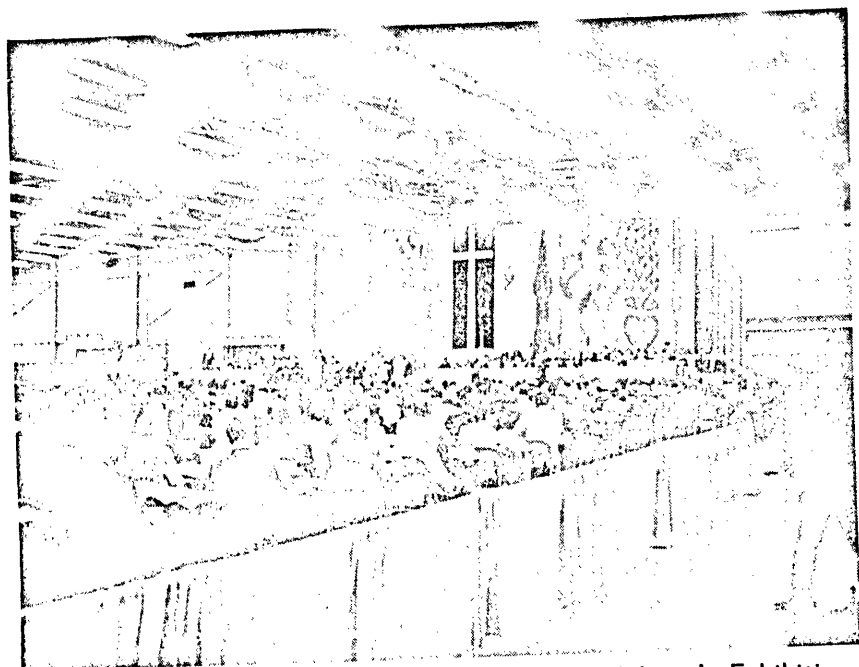
Bishop Paul Hardin presiding at opening Communion Service.



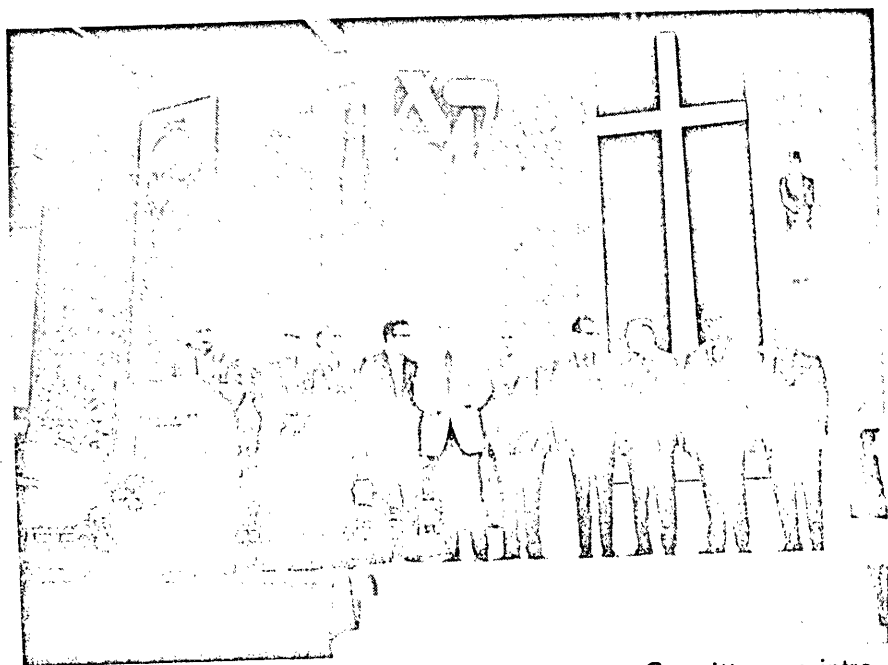
Bishop F. Gerald Ensley delivering Episcopal Address.



Long view of General Conference at work.



General view of General Conference in session at Atlanta's Exhibition Hall.



Members of the General Conference Entertainment Committee are introduced to the Conference—Carl C. Hall of Little Rock is at right.

from page nine

GENERAL CONFERENCE

Executive held that "COCU can help to deliver us from severe provincialism."

Greetings from Atlanta's mayor: Official greetings from Atlanta came from the city's mayor, Sam Massell, a member of the Jewish faith. He told the delegates and visitors "As a controversial figure, I feel right at home here." The mayor stressed the city's attempt to solve its human relations problems "in order to be ahead of them" as he outlined Atlanta's community growth. He expressed pride to have the conference meeting in Atlanta "where decisions can be made for the benefit of man."

The Commission on Religion and Race: The Commission on Religion and Race asked the General Conference to set July, 1973, as the final deadline for eliminating all remaining racially constituted Annual Conferences and districts. The proposal, which will be voted on later in the session, asked that the 1972 Jurisdictional Conferences redraw the conference lines of all Annual Conferences in which merger has not been completed, and that all the details be consummated by the close of the 1973 Annual Conference session.

Bishops' Call for Peace: Bishop James Armstrong of the Dakotas Area presented the Bishops' Call for Peace and the Self-Development of Peoples, which was overwhelmingly passed by the General Conference on Wednesday. The statement asks each of the 78 Annual Conferences to develop its own initiative and to use "its distinctive opportunities and expertise" to implement the call. "Annual Conferences are also encouraged to initiate and enter into cooperative ecumenical programs designed to increase public awareness and stimulate concerted action for world peace and human development."

Service agencies of the church will carry out the Bishops' Call by providing study materials, program guides, and motivational and inspirational support.

Bishop Armstrong referred to a previous demonstration of the delegates in which they walked silently out of the Civic Center for a brief prayer vigil. He called this the most eloquent "sound of silence I've heard."

Thursday, April 20

"Planning for Ministries—1973 and Beyond": A plan was adopted by the General Conference which will permit each Annual Conference and individual congregation to "do its own thing" in developing programs and concentrating on priorities for mission. This will be the major emphasis for the new quadrennium.

The report departs from traditional patterns of "handed down, cut and dried" quadrennial programs, and gives wide latitude to Annual Conferences and local churches in working out their own tailor-made programs.

The new pattern of program planning was outlined by the Rev. Virgil W. Sexton of Dayton, Ohio, and a team representing the church's Program Council. The General Conference affirms the program planning process and endorsed several priorities which local units may explore and work out in their own way. The three basic priorities suggested in the document are: "commitment, renewal, and nurture; new ways of operation in the church; and meaningful and relevant theology."

British delegates: Bishop F. Gerald Ensley presented to the conference the four members of the British delegation who are full members of the body, following authorization voted four years ago. They are: Dr. Eric W. Baker, former secretary of the British Methodist Conference; John Kellaway, a banker from the city of Liverpool; Miss Pauline Webb, a former vice-president of the British Conference; and Norman Woolridge, a staff member of the British Conference.

Commission on World Service and Finance: The report of the Commission on World Service and Finance was presented under the leadership of Bishop Paul Hardin, Jr. He underscored important items in the financial workbook which had been presented in the Daily Christian Advocate. The report as adopted provides that the annual World Service Askings be \$22,500,000, and that there be included an annual asking of \$6,000,000 for the Black College Fund, a new item which will be apportioned on the same basis as World Service.

Black Colleges' Advance: Bishop James S. Thomas presented the chal-

lenge of the Black College Advance and introduced the presidents of the 12 colleges which are being strengthened by that program.

Thursday afternoon preaching service: More than 6,000 persons attended the Thursday afternoon preaching service at which the Rev. A. Cecil Williams of Glide Memorial United Methodist Church, San Francisco, was the speaker. The service was moved from First United Methodist Church after the church became too crowded and many thousands were unable to get in. The controversial minister was well received as he brought a strong evangelistic message.

(Continued next week)

†

Autonomy ceremonies held in Hong Kong and Taiwan

NEW YORK (UMI) — Two new Methodist Churches were born in the Far East during Holy Week.

March 29 saw the formal coming to autonomy of the Hong Kong Methodist Church. It was followed March 30-April 2 by the organization of the autonomous Methodist Church of the Republic of China, Taiwan Annual Conference.

Both new churches are former annual conferences of the United Methodist Church, and both continue in affiliated relationship to it. The Commission on the Structure of the United Methodist Church Outside the USA (famously known as COSMOS) and the Board of Missions were represented by Bishop Prince A. Taylor, Jr., Princeton, N.J., COSMOS president, and the Rev. Dr. Tracey K. Jones, Jr., New York, Board general secretary.

Bishop T. Otto Nall, who for the last four years has been episcopal leader in Hong Kong and Taiwan, turned over the gavel to the newly-elected president of the Hong Kong Methodist Church, the Rev. Lincoln Leung. The "Ceremonies of Autonomy" were held at Ward Memorial Methodist Church, attended by about 200. Leaders of the Roman Catholic, Anglican, Baptist, Salvation Army and Lutheran Churches were present, as

Arkansas/Louisiana Methodist editor chairs press meet

ATLANTA, Ga.—To be effective, the general church periodicals must go to at least 50,000 key leaders on a free basis, according to Dr. John Proctor, Nashville, president and publisher of the Methodist Publishing House.

Speaking to the United Methodist Press Association Saturday morning, Dr. Proctor said that a "Kiplinger-type newsletter, possibly by air mail," might well do the job of keeping the church informed. He asked the association to help find a way to improve the flow of information within the church.

The association elected as new officers for the quadrennium Sue Couch, Nashville, president; Robert L. Robertson, Dallas, Tex., vice president; John Lovelace, Park Ridge, Ill., secretary, and George M. Daniels, New York, treasurer.

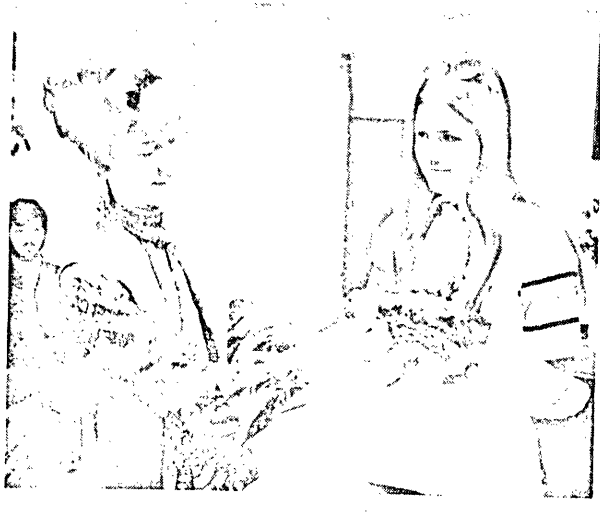
In presiding over the meeting, Dr. Alfred Knox, Little Rock, Ark., president, paid tribute to Dr. John Marvin, a past president who is to retire next year as editor of the *Michigan Christian Advocate*.

†

was the Rev. Peter Wong, head of the Hong Kong Council of the Church of Christ (to which United Methodism is also related). Bishop Taylor and Dr. Jones spoke. The 2,000-member Church is negotiating with the British-related Chinese Methodist Church toward probable church union.

Similar ceremonies were held at Wesley Methodist Church in Taipei. Bishop Nall symbolically transferred the presiding officer's responsibilities by handing the gavel to the Rev. Daniel Liu, newly elected chairman of the Methodist Church of the Republic of China, Taiwan Annual Conference. There are 3,500 members in 19 congregations, nine more than in Hong Kong. Bishop Taylor and Dr. Jones participated in the ceremonies; later they went with Bishop and Mrs. Nall to call on and pay respects to Madame Chiang Kai-Shek. They met other Taiwan leaders in the new Methodist Church.

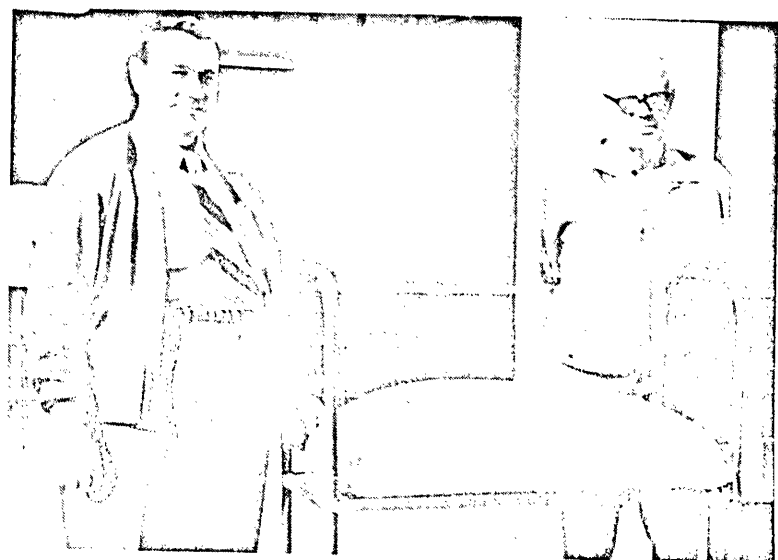
APRIL 27, 1972



Frances Thrash (right) receives blue ribbon for her wire sculpture exhibited in Arts and Crafts Festival at Grand Avenue United Methodist Church in Hot Springs, from festival chairman, Carolyn Courtney. Churches throughout the Little Rock Conference are participating in Conference-wide project. Items from the districts will be on display at Little Rock First Church during the May 22-25 Annual Conference.



Viewers of handiwork at Grand Avenue Church's Arts and Crafts festival, which included numerous articles in addition to paintings and quilts visible here. The Rev. Ralph Hale is pastor at Grand Avenue.



The Rev. Norris Steele (left), pastor at First United Methodist Church in Hope and Fay James, who has been making and selling peanut brittle and chili and contributing the proceeds to the building fund for the new church now under construction. The 100-pound sack of shelled peanuts in foreground was contributed by the pastor's twin sister, Mrs. Doris Beard.

METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME

(List of memorials and other gifts for March continued)

- | | |
|---|---|
| MRS. HAROLD PARKER, SR.
by Mr. & Mrs. E. V. Markham
R. NEIL RHODES
by Mr. & Mrs. Roy Dooley
by Mrs. Guy Nolley
by Dr. & Mrs. Silas D. Snow
by Mrs. Mattie Green
by Mr. & Mrs. J. Stewart Erwin
MRS. JOSIE DREW RHODES
by Mr. & Mrs. John L. Kemple
by May Adams
by Sherman Bretherick
MRS. DELLA MAE RAINWATER
by Adult Class, Springhill Methodist Church.
ED ROBERSON
by Belle Bennett Sunday School Class, Stamps
MRS. EVELYN ROBERTS
by Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Staggs
MRS. DOROTHY LIGHTFOOT RILEY
by Edna Prater
SHEPHERD CHARLES SMITH
by Mr. & Mrs. C. C. Royer
BOB STANCIL
by Mr. & Mrs. Ivan C. Richardson
MRS. MATTIE MOORE SIMMONS
by W.S.C.S. - Holly Grove
by Adult S. S. Class, Holly Grove
DOUGLAS ALLEN SWITZER
by Willie Spivey Class, Crossett
by Mrs. Henry Stephens
by Mr. & Mrs. R. A. Parkhill
by Mrs. Mattie S. Green
BRUCE SLAUGHTER
by Mr. & Mrs. Joe Gattinger
J. C. SIMS
by Mr. & Mrs. Joe Gattinger
W. A. SANDERS
by Mr. & Mrs. Stuart P. Norwood
MRS. MILDRED B. SMITH
by Mrs. Edgar Landrum
JOE T. SMITH
by Mrs. J. O. Hobgood
MRS. W. T. SMITH
by Lanette Castleberry & Girls
MRS. WINSTON SMITH
by Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Harrel
by Mr. & Mrs. David T. Harrel
J. P. SUMMERS
by Mr. & Mrs. Reed Gammill
PAUL SNOW
by Mrs. A. E. Erwin
LOUISE SIMPSON
by Mr. & Mrs. John F. Carpenter
LEWIE STRANGE
by the Sunshine Class, First Church, Camden
by Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Rushing
by Mr. & Mrs. Jack J. Newton
by Mrs. Frances Legett
by Mrs. Ben Venable
by Mr. & Mrs. B. A. Ryan
PAUL SNOW
by Mr. & Mrs. Steward Erwin
MORITZ SHOLLMIER | by Mr. & Mrs. Louis Dixon
MRS. WINSTON SMITH
by Mr. & Mrs. Larry Brewer
JIM TUCKER
by Mr. & Mrs. Harry McLemore
MR. TIEMANN
by Mr. & Mrs. Joe Gattinger
TERRELL TATOM
by Mr. & Mrs. Tom H. Owens
JAMES W. TRIMBLE
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by Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Horton
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by Mr. & Mrs. Frank Haltom
JOHN W. TEETER
by Mr. & Mrs. R. E. Newton
MR. & MRS. JOHN W. TEETER
by Mrs. N. B. Nelson
MRS. J. W. TEETER
by Marjorie Anderson
by Mrs. Jack Roseberry
by Mr. & Mrs. Dick Stewart
by Mrs. Adam Guthrie, Sr.
by Carol Scott
HOLDEN VANCE
by Mr. & Mrs. John F. Carpenter
CEDRIC H. WATSON
by Mrs. Lena Bookout
by Emily Sudfer Heide
GEORGE MANN WHITE
by Leroy Booe
by Rev. & Mrs. Herston Holland
by Ernest & Faye Allison
by Mrs. J. F. Hudson
by Mr. & Mrs. D. V. Booe
FRANK B. WIYGUL
by Mr. & Mrs. Frank Fogleman and Sons
OWEN WINEMILLER
by Inquirers Sunday School Class, Forrest City
MRS. MATTIE WALKER
by Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Warren
W. D. WATSON
by Mrs. L. W. Crowson
MRS. ANN WADSWORTH
by Mrs. Burney Wilson
MRS. BERTHA WRIGHT
by Mr. & Mrs. Martin Gaston
MRS. MAMIE RASCO WHITMORE
by Mr. & Mrs. John L. Wall
ALLISON ANN WIMBERLY
by Mr. & Mrs. H. Delano Black
"EASTER GREETINGS"
by Lena Farris Bible Class, Wynne, Ark.
"EASTER GIFT"
by Blackwell Vanguard Class, First United Methodist Church, Jonesboro
"EASTER MEMORIAL" for
MRS. DOROTHY LIGHTFOOT RILEY
by Edna Prater
"IN HONOR" Dr. & Mrs. Arthur Terry
by Grady Methodist Church |
|---|---|

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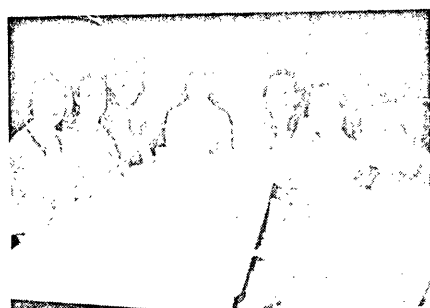
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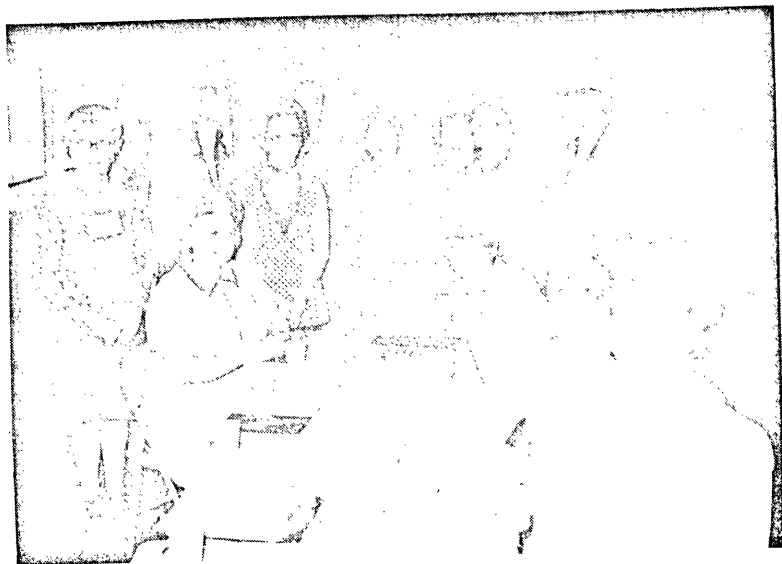
VCS Workshops in Little Rock Conference



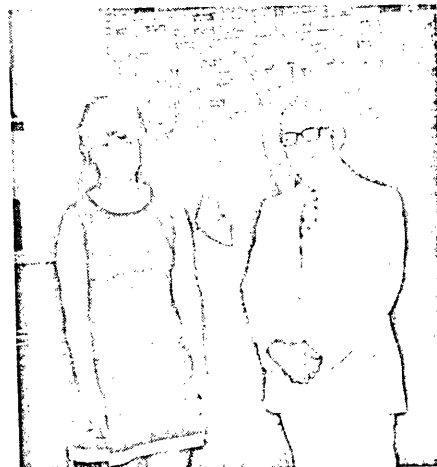
Mrs. Kelly Oliver (3rd from left), Arkadelphia District coordinator of Children's Ministry, and Mrs. Marilyn Bischof (4th from left), director of Christian Education at First Church Hot Springs are shown with other participants in that district's VCS Workshop at First Church.



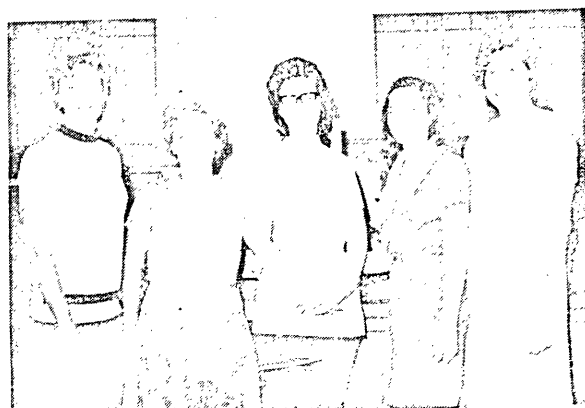
Mrs. Harold Clem of Malvern (at far end of table) was the leader for group of teachers shown here at Arkadelphia District workshop.



Kindergarten group at Camden District Workshop. Mrs. Couch (shown with textbook) led the class.

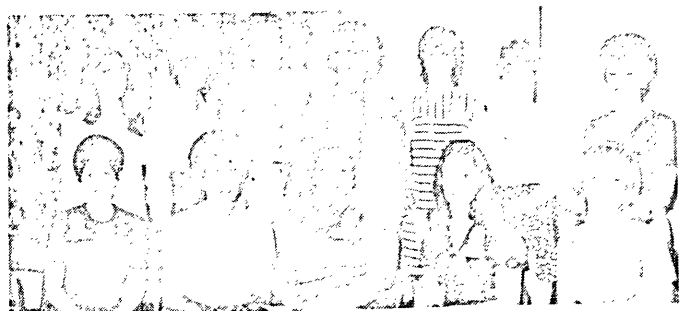


(Back Row), Dr. Roy I. Bagley, Camden District superintendent and Mrs. Bagley, leader for that district's VCS workshop held at St. Paul United Methodist Church in El Dorado with Miss Bonda Sue Deere (front, left), director of Christian Education at First Church, Camden who assisted with music, and the Rev. F. Gladwin Connell, host pastor.



Staff for Hope District Workshop (left to right)—Ruth Ward, Elementary V-VI; Frances Prothro, Kindergarten; Shirley George, Nursery; Nelda Poss, Elementary I-II; Ernestine Weisschadel, III-IV.

AT RIGHT:
Dan George, host pastor for the Hope District VCS Workshop held at Mineral Springs United Methodist Church on April 15.

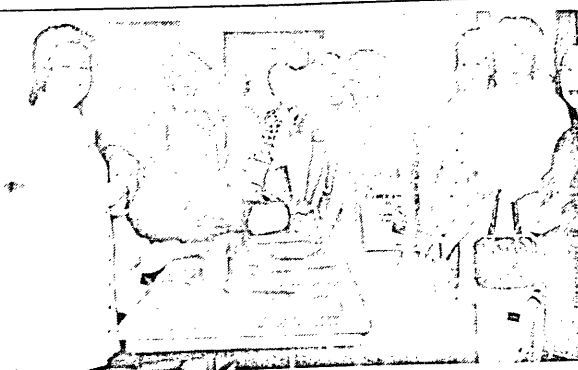


Elementary V-VI teachers from Little Rock District in VCS Workshop held at Winfield United Methodist Church in Little Rock with Instructor Mrs. Billy Hurt (far right, back row).



Mrs. Dick Prior (standing) was the resource person leading the Kindergarten teaching group at workshop conducted at Winfield Church on April 13. Dr. J. Edward Dunlap is pastor at Winfield.

Registration scene at Pine Bluff District VCS Workshop held at Lakeside Church. Mrs. Nick E. Evans of the host church and district coordinator of Children's Ministry, is shown at left with Mrs. Robert Bolan registering participants.



Mrs. Ed Matthews (third from right, standing) was the leader for the Kindergarten workers' group attending the Pine Bluff District Workshop on April 11. The Rev. Ed Matthews was host pastor.

