

Fort Smith District Office Building planned

A proposal which called for the construction of a Fort Smith District Office Building on property given to the district by the Hendricks Hills United Methodist Church was heard and approved at a special Called Session of the Fort Smith District Conference on Sunday, Oct. 7.

Plans are now underway to launch a campaign in January of 1974 to raise necessary funds for the project. The new facility will be located at the corner of "U" and 40th Streets at the northeast corner of a five-acre site purchased for Hendricks Hills Church by the Fort Smith District Board of Missions and Church Extension.

Charles Beasley, chairman of the District Trustees and Judge Warren Kimbrough, secretary, proposed that the conference authorize the building and that a Building Committee and a Finance Committee be elected.

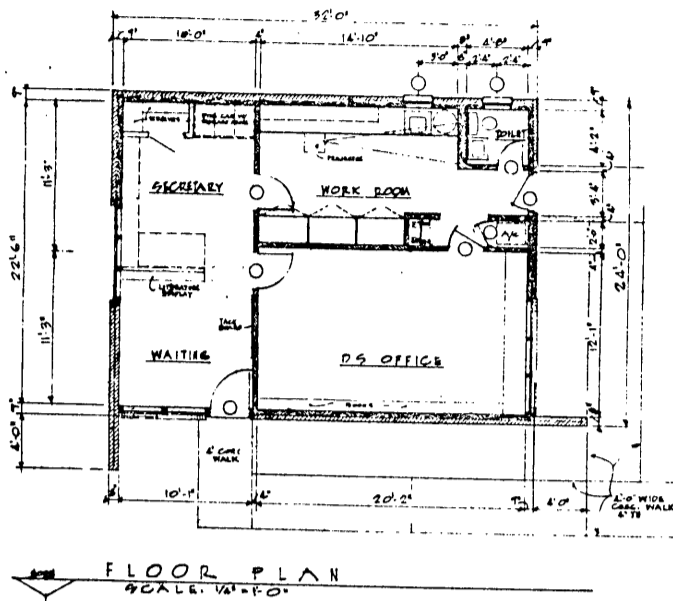
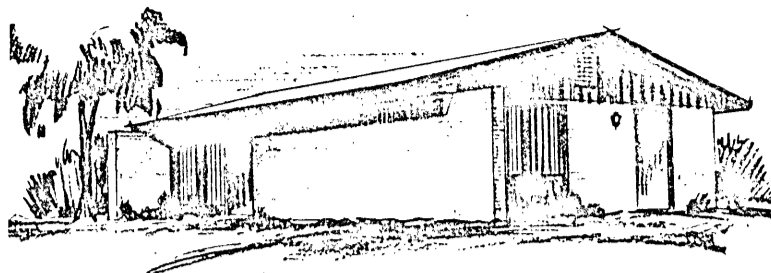
The Finance Committee was authorized to raise \$15,000 from individuals to finance the construction. At a recent District Set-Up meeting the District Stewards approved a \$10,000 budget to provide for the operation of the office and a Secretary.

District Trustees presented the plan to the District Conference held last May, and the conference at that time authorized the development of a plan to be presented at a special District Conference, according to Dr. Charles

P. McDonald, district superintendent.

Elected to serve as chairman of the Building Committee was Charles Beasley of First National Bank in Ft. Smith. Other members of the committee are: Warren Kimbrough, Bob Stephens, Franklin Patterson, Mrs. King Collier, Richard Griffin, Nick Rogers, Leon Woolbright, Mrs. W. A. Rowell, John McConnell and J. L. Swink, all of Fort Smith; Arlis Ross of Paris; Homer Hall of Ozark; Warren Blaylock of Alma; Paul King of Charleston; Melvin Dunn of Booneville; Earl Overton of Mansfield; and Mrs. Bill L. Williams of Van Buren.

Judge Warren Kimbrough was elected to chair the Finance Committee. Serving with him on the committee are: The Rev. James M. Meadors, First Church, Clarksville; the Rev. J. Clarence Wilcox, First Church, Booneville; Harold Lewis, Clarksville; Ralph Cravens, Paris; Bud Corbin, Greenwood; T. J. House, Mulberry; John P. Ballentine, Alma; Mrs. Clyde Hiatt, Sr., Charleston; Gentry Priest, Waldron; Jeta Taylor, Ozark; Dr. Taylor Prewitt, Mrs. Hugh Hardin, the Rev. Archie Boyd, Franklin Wilder, Robert Jones, Jr., Mrs. Cleve Cotner, Dr. Sam Landrum, Dr. Paul Bumpers, Leon Taylor, Fred Price, Leon Woolbright (Lay Leader), Owen C. Pearce, John Ayers, Jack Grober, Dr. Don Chamblin, and Robert E. Mobley, all of



Architect's drawing of proposed Fort Smith District Offices.

Fort Smith.

Ex-Officio members of the committee are District Trustees Charles A. Beasley, Arlis Ross, Homer Hall, Warren Blaylock, and Paul King.

It is anticipated that the January

campaign will take care of financial requirements for the project, and that the District Office will be ready for occupancy early in the spring of 1974.

Arkansas Methodist

92nd YEAR

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1973

NO. 43



Attending the Board of Global Ministries meeting last week in New Orleans were (from left) Bishop Eugene M. Frank; Mrs. E. T. Davenport, Little Rock; Dr. Myers B. Curtis, Little Rock; Mrs. Harold D. Womack, North Little Rock; and S. H. Allman, Hot Springs. Not shown are Mrs. Nadine Hardin, Fort Smith; the Rev. William Robinson, Jr., Little Rock; and the Rev. John S. Workman, Little Rock.

Major agencies set goals

Statements on national and world issues, the setting of goals and objectives, election of staff officials, the setting of budgets and "housekeeping work" were among the major concerns as three of United Methodism's major program agencies met in recent annual gatherings.

The Board of Church and Society,

meeting in Washington, D.C., Oct. 18-21, had among major concerns the funding of a new division, approval for joint United Nations-Washington study programs and the reelection of its chief executive. It also issued resolutions relating to current issues: it called for the beginning of impeachment proceedings of the President; for reformed

campaign financing; for an equitable settlement of the Middle East conflict; for unconditional amnesty for objectors to the Vietnam war along with aid to the war's veterans and victims; and for support for selective buying of several products in support of workers.

Articles relating to further board actions may be found on pages 9 and 10.

The Board of Discipleship, meeting Oct. 22-25 in Nashville, Tenn., heard its new General Secretary Dr. Melvin G. Talbert deliver a working paper, prepared by the staff, stating that the chief purpose of the board is "to assist local churches." The board, including the former Boards of Laity, Evangelism, and portions of the former Board of Education and Commission on Worship, is considered the most comprehensively related agency of the denomination's 40,000 local churches. Among actions of the Board were approval of its 1974 budget, creation of a national Committee on Family Life, and the election of staff members. Articles related to this meeting may also be found on pages 9 and 10.

The church's largest program agency, the Board of Global Ministries, met in New Orleans, La., Oct. 23-28.

Among major items before the Board were problems related to world hunger, the issue of the 16-months-long strike at Methodist Hospital in Pikeville, Ky., representation by women in staff positions and items related to national and world mission activities of the church.

The Women's Division, one of the nine major units of the Board, called for the House of Representatives to begin impeachment proceedings against the President and, in its six-page "Watergate-1973" statement, called for a series of governmental reforms.

Articles relating to further actions of this Board may be found on page 9.

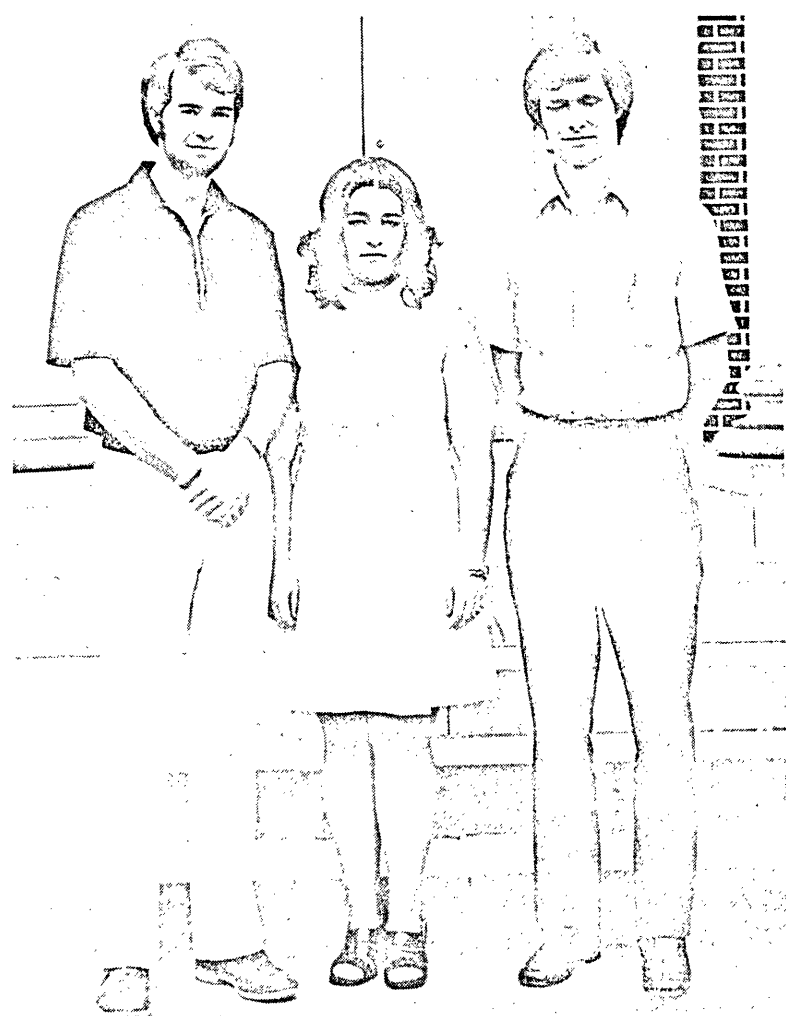
PENSION FUND REPORT UP-DATE NO. 2

Pledges by the ministers of the Little Rock Conference to the Minister's Reserve Pension Fund campaign have now totaled \$171,719.

The figure given in our last report on Oct. 11 was \$161,901.



Among the entering students at Perkins School of Theology, SMU, in Dallas at the beginning of the current academic year from the Little Rock Conference were (back row, left to right) David Barbaree of El Dorado; Robert Armstrong of Little Rock, William S. Briant of Pine Bluff; (front row) Henry Ratliff of Little Rock, William Steele of Little Rock and Scott Mouton of El Dorado.



Entering Perkins School of Theology this year from the North Arkansas Conference were (left to right) Kurt Wulfekuhler of Paragould; Rhonda Crow of Jacksonville, and Randy McPherson of North Little Rock.

Arkansas well represented at Perkins School of Theology

Twenty students from Arkansas are among the nearly 400 students in the various degree programs of Perkins School of Theology, S.M.U., Dallas, Tex.

Thirteen of these are from the Little Rock Conference and the remaining seven are from the North Arkansas Conference. They are among a student body representing all races, more than 30 states, 10 foreign countries and 15 denominations. About 100 of the 400-member student body are entering students this year.

Entering students from the two Arkansas conferences are pictured above. Other Arkansas students from the Little Rock Conference are middler (second year) students: Kathy Fadick, John R. Grisby, Ellis E. Warren, and George M. Yokem. Internship students (between middler and senior year) are: Eston Williams, Jr., and Keenan C. Williams.

NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE CAMPING COMMITTEE TO MEET

The North Arkansas Conference Camping Committee will meet on Nov. 27 at the Headquarters Building in Little Rock. Major agenda item will be the setting of dates for the 1974 camp program. The Rev. William C. Dick Haltom of Walnut Ridge is chairman of the committee.

†

Other North Arkansas students are, middler: Roger E. Glover and Robert W. Lee; and senior student Charles M. Cooper.

Most of the students at Perkins are in the Master of Theology Program with others in the Master of Sacred Music Program, the Doctor of Ministry Program, the Master of Sacred Theology Program and the Doctor of Philosophy Program offered jointly by Perkins and the graduate faculty of the School of Humanities and Sciences of Southern Methodist University.

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THREE LITTLE ROCK CHURCHES TO SHARE IN SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

Sunday night, Nov. 4, at 7 p.m. three Churches in Southwest Little Rock will join together for a Community-Wide Thanksgiving Service. Mabelvale United Methodist Church will serve as host church for the congregations of Geyer Springs and St. Andrew's United Methodist Churches.

The Rev. Fred H. Haustein, pastor at St. Andrew Church, will present the evening message. The Rev. Gerald Fincher, of the Mabelvale Church, and Mr. Dennis Spence, youth director at the Geyer Springs Church, will assist in the service. Special music will be rendered by the Mabelvale Church Choir.

All members and friends in the area are invited to participate in this Service of Thanksgiving.

North Arkansas Evangelism Board reports net membership gain

Dr. Joel Cooper, chairman of the North Arkansas Conference Board of Evangelism, has compiled a report which indicates a total net gain of 1,286 members in the seven districts, for the period which covers the first three quarters of the year, Jan. 1 through Sept. 30.

The conference goal calls for a net increase of 500 per year for the quadrennium. The goal has been set at 1,500 per year for individuals joining on profession of faith. Dr. Cooper notes that the present tally in this category is running behind, with a conference-wide total of 969 for the three-quarter period.

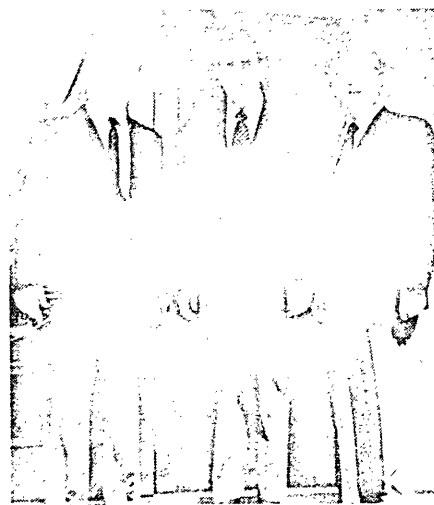
The report compiled in cooperation with the district superintendents shows the following totals by districts:

Received by Profession of Faith: Batesville, 213; Conway, 186; Fayetteville, 134; Forrest City, 94; Fort Smith, 115; Jonesboro, 126; Paragould, 101.

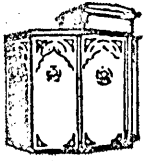
Net Gain: Batesville, 367; Conway, 146; Fayetteville, 212; Forrest City, 183; Fort Smith, 100; Jonesboro, 45; Paragould, 233.

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THE REV. W. L. DOUGLAS, pastor of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Fort Smith, attended a Symposium on Medicine and Religion at the University of Kansas School of Medicine in Kansas City, Kan., the week of Oct. 22.



Dr. George Wayne Martin (center), Arkadelphia District superintendent, preached at Piney Grove Sunday morning, Oct. 21 and dedicated the church school annex as a memorial to the Rev. Ernest Pine who was pastor from 1960-62 when the facility was erected. The Rev. Charlie V. Mashburn (left) is the present pastor; Ross Maddox (right) is chairman of the Board of Trustees. Also dedicated in the presence of the congregation which numbered 79, were the piano, stained glass window and doors, and a flower garden.



From the Bottom of the Heart.....

In keeping with our historic Methodist tradition of freedom of speech and responsibility in speaking, what appears here is the editor's point of view and not necessarily the official position of The United Methodist Church. Responses from our readers are invited.

ON BEING PASTOR AND PRIESTAS WELL AS PROPHET

Among the big challenges facing the church in such times as this — though there certainly haven't been many "such times as this" — is to resist the temptation to follow and to search out those ways in which we may be used by God to lead.

For example: it is relatively easy for the church to join the voices calling to begin the process of impeachment of the President. This takes no particular courage at this point. What is more difficult and what takes more creative skill as well as courage is to search out what our pastoral and priestly ministries — and not only our prophetic role — are calling us as the church to be and do today. Our challenge is to search out the meaning of these roles and then to fulfill them.

BEING PASTOR AND PRIEST TODAY

What does it mean to be priest and pastor in America today? And who will fulfill these roles if the church does not? There are many prophets ready and willing to call down the judgment of God upon the guilty and upon the suspected. While the church, as the most legitimate of these, must be the most responsible prophet among them all, it must resist the tendency to forget that its ministry is equally that of pastor and priest.

The prophets are many in our land. Priests and pastors are fewer. Who will sound the call to reconciliation if the church does not? Who will administer the word of healing if the church is too busy as prophet to remember its role as pastor?

The roles, of course, cannot be isolated one from another. Ours is a whole ministry to the whole man. The authentic pastor and priest is the one who has also been the faithful prophet. By the same token the prophet's invocations of judgment ring hollow if they are not accompanied by a ministry of pastoral and priestly concern.

PROPHETIC RESPONSIBILITY REMAINS

What, then, does it mean for the church to fulfill its pastoral and priestly role in America 1973?

One thing that it does not mean is that the church abandon or default in its prophetic role. And nothing stated here should be interpreted to suggest that the church minimize this vital dimension of its God-given ministry.

This prophetic ministry may well justify the action recently of two major agencies of our church in passing resolutions calling for the impeachment process to begin (see page 10). Rightly interpreted such resolutions are not charges of guilt but are a call to begin the process by which innocence or guilt is justly determined. It is important to keep this clarification in mind.

To fulfill our pastoral and priestly role is not to suggest that we abandon our prophetic responsibility.

CALLED TO A WHOLE MINISTRY

To be faithful to this role we must look anew at the words pastor and priest. They suggest a ministry of reconciliation, of caring, of serving, of healing, of intercession and of ministering in every sense to the whole and hurting person and community, be it a neighborhood or a nation. These words suggest a positive and creative ministry.

Some may interpret such an emphasis as a cop-out on the more dramatic and daring prophetic role. Whether this is so of himself or not the individual Christian must determine. For the pastoral and priestly ministry can well be more difficult and daring than that of the prophet. It is often the harder role. It is far more often the role in keeping with our New Testament heritage.

It is, finally, a whole ministry which we are called to give today. If we are not careful, what we are saying as prophet will be so loud that our nation will not hear, see nor feel what we seek to be and do as pastor and priest.

†

JSW

Off the Top of the Head.....

Honk if you're tempted

One of our college sons was telling us recently about some friends who made a bicycle trip last summer — to Illinois, I believe it was. Of the many interesting experiences of the trip one especially lingers to do funny things to my mind.

It was how the cyclists handled the perplexing problem of dogs that would chase and snap at them. They found that one of the most effective deterrents was a small compressed-air horn — an aerosol can with a horn attached; the kind you used to hear at ball games but which, I believe, have been outlawed, and with good reason. If you've never heard one of these little gems up close, consider yourself lucky. And if you have it in your plans to hear one soon, don't count on doing anything for a couple of days afterwards which will require the use of your hearing, for your ears will need the rest.

To make the most of this story you've got to use your imagination. You must visualize the attacking canine making a low-couched head-on run at the cyclist and the latter waiting until the very last moment and then letting loose a blast on the super horn. The scene, I am told, is something painful to behold. The attacking dog will scatter gravel or burn pavement in as abrupt a change of plans as you've ever beheld!

Now — being a dog owner and dog lover — I have no desire to endorse any undue treatment of our best friends, but it does seem that the plan is a workable and not in-humane solution to a knotty problem for the cyclist. But more than that, it suggests a novel answer for a perplexing problem, one encountered not just by cyclists, but by all travellers through this mortal world. For each of us is subject to attacks — head-on charges — from that most cunning and crafty of old canines, the devil himself!

Among the many schemes to ward off the temptations of Satan, the air horn has yet to be seriously considered. But I suggest that we may well have overlooked one of our best chances yet to out-wit this master of evil.

Just think what a sobering effect it would have on old Satan if every time he sought to entice us with an evil or tempting thought we could just give a blast at him on the old air horn! That should really send him scotching!

Think of the possibilities. Resourceful pastors could make air horns available to all members of their flock. These could be hung fashionably around the neck or — for those given to frequent attacks of temptation — could be strapped to the palm of the hand for instant tooting. Or, for even more fool-proof devil-detecting, they could be hooked up to the heart beat, something like an electronic pace-maker arrangement.

There are, of course, drawbacks to this idea. Like, say, if you had a sudden evil thought right in the middle of the pastor's Sunday morning sermon. A blast on the old bugle might be rather unwelcome and would also have the embarrassing effect of putting everyone on notice that your mind was wandering toward un-Sunday-like subjects. And besides, if all the Baptist deacons and Methodist stewards — not to mention the Episcopalians — were equipped with these automatic temptation alarms, our neighborhoods would probably sound like a 4:30 traffic jam on the freeway!

Oh well, it probably won't catch on anyway. But I still think it's an idea worth considering.

The devil may never know how close he came to having been blasted right out of the old ball park!

†

THINK-A-GRAM: "Temptation usually comes in through a door which has deliberately been left open."

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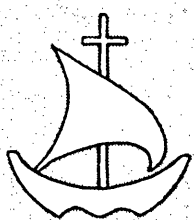
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news and views

OF THE WORLD OF RELIGION

by doris woolard

Lutheran Church Historian, Dr. Martin E. Marty, contends that the right and left wings of American religion have undergone a crisis of "empty hopes and shattered dreams" in the last decade. The University of Chicago professor said American Christianity is mainly without a central tradition or "core" today and is still reeling from what he called the "excesses" of the 1960s. . . . Dr. Marty called for a "reaching back" to traditional concepts to find a new "center" in the form of a combination of classic Christian humanism and Biblical prophecy.

The U.S. Supreme Court has rejected an appeal seeking to restore the tax exemption of the Rev. Billy James Hargis, Tulsa-based evangelist, and his Christian Echoes National Ministry. In 1962, Internal Revenue challenged the exemption of Christian Echoes, the corporate entity of Christian Crusade, on the grounds that the ministry's radio programs and periodicals went beyond the limits of the tax code section to exempt groups. The Rev. Dean Kelley, director of civil and religious liberties for the Nat'l. Council of Churches — and a United Methodist, said he fears that by upholding the appellate court in Denver the Supreme Court has given the IRS a "blank check to harass religious groups with unpopular views."

The American Protestant Hospital Assn., in a statement presented to the Cost of Living Council, charges that government price stabilization regulations "are sapping the strength of America's hospitals." Regulations, it says, which permit those selling food, blood, oxygen, medical supplies and drugs to hospitals to increase their prices to hospitals, while hospitals are not permitted to pass on such increased costs, are forcing hospitals to consider purchasing less of vitally-needed supplies, or to cut back in their services.

Dr. Peter Berger, prominent Lutheran sociologist, has asserted that "within its own tradition and competence, the church can and should speak with authority, without apology and with self-assurance." In the late 1960s, Dr. Berger said, confusion about the authority of the church led to a lot of "words and resolutions now sounding quite hollow." "We were correct in condemning the war (Vietnam)," he maintained, but Christian opposition eventually led to the church's becoming "sort of a chaplain to the New Left."

A total of six hundred French Protestants, including fifty pastors, have signed a statement calling for a re-orientation in the conduct of the Reformed Church of France, charging that the Church is "overly oriented" on political, economic and social questions. They urge Christians to concentrate their attention on the Holy Bible and the Gospel.

Dr. John Sutherland Bonnell, who during his active ministry was one of the most popular clergymen in New York City and in the United Presbyterian denomination, is returning to the pulpit at the age of 80 — having accepted a call to the preaching ministry of a church in New Rochelle on an interim basis. "I have some ideas on the subject (of the church) which I hope to have a chance to test," he told Religious News Service. One of those ideas concerns the importance of sermons based in the Bible. "There is a tendency today to get away from biblical preaching," Dr. Bonnell said.

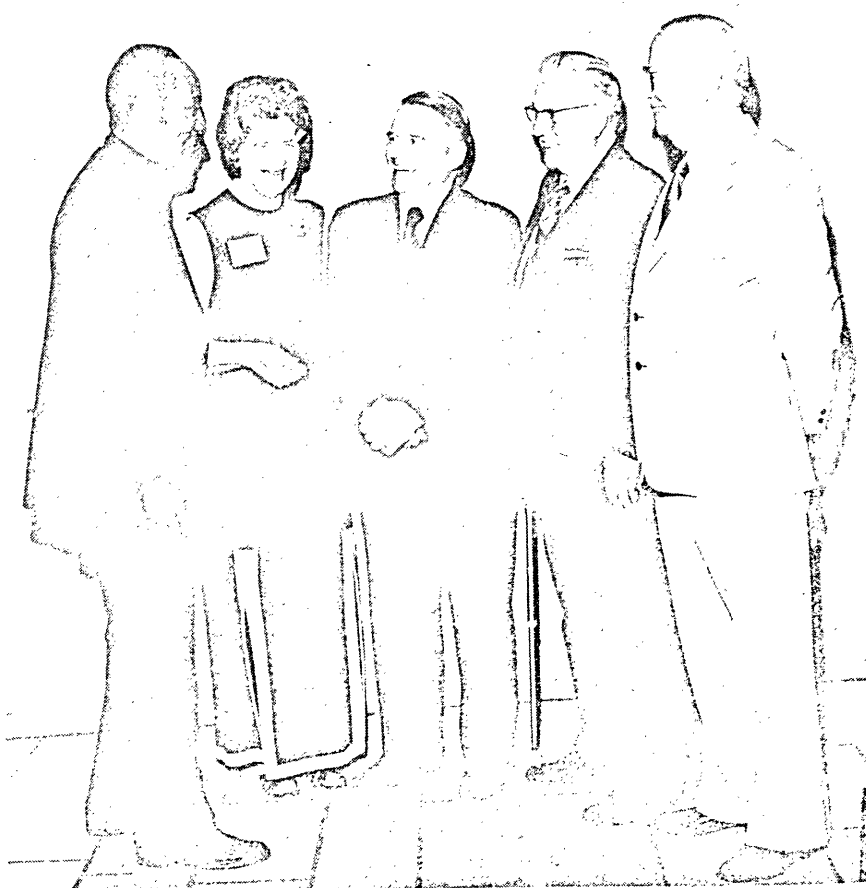
James MacCracken, director of Church World Service of the Nat'l. Council of Churches, appearing before joint hearings of two Senate subcommittees for continuance of programs through which government foodstuff surpluses are made available to hungry people throughout the world, noted that trade balances and emerging nations' economies "call us to face new relationships. If we are to be part of a world market of sellers and purchasers, of exporters of our national economy production and importers of the minerals upon which our economy is based, we face the need for concern in a new way of relationships."

The Church World Service executive asserted that bread is "not the sole answer to an awakening people around the world, who are increasingly literate and who demand the right to govern themselves and the freedom to make their own mistakes . . . But bread is the start." Noting that America "cannot feed the world," Mr. MacCracken added: "But we can set a style of concern and technique which will encourage people the world around to move to new forms of production, marketing and richer life."

Southern Baptist missionary John D. Hughey, stationed in Jordan, has requested Baptists in the U.S. to refrain from making political statements on the Middle East. He said that "theologically inspired statements of a political nature made by some Christians embarrass and perhaps endanger them."

The bishops of the Episcopal Church have approved for trial use a new rite which makes Confirmation voluntary rather than mandatory; thus it no longer is a prerequisite for admission to Holy Communion. Baptism will be regarded as "full initiation" into the life of the Church, and the rite affirms that baptism is indissoluble. Confirmation thus becomes merely a time of Christian commitment, in the trial rite.

—RNS Photo



A new policy of the Mennonite Bd. of Missions is helping to reunite missionary children who grow up on their parents' mission field and return to the U.S. and Canada at age 18 for college and work. In such cases, they are frequently unable to see their parents again for three to five years. Under the new policy, missionary children are able to visit their parents overseas on trips that are financed by \$100 from each missionary family taking part with the balance being paid by the Mission Board. This year, six missionary children have benefited from the program.

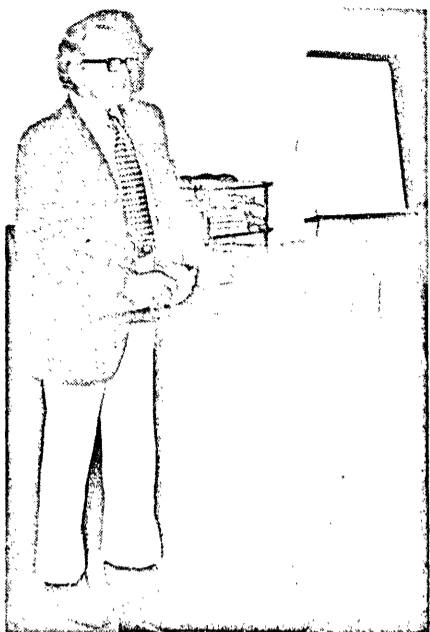
More than 30,000 young Jews from many countries have volunteered to go to Israel and undertake the work of young men drafted into the army in the war against Arab nations. As of Oct. 17, Israeli Radio reported 20,000 volunteers had registered in the U.S. Most will be assigned to kibbutzim and urban settlements. Volunteers pay their fares to and from Israel and guarantee that they will remain in Israel at least six months.

The Camp Fire Girls have launched a new "Adventure" program this Fall which gives emphasis to the "richness of religions" in the lives of girls. Formerly religion was part of the section on citizenship and tended to be "ritualistic," a representative said. "In our new program religion is a much more inner thing." Camp Fire Girls, Inc., founded in 1910, was the first national, non-sectarian organization for girls in the U.S. It now has a membership of 600,000 girls aged 6-18.

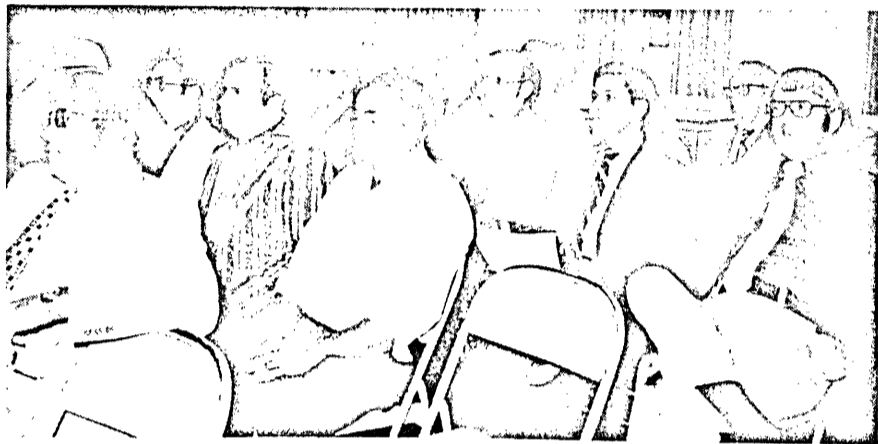
For the first time, New Zealand's National Council of Churches has elected a Polynesian to be its president. He is the Rev. Kenape Faletose, who went to New Zealand from Samoa in 1964 to be minister of the Pacific Islanders' congregation in the South Island city of Christchurch.

The Carnegie Commission on Higher Education, in a report entitled "Priorities for Action," has called on the nation's colleges and universities to clarify their goals, and to exercise greater efficiency, daring and innovation. The report urges schools to strive for both basic research and quality teaching, to encourage non-traditional studies and attendance patterns, and to guard against allowing their institutions to grow too large.

NEW YORK — Dr. R. H. Edwin Espy, the National Council of Churches' retiring general secretary, was honored at a testimonial dinner held during the NCC's Governing Board meeting in New York. Dr. Espy, an American Baptist layman who has served as the organization's top staff official for ten years, will retire on Dec. 31. The Governing Board has elected Claire Randall, a United Presbyterian lay woman, to succeed him. Past and present presidents of the National Council join Dr. Espy in a light moment. (Left to right) the Rev. W. Sterling Cary (United Church of Christ), the current president; Dr. Cynthia C. Wedel (Episcopal), immediate past president; Dr. Espy; Bishop Reuben H. Mueller (United Methodist), president, 1963-66; and the Rev. Edwin T. Dahlberg (American Baptist), president, 1957-60.



AT LEFT: Dr. Virgil Sexton begins presentation on "process planning" at recent Paragould District Workshop hosted by First Church, Paragould, and pastor, Dr. Raymond Franks. Dr. Sexton met with leaders of First Church on Monday and Tuesday nights, with 10 pastors on Tuesday, and with representatives from local church Councils on Ministries at the Wednesday evening session. BELOW: (Left to right in foreground) the Rev. Joe Wilkerson of Tuckerman; the Rev. Roger Hook, Curtis Adams, and Kenneth Janes of Christ United Charge; Bill Hopper, Douglas Shultz, and Joe Calvin of Rector, listen to Dr. Sexton's presentation.



St. Paul installs new president

Dr. William K. McElvaney, second president of Saint Paul School of Theology, was officially invested with his office at a "Celebration of Installation" on October 9, in the Great Hall of the Don W. Holter Center for Renewal on the seminary campus. Before Bishop Robert E. Goodrich, Jr., of the Missouri Area, chairman of the Board of Trustees, placed the official seal around the neck of Dr. McElvaney, charges were given the new president by representatives of the church, faculty, students, staff and alumni. Other bishops participating in the service of celebration and worship were Bishop Don W. Holter of the Nebraska Area and Bishop Ernest T. Dixon, Jr., of the Kansas Area.

In turning to the immediate task of the seminary, Dr. McElvaney's visions for the future included the continued encouragement of women and minority students; searching for new possibilities in training men and women for non-metropolitan ministries; a continued struggle to encourage rapport with a wider constituency and still nurture a community which does not fear an honest and open quest for truth; and the creation of a Lay Advisory Council to provide a structure for two-way communication and the beginning of a more trusting relationship between the seminary and the local church.

Dr. McElvaney pointed out that "there is a relationship between dreams and dollars . . . If we are to function as a particular institution with a particular task, namely training leadership for the Church's ministry, then it is plain and simple that we can do

only those functions of the total task for which we can pay." "The future of Saint Paul School of Theology is dependent on the adequacy of gifts and grants from those whose dollars match our dreams," stated Dr. McElvaney.

Dr. McElvaney was called to Saint Paul from pastoral leadership of Northaven United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas, where he had served since 1967. He succeeds Bishop Don W. Holter, who served as the first president of Saint Paul from 1958 until he was elected to the episcopacy in 1972.

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Council Directors to Local Churches

HOLIDAY WORSHIP IN THE HOME

Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas have special significance for the religious life of the community, church and family. Increasingly, families are holding services in their homes in addition to the congregational ones they attend. Each year three leaflets are prepared for use by families in their home worship.

Advent Worship in the Home (3012-C). 15c; 12 for \$1.25; 100 for \$6.50; prepared by the Rev. John Carr, this unique series of five worship services, with the opening of a gift at each service, makes the worship experiences especially interesting for families with children.

Thanksgiving Worship in the Home (3013-C). 12 for 45c; 100 for \$3.00; prepared by the Rev. Kenneth G. Fansler, this leaflet may be used to guide families as they make plans for a service of worship in the home during the Thanksgiving season.

Christmas Worship in the Home (3015-C). 12 for 45c; 100 for \$3.00; prepared by Mrs. Harvey Couch. This special service has complete suggestions for a family celebration of Christmas as a Christian observance.

The leaflets listed above may be ordered from the Service Department, Section on Local Church Education, Board of Discipleship, P. O. Box 840, Nashville, Tenn. 37202.

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STUDENT RECOGNITION DAY— 1973

The brochure for Student Recognition Day (Dec. 30) will carry both an interpretative article and a worship design with an original responsive reading. The theme, "Technology and

Building New Community: A Ministry in Higher Education," has been treated by John T. Conner, campus minister at Oregon State University, Corvallis. Mr. Conner also created the special worship service which is incorporated in the brochure. Congregations can use the brochure for their own worship service, or improvise from it.

In respect to distribution, by Nov. 1 each United Methodist church pastor will receive one brochure, with an attached description section and return order card. The pastor or Student Recognition Day Committee can order a quantity of the brochure for their interpretive and worship needs. Materials will be sent out immediately on order from the Section of Campus Ministry. It is interesting to know that 335,648 copies were ordered by local pastors last year for use in local churches.

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HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

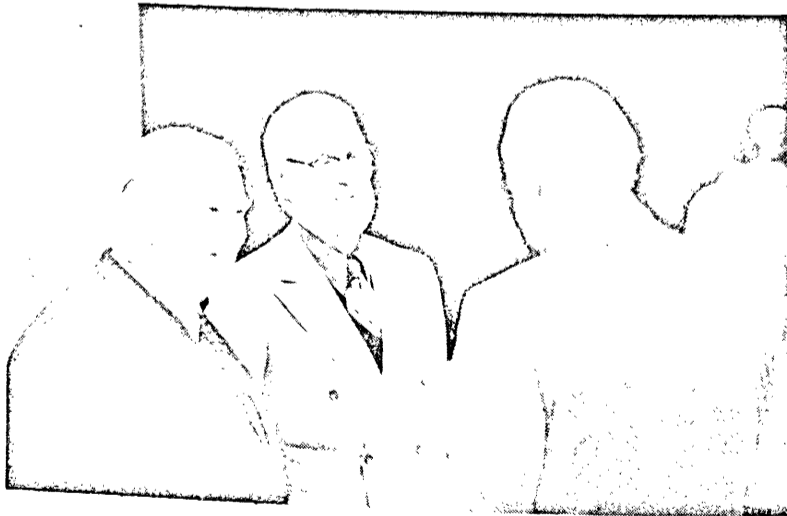
Pastors will receive a packet of material for the promotion of Human Relations Day, Jan. 27, 1974. The monetary goal is one million dollars to be used in funding four programs of self-development: (1) Volunteer Service; (2) Community Developers; (3) Police-Community Relations; (4) Training for Ethnic Minorities.

The first three have proved by their performance that they are an important part of the Church's cutting edge into the social problems of America.

The fourth program has just gotten started. It will enable dedicated Christian workers belonging to ethnic minorities — Asians, Hispanics, Indians, Blacks — to receive training so that they can participate more fully and serve more effectively.

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BELOW: Members of Hendrix College Board of Trustees attending Oct. 19 meeting are caught on camera. (Left to right) Dr. Ralph Hillis, Jonesboro District superintendent; Dr. Joel Cooper, pastor at Central Church, Fayetteville, and the Rev. Alf Eason, director of Little Rock Conference Council on Ministries Office. RIGHT: The Rev. Jim Beal, pastor of First Church, Helena, with Mrs. Beal takes time to visit with son Roger Keith, a freshman at Hendrix.



NEWS and NOTES

MRS. C. E. (LILLIAN) MARTIN was honored by members of Carr Memorial Church in Pine Bluff recently. The church library was named in her honor in appreciation of her organizing the project and serving it for so many years. A certification of recognition was presented to her at the Pine Bluff Nursing Home by James Freeman, chairman of the Board of Trustees, and by Douglas Fisher, vice-chairman of the Carr Administrative Board. The Rev. Carl V. Matthew is the Carr pastor.

MRS. MARY GIFFORD, a charter member of the Rose Bud United Methodist Church has collected and had published a history of that church from its beginning in 1914 to the present. Mrs. Gifford presented copies of it to the families of the church. The pastor is the Rev. Kelly Jones.

DR. WILLIS ALDERSON, superintendent of Green County Tech School, and a member of First Church, Paragould, was Laity Day speaker at Alicia and Swifton United Methodist Churches. The Stranger's Home congregation heard Paragould District Lay Leader Dalton Henderson of Imboden. The Rev. David L. Driver is pastor of the Charge.

THE MONTICELLO DISTRICT Parsonettes met Oct. 11 in the Dumas parsonage with Verona Simpson, Pat Mitchell and Willie Arnold as hostesses. Ten members were present to share new ideas, recipes and to show their antiques before lunch was served.

JOHN COPHER has been added to the staff of First Church in Fort Smith where he will be director of Christian education with youth. He will be working with Dr. Paul M. Bumpers, pastor, going to that church from First Church, Searcy.

DR. JOSEPH E. TAYLOR was evangelist for the October revival held in First United Methodist Church, Jacksonville, where the Rev. Bob Edwards serves as pastor. Dr. Taylor is pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church in Little Rock.

PARAGOULD DISTRICT United Methodist Men scheduled the annual fish fry for Thursday, Nov. 1, with serving beginning at 5 p.m. at Wayland Springs Camp. Dalton Henderson of Imboden is president of district men.

THE GREATER JONESBORO Crusade, sponsored by the Jonesboro Ministerial Alliance, was held Oct. 28 through Nov. 4 at the State University Field House. Evangelist James Robison brought the sermons.

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SARDIS CHURCH REPORTS IMPROVEMENTS

Sardis United Methodist Church has recently purchased a new piano. The purchase was made possible by individual contributions, a spaghetti supper prepared by the women, an ice cream supper sponsored by the youth, and a generous contribution by an out-of-community member of another denomination.

Raymond Tull has loaned the church an organ. Both instruments are in the sanctuary and are played by Mrs. Earl Hudspeth and Mrs. Harley Hobby.

Other recent improvements in the church plant include the carpeting of three rooms as a memorial to Mrs. Louise Tull; the painting of the kindergarten with supply closet and bookshelves added; and 52 memorial books added to the library.

The pastor, the Rev. Harold Rogers, reports the addition of 15 new members since June of this year.

THE UMYF of Brookland United Methodist Church recently took a weekend trip to the Ozarks where they viewed the Passion Play in Eureka Springs and then visited Dogpatch, USA. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Shipman and Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Neff are their counselors; the Rev. J. Anthony Holifield is their pastor.

MEMORIAL ORGAN DEDICATED AT REDFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A new organ was dedicated during the Oct. 14 worship service at Redfield United Methodist Church in Pine Bluff District, with the Rev. Robert A. Boyd Clanton, pastor, officiating. The organ, a Kimball, was presented to the church by Hugh F. Oates of San Diego, Calif. and Mrs. Grace (C. H.) Omering of Little Rock as a memorial gift honoring their parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Oates.

An account of the dedication of the Redfield Church which appears in a 1932 issue of ARKANSAS METHODIST states: "Mr. A. T. Oates, a Presbyterian layman, took the lead in planning the building (of the church

LAY WITNESS WEEKEND HELD AT CARR MEMORIAL

A Layman's Weekend Witness was held Oct. 13 and 14 at Carr Memorial Church in Pine Bluff. Activities began Saturday morning with neighborhood coffee parties for adults and coke parties for the youth. A time of meditation and sharing was followed by visitation. On Saturday evening a fellowship dinner was held for members and guests, after which small groups were formed to discuss the many problems facing Christians today.

The Sunday morning service was led by Waple Langston, local lay leader. The choir presented special music with Mrs. Dan Allen as soloist. Mrs. Don Puckett witnessed to her Christian faith and a message on devotion and dedication was given by Eugene Hall, a former member of Carr who now resides in Hot Springs.

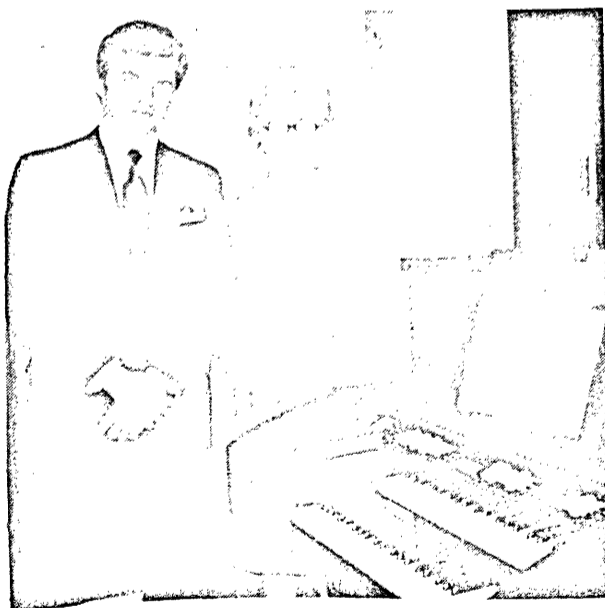
Climaxing the weekend was the Sunday evening service presented by the youth under the direction of Mrs. James Logan. Ray Matthew led the service. Scriptures were read by Mark Borecky and Christian witnesses were given by Scott Mouser and Tim Matthew. An offertory was sung by Anna Talley and Rachael Montgomery who accompanied on the guitar.

The Weekend Witness event was planned by the Evangelism Committee, headed by Mrs. Sam Puckett with Bill Brown as general chairman.

dedicated on Oct. 30, 1932) and directing the work, and perhaps deserves more credit for this great achievement than anyone else, yet he very modestly disclaims any credit for what he has done."

Other members of the Oates family were present for the organ dedication ceremony, among them Mr. Lee Oates of Little Rock (a son of the A. T. Oates) who gave leadership to the work of the Epworth League during the period when the church was built, according to the ARKANSAS METHODIST account, and another son, Wallace Oates, also of Little Rock.

The women of Redfield Church have recently provided new pews, new hymnals, stained glass windows, and central heat and air-conditioning for their church. Mrs. J. C. (Eloise) Morman is the organist.



Mrs. Grace Omering of Little Rock stands beside the new organ which she and her brother Hugh F. Oates of San Diego, Calif., presented the Redfield Church in memory of their parents, the late Arthur and Lena Oates. The Rev. Bob Clanton (at left), Redfield pastor, officiated at Oct. 14 dedication ceremonies.

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.

Nov. 4—Sunday	Luke 18:8-34
Nov. 5	Luke 19:41-48
Nov. 6	Matt. 7:15-29
Nov. 7	Matt. 9:1-8
Nov. 8	Matt. 16:13-27
Nov. 9	Matt. 24:1-14
Nov. 10	Matt. 25:31-46
Nov. 11—Sunday	Luke 20:19-26

HENRY RAINWATER, North Arkansas Conference lay leader, presided over the Laity Day observance in his home church at Walnut Ridge. Presentations were made by three laypersons — a youth, a woman and a man — concerning their understanding of the role of the laity in the mission of today's church. The speakers were: Tom McDonald of Fort Smith, high school senior and president of the Conference Youth Council (son of Fort Smith District Superintendent, Dr. Charles McDonald, and Mrs. McDonald); Mrs. Marie Jordan (wife of Paragould District Superintendent, the Rev. Ben Jordan), and Bob Branch, attorney and active layman at First Church, Paragould.

LAITY SUNDAY, Oct. 14, was well received in the Trumann United Methodist Church both by those present and the participants. Dale Harveson delivered the morning message and L. B. Baker filled the pulpit Sunday evening. Others participating were Mrs. Dale (Pat) Harveson, Bill Miller, Cleo Baker and Bobby Dickey. The Rev. J. Leon Wilson is the pastor.

ON SUNDAY, Oct. 21, a Church Conference with the Rev. Carl E. Beard presiding was held at the Primrose United Methodist Church. A Parsonage Building Committee was elected at that time. It is hoped that construction on the new parsonage will begin in early 1974. Mr. Rupert Fair was elected the chairman and Mrs. Paul Dixon, Jr., the vice-chairman.

WAYLANDS CELEBRATE 60th

Dr. and Mrs. E. T. Wayland will observe their 60th wedding anniversary on Nov. 10. Dr. Wayland is a retired member of the North Arkansas Conference and was editor of the ARKANSAS/LOUISIANA METHODIST from 1940-1957. They are now living with their son, Ewing T., also a former editor, and his family at 108 S. Waverly Place, Mount Prospect, Ill. 60056.

A family dinner on the 9th will include their son, Sloan, and his family from Wyack, N.Y. Six grandchildren will be present. A reception will be held for them on Sunday afternoon. The ARKANSAS/LOUISIANA METHODIST staff sends heartiest greetings to Ed and Sue Wayland.

NOVEMBER 1, 1973

Women's Division, meeting in New Orleans, adopts goal of five per cent increase in 1974 giving

by Betty Thompson

NEW ORLEANS, La., Oct. 23 (UMC) — The national policy-making body of United Methodist Women appropriated \$13,073,656 to national and world mission programs of the denomination and to their own programs for 1974 here Oct. 23.

The Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church voted \$4,700,000 to overseas programs administered by the World Division, and an equal amount to the work in the United States under the aegis of the National Division. The remainder goes to pensions and homes for retired workers, education and cultivation, and the programs of the Women's Division itself, including servicing local units, education for Christian mission, and Christian social concerns.

The income is largely from 35,000 units of United Methodist Women. There are 1,500,000 women whose pledge to missions provides the income by which work of churches in more than 50 nations is supported and a mission force of approximately 900 is maintained. In the United States deaconesses and home missionaries are supported along with a wide variety of ministries to children and youth, community centers, urban and rural work, and service to minority communities.

Miss Florence Little of New York, treasurer of the women's organization, noted that giving has been maintained at approximately \$13,000,000 since 1969. Income for 1972 was \$13,073,657, the amount appropriated for the coming year. According to church law, appropriations cannot exceed the amount of income received in the previous year. While income for 1972 was down slightly more than one per cent (a drop of \$144,000), it did not dip as low as 1970.

At the end of nine months of 1973, the Women's Division reported that its income is \$6,959,000, down \$272,912 from the comparable figure for 1972. But the women expressed confidence that the figure will reach \$13,000,000 by the year's end.

The division adopted a goal of five per cent increase for the year 1974. Miss Little says that the new organization offers significant potential for development but "a dormant vitality must be awaken-

ed" if the level of \$13 million is to be maintained.

Mrs. Lowell H. Sohl of Colorado Springs, Colo., a vice-president of the division and head of its Section on Finance, reported a \$200,000 bequest from the estate of Irene C. Niebaum of Vermont.

INVESTMENTS UNDER SCRUTINY

The women voted to continue involvement in the Interfaith Committee on Special Responsibility in Investments through which a number of religious organizations are attempting to exercise their Christian conscience in the use of their investments. They voted that as an expression of concern for equal opportunity for all persons the division would file stockholder resolutions requesting disclosure of data by corporations which are being challenged by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

They also agreed to file disclosure resolutions with one or two corporations doing business in South Africa asking that a full report on operations be made and sent to all shareholders.

Bethlehem Steel will be asked to withdraw from a recently acquired operation in Mozambique.

LONG-RANGE OBJECTIVES ADOPTED

In another action, the Women's Division adopted a series of seven long-range objectives for its work.

The division said it would seek "to affirm and strengthen the division (and United Methodist Women) as an autonomous visible women's group in the church organized for mission," strive to "become a community in mission," mobilize women "as full participants in the world-wide struggle for justice," "develop a process for continued formulation and interpretation of contemporary Christian mission," "develop an organizational structure and life style" which will help it respond creatively to the unknown future, work out an interpretation of the financial policies and opportunities of the division, and eliminate by 1977 "institutional racism in the total ministry" of the division.

* * *

EQUAL RIGHTS, MIDDLE EAST SEMINAR, CONSUMER ACTION GET ATTENTION

Concern for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, plans for a national seminar on the Middle East, and participation in consumer action on food monopolies were among the actions taken Monday by the national policy-making body of the United Methodist Women.

Sixty-five voting members from all parts of the nation are attending the Women's Division of the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries here.

Noting the opposition which has been mounting to the Equal Rights Amendment, the women joined other national groups of women including the League of Women Voters, National Federation of Business and Professional Women, the National Organization of Women, the American Association of University Women, and the YWCA in supporting the ratification.

The policy-making body's Committee on Women's Concerns suggested a six-months crash program to develop and disseminate resources on the subject of the Equal Rights Amendment for United Methodist Church groups in target states. Joining with another churchwide agency, the Board of Church and Society, the women will work on a support project to enable and facilitate passage in states which have not ratified the amendment. Louisiana is among those yet to ratify the amendment. The 1972 General Conference of the United Methodist Church supported its passage.

Thirty states have ratified the amendment and 38 must be obtained for passage. The women voted \$10,000 for a special program of education and action.

In another action, the women voted to authorize annual national seminars for Native American (Indian) women through 1976. They also authorized a development education workshop on Education for Global Consciousness to be held at the United Methodist Office for the United Nations in the spring of 1974.

†

Church women show concern

"WHERE IN THE WORLD IS MY NEIGHBOR?"

World Community Day, one of three ecumenical programs observed each year in local communities around the world and sponsored by Church Women United, is scheduled for Nov. 2, the first Friday of November. A few observances will be held on the second Friday, instead.

The theme this year is "Where in the World Is My Neighbor?" and will enable women to consider concern for nearby neighbors and global neighbors.

The offerings will be used to give concrete expression to the concern for neighbors: for American Indians — educational and self-development projects; for the war-torn victims of Vietnam, Nigeria, Indonesia and Ireland; for Lebanon — delivery of health services; for students — for international students in urban areas of the United States and women from India and Thailand who are studying nutrition.

All during the year, but especially on World Community Day, church women are urged to purchase \$3.00 gift certificates. These contributions enable Church Women United to respond to emerging opportunities and to crises needs. In recent years, monies have been used for hurricane vic-

tims in Texas, flood relief in South Dakota and Pennsylvania, for people ravaged by war in Bangladesh, for medical supplies and vaccines, for mother-child care clinics and nutrition courses in many areas.

†

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED SCHEDULE LOCAL PROGRAMS
Central Arkansas CWU:

Westover Hills Presbyterian Church, Kavanaugh and Pine Valley Road, Little Rock, will be host to the observance of World Community Day, Nov. 2 at 9:30 a.m. Major Ralph Morrell will tell about the role of the Salvation Army in our changing world.

Washington Ave. Methodist Church in North Little Rock will be host to the dinner meeting of the Business Women's Group at 6 p.m. Sister Florence Yuterman, president of Church Women United in Arkansas, will be the speaker.

Pine Bluff Church Women are celebrating the Day on Thursday, Nov. 1, at 1:30 p.m. at the Salvation Army Chapel.

†

WHEATLEY WOMEN who attended the National Assembly of United Methodist Women in Cincinnati recently were Mrs. George Lalman, Mrs. Harry Hardwick and Mrs. Steve Williamson. The Rev. Charles Nance is their pastor.

PRIDE VALLEY United Methodist Women announce a Fall Festival to be held at the church, located west of Little Rock on 12th Street Pike (Kanis Rd.). The date has been set for Wednesday, Nov. 7, from 11 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. Mrs. E. D. Galloway is president of the Pride Valley UMW, and Mrs. Fred Pardee is chairman of the Festival. Dr. Neill Hart is pastor.

†

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN of the Fayetteville District will hold their first annual meeting on Sunday, Nov. 11, at Berryville United Methodist Church. Registration will be from 1:30 until 2:30. The program will follow from 2:30 until 4:00, featuring Mrs. Euba M. Winston.

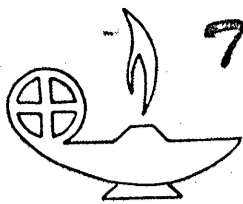
LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN CALENDAR OF DISTRICT MEETINGS

Arkadelphia District:	Nov. 3 at St. Andrews, Arkadelphia 1:30 p.m.
Camden District:	Nov. 11 at First Methodist, Magnolia 2:00 p.m.
Hope District:	Nov. 10 at Nashville 10:00 a.m.
Little Rock District:	Nov. 10 at White Memorial, L.R. at 1:30 p.m.
Monticello District:	Nov. 3 at Dumas 10:00 a.m.
Pine Bluff District:	Dec. 1 at Grand Ave., Stuttgart 9:30 a.m.

"Reach-out to the Infinite"
Retreat at Aldersgate Camp
November 10
9:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Luncheon served by staff
\$2 per person
Hostesses: Mabel Harris, Wilma Frank, Alexina Hazzard, Nancy Jones, Doris Norman, and Janice Van Hook

A DESSERT AND STYLE SHOW will be presented in First Church, North Little Rock, on Tuesday, Nov. 6, at 7 p.m. sponsored by United Methodist Women, Morton-Wayland Group. Tickets are \$1.00 and may be purchased at the door.



The Sunday School Lesson

by the Editor

LESSON FOR NOVEMBER 11:

"Living Victoriously in Society"

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON FOR NOV. 11 — "Living Victoriously in Society"

ORIENTATION: We are in the first quarter of the 1973-74 church school year. The theme for this quarter (Sept.-Oct.-Nov.) is **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO PAUL**. We are in Unit #3 (Nov. 4-25) of this quarter. The unit subject is **THE LIFE OF RECONCILIATION**. The two previous units have dealt with **THE MINISTRY of Reconciliation** and **THE MESSAGE of Reconciliation**. Our lesson for Nov. 11 is the second in this unit of four lessons and is entitled **Living Victoriously in Society**.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON: Romans 12:14 through 13:14

MEMORY SELECTION: Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. — Romans 13:10

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON: To see how the reconciled life enables the Christian to live in society in a victorious manner; to see that the qualities of the Christian life are radical in nature; to examine the relationship of the Christian to the governing authorities; and to see how the theme of living victoriously in society can be related to our lives.

* * *

THE CHALLENGE — AND SOME OPTIONAL RESPONSES

Is it possible for man to live victoriously in the world? There are few questions more significant than this. It is one of the truly top-priority questions that human beings can ask. It is the question which forms the framework of our lesson today.

There are several responses which man can make to the challenge expressed in this question. He can make the response of resignation, saying "No, there is no way to live victoriously in a world that continues to beat us down." Many have chosen this way. It is the way which abandons the struggle, saying "Whatever will be will be." It seeks to avoid defeat by pretending not to care, which is a singularly tragic defeat in itself.

Then there is the response of rebellion, the attitude which seeks to change the world by fighting the world, taking on everything that comes down the pike, as the saying goes. It is the response of cynicism and ultimately of despair.

But reconciled man—the person who is restored to fellowship with God by the act of God's grace—is freed for another response to the question of living in the world: the response of love. This life of love has taken form in the body of Christ, the church, the Christian community. It is in such a community that the Christian learns to live victoriously in society.

* * *

We continue today our study of the theme of reconciliation. Basic to our thought has been Paul's predominant note in Romans: that man is restored to fellowship with God by the free gift of God's grace and not by any of man's works nor by his keeping of the law. Such reconciled man is set free in a new and "liberating bondage" to Christ. And he discovers new dimensions of life in this community of the reconciled, the church.

Last week we studied the nature of this life in the Christian community, how a Christian relates to other fellow Christians. Today we turn to the question of how the Christian is to relate to the world, to society, in a victorious way. Our basic thesis is

that the Christian, as reconciled man, has that relationship with God which equips him to live victoriously in the world. Our approach to this theme will be through an examination of the scripture text, Romans 12:14-13:14.

THE CALL TO A NEW WAY OF LIFE

Why all this stress on behaviour?
—Romans 13:11 J. B. Phillips trans.

Beginning with Romans 12:14 Paul begins an enumeration of some very specific ways that the Christian will live in the world. The passage is reminiscent of the Sermon on the Mount in that it gives wise and specific counsel on a way of life.

At first it may seem strange that Paul, who previously in his letter to the Romans, had de-emphasized good works as a means of achieving salvation, now gives a very specific list of kinds of behavior to be followed by these same Romans. He anticipates a question on this and raises it himself: "Why all this stress on behavior?" He answers himself by saying that the time is short, "every day brings God's salvation nearer, the night is nearly over; the day has almost dawned." Christians, therefore, are "to be Christ's men from head to foot," and as such will reflect a new and radical style of life.

This new way of life is not an effort to win salvation. God has already provided that — through faith — for believing man. This style of life, rather, reflects the response that reconciled man wants to show as evidence of his gratitude to God for his gracious love. It is in this style of life that reconciled man, Christian man, lives victoriously in the world.

THE RADICAL NATURE OF THE CHRISTIAN WAY

The qualities of life which Paul enumerates illustrate the radical nature of the Christian way of life; radical in that it goes to the root of the human situation. A careful reading at this point in our lesson of Romans 12:14-21 will reveal this quality. Let's spend a few moments noting the highlights of these verses. In them, Paul is calling his readers to note how they are to live victoriously in the world.

Verse 14: *Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.* Frank Mead says that "The natural man curses the man who insults him or hurts him or lies about him — but the natural man is not the Christian man. The Christian refuses to descend to the level of the persecutor . . ." Rather than to curse their persecutors, Christians are to bless them. How radical is the Christian way! What similarities to the teachings of Jesus do you see here?

Verse 15: *Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.* A basic principle of Christian ministry is illustrated in this passage: the principle of identification. The Christian is the "man for others." He identifies with the joys and the sorrows of his fellowman. He has sympathy with others. Sympathy and compassion come from Greek and Latin words both meaning "a suffering with." Those who have the spirit of Christ are in fellowship with the sorrowing. They do not stand aloof, they do not offer advice; they suffer with . . . This was, and remains today, a radical teaching in that it goes to the root of humanity's nature: oneness.

Verses 16-21: *Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; never be conceited.* Here is a list of admonitions which reflect the church's attempt to practice the Christian ethic in the midst of a hostile environment. What is the relevance of these admonitions for today?

The issue of vengeance — a very timely concern for our society — is found in verses 17-21. "Repay no one evil for evil . . . never avenge yourselves." You may want to discuss these verses in your class

and examine their relevance to our philosophy of imprisonment today. Do these passages have any relevance to our penal system? If so, why? If not, why?

Verses 12:21: *Don't allow yourself to be overpowered by evil. Take the offensive — overpower evil with good!* (J. B. Phillips trans.). In his book *The Thunder of Bare Feet*, the late J. Wallace Hamilton tells a story which uniquely illustrates this philosophy. A sheepman in Indiana was troubled by his neighbor's dogs, which were killing his sheep. This problem was usually met with lawsuits or barbed wire or even shotguns. But this man went to work on his neighbors with a better idea. To every neighbor's child he gave a lamb or two as pets. In due time, when all his neighbors had their own small flocks, they began to tie up their dogs. Thus the problem was solved. "Take the offensive; overpower evil with good." Paul's admonitions are radical indeed!

THE CHRISTIAN AND GOVERNMENT

How should Christians respond to government? The Roman rulers were the source of grave problems to many in the early church. Should the Christian take up arms? Should he pay taxes to support an unjust government? Should he resist authorities who dealt unfairly with him?

I think it is fair to Paul's response to say that he upholds the theory of government without endorsing particular governments. He recognizes that government serves its purpose in God's scheme of things. Government serves the communal and social needs of man. Men must have some form of government lest anarchy rule and the whole of society be destroyed.

The subject poses some knotty problems for the Christian. What is his responsibility in the face of laws which — by his religiously-oriented conscience — the Christian deems to be unjust? What does it mean, in the context of this discussion, to be a "nation under God?" Is there a legitimate role for civil disobedience in a Christian nation? If so, what is that role? Paul's statement could be read in such a way that would indicate that the American Revolution was contrary to God's will. How would you explain such a charge were it to be made? If your class has been a bit sleepy this morning, throw some of these questions at them. It ought to bring them to life!

TO LIVE VICTORIOUSLY IN THE WORLD

In Romans 12 and 13 Paul has shown his readers that there is open to them a quality of life together — Christian community — which enables them to be transformed and which affords the resources to live victoriously in the world. The source of that life is God. By his gift of grace, man is reconciled to his creator. In this relationship man finds a love that enables him to love in return. It is that love, nurtured by life in Christian community, which enables man to live victoriously in society.

* * *

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Is vengeance ever justified? Discuss and explain your answer.
2. Is compromise with evil ever justified? If so, when? If not, why?
3. What is the responsibility of the Christian to unjust law or government?
4. How would you define "victorious Christian living"?

NEXT WEEK: The Strong and the Weak — Romans 14; 1 Corinthians 8:1 — 11:1

In Washington Board meet — Oct. 18-21 . . .

CHURCH AND SOCIETY: *Impeachment, Middle East, Amnesty, Vietnam vet aid, Selective buying . . .*

WASHINGTON, D.C. (UMC) — Funding for a new division, approval for joint UN-Washington study programs and re-election of the chief executive were among actions here Oct. 18-21 in the annual meeting of the United Methodist Board of Church and Society.

The board also approved resolutions calling for impeachment of President Nixon, reformed campaign financing, an equitable settlement of Middle East conflicts, unconditional amnesty for objectors to the Vietnam war along with aid to the war's veterans and victims, and support for "selective buying" of several products in support of workers.

The new Division of Emerging Social Issues was enabled to get off the ground when \$45,000 was included in the 1974 board budget of \$1,129,187, and a search for its executive was authorized. Established but not funded by the 1972 General Conference, the "futuristic" division will be supported by an extra appropriation from the Council on Finance and Administration, matched by shifting of funds within the board.

Mrs. William H. Hudson of Philadelphia, Pa., chairperson, said an associate general secretary would be sought immediately, with high priority to be given to women and ethnic minority candidates. Other qualifications

include "optimism about the future," commitment to the institutional church and ability to "discern critical emerging issues" and develop related programs.

The board spent an entire evening in executive session before Bishop James Armstrong of Aberdeen, S.D., president, announced that the Rev. A. Dudley Ward has been chosen again as general secretary. After an earlier inconclusive ballot, the vote was 44-27 to nominate him to the General Council on Ministries for confirmation.

The bishop said "at no point was there a hint of criticism of Dr. Ward's personhood or contribution" but discussion of guidelines and systems of evaluation for the staff. Later the board instructed its personnel committee to develop an evaluation procedure.

A top executive of this board or one of its predecessors since 1952, Dr. Ward said his motivation is "to bring about such a significant body of Christian social witness that there would be no mistake where we are."

Increased opportunities for study of national and international issues by United Methodists are anticipated by leaders from the new plans to coordinate formerly separate UN and Washington seminar programs. The vehicle will be a joint committee from this board and the Women's Division

of the Board of Global Ministries.

In a challenge opening the meeting, Bishop Armstrong said Christians should remember that though there is "much that is hellish about us," the human race is not "going to hell in a basket."

It is true, he conceded, that a "common-sense approach to life" would suggest that the world is on the way down and faith seems blocked by pressures that destroy life and hope.

The cascade of current problems, including the Middle East war, world famine, military dictatorships in Latin America, "fresh outcroppings" of racial violence, a "new hedonism" with a "swinging, drug-oriented permissiveness" and "our own shameful scandals" such as Watergate, has created a morale crisis "greater perhaps than we have even known," Bishop Armstrong said. There is resulting mistrust of government and other institutions, of leaders and "of ourselves," he said.

Despite how things look, despite the "bad news," Christians must not give up hope, the Church and Society leader asserted, adding: "We must remember that the power of God triumphs over human frailty and good over evil. We must affirm the goodness of creation, the goodness of people, and faith in the future."

†

Statement on

Middle East

WASHINGTON, D.C. (UMC) — A Middle East settlement that would insure Palestinian Arabs self-determination and economic justice while insuring that the state of Israel "shall not be threatened with extinction" was called for by a national United Methodist agency here Oct. 21. It added that the world community must share responsibility for such a settlement.

The Board of Church and Society also said the nations of the Middle East, "preoccupied with their bitter struggle," should recognize the "danger to the peace of the world that arises from their conflict and the accompanying threat of a great power confrontation. We firmly believe that justice and security for the people of the Middle East cannot be achieved by a continuance of the struggle."

The board urged "all our fellow citizens of goodwill to open their hearts and minds to dialogue across religious and ideological differences in a search for lasting peace and security."

The resolution was the latest in several actions and statements by United Methodists on the Middle East crisis.

†

In Nashville Board meet — Oct. 23-25

DISCIPLESHIP:

Help the local church, Define our mission, Get it together . . .

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMC)—The 90-member Board of Discipleship, one of four program boards of the United Methodist Church, met in annual session here Oct. 23-25 to survey its task as chief resource agency for more than 40,000 local churches and to project program and budget for 1974.

The new board, created by the 1972 General Conference, includes the former Boards of Laity, Evangelism, and portions of the former Board of Education along with the concerns of an understaffed Commission on Worship.

In his first formal report as new General Secretary of the Board, Dr. Melvin G. Talbert said progress is being made toward integrated wholeness.

"No longer is it appropriate to ask if evangelism, education, stewardship, or lay work is relevant," he said. "What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus Christ? That is the question. If we struggle with that question we know the other elements are important." He said the staff was trying with integrity to break out of former "boxes" to work together in meeting the needs of the church.

The board approved a 1974 budget of more than \$7,400,000, not including budget for the Section of Curriculum Resources which is located at and

paid for by the United Methodist Publishing House. The budget included a deficit of more than \$248,499 of which \$157,000 is being requested from the Council on Finance and Administration (CFA), the denomination's central treasury. The Council is being asked to provide the money to implement a mandate of the 1972 General Conference for offices of age level and family ministry coordinators in the board. To be lodged in the Division of Lay Life and Work, the coordinators of children, youth, adult and family ministries will seek to resource and assist persons with similar responsibilities at other levels of the church.

Various support functions provided previously in each of the divisions were merged into two central support service units: Central Service Unit which includes treasurer functions, personnel services, production and distribution, and building and grounds; and an Information and Interpretation Services Unit which includes communications and public relations.

John L. Hereford, a former staff member of the Board of Laity, was elected treasurer of the entire board and named by Dr. Talbert as head of the Central Service Unit. Named to head the new Information and Inter-

pretation Service Unit was the Rev. Ron Kerr, communications director for the former Board of Evangelism.

Program plans and budgeting for 1974 reflected a major interest in worship, including funds for a new full-time staff person in the field of music and art.

In other actions, the board:

- created a national "Committee on Family Life" with members from several agencies but administratively related to the Board of Discipleship. The Committee is asked "to consider the need for, and character of conference(s) on family life, to coordinate for the total church in the area of family life ministries, to sensitize groups within and without the church to family life issues, and to engage in development of theological and philosophical statements and approaches to family life issues." The committee will succeed the former "General Committee on Family Life."

- paid tribute to the late Bishop Kenneth W. Copeland of the Houston Area and named Bishop Wayne K. Clymer to succeed him on the executive committee of the board.

- Agreed to establish a principle of two board meetings annually. The next meeting will be Mar. 27-29 in the

Nashville area. The fall, 1974 meeting will be during the last full week of Oct. in St. Louis, Mo.

- renominated with appreciation Dr. Talbert as General Secretary and elected as associate general secretaries: Dr. Howard M. Ham, Division of Education; Dr. Ira Gallaway, Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship; and Dr. David Self, Division of Lay Life and Work. Dr. Wilson O. Weldon was re-elected editor of *The Upper Room* and Dr. Ewart G. Watts was re-elected editor of *Church School Publications* pending confirmation by the Board of Publication, governing body of the United Methodist Publishing House. All professional staff must be elected annually. General Secretaries are nominated by individual boards for final approval by the General Council on Ministries.

Serving as chairman of the three divisions are: the Rev. Edward L. Duncan, Lake Orion, Mich., Division of Evangelism, Worship and Stewardship; James F. W. Talley, Baltimore, Md., Division of Lay Life and Work; and Bishop James S. Thomas, Des Moines, Ia., Division of Education.

†

(See page 10 for continuation of agency reports)

GLOBAL MINISTRIES: *"We are scriptural," "A big whale and a jazz band," Women ask impeachment . . .*

**In response to "Good News" charge
GLOBAL MINISTRIES PRESIDENT
MAINTAINS METHODIST MISSIONS
"SCRIPTURAL"**

by Winston Taylor

NEW ORLEANS, La., Oct. 23 (UMC) — Criticism that the United Methodist missionary movement has replaced spiritual emphasis with political and social liberation was challenged here Tuesday by the president of the church's Board of Global Ministries.

In the opening session of the world-wide board's annual meeting, at the Fontainebleau Hotel Oct. 23-28, Bishop Paul A. Washburn of Chicago asserted that the board has not "departed from scriptural Christianity," but has recognized that "there is no single form of scriptural Christianity."

The board's perception and proclamation of the Gospel, he said, is that "God is with us in the realities of our common life . . . working to give us freedom, healing and reconciliation."

The criticism came last summer from a conservative group of United Methodists known as Good News. They had charged that the church "is in the worst missionary crisis in the recent history of our denomination."

Bishop Washburn questioned the evidence for such criticism, and held that the words "missionary" and "crisis" have occurred together throughout history, with crisis "the soil in which the missionary movement is planted and grows."

The bishop also challenged the idea of local churches' retaining control of funds given for missionary work as a "faithless way to support missions."

He noted that the board strives to be a "corporate organism through which the mission-destined energies of our church can flow toward communities and persons in need," recognizing Christ as both "servant-Lord and servant-Savior."

From his observations during recent travels in Latin America, the bishop warned that the U.S. may be in for a time of being an "ignored church," with overseas churches wanting to "meet us as peers in the gospel" rather than having decisions made in this country as to "what the gospel means for their persons or for their political systems."

This not only means that fewer countries will welcome missionaries from here, because their churches have "come of age," but also that newly autonomous churches want to send missionaries "but not to us."

He said they apparently are waiting to see if American and European churches "can be revitalized and begin to show growth," or will show that "we are serious about penetrating social, political and cultural ills in our own countries," or "if we will become a more potent Gospel force in our own lands."

†

**GLOBAL MINISTRIES HEAD COMPARES
BOARD TO WHALE AND NEW ORLEANS
JAZZ BAND**

by Winston Taylor

NEW ORLEANS, La., (UMC) Oct. 24 — A missionary agency exists to awaken hope in Christians as "instruments that God uses" and "liberation and conversion" for those who are hurting, the top United Methodist missions executive asserted here Wednesday.

The Rev. Tracey K. Jones, Jr., of New York said the Board of Global Ministries is committed to

helping Christians know what they can be and do "to bring healing, liberation and self-reliance to those who are hurting and hope to those who do not know Jesus Christ."

He told the world-wide board, in its annual meeting here Oct. 23-28, that it also has a role in "bringing forth faithfulness to a global outreach."

Dr. Jones, general secretary of the 156-member agency, reported that its priorities developed since expansion and reorganization a year ago include the "raising of awareness for mutual commitment," broadening the perimeters of the missionary vocation, inter-religious dialogue, a global concept of health and welfare issues, quick response to disaster and helping the church at large to "reformulate its understanding of mission."

Dr. Jones, a former missionary in the Orient, used two picturesque analogies to make his points, likening the board to a whale and to a New Orleans jazz band.

It was in the whale, he noted, that Jonah had to face himself, God and the world in which he lived, in order to find the direction in which God wanted him to go. In its several months of searching for identity, the board has undergone similar encounters within itself and in facing God's demands, said Dr. Jones.

The similarity to jazz, he claimed, is in the board's commitment to a style of operation that has a balance of freedom and discipline. He noted that jazz has no set score and that when one player bids to take the lead the others yield and support him, with every one getting his chance to lead.

Likewise, said Dr. Jones, Christ gives freedom "to face each other squarely and to bargain" but also provides "discipline of fairness, openness, compromise and mutual support."

†

**WOMEN'S DIVISION, CHURCH AND SOCIETY
BOARD RECOMMEND STRONG ACTION**

by Arthur Moore, Jr.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Oct. 22 (UMC) — A call for the House of Representatives to begin impeachment proceedings against President Nixon was sounded here today by a major program unit of the United Methodist Church.

The 68-member Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church voted by a two-to-one margin after an hour's debate in favor of a statement which asserted that the President "in a dictatorial manner, has ignored Constitutional protections (of checks and balances between the three branches of government)" and that

"it is now essential that the legislative branch assert itself and call the executive branch to account." The division is the policy-making group for about 1,500,000 United Methodist Women in the United States.

The "Watergate Statement" had been prepared by the division's Section of Christian Social Relations without a direct call for impeachment proceedings prior to the firing of Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox and the resignation of Attorney General Elliot Richardson and Assistant Attorney General William Ruckelshaus. The call for impeachment was added on an amendment by Mrs. Dean R. Isaacs of Medina, Texas.

Pointing out that "the impeachment process is a Congressional trial to determine guilt or innocence . . . Like many others, we were previously reluctant to call for the process to begin. Now we must. The greatest need in a democracy is that the nation be governed by law and by the people, not by the excessive power of one man."

In addition to the impeachment section, the lengthy statement called for a series of governmental reforms, including:

- Strict limitations on the amount an individual or organization may contribute to the political campaign of any given candidate or party;
- a carefully devised form of public financing for a substantial part of national election campaign costs;
- an independent Federal Elections Commission with power to enforce as well as monitor election laws;
- development of checks and safeguards to keep the executive branch from using the instruments of government power to attack political adversaries; and
- elimination of the use of wiretapping and electronic surveillance by public authorities without a specific court order.

The Women's Division is meeting here as part of the Board of Global Ministries which is holding its annual meeting at the Fontainebleau Hotel, Oct. 23-28.

This was the second agency of the church to take such action in as many days. Sunday in Washington, D.C., the Board of Church and Society voted 34-9 to urge the House of Representatives "to initiate immediately proceedings against the President, and we pledge our support of such action."

Shortly after the decision, some 40 board members delivered the statement to two members of Congress.

†



AT LEFT: A plenary session of the Board of Global Ministries, meeting in New Orleans' Fontainebleau Hotel Oct. 23-28. The nine agencies of the Board met in separate sessions and in the plenary sessions as well. Bishop Paul A. Washburn of Chicago is the Board president and Dr. Tracey K. Jones, Jr., is the general secretary.

Fourteen Hendrix men inducted into Blue Key

Fourteen students were inducted into the Hendrix College chapter of Blue Key last week. Blue Key is an honorary leadership organization for male students.

The new inductees include Greg Alagood, a junior from Little Rock; Jack Brodie, a senior from Little Rock; Randal Freeland, a junior from Star City; George Gleason, a sophomore from Dardanelle; Robert Hasley, a senior from Magnolia; Larry Jegley, a senior from Little Rock; Dennis Officer, a senior from Pine Bluff; Mike Kubat, a senior from Arlington, Va.; Nelson Ballard, a senior from Van Buren; Jim Cooley, a senior from Arkadelphia; Newman Fair, a junior from Dermott; Jim Cunningham, a junior from Walnut Ridge; George Spencer, a junior from Pine Bluff, and John Workman, a junior from Little Rock.

They join the three remaining members from last year's group. They are Walter Smith, president and a senior from Nashville; Larry Alexander, vice-president and a senior from Pine Bluff, and Steve Snyder, vice-president and a senior from Camden.

Members are selected on the basis of their grade point averages and leadership abilities.

†

THE REV. SAMPSON TIMS, director of the Council on Ministries of the Oklahoma Indian Mission Conference, was guest speaker at the supper in First United Methodist Church, Fort Smith, on Oct. 14. The meeting was sponsored by the Commission on Missions.

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY AT NEW LIFE HOUSE

The Arkansas Guidance Foundation will hold Open House at its residence home for boys, the New Life House, Sunday afternoon, Nov. 4 from two until six o'clock. The address is 1103 Reservoir Road, Little Rock. The Rev. Eugene Efird is director of the Guidance Foundation, and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie McCullough are house parents.

†

OSCEOLA UNITED METHODIST Men will hold their annual spaghetti dinner on Friday, Nov. 2. The meal is prepared and served by the men of the church.

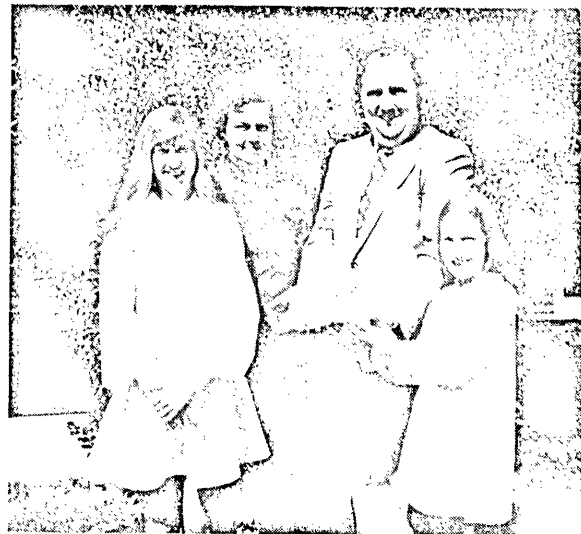
THE NEW SENIOR HIGH UMY officers at Vantrease United Methodist Church, El Dorado, are Alan Avery, president; Rusty Novack, vice-president; Lucy Self, secretary; and Debbie Rogers, treasurer. The counselors are Mr. and Mrs. Charles Huskey and John Smith. The Rev. James H. Shaddox, is their pastor.

AN "ECUMENICAL CHORAL Festival of Psalms" was presented in First United Methodist Church of El Dorado on Sunday evening, Oct. 21. The choirs of First Baptist, First Presbyterian, First United Methodist, and the high school were combined under the direction of Kay Eanes, James Foxx and Gordon Betenbaugh. Organists were James Works and Helen Betenbaugh.

THE OVER SIXTY CLUB of Grand Avenue Church, Hot Springs, made a trip to Wilhelmina State Park on Thursday, Oct. 18.

Marvin Gaither of Batesville, an associate lay leader in the North Arkansas Conference was the speaker for the Laity Day observance at Bull Shoals United Methodist Church. He is shown here with his family and a cake baked and presented to them by Mrs. Don Hale. The Rev. George R. Cleary is pastor at Bull Shoals.

†



REV. BILLY BARGER

The Rev. Billy Bob Barger, 50, of 720 Herndon Road, Little Rock, a United Methodist minister, died Wednesday, Oct. 24.

He was former pastor of the United Methodist Church of Roland and the St. Mark United Methodist Church of Little Rock. He was a licensed ham radio operator in public service for 25 years, retired postal clerk of Little Rock and a veteran of World War II and the Korean War.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Betty Joe Dillie Barger; a son, Roger Barger of North Little Rock; a daughter, Miss Darlene Barger of Little Rock; his mother, Mrs. Ava Barger of North Little Rock; five brothers, Pershing Barger of Little Rock, Norman Barger and John Barger, both of North Little Rock, Forest Barger of Texas and Albert Barger of Jacksonville and a grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted at the First United Methodist Church at North Little Rock with the Rev. Earl Carter officiating. Burial was in Edgewood Memorial Park.

†

MRS. J. C. VAN HORN

Mrs. Winnie L. Van Horn, wife of the late Rev. J. C. Van Horn, died Wednesday, Oct. 10, 1973 at Malvern, Ark., in the Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital. Mrs. Van Horn had been in ill health for about a year.

Mrs. Van Horn was born May 29, 1900 at Bonnerdale, Ark., the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Riley Rowe; she is survived by two sons, James Archie Van Horn of Malvern and Palmer L. Van Horn of Tucson, Ariz., and one daughter, Mrs. James Turner of Malvern; seven brothers, F. L. Rowe of Fresno, Calif.; Olen Rowe of Fresno, Calif.; Theodore Rowe of Houston, Tex.; Norval Rowe of Ada, Okla.; Homer Rowe of Midland, Tex.; Estes Rowe of San Diego, Calif.; Dr. L. V. Rowe of Hot Springs, four sisters, Mrs. Pauline Buck of Farmersville, Calif.; Mrs. Nettie Taylor of Fresno, Calif.; Mrs. Laverne Buttrum of Phoenix, Ariz.; Mrs. Juanita Wright of Deming, N. M.; nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Van Horn was active in the work of the local churches where her husband served as pastor.

She was a member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Malvern.

†

Poetry Panorama

by barbara mulkey

In "Thoughts Afield", Harold E. Kohn writes... "When I look around me on the natural world I am impressed with the realization that everything I see once existed only in the realm of possibility."

Why Nature Sleeps

How beautiful the mountains are today
With shades of purple looming into view.
Fall greets me merrily along the way
With crispy air and sky its brightest blue.
I've wandered through the hills of this great land,
Observed the beauteous wonders from abroad;
But here as autumn nears I understand
Why nature sleeps in winter, and applaud.
We burst with life while very young and new.
We scurry here and there like playful clowns.
We live our springs and summers all too few,
Then soon get tired and wear the wrinkled frowns.
Like withered leaves we all descend to earth
And rest there to await our great rebirth.

-JoAnn Selig Smith

How Rich God Is In Patterns

I sit and listen to leaf fall,
And catch the autumn-leaf perfume;
And hear the wind passing through tree tops.
It takes occasional gusts...
Then sits down to rest... as I do.

I watch the clouds...
They are like ships going to sea.
Where they are going
... with their slow step
... I do not know.
Only that they are taking their time.

I love clouds.
Today... any one would love them.
They are so high... gauzy... ethereal.
Each one in all the fleecy multitudes
... has a new fleeting loveliness.
God loans them one divine form...
and that for only a moment.
Then changes it to another.

How rich God is in patterns... which
... neither tapestries nor lace
Can ever hope to emulate.

-Tom J. Love

WANTED

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My task this morning is an awesome one when you consider that I share this platform with the Conference Lay Leader (Henry Rainwater), the teacher of my Church School class in Paragould, (Bob Branch), and the Conference Youth President (Tom McDonald). Add to that the fact that as a woman, I represent over one-half the membership of the church, some sources say 55 per cent are women, others 51 per cent, either way, over half. With this responsibility you can see why I would rather be out there where you are or safely in my pew at Paragould.

But I am here because I believe that your church and your leaders are right to involve the total laity on this day and because I agree with the theme of the day, "Called Together" to do God's work in the Church.

There are two things I want to say about the women's part in this "called together" business. First of all, the "called together" Church will accord to women the degree of dignity and personal worth that is the Biblical heritage of every human being.

The spirit of the New Testament is a testimonial to the importance and worth of the individual, including women. Jesus came into an atmosphere saturated with the idea of the subordination of women. Yet, He encountered the woman of Samaria at the well and the disciples marvelled that he was talking to a woman! That wasn't done! But Jesus did it.

In the story of Mary and Martha much more is involved than just leaving the work in the kitchen for a while to study scriptures. The significance is that a **woman**, contrary to the custom of the day, could receive theological instruction.

Jesus talked freely with women, he healed women, he held individual women in firm friendship and high honor. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus' attitude toward women makes it clear that for him there was no "second sex."

As a result of this attitude women played a vital

'Called Together' to Do God's Work in the Church

by
Mrs. Ben F. Jordan
Paragould

The following address is a Laity Day presentation given at First Church, Walnut Ridge, of which the Rev. W. C. Halton is pastor. Other presentations were made by a lay youth and a lay man.

role in the early Church. But, somewhere along the way something went wrong. Through the years, at the same time the Church was declaring the equality of all persons before God, it was denying women a place in its leadership — especially in regard to its ordained ministers and its major policy-making agencies.

Today — things are changing! The first step came with the ordination of women in the ministry. The second step came with the action of the General Conference in 1972 that was ratified last June by the North Arkansas Conference when the Church declared that women should be represented on committees and decreed a change in terminology from that of male dominance to that of person-centeredness. We now say **Chairperson** — not **Chairman**. We say **Laity** not **Laymen**.

Now terminology might not seem so important — women know they are included (to a degree) in the "brotherhood of man" — but with the change in terminology has come a change in attitude. Suddenly, in the Church, women's rights are no longer a comic diversion from its serious business but a part of that serious business.

The dignity and personal worth of women, and

I hope all persons, is becoming reality.

The second point I want to make is that the "called together" Church will allow and encourage all persons to develop their full potential under God. Now what does this mean?

It means that women in Church and society will run the risk of involvement rather than staying safely in stereotyped roles. We will voice our own opinions in committees rather than speaking through our husbands, thus freeing the men to develop their full potential.

It means that couples will form consciousness-raising groups to explore avenues of better understanding in human relations.

It means that the Church will recruit and utilize persons according to their **talents** — not sex or age.

In a local church recently there was a couple both of whom were professors in College. One was a professor of economics and logically a treasurer or financial advisor to several civic organizations. The other was a biologist and a person who especially loved children.

How did the Church use this couple's talents? The economist was asked to teach a children's church school class and the biologist who loved children was put on the finance committee.

Why? Because the economist was a woman and the biologist a man and it just wasn't the thing to do to put a woman on the finance committee or a man in a children's classroom. You see the church has gotten away from the Biblical rootage of the use of talents and gone into the business of stereotyping.

We will always need groups of Methodist Men, Methodist Women, and Methodist Youth for many important reasons — but for the priorities to which God calls us in the Church, we are all in this business together, using our talents to the fullest.

As with Paul, we are neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, but "called together."

†

National Black College Gospel Festival planned

ATLANTA, Ga. (UMC)—The first of what is hoped will be an annual "National Black College Gospel Festival" will be held here Thanksgiving weekend at the Booker T. Washington Gymnasium.

Black gospel choirs from several of the 12 United Methodist black colleges as well as gospel choirs from several other black colleges have been invited to participate.

Sponsors for the event include the United Methodist Board of Discipleship's Division of Evangelism, Wor-

ship and Stewardship, the Board of Higher Education and Ministry Department of Campus Ministry, the United Methodist Black College Fund, and two ecumenical groups to which United Methodism is related: Ministries to Blacks in Higher Education and United Ministries in Higher Education.

The festival will begin on Friday, Nov. 23, and will continue through Saturday.

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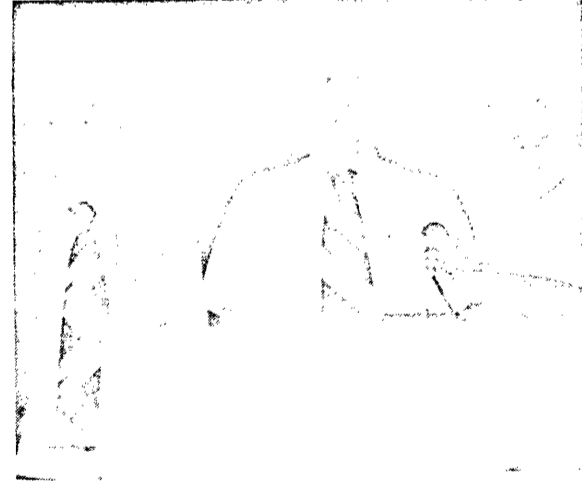
Dr. Myers Curtis (right), director of the North Arkansas Council on Ministries, was the speaker for the Oct. 19 Appreciation Dinner honoring Central Church (Rogers) church school teachers and workers. Shown with him (left to right) are: FRONT — Mrs. Ronald Boyer, Work Area on Education chairperson; Leon Warren, church organist and a member of the Council on Ministries; Mrs. Warren; BACK — Ronald Sawyer, and the Rev. William Connell, pastor.



Laity Day leaders for morning worship at Shiloh United Methodist Church were (left to right) Jerry Edrington, who presided, Faustina Ford, Don Haler, and Farrell Faulkner, speakers.



Shiloh and Christ United churches celebrated Laity Day together with a family fish fry which included fishburgers and hot dogs.



Participants in the Laity Day evening service at Shiloh were (left to right) Ransom Walker, a speaker; Dillman Cupp, leader; and Bill Keasler, youth speaker.