

# Arkansas Methodist

92nd YEAR

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1973

NO. 2

## Interim professor named to Hendrix College post

Cleetis W. Judkins, a native of Cabot, has been appointed Visiting Assistant Professor of Education for the winter and spring terms at Hendrix College, according to an announcement by Dr. Roy B. Shilling Jr., president of Hendrix.

Judkins will temporarily fill the vacancy created when Dr. Kenneth Kersh accepted the presidency of Arkansas Tech. He received the B.S.E. degree from State College of Arkansas in 1968 and the M.S.E. degree from the same school in 1970. He has completed all his work toward the doctorate and will receive the Ed.D. degree from North Texas State University in June.

Judkins was a teaching fellow at NTSU and taught courses in educational psychology, adolescent psychology and general psychology for teachers.

The teaching responsibilities previously held by Kersh will be assumed by Judkins during the next two terms. These include educational psychology and measurement and evaluation on the secondary level. He will also assist in the supervision of both the elementary and secondary student teachers.

Dr. Shilling also made two other appointments. R. W. Meriwether will be interim chairman of the Hendrix Education Department for the remainder of the school year, and Dr. Betty Morgans will serve as chairman of the Hendrix Teacher Education Committee.

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## HEALTH/WELFARE SERVICES INCREASE

EVANSTON, Ill. (UMI) — Almost 5,000,000 persons have been served in 1972 by United Methodist-related health and welfare agencies, according to a report released here December 19 by the denomination's accreditation agency, the Certification Council.

The 4,855,436 receiving care in one or more of the 342 agencies is an increase of 1,307,000 from the preceding year, or 27 per cent. Total operating budgets of the residential agencies serving children and youth, homes for aged, residences and hospitals, and counselling and community services was \$792,059,875. A total of \$47,993,000 was provided in free services to people unable to pay. Local churches and annual conferences provided \$11,850,065 of the agencies total budgets.

● South Central Workshop, Feb. 26-28

## Jurisdictional workshops on ordained ministry announced

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMI) — A series of five United Methodist workshops on the ordained ministry will be held across the United States beginning January 29.

The events are being sponsored by the Board of the Ministry and Committees on the Ministry from each of the church's five jurisdictions, the Association of United Methodist Theological Schools, and the United Methodist Division of the Ordained Ministry.

Each of the Jurisdictional workshops will begin on a Monday evening with a dinner and special presentation dealing with the question, "What is the style of the ordained ministry with particular reference to tradition, scripture, experience and reason."

Dates, locations and the guest resource leaders who will make the opening night presentations are:

—Jan. 29-31, North Central Jurisdiction, St. Francis Retreat House, Oak Brook, Ill.; Dr. Paul Hessert, Garrett Theological Seminary, Evanston, Ill.

—Feb. 5-7, Southeastern Jurisdiction, Lake Junaluska Assembly, Lake Junaluska, N.C.; Dean Thomas Langford, Duke University Divinity School, Durham, N.C.

—Feb. 12-14, Northeastern Jurisdiction, Stoney Point Conference Center, Stoney Point, N.Y.; Dr. Harold

Bosley, Christ Church, New York City.

—Feb. 19-21, Western Jurisdiction, San Damiano Retreat, Danville, Calif.; Dean Thomas Trotter, Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, Calif.

—Feb. 26-28, South Central Jurisdiction, Center for Christian Renewal, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Dr. Ben R. Oliphint, First United Methodist Church, Dallas, Tex.

Dr. Harold T. Porter, Nashville, associate director of the Division of the Ministry, said the workshops have been structured informally to give maximum time for individual participation. Topics to be discussed will include the roles, duties and functions of the annual conference Boards of the Ministry, the church-wide Ministerial Education Fund and the relationship of all groups concerned for the education and qualification of persons for the ministry.

Each of the workshops will include representatives from the annual conference Boards of the Ministry, cabinet representatives, faculty and administration of theological schools within the jurisdiction, jurisdictional Committees on the Ministry, and persons from the staff and elected membership of the United Methodist Division of Ordained Ministry.

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## Philippines Methodists adjourn after failing to elect bishops

NEW YORK (RNS)—After 23 ballots, the governing unit of the United Methodist Church in the Philippines adjourned without electing bishops, according to delayed reports reaching the denomination's Board of Global Ministries here.

The Philippine's Central Conference, made up of delegates of six regional conferences, adjourned in early December, setting a special meeting for 1974 when it will try again to elect two bishops.

In the interim, episcopal leadership is expected to be provided through the U.S.-based Council of Bishops.

It had been earlier anticipated that Bishop Cornelio M. Ferrer and Bishop Paul L. A. Granadosin, elected in 1968

to four-year terms, would continue in office.

However, Bishop Ferrer, 64, requested early retirement following the announcement that no candidate was elected on the 23rd ballot. Bishop Granadosin apparently will not continue in office.

In contrast to the U.S. system, most United Methodist bishops abroad are not elected for life. Four-year terms, with reelection possible, is common. Overseas bishops are elected in open balloting at central conference meetings. A two-third majority was required among the 61 clergymen and 61 lay persons attending the meeting in Manila.

Bishops Ferrer and Granadosin were

## CIRCULATION CAMPAIGN

We would remind all of our readers of the 1973 Circulation Campaign for the **ARKANSAS METHODIST** during the week of Jan. 14-21, the period authorized by the annual conferences. The first printed report on the results will appear in the issue of February 1. It will contain all reports received in the office by Friday, January 26. We hope that all of you will send us a report of the progress of the campaign in your church in time for the first report. AAK

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## QUOTABLE QUOTE

"The Christian mission is eternal. Our Lord's command to go into all the world overarches all of time, reaches from Roman Empire days to the space age to all the tomorrows to come. Yesterday's missionary barrel, today's self-determination of peoples, tomorrow's as yet unformed designs — all are Christian mission, expressions of the infinite love of God for each of His children."—From the Virginia Churchman.

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among the front runners as the delegates of 100,000 Filipino United Methodists voted. Others included Dr. Emerito P. Nacpil, president of Union Theological Seminary, who received the most votes, and two clergymen.

Observers reported that the division on selection of bishops reflected differences on the question of whether the Philippines United Methodists should seek autonomy from the parent denomination in the U.S.

The autonomy issue was also placed on the agenda for the adjourned session in 1974. It is possible for all overseas United Methodist groups to become autonomous, and even to affiliate with "united" Protestant Churches.

However, there is considerable opposition to autonomy in the Philippines. The Central Conference referred to the five annual (regional) conferences and one provisional conference a study document on church structure.

Bishop D. Frederick Wertz of West Virginia presided over the debate on structure and the balloting for bishops.

The Council of Bishops will appoint two persons to administer two episcopal areas, Manila and Baguio, until 1974.

## UMCYM staff moving from Dayton to Nashville

DAYTON, Ohio (UMI) — Sacrificing a sizable slice of their holiday vacation time, some 35 members and staff of the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry (UMCYM) met here Dec. 28-Jan. 1 to review the past year's work and to make future plans.

They accepted the resignation of two Nashville staff members, adopted a new staff rotation plan and heard reports of 12 recently-held training events.

Barbe Spies of North Syracuse, N. Y., a freshman at the University of Denver, presided as chairperson at the five-day meeting, which was held in Dayton's First United Methodist Church. Tim Bagwell, Cuthbert, Ga., student at Oxford College of Emory University, is vice chairperson.

The Council accepted the resignations of two staff members — James Ling, only long-term staff person employed by the Council, and Robin Krech — both of whom work with the Youth Service Fund. Their resignations are effective Feb. 1.

In a departure from current practice, the UMCYM voted that, beginning in July, a new staff rotation system will be inaugurated. It is expected that two of the present staff completing one-year terms will volunteer for an additional year's service. Two new staff persons will be engaged for two-year terms, and two others will be recruited for one-year terms. Applications are now being accepted and should be in hand by March 15, Council leaders said.

By doubling up and sharing their subsistence wages, 11 staff persons have been working in places budgeted for only seven. Four have been serving in Nashville, four in Dayton, and three in Washington, D. C. In July, the staff will be cut back to six persons — four in Nashville and two in Washington.

As previously announced, the UMCYM voted at its August meeting to move its Dayton staff to Nashville in January. This move is prompted by the fact that the 1972 General Conference adopted legislation relating the UMCYM to the Board of Discipleship, headquartered in Nashville. For the past two years, the Council has been administratively related to the Program Council's Division of Coordination, Research and Planning, based in Dayton. The Council's Washington Office concentrates on its Legislative Action Project.

The Council voted a slight increase in subsistence salaries beginning at

once, and in June the amount per person will be stepped up to \$200 monthly.

Reporting on 12 recent training events sponsored by UMCYM, David Bayle of the Nashville staff said that nearly 200 young persons from 41 annual conferences across the country had attended the sessions of the seminars. Their purposes were to educate the Project Review Committee of the annual conference CYM, to help the conference councils deal with General Conference legislation relative to the Youth Service Fund and the 50-50 ratio of ethnic minority participation, and to discuss priorities for youth in the church and the world community.

At the Dayton meeting, plans were made for jurisdictional youth caucuses to be held this spring in order that each of the church's five jurisdictions may elect to the UMCYM four youth members and one adult conference coordinator of youth work. Nominations are currently being received.

A budget of \$78,167 was adopted by the Council for 1973. This amount is based on a ratio of 30 per cent of the receipts from the Youth Service Fund for the national UMCYM operation and its several projects. Annual conferences retain 70 per cent of the youth fund receipts. However, they may use no more than one-third of the 70 per cent for administration. One-third of the conference council's balance must be used for in-conference projects and the other third for out-of-conference projects.

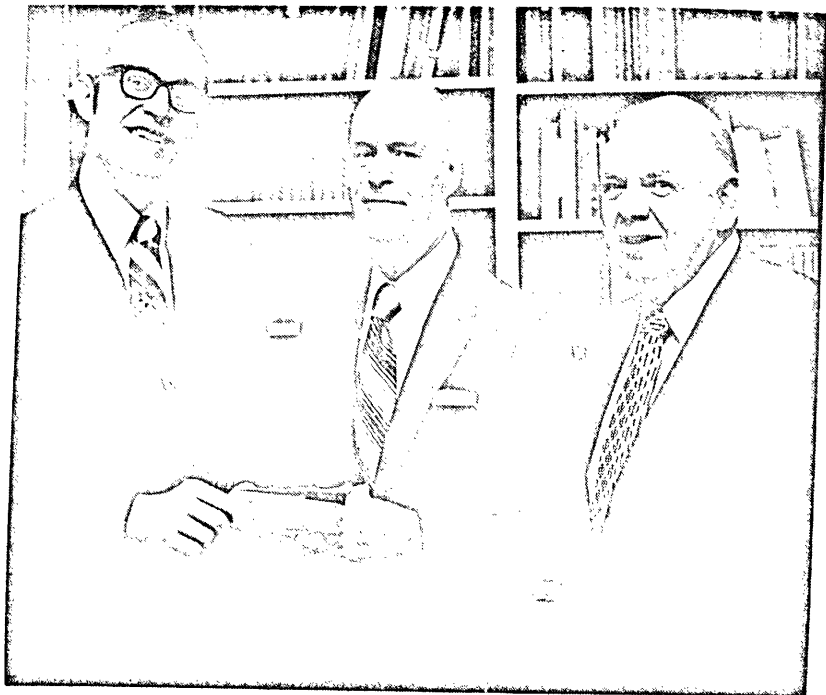
The Council's Legislative Action Project Committee was authorized to draft a letter to the president and general secretary of the Board of Church and Society in Washington, D. C., expressing concern over curtailment of the board's Washington Study Program.

In addition to daily plenary sessions and considerable committee work, the group devoted some time each day to theological discussions and worship experiences. The Rev. Earl Barfoot of Evanston, Ill., staff member of the Board of the Laity, was coordinator for the theological discussions.

He and Scott Jones, Dayton staff member, also collaborated in preparing a model for youth-adult cooperation in field-work assignments. The model received the approval of the UMCYM.

Time of the next meeting was set for Aug 22-28, with the place yet to be determined.

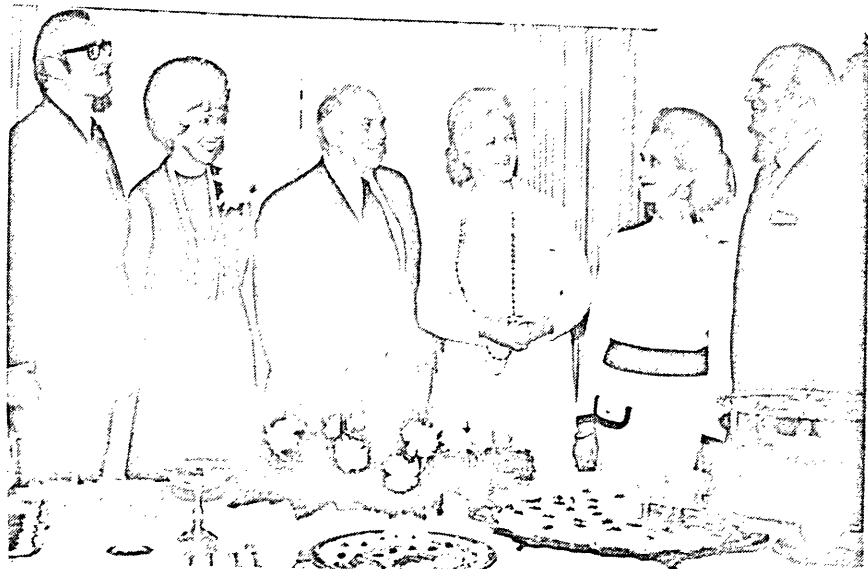
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Bishop Eugene M. Frank (center) was guest preacher at First United Methodist Church in Jonesboro on Sunday morning, Dec. 10. Shown with him in the pastor's study prior to morning worship are the Rev. Worth Gibson, pastor (left) and Dr. Ralph Hillis, Jonesboro District superintendent, who assisted with the service.



The adult choir at First Church, Jonesboro and (left to right, foreground) Pastor Gibson, Bishop Frank, Bob Fuller, minister of music, and Dr. Hillis, during Dec. 10 morning worship.



Bishop and Mrs. Frank (at right) and Dr. and Mrs. Hillis (center) were guests of honor at a Christmas reception given by the congregation of First Church, Jonesboro at the parsonage on Saturday evening, Dec. 9th. Shown with them are the Gibsons who hosted the event.

### DISCIPLESHIP ADDS STAFF MEMBER

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMI)—The Rev. Richard L. Cookson, a professor of Christian education at Scarritt College since 1971, has been named to the staff of the United Methodist Board of Discipleship's Division of Education.

Mr. Cookson will provide services to directors of Christian education. He came to Nashville from Corning, N. Y., where he was minister of education at the First United Methodist Church.

### NEW CHURCH REPORTS MEMBERSHIP GAIN

NEW YORK (UMI)—A 25 per cent membership increase in the past four years has been recorded by a unit in one of the world's newer Methodist churches.

A total of 1,900 members was reported from the South Sumatra-Java Provisional Conference of the Methodist Church of Indonesia at its early November annual session. That represented a gain of 25 per cent, or almost 400 members, over 1968 when the

conference was formed, reported United Methodist missionary Warren L. Harbert. The conference encompasses the southern part of the island of Sumatra, and the island of Java.

HENDRIX COLLEGE has received permission from the Federal Communication Commission to use the call letters "KHDX" when the station goes into operation sometime in March.

(Pastor, First United Methodist Church, Fort Smith, Arkansas and former pastor of Noel Memorial United Methodist Church in Shreveport, Louisiana)

## New Year -- New Life

It's here again—the New Year!

By universal agreement, tacit or attested, it is the symbol of a new Chance, a fresh Opportunity, another Bright Beginning.

Of course, if you insist, there's nothing much to it. It's just another ordinary day, the same old routine, a tedious, boring, stale continuation of a pathetically prosaic past.

Work, responsibilities, obligations, duties, burdens, sorrows, handicaps, anxieties, fears, frustrations, doubts, inadequacy, bewilderment, confusion, disillusionment, boredom, feeble efforts at having fun, inner emptiness, aimlessness, snarled in a perpetual struggle with the clutter and bother of modern living—is this the compound, the motley mixture of your life? Could be.

The chronic disorderliness, the breathless racing to keep up with haphazard events—some important, no doubt, most of them inconsequential, the pressures, the pushings, the compulsions by which so many of us are victimized—such a cruel combination can crush to death all the vital values of a meaningful existence.

But the New Year can be significant, even revolutionary, perhaps—if you would have it so.

Suppose today, we begin all over again, seize the opportunity, take the chance that's proffered us! How?

First, let's REORGANIZE our lives. Instead of plunging hectically into the day's work immediately upon arising, we will take a full half-hour at very least, to plan our day purposefully, discriminatingly, and with a proper perspective of values. Ask the most pertinent questions possible: What's life all about? What's really most worthwhile? How can I use this day most wisely and well?

Second, Re-EMPHASIZE the spiritual realities that are so easily lost in concern for material necessities. All things are but symbols of spiritual values. To fail to recognize and appreciate the latter is to leave the former meaningless and mean. Stress the essentials, deal swiftly and lightly with all the rest.

Third, RE-ENERGIZE our lives by conscious, cultivated contact with the Source of all life. So many of us are exhausted, spent, "tired to death" because we seek to keep going; solely on our own resources. Human beings, like batteries, must be recharged regularly to be kept alive. Prayer, disciplined practice of the Presence of God by utilizing all the available "means of Grace"—such as daily devotions are indispensable to joyous, creative living.

Here's wishing us all—new life for the New Year!

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## Emancipation Proclamation For Our Souls?

In September, 1862, Abraham Lincoln issued his now world famous Emancipation Proclamation and some four million Negro men, women, and children were freed from the bondage of slavery. It was a magnificent achievement. In all history there are few, if any, gestures more intensely dramatic than this.

We are all aware that the noble promise was never allowed to come to actual fulfillment — a fact that was tragically disappointing to the Negroes who soon discovered how ingeniously their full freedom was so deviously withheld. But the retributive results were even worse on those who annulled the law.

He who leaves chains upon the body of another shackles his own soul.

Vastly worse than the bondage of the body is soul slavery.

Think of the innumerable multitudes of the so-called physically free who are spiritually enslaved! And how few realize the degree of enslavement that they suffer. Our world is full of delusions. All of us carefully cultivate all sorts of errors, develop lusty lies and find ourselves fortified with good selfhoods that never must be challenged. We become engaged in all sorts of cruel customs that are so familiar and casually accepted that we don't even know how barbarous they are.

We find ourselves beset by all sorts of firmly entrenched tyrannies, half-truths, outworn convictions, dead ideas, frightening ghosts, inherited hates, unnamed fears, hidden habit patterns, secret sins, repressed desires, deeply embedded prejudices, unreasoning resentments, smouldering feuds, and how, how much more!

How about an Emancipation Proclamation for all of us who, in one way or another, have been cruelly captured, and long for liberation?

Let there be freedom for all men's spirits from unworthy and unclean thoughts. The one way in which evil thoughts can be extricated, the one way in which one can be free, is by seizing the best idea, (the God idea), that one can possibly appropriate the moment the evil idea insinuates itself.

Let there be freedom from undisciplined emotions that so easily capture and enslave. These deep drives, these ardent instincts, these elemental urges, these passions that make for a vital life altogether — these are good. The issue, therefore, is not to eliminate these emotions but to develop the art of mastering them.

Let there be riddance of and deliverance from bad habits. And what enslavements they enforce! William James, the master of all modern American psychologists, reminded us that to break any habit that's bad, you begin to establish a habit that's good. Always there must be a scrupulous observance of the rule, that today we are not going to allow a single exception whereby we indulge in this bad habit. And then we must practice some gesture of freedom that we don't have to do, that we can't be paid for doing.

Let there be freedom for those who are hopelessly held captive by Selfishness. Who is immune to its subtle enthrallment, its persistent allurements? It ties its steel-strong threads about us, as the Lilliputians bound the giant as he slept, and we waken to find

ourselves helplessly ensnared.

Let there be liberty to the slaves of unreasonable Fear — fear of Failure, fear of Pain, fear of Poverty, fear of Disappointment, fear of the Unknown. The person who would be free of these menacing forces must learn to face them, disinfect them, defy them, and defeat them with a flaming faith.

Let there be release for the captives of Superstition, Suspicion, Distrust and Cynicism. The door of the prison of Disbelief is opened with the key of triumphant Trust—a brave Belief in the Truth.

Let there be escape from the prisons of Prejudice. Is there any tyrant that is more terrible? It is the Nero of life, which is callous and cruel, and it fiddles and sings while the body and soul are ruined. Prejudice twists the mind and shrinks the heart. It sucks all human kindness from the emotions. Passion makes a man a beast; prejudice makes him a devil. Spring the lock! Break the bolt! Smash the blockade! Open the mind to reason, to understanding, to compassion, to a sense of fairness!

Let there be emancipation from Hate, Enmity, Violence, reliance upon the threat of mass Murder. The vast investments we are making in these menacing delusions, the build-up of belief in the adequacy of such precarious promises of security — all of these combine to imprison modern man in a dungeon of despair. Shatter the false assumptions, expose the fallacies, declare the truth that only courageous trust and sacrificial love can reveal the Way that leads to Life, Liberty, and the untrammelled pursuit of Happiness.

How about an Emancipation Proclamation for our souls? The greatest event in any man's life would take place if man would take Paul's injunction seriously and put it into effect, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty where-with Christ has made us free and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery."

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# news and views

OF THE WORLD OF RELIGION

by doris woolard

As President of the U.S. of America the late Harry S Truman frequently referred to the principles of the Sermon on the Mount in public addresses. In an address in 1946 which was heard around the world, President Truman related religious faith to the problems of atomic energy, which had just begun to be realized. "If the civilized world as we know it is long to survive, the gigantic power which man has acquired through atomic energy must be matched by a spiritual strength of greater magnitude," he said.

A church building should not "look like a church" if it is to express the life and theology of these times, maintains Edward A. Sovik, a Northfield, Minn. church architect. Writing in a recent issue of *Journal of the Guild for Religious Architecture*, Sovik said: "We cannot make God-boxes; He will not be contained . . . we must build secular buildings, not ecclesiastical ones — as secular as the stable in Bethlehem, the hillside in Galilee, the Upper Room in Jerusalem, and the restaurant at Emmaus." Mr. Sovik said the architectural form should "imply that we do not meet God in some exotic and fanciful place, as if we wished to escape from the world, but in an utterly real, authentic and earthy circumstance . . ."

Foreign Christian missionaries in India numbered 5,053 at the beginning of 1972, according to a statement by Deputy Home Minister F. H. Mohsin. This represents a 21 per cent drop from 1968. The decrease is believed to be due to the Indian government's policy of "progressive Indianization" of foreign Christian missionaries. The government is reported to have adopted a strict policy of screening all new missionary applicants for entry to determine whether the services of the foreign applicant are really "essential" for the country and for the Church concerned, or whether Indian personnel are available for the same tasks.

Americans United for Separation of Church and State has announced from its national headquarters in Silver Spring, Md. that it will "systematically and determinedly" oppose all proposals to provide tax aid to parochial schools in state legislatures and in Congress during 1973.

An intensive Scripture publishing and distributing campaign is being planned by three Scripture-distribution agencies to spur a revival in Indonesia. At a joint meeting involving the 2,000-mile long island chain, the plan was announced by representatives of The Pocket Testament League, The World Home Bible League, and New York Bible Society International. Although Indonesia's Christian population is growing at an annual rate of 12-15 per cent, believed to be the highest in the world, only 1 in 4 of the 7 million Christians possesses a Bible.

As of Jan. 1 the Department of Defense discontinued the practice of granting honorable discharges to servicemen who oppose war by giving base commanders authority to decide the status of conscientious objectors. Under the new policy, commanding officers have the option of placing conscientious objectors on a non-combat status rather than having military courts backlogged with cases of servicemen seeking release from active duty because of their anti-war beliefs, observers say. However, servicemen opposing war will still be able to appeal an adverse decision to civilian courts.

In a long audience with a delegation of pharmaceutical experts, Pope Paul devoted a major address to the topic of drug abuse. "The preoccupying spread of drug use among young and very young people is a cause of deep sadness to me," the Pope said, "above all for the waste of spiritual and intellectual energies which it entails." The pontiff mentioned a "peril of such insidious and colossal proportions" which, he said, mankind could face "when new generations, fatally disturbed in their ideals and their energies, will come to their turn in responsible posts." He said that in some cases people have been too involved with providing youngsters with material well-being and have lost concern for their moral welfare.

A team of economic experts from the University of Edinburgh has been commissioned by the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian) to conduct a three-year research project designed to examine the parish ministry through the end of this century. In the survey the team will seek an evaluation of future trends in the ministry "in terms of recruitment, finance and deployment of ministerial resources," said the Rev. Karl S. G. Greenlaw, secretary and deputy of the Church and Ministry Department of the denomination.

Justice William H. Rehnquist, the youngest and "newest" member of the U.S. Supreme Court, told a Lutheran pastoral conference meeting in Washington, D.C. that since his arrival in Washington four years ago, he has been struck by the "relatively small number of people" he has come in contact with "who seem to have any very deeply-held convictions." The Lutheran layman contrasted this by recalling Luther's famous statement before the Diet of Worms, "Here I stand . . ."

A clinical psychologist and professor at Georgetown University strongly urges fathers to take greater part in the education of their children—especially their sons. Father Juan B. Cortes, S.J., author of a book on delinquency and crime, states that "There is a strong trend in the country toward mother-child households." "This trend must be reversed. The role of the father has always been a decisive one, but study after study has shown that this is even more true in present-day societies," he said.

After receiving an appeal from Presbyterian missionaries in the Kasai section of Zaire, the Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church in Dallas raised funds to buy a water well drill in time to provide water before Christmas for the people living in that primitive area. In many cases, the missionaries said, women walked more than nine miles to get water, which they carried home in jars on their heads.

Dr. Kenneth Taylor's "Living Bible," a modern language paraphrase of the Scriptures, has been translated into 69 languages, according to a report from the annual meeting of Living Bibles International held in Athens recently. More than 6 million copies of the English-language version have been distributed in the last 18 months.

Apollo 15 astronaut James Irwin, now a Southern Baptist evangelist, appeared with three U.S. Protestant choirs at a "command concert" before King Hussein and Queen Alya in Amman, Jordan on Dec. 30. The choirs from Baylor University, Waco, Tex.; Brewton Parker College, Mt. Vernon, Ga., and Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. performed Handel's "Messiah" in Jerusalem and Nazareth and at Kibbutzim under the auspices of the Israeli Ministry of Tourism and Pilgrimage.

The "key role of Christ in total parish education" will be stressed in a series of one-day seminars to be conducted in several major U.S. cities in 1973 under sponsorship of the Nat'l. Catholic Educational Assn. Basic guidelines for the seminars will come from the recent U.S. Catholic bishops pastoral, "To Teach as Jesus Did."

The Presbyterian church in Washington, D.C. where President Woodrow Wilson worshipped from 1913 to 1921 held its last service on Dec. 31. Central Church has been dissolved after 104 years of history. The move to the suburbs of members who once lived within walking distance of the church was given as the major reason for the closing. The Presbyterian Church, U.S. (Southern) congregation decided this Fall that it was physically and financially unable to continue.

Construction in Charlotte, N.C. of an evangelical center dedicated to the worldwide crusades of evangelist Billy Graham is planned, according to an announcement by a member of the Graham Evangelistic Assn. board. He said the association has purchased a 161-acre site near the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and has named a committee to determine the structure and function of the center.

Eternity magazine, an evangelical monthly published in Philadelphia, has raised questions about the ethics of "Bible smuggling" operations designed to provide Bibles for Christians in Communist countries. An article by the Rev. Gerald Studer, a Menonite clergyman, and a staff report in the December issue suggest that Christians consider their own motives and the motives of the organizations involved before deciding to support such campaigns.

India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi praised the work of Christian missionaries in India, during an address at a massive public ceremony in New Delhi marking the close of a year-long observance of the 19th Centenary of the martyrdom of St. Thomas the Apostle. Known as the "Apostle of India," St. Thomas, one of the 12 apostles of Jesus, went to India in 52 A.D., according to a long-cherished tradition, and planted the seed of Christianity. It is believed that St. Thomas landed at the south Indian port of Crancarnoe on the Malabar coast — a region heavily Christian in population.



OTTAWA — Lester Bowles Pearson, former Prime Minister of Canada and the 1957 Nobel Peace Prize winner, died in Ottawa on Dec. 27. He was 75. The son and grandson of Methodist preachers died at his home in the Rockcliffe suburb of Ottawa. Mr. Pearson was Canada's Prime Minister from 1963 to 1968, when he retired. He received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1957 for his efforts, through the United Nations, to end the fighting over the Suez Canal. He was president of the U.N. General Assembly in 1952 and while he failed to win the Secretary General post — he was nominated twice — he was a powerful member of the international forum. Throughout his professional life, the diplomat was deeply involved in efforts to achieve world peace and to end all forms of racial and religious discrimination. (RNS Photo)





Members of the Tillman Marlar family of Willisville United Methodist Church in Camden District have racked up an unusual record of church school attendance. The Rev. J. Frank Ham (left), pastor, is shown with (left to right) Albert Marlar with 19 years of perfect attendance; Amber Marlar, three years; Amy Waters, one year; and Mrs. Marlar, mother of the two young Marlars, who has attended for 16 years without missing.

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## A good word for Methodist Hospital

I sometimes think we are prone to magnify the bad and evil in our day. The news media magnifies the evil in this world of ours. We are not unmindful of the great crime wave that

is sweeping this world of ours and that chills our blood. Yet, we must not forget that there is a lot of good in this world, and a lot of wonderful people.

I would say it has been my good

### SARAH ETHEL PICKERING

Sarah Ethel Pickering, 78, wife of the late Rev. James Bede Pickering, died in Warner Brown Hospital, El Dorado, Ark., Dec. 9. Mrs. Pickering, the daughter of James and Mary Parker Burgess, was born Feb. 6, 1894 in Howard County. She had been a faithful and dedicated member of Parkers Chapel United Methodist Church for 35 years.

She had assisted her late husband in ministering to a number of churches in southern Arkansas before they made their home at Parkers Chapel. Some of the churches they served were in Watson, Faulke, Hermitage and Fulton, Ark. The Pickerings overcame several major hardships. They survived the Mississippi Flood of 1927 and started all over again. Once they were burned out and had to make a new beginning. And their youngest son was killed in Italy during World War II.

Mrs. Pickering's survivors include one son, Wood B. Pickering of Farmington, New Mexico; two brothers, William O. Burgess and Fay Burgess, both of El Dorado, and two sisters, Mrs. M. L. Cook of El Dorado and Mrs. Cora Durham of Bowling Green, Ky.

The funeral service was conducted

### MRS. SYBIL WILLIAMS

Mrs. Sybil Williams, 65, wife of Jones E. Williams, died Saturday, Dec. 16 in Community Methodist Hospital, Paragould, Ark. She was a member of the Beech Grove United Methodist Church at Beech Grove, Ark.

Survivors include three sons: the Rev. Don R. Williams, pastor of Good Faith United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff; David M. Williams and Moyl D. Williams, both of Beech Grove; eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild; three brothers; Alonzo Cooper of Beech Grove; Billy and Lavaughn Cooper, Sandusky, Ohio; four sisters; Mrs. Vivian McGhee, Mrs. Pauline Moon, Mrs. Donna Taylor, and Mrs. Wanda Taylor, all of Flint, Mich.

The funeral service was conducted from Heath Funeral Home with burial in Memorial Gardens, at Paragould. Officiating ministers were the Revs. Charles P. Reed, T. B. Parminter, and Rex Darling, pastor of the Beech Grove church.

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at Parkers Chapel United Methodist Church on Dec. 11, with the Rev. J. B. Swain, pastor, the Rev. Ralph Mann and the Rev. Alvin Murray officiating. Burial was in the new Parkers Chapel Cemetery.

## Council Directors to Local Churches

### RING IN THE NEW

1972 is history! Whatever we did is done. We cannot change the past; but we can resolve to make 1973 better in every local church in Arkansas United Methodism. Local Church Councils on Ministries should be implementing plans already made; and formulating new plans to meet the needs of our constituents. Your Conference Council on Ministries is interested in you! We are listening to determine your needs. Let us hear — we'll do our best to help!

It may be that you need some type of training enterprise in your Church or District. If you do, it will be our pleasure to set it up for you. Many

fortune (since I have been in need of specialists), to be a patient in the Methodist Hospital in Memphis, and I have been under the care of some of the greatest specialists you could find anywhere.

Recently, I spent 21 days over there, and I got to thinking about and observing the great number of physicians we have and how dedicated they are to their work. These men have spent hours and hours of study to train themselves to be able to relieve pain and often bring a cure. I have been the patient of five or six specialists whom a few months ago didn't know I existed, and I didn't know them, and they have all proven to be gentlemen in every respect and vitally concerned about every patient they have. They are on the floor early in the morning and late at night when needed.

Then, I am thinking of the great number of nurses and attendants, and I venture to say that 98 per cent of them are dedicated to their cause and they, too, in cooperation with the physicians are very anxious to help their patients and make them comfortable. They never leave the room that they do not say, "be sure to call us if you need us; that is what we are here for."

Then there are the pink ladies who do their work so graciously and they always enter the room with a smile and ask, "what can I do for you?". These dedicated ladies are working gratis. All they get is their noon meal and their parking.

Then, I know a Chaplain and his co-worker over there who are doing a wonderful service for the good Lord and the patients of the hospital. They enter the room with a smile and a prayer and a spirit of heavenly blessing and leave the patient with the feeling that someone cares. When one needs a hospital, there is no better place than the Methodist Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee.

God bless everyone of these good people. This hospital deserves the support of our great church.

—Garland C. Taylor, Retired Member of the North Arkansas Conference

are calling on your Council Office. Why not join them for a richer, fuller ministry in your geographical area.

—o—

### KEY 73

The Launch TV Special has been heard! The Noon Prayer Call has been completed! The year, 1973, stands before you as the time for implementing your plans for evangelism — Key 73. Let's accept this opportunity with enthusiasm and be equal to its finest challenge.

It seems to me that you would be interested in what other local churches are doing with Key 73. Following this thought, I asked the ministers at Lakeside Church, Pine Bluff, to provide a summary of their Key 73 activities. That summary follows:

In June, 1972, Lakeside Church made the decision to participate in the program of Key 73 as a church, and to seek participation with other churches in the Ministerial Alliance. The Work Area on Evangelism was asked to study the program possibilities for local church participation.

In July, 1972, local Phase Chairmen were selected. The Council on Ministries considered the primary thrust of each Phase and appointed the group in the church most closely involved with this thrust as the group responsible for that Phase. For example, the Youth Co-ordinator is chairman of Phase IV and the Youth Council is responsible for Phase IV activities.

A committee of the Pine Bluff Ministerial Alliance was appointed in September, 1972, to organize a Key 73 Steering Committee. This committee has been organized. Efforts have been made to publicize such activities as the Noon Prayer Call.

During Advent most Church School Classes used Key to Luke, Part I, In February, Key to Luke: Part II, will be used by the same classes. The two United Methodist Youth groups are using this material on Sunday evening. Scripture readings in Part I were suggested as family devotionals for Advent.

Bulletin inserts were used during Advent. Listening parties were organized to watch Launch TV Special and to use the discussion packet for this program.

These are some of the things being included in the Key 73 program at Lakeside Church, Pine Bluff. What is your church doing? It is not too late to start now! **Let's make Key 73 truly effective in our churches!**

†

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Special "Joining Offer" Christian Herald Family Bookshelf. Only wholesome books; religious reference, biographies, nature, fiction, etc. Free information, CH Family Bookshelf, Box B, 27 E. 39th St., New York, N.Y. 10016.

# NEWS NOTES

THE SECOND ANNUAL Arkansas "Faith at Work" conference will be held in Hot Springs, Jan. 12-14, at the Royale Vista Hotel. Bob Herlong and Creath Davis will be the leaders. Clyde Knight and Chris Knight will be youth leaders.

THE EUREKA SPRINGS United Methodist Chancel Choir presented Peterson's "Born A King," Dec. 19, under the direction of Dr. Robert A. Etherington. The program was narrated by the Rev. Fred Witt. The Rev. DuBois Pettit is the pastor.

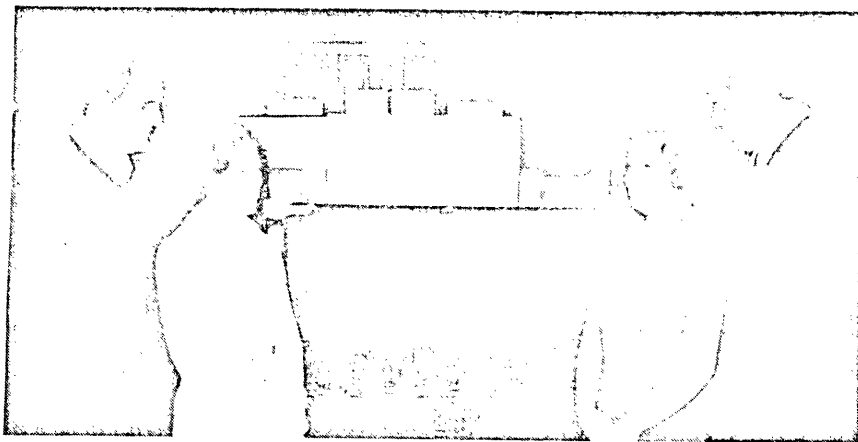
GRACE UNITED METHODIST Church children and youth of Searcy presented the Christmas story in scripture, narration and song at the evening service, Dec. 17. Soloists were Laura McKenzie and Mark Webb. Mary Haney was narrator and Don Miller read the scripture. The Rev. Lewis Ernest is pastor.

MINISTERS' WIVES of the Little Rock District will meet with Mrs. Ray Hozendorf, 6405 Ridgecrest (near University Ave. and H Street), Thursday, Jan. 11, at 10 a.m.

THE YOUTH WELLSHIP of the Lavaca United Methodist Church won first prize on their float in the Lavaca community Christmas parade. The theme for the float was "One-Way — Jesus." There were 14 other floats representing various organizations in town participating in the parade. The Rev. Fern Cook is the Lavaca minister.

"CAROL SERVICE," a cantata composed by Theron Kirk, following an Old English use of Christmas music, was presented by the adult choir of Wesley United Methodist Church, Russellville, Dec. 17. Mrs. Clarence Hall Directed. Mrs. Harvey Young was organist and violinist, and Sheree Hines was assistant organist. The Rev. Herschel McClerkin is pastor.

THE MEN'S Club of Asbury United Methodist Church, Batesville, elected the following officers at the December meeting: Burnell McClure, president; Champ Hawkins, vice-president; Ronald Brown, treasurer; and David Insell, secretary. The club meets on the second Sunday of each month at 7 a.m. The Rev. George Cleary is the Asbury minister.



The Rev. and Mrs. Ed Matthews, at left, and the Rev. and Mrs. Nick Evans, right, are shown with the octave of handbells presented in their honor to the Lakeside United Methodist Church in Pine Bluff.

## STUDENT RECOGNITION SERVICES

MARK MYKLEBUST, U.A.L.R. student, was the speaker at Student Recognition Services at Western Hills United Methodist Church, Little Rock. Beci Carothers, Carol Cole, and Bruce Crabtree participated. Special music was provided by the Youth Choir. The Rev. Robert Robertson is pastor.

PARKIN UNITED METHODISTS heard college students Debbie Brenner, U. of A., Fayetteville, and Deborah Thompson, Ole Miss. U., Oxford, Miss., speak at the Sunday morning service, Dec. 31. Music was by Jim Cooper, organ, and Lonnie Lynn Beene, soloist. The Rev. Gerald Rainwater is the Parkin pastor.

GRACE UNITED METHODISTS in Searcy heard Gregg Webb, student at Arkansas Tech, Russellville, bring the message on Student Recognition Day. The soloist was Debbie Ernest, graduate student in Music Education at the U. of Missouri, Kansas City. She is the daughter of the Rev. Lewis Ernest, pastor of Grace Church, and Mrs. Lewis.

"ASPECTS OF COLLEGE LIFE" was the subject discussed by college students at Central Avenue Church, Batesville, during the morning service, Dec. 31. Speakers were Cathy Pierce, John Pryor Engles, Mary Helen Smith and James Mack Street. Dr. Charles Casteel is pastor.

MEMBERS OF MALVERN's First United Methodist Church heard John David Darnall and Stu Scoggins of Murfreesboro bring messages on Dec. 31 during morning worship. Both are students at Henderson State College. The Rev. Charles Ashcraft is pastor.

KEN CURRY, a senior at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, brought the message on Dec. 31 in the Lonoke United Methodist Church, where the Rev. Mike Clayton is pastor.

COY G. THEOBALT was general chairman of Student Recognition Day in First Church, Hot Springs. Jim Pennington gave the 8:45 sermon, and Scott Smith the 10:55 message. Dr. George F. Ivey is pastor.

STUDENTS PARTICIPATING in services at First Church, North Little Rock, on Dec. 31, included Russell Eastenes, Tommy Carpenter, Mary E. Hibbard and Tommy Hill. The Rev. Earl Carter is their pastor.

"WHAT MY FAITH Means to me as a College Student" was the subject of Art Cross, Bitsi Parrish, Laura Spradley and Bill Wells in Pulaski Heights Church, Little Rock. The Rev. Howard Ritchie, associate pastor, brought the sermon.

MORRILTON STUDENTS who took part in recognition services, Dec. 31, included Elizabeth Cloninger, Steve Morgan, Charles Eddy, William Earl Maxwell, Jr., Kenny Koontz, Cathy Parsons and Janet Burns. The Rev. Clyde Parsons is their pastor.

THE SEARCY COMMUNITY called attention to the KEY 73 emphasis with a prayer service at the White County Courthouse at noon, Saturday, Dec. 23. Laymen from different churches in Searcy led prayers on Radio Station KWCK at 11:58 a.m. each day during the Week of Prayer and Repentance.

CHURCHES OF OSCEOLA held noon day prayer services simultaneously the week of Dec. 27 through Jan. 6, to focus attention on the KEY 73 evangelistic crusade.

## 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.

Jan. 14—Sunday	Psa. 50:1-15
Jan. 15	Psa. 130:1-8
Jan. 16	Psa. 84:1-12
Jan. 17	Psa. 36:1-12
Jan. 18	Psa. 107:1-9
Jan. 19	Psa. 107:23-32
Jan. 20	Isa. 38:1-8
Jan. 21—Sunday	Matt. 6:8-15



Dr. Ed Dunlap presented Mrs. Martha Johnson a gift from Little Rock District ministers when she retired after 15 years as secretary in the district superintendent's office. The presentation was made during the Open House at Methodist headquarters, hosted by the Councils on Ministries of both conferences.

To Churches and Pastors,  
The Little Rock District:

Please accept this expression of my deep appreciation for the most generous gift which Dr. Edward Dunlap presented to me from you on the occasion of my retirement.

It is with mixed emotions that I leave the office where I have worked as your district treasurer and office secretary for more than 15 years. I know I shall miss all of you, but I pray that God will continue to bless each one of you in a very special way.

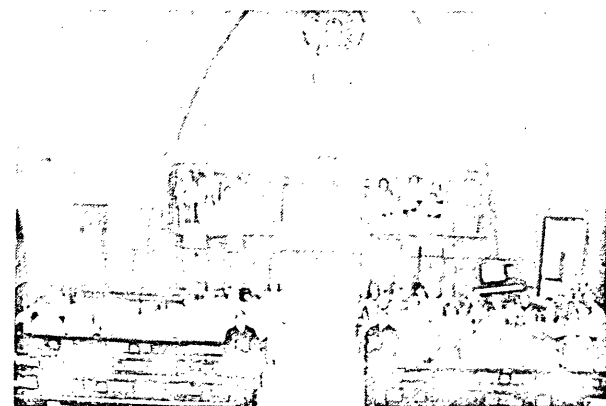
Most Sincerely,  
Martha Johnson

COLOR TELECASTING of Sunday morning worship services was started in Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church, Little Rock, during December. The new equipment was made possible by the bequest of Herbert and Inez Smith, and by other memorial gifts, and was dedicated Dec. 24. KARK, Channel 4, televises the services. Dr. James B. Argue is senior minister. Associate pastors are the Rev. O. D. Peters and the Rev. Howard Ritchie.



Members of the Arkansas Tech Wesley Foundation in Russellville presented a cassette recorder to the Bethlehem Day Care Center in Russellville. Mrs. Guthrie Jackson, director of the Center, is shown receiving the gift from Bob Crossman, president of the Foundation Council.

The children, youth and adult choirs of First United Methodist Church, Smackover, presented a candlelight program of Christmas music, Dec. 17. Mrs. Paul Blackman, choir director, created the program from scripture readings, traditional and contemporary music. The Rev. John F. Walker is pastor.





The 49ers Club of Forrest City held the holiday luncheon meeting in First United Methodist Church with 41 members and guests attending. Mrs. Bessie Fletcher, club president for three years, was presented a corsage and a gift of costume jewelry. The program following the dinner featured Mrs. Jack D. Moore reading a Christmas story. Jack Neblett led group singing, accompanied by Mrs. Albert Laser. The group gave \$20 to the Boys Club of Forrest City.

## Financial Statement

1972  
TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT  
LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE WSCS/WSG

RECEIPTS	W.S.C.S.	W.S.G	TOTAL
Pledge to Missions	\$85,540.56	\$18,041.80	
Special Memberships	3,011.00	1,340.00	
In Remembrance	339.44	54.00	
World Thank Offering	3,441.98	897.50	
TOTAL CREDIT ON PLEDGE	92,332.98	20,333.30	(112,666.28)
Call to Prayer & Self-Denial	3,790.91	1,089.81	
Supplementary Gifts	607.57	81.00	
Eliz T. Workman Fund for Youth	943.60	46.90	
	5,342.08	1,217.71	(6,559.79)
TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM DISTRICTS			119,226.07
Miscellaneous Refunds	83.50	84.60	
Interest, Savings Certificate	509.44		
Taylor Endowment Fund	2,590.00		
W.S.G. Love Offering, Annual Meeting		223.63	
WSCS Love Offering, Annual Meeting	332.50		
	3,515.44	308.23	3,823.67
TOTAL RECEIPTS			123,049.74
BAL. SAVINGS & CHECKING ACCOUNTS, Dec. 31, 1971			19,010.54
TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR			\$142,060.28
DISBURSEMENTS			
Pledge to Missions	\$77,973.85	\$15,425.36	
Special Memberships	3,736.00	1,590.00	
In Remembrance	339.44	54.00	
World Thank Offering	3,441.98	897.50	
TOTAL CREDIT ON PLEDGE	85,491.27	17,966.86	(103,458.13)
Call to Prayer & Self-Denial	3,790.91	1,089.81	
Supplementary Gifts	1,807.57	81.00	
TOTAL SENT TO DIVISION	91,089.75	19,137.67	110,227.42
Operational Expense	651.72	143.73	
Meetings: Conference(Annual & Committee)	1,486.70	1,032.84	
Connectional Work	94.75		
Regional	519.66		
Inter-Conf. School of Christian Mission	1,200.00	250.00	
Church Women United	55.00		
District Cultivation	2,900.00	800.00	
Pres. to Jurisdiction Caucus Plan.Meet.	71.00		
2 Delegates to Natl. Legislative Seminar	127.57		
Annual Report & Other Printing	1,232.94		
Jurisdiction Cultivation Fund	562.90		
Guidelines from Service Center	70.00		
Gift for Mrs. Galloway	25.00		
Little Rock Conf. U.M.Y.(E.T.W. Youth Fund)	1,045.00		
Deaconess Fund	15.00		
	10,057.24	2,226.57	12,283.81
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			122,511.23
BAL. IN CHECKING & SAVINGS ACCTS. DEC. 31, 1972			19,549.05
TOTAL ACCOUNTED FOR			\$142,060.28

Mrs. Hubert Blakley, Treasurer  
Little Rock Conference W.S.C.S.

## WESLEY WOMEN, SPRINGDALE, HAVE HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Mary Chaffin Circle was host to women of Wesley United Methodist Church, Springdale, at the annual Christmas luncheon, held Dec. 19. Holiday decoration featured a miniature church made of confections. The hostess committee included Mrs. Claude Harris, Mrs. Dale Clark and Mrs. Ed Grame.

During the business session, the Bazaar Committee reported purchase of two coffee pots for the kitchen; the Newsletter Committee anticipated the first edition ready to be mailed with financial statements on Jan. 2; the Grace Helen Circle reported bed linens collected for the "Way Out House" in Fayetteville; and prayer partners for 1973 were drawn.

The program featured a poem which Mrs. Harris had treasured since 1913, "Annie and Willie's Prayer." The poem was lost sometime during many moves, but regained when Mrs. Harris heard Bud Campbell read it on the radio in 1963. Mrs. Grame read the Christmas chapter from the book of Mary Wang, "The Chinese Church That will not Die."

†

## HOXIE CHOIR PRESENTS CANTATA

Advent activities in the Hoxie United Methodist Church were climaxed at the evening worship service on Dec. 17 with the Chancel Choir presentation of the cantata "A Star in the Sky." The music was directed by Mrs. John Allen. Mrs. S. L. Richardson was organist. Mrs. Elton C. Jean did the narration. Soloists were Mrs. Lanny Tinker, Mike Reed, and James Green.

Preceding the Chancel Choir's presentation, the twenty-voice Junior Choir did a program of Christmas music entitled "Go Tell It On the Mountain." The Junior Choir activities were directed by Mrs. James Green and Mrs. Joe Belk.

Following the worship service, the congregation assembled in fellowship hall where women of the church served refreshments of Christmas goodies. The Rev. J. D. Lawrence is pastor of the church.

†

THE DeWITT Youth Choir presented the cantata "Light out of Darkness" together with various nativity scenes on Dec. 10. On Dec. 17, the Chancel Choir presented the "Messiah" with Mrs. Claude Jenkins, Mrs. Raymond Perry, Miss Kay Butcher, Miss Martha Black, Mr. Charles Parham and Mr. Douglas Williams as soloists. The special services were completed with the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Choirs were under the direction of Organist-Choirmaster Don Mooney. The Rev. Thurston Masters is the DeWitt minister.

THE KINGSLAND UNITED Methodist Church presented the annual Christmas program on Sunday evening, Dec. 17. This year's pageant, "The Traveler" had a cast of 32 members of the youth group. A fellowship hour and exchange of gifts followed the pageant. The Rev. Elam Turner is pastor.

## McCRORY CHURCH SCHOOL HAS CELEBRATION OF JOY

As a part of the continuing effort to improve the quality of the teaching ministry in McCrory United Methodist Church, the Church School held a "Celebration of Joy" on Thursday evening, Dec. 14. Mrs. Carvil Trammel, teacher of youth, directed the activities, assisted by Mrs. Eugene Wright, superintendent of study, and the church school staff.

In celebrating the birth of Jesus in harmony with the true meaning of Christmas, the emphasis was on giving. More than 80 packages of toys, clothing, fruit and "goodies" were brought by the members and placed under the tree decorated with Christian symbols made by Mrs. Jim Dodd, Mrs. Melvin Smith and Mrs. Paul Lovett.

The children and youth presented a Nativity play, after which the group assembled in the social room for refreshments and fellowship.

The Rev. Glenn Bruner is pastor, at McCrory.

†

CHRISTIANS OF HOT SPRINGS and the surrounding area gathered at First United Methodist Church at noon, Thursday, Dec. 29, for a period of repentance and prayer, launching the KEY 73 evangelistic program in that area.

BETHESDA YOUTH AND CHILDREN presented "The Christmas Story" in the United Methodist Church on Friday evening, Dec. 22. The original play was written by the pastor and his wife, the Rev. and Mrs. George Cleary, who also directed it. After the play, Santa Claus made an appearance in fellowship hall.

## P.K. KORNER

THE REV. AND MRS. ARVILL C. BRANNON announce the marriage of their daughter, Sue Brannon Rakestraw to Robert Winfield Wakeking of Memphis on Dec. 16. The ceremony was performed in the Levy United Methodist Church, North Little Rock, by the bride's father, who is associate director of the North Arkansas Council of Ministries. Attendants were the bride's sisters: Mrs. George O'Brien of Boston, Mass., and Mrs. Robert Lewis of Fayetteville.

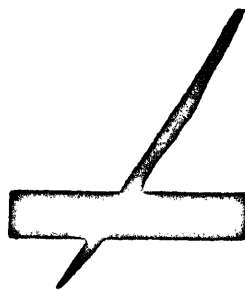
SARA LYNN STALLCUP and John Warren Reynolds were married in the First United Methodist Church at Marion, Dec. 23. She is the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. B. Wesley Stallcup, Sr. of Marion, and he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert William Reynolds, Jr. of Prescott. The couple will live in Forrest City where he is employed by the Daily Times-Herald.

SARAH MARGARET VINSON, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Everett Vinson of Monticello, was married to Russell Ellsworth Short, son of Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt L. Short, Little Rock, on Dec. 23. Mr. Vinson, superintendent of the Monticello District, officiated at the ceremony in St. Paul United Methodist Church, Little Rock. The couple will live in Little Rock where he is a senior at U.A.L.R. and she is employed at the State Accounting Department.



# The Sunday School Lesson

By: Alfred A. Knox



## LESSON FOR JANUARY 21: God Really Cares!

### BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE: Ezekiel 34

**MEMORY SELECTION:** You are my sheep, the sheep of my pasture, and I am your God, says the Lord God. (Ezekiel 34:31)

**AIM OF THE LESSON:** To study the qualities of the leader in his special place of responsibility of serving the interests of the persons who directly depend upon his concern for them.

A family moved to a remote area in Alaska to escape the troubles and burdens of civilization. Their new way of life, described in a recent edition of a national magazine, meant building a cabin near a lake, sawing firewood in the forest, killing game for meat and skins, harvesting berries and herbs from the tundra, and infrequently making a day-long trek to a village for flour and other necessities. The wife and mother in the household sought to educate the children by means of correspondence courses. The husband and father spent most of his work days and hours providing the means of subsistence and even existence. The region is within sight of a magnificent mountain. Clear water is in the nearby lake. One vital element is notably missing from the account: God is not mentioned as a ruling and caring factor in their lives!

We can understand the impelling desire to leave behind the complex forces and counterforces in today's urbanized, technologic, jet-paced style of life. It makes us anxious, and frustrates us, and almost seems to depersonalize us. It saps our energies, thwarts our efforts at goodness, conspires against our hopes and dreams. It entangles us in a maze of seemingly contradictory necessities and robs us of many worthy satisfactions. But, men and women and children are here. We are here. God seeks to work with and through us to their benefit. We cannot, we dare not, walk out on the human race.

### POWERFUL TEACHING

The prophets often sought to communicate their message via figures of speech, often in parable form. Jeremiah used the metaphor of the "broken cisterns that can hold no water" to exhort the people to seek the one who is the "fountain of living waters." (Jer. 2:13). We are familiar with Jesus' parable about the woman who in finding her lost coin exclaimed joyously about the happy result of her search, just as there is rejoicing in heaven over the discovery of righteousness by a fallen person. (Luke 15:8-9) In our lesson a week ago we studied Ezekiel's figure of the watchman by which he urged individuals to ever be alert to the possibility of infiltration or attack on the part of enemies of the soul. (Ezek. 3:17)

These are dramatic, mind-catching ways of driving home a spiritual truth. Personal communication is involved. There is much force in the drawing of a truth from a common thing like a cistern (for people who didn't have piped-in water!), or a coin, or a guard appointed to warn of impending danger. The hearing of the truth is more definite than in merely stating a cold, even-worded, uninteresting principle which—fundamental though it may be—would likely be regarded as just another platitude. When dramatically put, in a figure of speech or parable, the lesson is transmitted in the very process of relating the story. This follows Jesus' explanation of his reliance on such modes of teaching when he said that otherwise "they look without seeing, and listen without hearing or understanding." (Matt. 13:13)

Most of us adults are teachers as we function in our various roles of parent, supervisor, salesman, class leader, and so on. We can learn from the technique often employed by the prophets and Jesus!

Often a direct word of instruction or explanation is made not only more acceptable but in addition is more readily understood if expressed in descriptive application of what we are trying to communicate.

\* \* \*

### TO LEAD IS TO CARE

Our recent experiences at Christmastime—Advent—must have reminded us of the Christian means of truly celebrating Jesus' birth. There is, first, worship of Christ the God-man. There is, second, the motivation to go forth in service to him. Service! It is both a command and a blessing. We may picture the Good Shepherd as he carried in his arms the sheep that strayed, and we should also consider the joy he had in returning the lost one to the fold.

One revealing test of a leader's character is his level of concern for others. Ezekiel indicts the leaders among his people for failing to minister to the weak. (34:4) In the same verse he similarly refers to their deliberate and tragic neglect of the sick and maimed, the strayed, and the lost, and the horrible reality of these and others being ruled with force and harshness. There are many, he infers, who can't fight back because they lack influential friends to plead for them, who don't have the means to fight their own battles against exploiters and others who take advantage of them. They are, nevertheless, persons deserving of concern and aid.

These profound neglects cause the leaders to miss opportunities for doing good, for giving generously of themselves in acts of true service without prospect of gaining some practical advantage. They also fail in that they don't set in motion attitudes of hope needed by all who live precariously and fearfully.

Once again we catch this note of hope in the prophet Ezekiel which we earlier studied in Jeremiah. He says for the Lord: "I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered." (34:13) Hope is here. Despite their fears to the contrary, God has not forgotten them but has been attentive to their circumstances all along. He not only judges but truly saves. This is the theme of the great Shepherd Psalm, the Twenty-third: "I will fear no evil, for thou art with me."

\* \* \*

### TO CARE IS TO DO

There is a saying about the lazy man: he stays at home because he says a lion might get him if he goes outside. This is really "reaching" for justification of his indolence, just as some explain their under-developed sense of human mission to others. It is difficult to ascertain one's responsibility for the direct relief of the weak, the ill, the confused. An easy temptation is to assume that the burden is on governmental agencies, and that one may satisfy his duty to others by contributing money to agencies whose function is to work among those needy ones. These agencies are worthwhile and they must have our support, but personal direct involvement is neglected if most of our doing for others is channeled through them. It is comparable to sending somebody to watch a football game for oneself or sending him on a vacation trip in his place. Jesus sent out his disciples with a "Go ye!" That was a command to go in a person to person, and person by person encounter. The apostle Paul said: "Help one another to carry these heavy loads, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Gal. 6:3)

It is not enough to support the programs of evangelization in our churches and across the denomination. These arms of service require our Christian participation. In addition, we must serve through kindly acts, friendly gestures, sincere doing of good deeds. We should do so even if little or no recognition of them comes to us, for we can do a lot of good in the world if we don't care who gets the

credit for it. Christian stewardship emphasizes the motivation of our service and its effect on the person or persons affected by it. The steward is simply doing God's labors in behalf of God's total family of children. As we so act, the glow and radiance and satisfaction of godliness are enhanced in our whole being—like the shepherd's joy in carrying a lamb to safety.

\* \* \*

### THE GOD-LED LEADER

The prophet spoke plainly about a glaring flaw which was evident in the leaders of his people. They behaved, he said, as if "there was no shepherd." (Ezek. 34:5) They were not keeping watch over their "flock," but rather were protecting and extending their own self-interests. This is a devastating indictment against talented, aggressive leaders who utilized their abilities and positive power to the detriment of people who were in a desperate plight. They were wilfully blind to the ruled, and the ruled couldn't assert their rights. Concern was absent; greed and pride were dominant.

We naturally tend to blame leaders for misfortunes, our faults, misspent lives, dismal outlooks, and our pessimisms. We want to blame "others"—anybody and everybody other than self—for much that happens to us. Often we simply let things occur rather than live up to the demands which confront the godly person. There is a primary lack of full trust in God, and inevitably then we fail to have full confidence in self. A partnership with God can make good things happen. Short of such a relationship we are like the blind leading the blind, referred to in Matt. 15:14.

Part of the prophet's teaching was directed to the new generation of leaders who must direct the return from Babylonia to Judah and the restoring of the nation in peace and righteousness. He recognized that the new leaders must trust fully in their God and actuate the revival on the basis of values superior to those of the former leaders. The plea was for spiritualizing attitudes and deeds. How they can magnify concern-centered living! Simply doing one's minimum daily requirement in discharging his duty is inadequate. Duty must glow with God-given concern, and then it becomes Christian service.

\* \* \*

### THE ANSWER TO HOSTILITY

The nature of God gives us a clue to the neutralizing of man's hostility. He is concerned, involved, with man. We are his creation; his loving concern is unceasing. His active love is ever seeking our response of positive faith and worship. It is when we are frustrated in futile attempts to do for ourselves that we develop an attitude of hostility toward our presumed offenders and obstructors. So hostility is born of self-induced frustration. If we project that feeling so that all men about us are regarded as unfriendly, we view the universe as being at cross purpose with our efforts.

What can we do about such a consequence? We must return to the Christian's belief in God's readiness to calm and ease our minds. Jesus' invitation still holds: "Come to me, all whose work is hard, whose load is heavy; and I will give you relief." (Matt. 11:28) Probably the loneliest person is the one who feels that he alone is responsible for himself and the only one who can relieve his deep frustrations. The world is indeed an impossible scene as he seeks out his own uncertain, self-congratulating, prideful "salvation." After all, he may assume that all persons have that same life-style! The Gospel writer records in this Beatitude of Jesus: "How blest are those who know their need of God; the kingdom of Heaven is theirs." (Matt. 5:3)

The other step in removing an attitude of hostility is to care about people as God cares for us. His is an all-out effort; ours must be so too. This puts us in alignment with his purposes. As Jesus said, "Anything you do for one of my brothers, however humble, you do for me." (Matt. 25:40)

Even as God cares for us, we Christians care for others. We are care-takers—taking this God-implanted caring impulse to all whom we are around as parents, workers, citizens, church folk. When we show concern, we help lift the public conscience, and remind others of God's continuing care for all.



## Plans for world-wide evangelism endeavor announced

COLUMBUS, Ohio (UMI) — Momentum is building for a world-wide evangelistic thrust in the 55 units of the World Methodist Council. Several stages of the projected emphasis were unveiled at a recent meeting of the Council's evangelism committee.

Reporting on the movement, the Rev. Dr. Raoul C. Calkins of Columbus, administrative assistant to the evangelism committee, said that four specific programs are on the drawing board and will be receiving major attention in the months ahead. These include:

- \* A period of commitment, beginning Pentecost Sunday, June 10, 1973, and climaxing with a world-wide prayer vigil Dec. 31, 1973.
- \* A World Evangelism Consultation, Oct. 26-31, at Lake Junaluska, N. C.
- \* A study of Jesus, based on the Gospel of Luke, shared in by all Methodist congregations.

Plans for implementing these programs were advanced at the Evangelism Committee's meeting in London Dec. 5-7, with Bishop F. Gerald Ensley of Columbus, presiding. Bishop Ensley is a member of the presidium of the World Methodist Council and is chairman of the Evangelism Committee.

Authorization for the world-wide evangelistic thrust was voted by the World Methodist Council at its August, 1971, meeting in Denver, Colorado, but the plan was not to be set in full motion until 1973.

"We invite all the churches involved in the evangelistic thrust of the World Methodist Council to join in a period of commitment to mission, beginning with Pentecost (Whitsunday) 1973 and including a world-wide prayer event at the end of 1973," a statement from the committee says.

It is suggested that a world-wide watch night observance take the form of a twelve-hour prayer vigil from noon until midnight on the last day of 1973. It will begin in Tonga with a massed 500-voice choir singing and will continue from the International Date Line around the world. It is expected that an international recording will bring messages from evangelism leaders throughout the participating countries.

The London committee also made plans for a World Evangelism Consultation to be held at Lake Junaluska, N. C. Oct. 26-31, 1973. The Rev. Dr. Ira Gallaway of Nashville, executive for evangelism of the United Methodist Board of Discipleship, will serve as chairman of the committee for the

program. Attendance will be limited to 170 persons, including all members of the Evangelism Committee, general officers of the World Methodist Council, and other designated representatives.

Following this consultation, seven regional evangelism congresses will be held during 1974. These will be under the direction of persons from those areas, which include Australasia, Europe and the British Isles, Africa, Latin America, North America, Southern Asia (India, Pakistan, Ceylon), and Southeast Asia and Philippines. The regional congresses will involve significantly larger gatherings of evangelism leaders than the international consultation.

To undergird the entire program with Bible study, the committee is arranging to ask the participating units to share in a world-wide study of Jesus, based on the Gospel of Luke, during Lent in 1974. Plans call for a simple study guide for possible six to eight weeks' use.

Next meeting of the Evangelism Committee has been set for St. Louis, Missouri, May 2-4.

### DR. COLIN MORRIS EXPECTED TO HEAD BRITISH METHODISM'S MISSIONS PROGRAM

NEW YORK (UMI) — A British missionary/preacher/author, known to United Methodists in America through his speaking at gatherings in this country and through his books, is expected to be the next head of the worldwide missionary program of British Methodism.

The Rev. Dr. Colin Morris, since 1969 minister of historic Wesley's Chapel in London, has been nominated by the Central Committee of the Methodist Missionary Society as its general secretary, according to *Methodist Recorder*, British weekly journal. The Society, with offices in London, has missionaries and relationships in mission with Methodist and United churches in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America.

### NON-SECTARIAN AGENCIES URGED TO WORK WITH RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY TO BENEFIT OLDER PERSONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (RNS)—Dr. Arthur S. Flemming, special consultant to the President on the aging, urged non-sectarian organizations working with and for older persons to join forces with the religious community.

Addressing the National Forum of State Legislators on Older Americans, Dr. Fleming told of a 93-year-old resident of Winston-Salem, N.C., George Black, an expert in making bricks by hand.

Aware of his expertise, the government made it possible for him to go to Ghana and Latin America to teach others how to make bricks. When Mr. Black returned to this country, he met with President Nixon, and during the meeting he told the President he always prayed his last days would be his best.

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### Deaconesses/home missionaries on Travel Seminar

NEW YORK (UMI) — With the focus on "our responsibility to promote world development and world community," 14 United Methodist deaconesses and home missionaries were scheduled to leave the U.S. Jan. 6 on a five-week travel seminar to the South Pacific.

It is in line with past travel seminars which have taken deaconesses to Europe, the Holy Land and various parts of the U.S. The 1973 travel seminar was authorized by the Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service of the National Division, Board of Global Ministries.

The major stop on the travel seminar will be Christchurch, New Zealand, where the group will attend the South East Asia Regional Conference of DIAKONIA (World Federation of Deaconess Associations) Jan. 16-23. The group will participate with deaconesses from Southeast Asia and the South Pacific in the meeting whose theme is "The Gospel — and the Life of Service."

Before and after Christchurch, the group will visit church work and confer with Christian leaders in Australia, Samoa, Fiji, Tahiti and Hawaii, as well as New Zealand.

## New buildings consecrated at New Mexico mission school

NEW YORK (UMI) — Two new buildings have been completed at a major project of the National Division, United Methodist Board of Global Ministries. The project serves more than 600 students of three main cultural backgrounds, American Indian, Hispanic and Anglo.

A girls' dormitory and a student center were dedicated at the McCurdy

Schools, which are part of United Methodism's Northern New Mexico Mission at Espanola and Santa Cruz. The new buildings were urgently needed to replace an old building which had been condemned by local authorities, wrote Natalie Barber, news correspondent on the McCurdy staff.

Bishop Alsie H. Carleton, episcopal leader of United Methodism's Northwest Texas-New Mexico Area, led in the consecration service for the new buildings. Other participants included Dale Robinson, superintendent of McCurdy, and the Rev. Marvin Archuleta, a Roman Catholic priest. McCurdy students and those of a neighboring Catholic school share some programs.

Support for putting up the new buildings is being received, Mrs. Barber wrote, from local businesses and groups, and from United Methodists over the U.S., through the National Division. McCurdy has both elementary and high school units.

The McCurdy buildings represent the second major building program at the Northern New Mexico Mission within two years. In January, 1971, a \$2,200,000 addition was completed at the Espanola Hospital, another unit of the Mission. Scheduled for dedication March 11 is another unit of the hospital, an outpatient-emergency service wing.

### QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Global is a big word. We need to be reminded of our littleness. We are not alone in the world. God works through many agents. We should not be messianic minded, but servant minded." — The Rev. Emilio Castro, president of the Uruguayan Evangelical Methodist Church.

It's a NEW DAY in the United Methodist Church

human relations day  
JAN. 28, 1973

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The United Methodist Church  
1200 Davis St., Evanston, Ill. 60201



In Lumbarton, N.C., an American Indian pastor directs students in a door-to-door canvass for the Robeson County Church and Community Center to learn the needs of families in that area. Robeson is one of the state's largest counties, with a tri-racial population of 91,000 and a "poverty" designation for 39% of its families. Our Human Relations Day Offering will help continue the work of such programs. (W. F. Cox)

## UMVS to receive largest share in Human Relations Day offering

NEW YORK (UMI) — A program launched by the United Methodist Church to open channels for voluntary service, especially by youth and young adults, ends its first four years December 31, with 1,155 volunteers having participated in the nationwide endeavor. Their varied activities have ranged from day-care center service to legal aid to working with minority groups.

United Methodist Voluntary Service (UMVS) has been one of the major thrusts of United Methodism's 1968-72 Quadrennial Emphasis, "A New Church for a New World," and a recipient of the quadrennial Fund for Reconciliation, to which United Methodists thus far have given more than \$13,000,000 on a \$20,000,000 goal.

In his last report for the quadrennium, the Rev. Randle B. Dew of New York, UMVS executive secretary, estimated the total value of the program at \$4,620,000 and said volunteers have worked about 2,310,000 hours, with the UMVS cost per volunteer figured at 60 cents an hour. The UMVS program was under the over-all policy

guidance of the Quadrennial Emphasis Committee and lodged for administration in the National Division of the Board of Missions (now part of the Board of Global Ministries).

The 1972 General Conference felt UMVS was important enough to be continued, and made it the largest beneficiary program in the new Human Relations Day offering to be received annually, 1973-76, in United Methodist congregations in late January. Suggested date for 1973 is January 28.

As for winding up the 1968-72 quadrennium, Mr. Dew reported expenditures totaling \$1,375,000 of an allocated \$1,500,000 from the Fund for Reconciliation. Of disbursements, he said, \$750,000 went for subsistence payment of volunteers (75 per cent to minority persons), \$310,000 for training (considered an integral part of service), \$38,000 for insurance and other volunteers' benefits, and \$277,000 for program development and administration.

†

## Good news comes from Bolivia

NEW YORK (UMI)—Dropping of a deportation order against a United Methodist missionary to Bolivia, the first layman to head the Methodist Church in Uruguay and opening of a 12-story Methodist office building in La Paz, Bolivia, are reported by a United Methodist mission executive returned from Latin America.

Just after the Rev. Paul McCleary got back to New York in early December, he received word that an incident had ended in Bolivia. A deportation order against the Rev. LeGrand Smith II, director of the La Paz Institute, a Methodist school, was rescinded following a defense by Mr. Smith and Methodist officials against charges lodged against him. Dr. McCleary said.

On Nov. 15 Mr. Smith was told by the government of Gen. Hugo Banzer he would have to leave Bolivia Nov. 16 because of government charges in-

cluding that arms had been stored in the school and that he had made "in-discreet statements" about Uruguay and Brazil, Dr. McCleary explained. Church officials asked the aid of the U.S. Ambassador, and through his offices a two-week delay was granted.

Church leaders sought the right of Mr. Smith and the church to make statements of defense; the right was granted, and statements were given to government officials. Following the statements and perhaps other factors, the deportation order was dropped early in December, Dr. McCleary said.

In Uruguay, the departure of the Rev. Emilio Castro to become head of the World Council of Churches' Division of World Mission and Evangelism left the Methodist Church without a president. Succeeding Mr. Castro as president is Luis Odell, first layman to head the church which became

## United Methodists requested to help in Nicaraguan emergency

NEW YORK (UMI) — United Methodists are being asked to respond both to the immediate emergency and to "second wave" needs following the disastrous earthquake in Managua, Nicaragua.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), Board of Global Ministries, is working with Church World Service (CWS), interdenominational Protestant relief agency, in seeking an immediate \$500,000. "United Methodists will be expected to contribute a substantial share of the CWS goal," said UMCOR associate general secretary, the Rev. Dr. J. Harry Haines.

Several bishops already are writing the churches in their areas asking for special offerings to be received for Nicaragua relief, Dr. Haines said, adding that United Methodists should send gifts, marked "UMCOR Nicaragua Earthquake Relief," to:

Dr. Bryan Brawner, Council on Finance and Administration, 1200 Davis Street, Evanston, Illinois 60201.

Standing by ready to go if needed to Nicaragua — or perhaps to some evacuation area such as neighboring Costa Rica, where there are now an estimated 9,000 refugees — is a team of doctors recruited by Dr. Michael Watson, Bamberg, S.C., a Board of Global Ministries member who has organized volunteer medical teams to Latin America

and the Caribbean in recent years.

Though UMCOR is working on immediate relief as needed through CWS, perhaps the greater need will be in the "second wave" or "middle relief" period two weeks to a few months after the quake, Dr. Haines said. By then, if the 1970 Peru earthquake experience is a guide, many of the immediate emergency relief teams may be on the way home, leaving the job of rehabilitation and rebuilding, he said.

"Then agencies such as UMCOR will be needed to provide both material aid and personnel in the difficult task of rehabilitation," Dr. Haines said. "The need for funds in the immediate future for the care of refugees, and to help them rebuild their homes and lives, is urgent."

CWS announced it has gathered large amounts of food and medical supplies and has prepared for air flight 10,000 blankets, 100,000 pounds of used clothing and 2,000,000 water purification tablets when adequate distribution facilities can receive the materials. CWS also said ecumenical emergency committees of the churches have been formed in Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

There is no Methodist work in Nicaragua; thus Methodist churches and personnel were not involved in the disaster.

†

## BISHOP PAUL NEFF GARBER

NEW YORK (RNS)—Bishop Paul Neff Garber, who was resident Methodist bishop of Europe and North Africa in the years immediately following World War II, died in a Geneva hospital Dec. 18, at the age of 73, the denomination's U.S. headquarters reported here.

When he arrived in Algiers in March, 1945, Bishop Garber became the first resident Methodist bishop of the area since 1939. In 1946, he became the first representative of the World Council of Churches to establish personal contact with churches in Yugoslavia.

During his years of service to the Church, Bishop Garber held a variety of educational posts. He was dean of Duke University Divinity School in Durham, N.C., from 1941-44, and president of the Methodist Board of Education from 1960-61.

He was a strong advocate of church-related higher education. In a 1959 speech, Bishop Garber declared that "wise American leaders in all walks of life have come to realize the true values of Methodist and other church-related colleges and universities in the American way of life."

He served as Methodist bishop of the Richmond Area from 1951 to 1964, when he became bishop of the newly created Raleigh Area. From 1963-64 he was president of the Methodist Council of Bishops.

After retiring from the episcopacy in 1968, Bishop Garber returned to Geneva to live. The following year he became the first general secretary of the World Methodist Council there, and served on an acting basis until the Rev. Ole Borgen succeeded him in January 1970.

autonomous in 1969. He has been vice-president. Mr. Odell is administrator of Methodist-related Crandon Institute in Montevideo. He is considered a founder of ISAL, interdenominational Protestant church and society movement in Latin America, and has been active in the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association). A daughter is a doctor and a son is a Methodist urban pastor in Argentina.

Such a post is unusual for a layman in Methodist-related churches in Latin America, though layman Diogo Ruiz, an actuary from Sao Paulo, is president of the General Council of the Methodist Church of Brazil. The Council is the policy-making body for the church between General Conferences.

In Bolivia, Methodist news of a different kind has been made recently, Dr. McCleary reported. In November, a 12-story Methodist office building was opened, a building which was in the planning stage while Dr. McCleary was still a missionary to Bolivia in 1968.

The building houses offices of the Bolivia Methodist Church including Bishop Mortimer Arias, a denominational bookstore, commercially rented space and a store selling products of a Methodist-sponsored enterprise in indigenous economic development. A home weaving industry making ponchos, blankets, rugs and other goods helps families increase income. Started under Methodist auspices, the products are sold not only in Bolivia but in the U.S. and Germany, Dr. McCleary said.

Dr. McCleary joined the staff of the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries in September as assistant general secretary for Latin America.

## 'Crisis and Hope in Religious Education,' theme of convention

Our nation's doctrine of the separation of church and state, though proper in principle, has had the effect of excluding the churches and synagogues from the area of public morality. The leading role here has been usurped by the state, especially the federal administrative branch. So claimed Father Robert Drinan at the Religious Education Association (REA) Convention in Chicago, November 19-21.

Fr. Drinan, U. S. Congressman from the third district in Massachusetts, soon to begin his second term, the first and only Roman Catholic priest to be elected to Congress, gave the opening address at the triennial interfaith conference.

The Jesuit priest and lawyer spoke of the loss of passion and courage among religious people with regard to the great moral issues of the day. "Whatever happened to the nonviolent effort of the 1960 to integrate our society?" But he also indicated that the legislators in Washington are just not getting the message of the churches, he raised the question of developing a strong church lobby in the capital.

He also scored any efforts to retreat into merely private expressions of religion. "We must move swiftly and courageously into the shifting tides of the secular world." In this regard he cited three signs of hope: Christians concern for the Jews of Russia and Israel, their support for the equality of women, and the counterculture among the young, "an insurrection of America against itself." He challenged religious people everywhere to "resurrect and revitalize the best in the moral tradition of America."

Under the general theme, "Crisis and Hope in Religious Education," delegates heard four other major addresses and three dramatic-musical presentations, and participated in scores of seminars and workshops —

everything from "parent and teacher effectiveness training" to "catechetics from a black perspective" to "planning alternative futures in religious education."

Several United Methodist educators led seminars. Among these were two staff members of the Section of Local Church Education, Ms. LaDonna Bogardus and Dr. George E. Koehler. Their topics were "religious education of the mentally retarded" and "innovations in church education."

## Progress made toward union in North India

NEW YORK (UMI)—The Methodist Church in Southern Asia (MCSA), faced with a decision on implementing a United Methodist Judicial Council ruling clearing away legal questions to union with the Church of North India (CNI), has named a 35-member consultation committee to negotiate with CNI on consummation of union.

The MCSA, which officially is the Southern Asia Central Conference of the United Methodist Church, voted at the conference's regular quadrennial session November 28-December 5 in Jabalpur to name the high level committee to work out with CNI representatives remaining steps for merger. The principal question, according to reports, seems to be timing.

The MCSA, with 600,000 members (largest United Methodist body outside the U.S.), was scheduled to go into union in November, 1970, with six other denominations. However, a spe-

## Youth cassette series to become available this year

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMI) — The heroes of youth today are not the athletes with the greatest batting averages or the moon exploring astronauts, but the music superstars with their guitars and hit records.

That analysis was made by Bill Wolfe, producer for a United Methodist-sponsored **Young Culture Lifetime** cassette service being launched in 1973 after a year of experimentation.

Wolfe, a director of local church Christian education for 10 years in Virginia, came to Nashville, hub of the nation's recording industry, last year to implement a plan initiated by a group of education workers including the Rev. Charles Courtoy, director of ministries with senior highs for the United Methodist Board of Discipleship Section of Local Church Education.

The **Lifetime** cassettes include interviews with young persons, in-depth discussions about current music and art, and conversations with popular entertainers. Current issues are also discussed.

Churchmen are overlooking the significance of popular music, Wolfe believes. "If they really want to know how youth are feeling they must listen to the lyrics of popular songs."

While it is true that adults are primarily responsible for the writing and

cial Central Conference voted not to join in forming the CNI, even though India's 11 annual conferences had approved merger by more than the needed two-thirds vote and the 1969 Central Conference had "commended" the Plan of Union to the annual conferences.

recording of most youth music, Wolfe said the significant point of youth involvement is at the cash register. "When you realize that between 150 and 300 singles and about 100 albums are released each week you can see the significance of the choices the young people make."

Music, he added, provides a strong communication bond within the youth culture. "Young persons will spend their last dime on records just to keep in touch," he said.

Mr. Courtoy said the experimentation with **Lifetime** during 1972 had proven the validity of the concept. The cassette medium, he said, allows for quick distribution of comments and analyses of events while they are still news. **Lifetime** subscribers heard comments from a U.S. participant in the 1972 Olympic Games and interviews with a few of the 400,000 persons attending a "Soda Pop Rock Festival" in Indiana, all within a few days after the events. Tapes are released on an irregular schedule when interest is high on a particular subject or issue.

Mr. Courtoy said it was found that youth enjoy discussing major issues of the day as well as contemporary music so about half of the 1973 series will focus on issues. Subscribers also asked for more group usage and discussion tools so each of the 1973 cassettes will be accompanied by a user's guide.

The 1973 series of six cassettes may be purchased for \$27.75. Individual tapes are \$5.25. Sample tapes are available for \$1. A **Lifetime Communique**, sent free upon request, describes each tape as it goes into production.

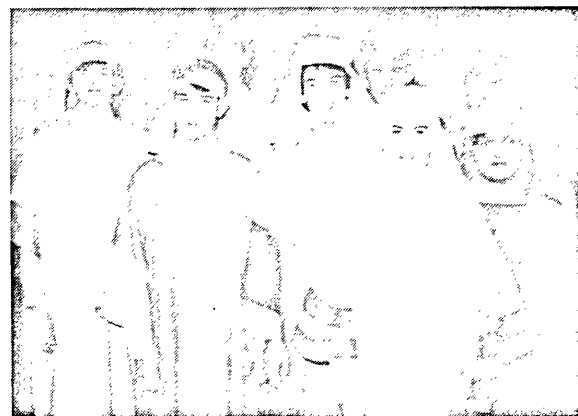
Persons wishing more information may write Service Department, Local Church Education, P. O. Box 871, Nashville, Tenn. 37202.

## Arkeology

by Gene Herrington



Man, am I ever glad that Christmas cantata practice is over for another year!



The above scenes show some of the participants in the annual Christmas program held at Horatio United Methodist Church on Sunday evening, Dec. 17. Members of the young adult and youth groups portrayed the characters of the Christmas story as it was narrated. Refreshments were served following the program, and Santa Claus arrived with treats for the children. The Rev. Guy Downing is pastor.

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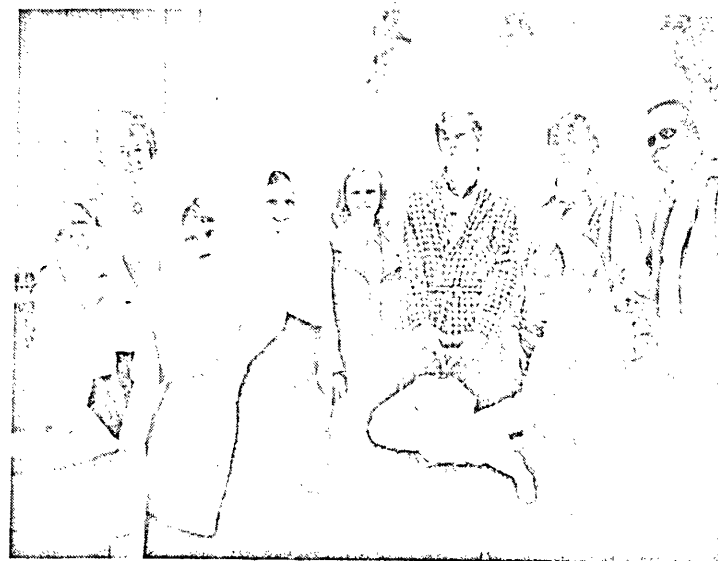
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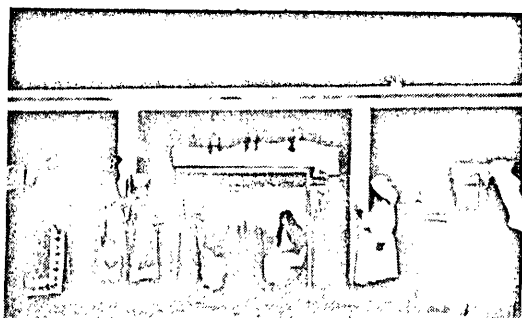
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AT LEFT: Participants in Dec. 31 Student Recognition Service at Hoxie United Methodist Church. (Left to right) John Weir, junior at Hendrix College, speaker for the Sunday morning service; the Rev. J. D. Lawrence, pastor; Mrs. Lanny Tinker, Mrs. Johnny Gilliam, and Jim Rogers, all students at Arkansas State University, and Judy Watson, University of Arkansas.



Youth of London United Methodist Church in Conway District, who presented a Christmas Nativity program at a recent church supper and fellowship night. The presentation was directed by Mrs. Dan Larsen (shown with the group). The Rev. Herschel H. McClurkin, Jr. is pastor of Wesley Church (Russellville)-London Charge.



A live Nativity scene enacted by youth of the Nettleton United Methodist Church, Jonesboro during the Christmas season. Scenes were presented at 15-minute intervals, under the direction of Mrs. Claudine Sparks and Mrs. Sandra Miller, counselors. The Rev. J. Anthony Holifield is pastor.



The Rev. and Mrs. J. Anthony Holifield - recently returned home from a 10-day tour of the Holy Land and Rome - a gift from their congregation.

#### News in Brief

The Rev. Harry O. Morton, president of the British Methodist Conference, has been named as the first Methodist to fill the key administrative post of General Secretary of the British Council of Churches.

## Poetry Panorama

by barbara mulkey

*The beginning of a new year  
automatically becomes a period  
of self examination... but,  
as the poets remind us, a little  
of that goes a long way.*

### I Shall Not Dig Too Deep

I shall not dig too deep around my family tree,  
Nor scrutinize too closely every branch,  
Lest I unearth some booted skeleton,  
Or find some bark-embedded strands of rope.

-by Etta Caldwell Harris

### Thoughts From An Absent-minded Poet

I do resolve in this new year  
To not be absent-minded.  
If there's some rule that works real well,  
I'll surely try to find it.

I'll always try to be alert,  
And every day that passes,  
I'll concentrate on things I see,  
(I even bought new glasses.)

I'll write myself a bunch of notes  
To keep right here beside me.  
And of the things I'm s'posed to do,  
I'm sure that they'll remind me.

For meeting dates and birthdays, too,  
That I cannot recall  
I'll get a bright new calendar  
And hang it on the wall.

I'm sure that with this system here  
I'll always be reminded.  
Now, tell me where that scratch-pad went,  
I just can't seem to find it.

-by Mattie L. Kelley

## CHURCH RECOGNIZED FOR BROADCASTING

NEW YORK (UMI)—On December 31, 1922, the Sunday morning and evening services at Mathewson Street Methodist Church were carried over radio station WEAN in Providence, R.I. That was news, as *The Providence Journal* noted, since it was the first time a religious service had been broadcast in Providence.

It could not have been foreseen then, but with those broadcasts began what Mathewson Street researchers believe to be the longest continuing live broadcast of a regular worship service in America. The church's golden anniversary broadcast was celebrated exactly 50 years later, on Sunday morning December 31, 1972, and the church held a special service for the occasion.

The services have been carried over the airwaves on three stations during the half-century, but NBC affiliate WJAR has been "home base" since 1935. A United Methodist broadcast executive said "significance and meaning" are found in "thousands of lives which have been touched by these 2,600 broadcasts."

According to Mathewson Street researchers, some churches broadcast their services earlier—including Pittsburgh's Calvary Episcopal Church, which according to the researchers was the first to have its services broadcast regularly, starting January 2, 1921, over pioneer station KDKA, two months after it went on the air. However, the researchers say they can find nothing to match Mathewson Street for longevity in continuous live radio worship ministry.

The 800-member congregation in United Methodism's Southern New England Conference was recognized recently by the Rhode Island State Council of Churches, which also recognized WJAR for its contribution to making the 50-year record possible.