



To Lead Church And Society Workshop

Dr. Earnest A. Smith (right), associate general secretary of the Board of Church and Society, Washington, D.C., will be chief resource leader for the workshop on "The Church and Society" at Hendrix College Feb. 14-15. Ms. Ruth Hargraves, program coordinator of the Board's Department of Drug and Alcohol Concerns will be among other leaders in the North Arkansas Conference event. (See related story and registration blank on page two.)



Arkansas Methodist

Arkansas United Methodism's Newsweekly

Little Rock, Arkansas, Thursday, January 30, 1975

94th Year, No. 5



Asbury To Dedicate Church

Asbury United Methodist Church, 1215 Schiller Avenue, Little Rock, will celebrate with a Service of Dedication Sunday, Feb. 9th. Bishop Eugene M. Frank will preach at the 10:40 a.m. worship service and will officiate at the dedication assisted by Little Rock District Superintendent, Dr. J. Edward Dunlap and Asbury Pastor, the Rev. Fred H. Arnold. An open house will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Other United Methodists are invited to join in the celebration.

R. E. Miller to head Hendrix campaign

Robert E. Miller of Fort Smith has been selected general chairman of the 1974-75 Hendrix College Parents Campaign.

Miller, whose son Mike is a senior at Hendrix, will direct efforts to secure \$29,000 for the College in the next five months. Last year the campaign raised \$25,000.

Students pay only 56 per cent of the cost of their education at Hendrix, and the parents campaign provides a portion of the funds needed to meet current operating expenses. "Hendrix tuition charges are far below the national average for private colleges," stated Miller.

"We are asking that parents examine their personal charitable giving and consider the possibility of contributing to the quality of their children's education by making donations over and above the tuition expense."

The parents campaign was initiated at Hendrix in 1971, and under the leadership of Cecil Cupp of Hot Springs, over \$17,000 was raised.

Miller is an active partner in the management of Tennex Oil Company, Cumberland Petroleum Corporation, Eland Oil Company and Bison Oil Company. He is a member of the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce and the City National Bank advisory board and is a



Mr. Miller

past president of the board of directors of the Roger Bost School for Limited Children.

As a member of Hendricks Hills United Methodist Church, Miller has served as chairperson of the administrative board, chairperson of the board of trustees, lay leader and as a church school teacher. He is currently serving as stewardship chairperson.

Training offered for local church leaders

A series of district workshops for the training of local church officers has begun in the North Arkansas Conference. Sponsored by the Conference Council on Ministries in cooperation with the District Council on Ministries in each of the seven districts of the Conference, the workshops will provide training for most categories of local church responsibility areas.

The Conway District events were held Jan. 28 at North Little Rock and Jan. 29 at Russellville. The schedule calls for two workshops to be held in each of the districts, with the exception of Paragould which will have three and Fort Smith which will have one. The events begin at 7 p.m. and adjourn at 9.

Local church responsibility areas for which there will be training at the sessions are: Council on Ministries, Administrative Board, Pastor-Parish Relations, Charge Lay Leader, United Methodist Men; United Methodist Women and the Role of Women in the Local Church.

Others are: Worship, Evangelism, Missions, Stewardship and Finance, Education, Church and Society and Christian Unity and Inter-Religion Affairs.

Dates and places for the workshops are:

Jonesboro District: Marked Tree, Feb. 24; Jonesboro First Church, Feb. 25.

Batesville District: Melbourne First Church, Feb. 26; Searcy First Church, Feb. 27.

Forrest City District: Wynne First Church, Mar. 4; Marianna First Church, Mar. 5.

Fayetteville District: Harrison First Church, Mar. 6; Fayetteville Central, Mar. 7.

Paragould District: Paragould First Church, Mar. 17; Walnut Ridge First Church, Mar. 18; and Newport First Church, Mar. 19.

Fort Smith District: Fort Smith First Church, Mar. 31.

MINISTERS' WEEK REMINDER

The 40th annual Ministers' Week at Perkins School of Theology, SMU, will be held Feb. 3-6 at Dallas. The event includes three lecture series, a Church Music Workshop, a meeting of the Christian Educators Fellowship and related workshops.

The opening Festival will be at 7 p.m. in McFarlin Memorial Auditorium with the first lecture at 8 p.m.

The annual Arkansas Ministerial Students Dinner will be held Tuesday at 5:30 in Seelman Lounge. The Little Rock and North Arkansas Conference groups will be meeting together this year. All Arkansas pastors are welcome to attend and should check for ticket arrangements upon arrival at Dallas.

A full report of the week's events may be found in the issue of last Dec. 19.



Aldersgate Board Presidents — New And Past

New Aldersgate Board chairperson, Jo (Mrs. W. E. "Buddy") Arnold, of North Little Rock, presents plaque to out-going chairperson Ed Wimberly of Little Rock. The plaque, given in appreciation of Wimberly's service to the camp, was presented at the board's Annual Meeting Jan. 16, held at Pulaski Heights Church, Little Rock. (See related pictures on page twelve, regular issue.)

Social issues workshop to feature national, state leaders

A two-day workshop on "The Church and Society" will be held Feb. 14-15 at Hendrix College, Conway. Sponsored by the Council on Ministries and the Board of Church and Society of the North Arkansas Conference, the purpose of the event is "To sensitize United Methodists to the issues — social, economic, ecological, political — that challenge society today; and the Church's response to, and resources for, meeting these concerns."

General resource leader for the event will be Dr. Earnest A. Smith of Washington, D.C., associate general secretary of the Board of Church and Society. Prior to his present position as head of the Division of Human Relations of that board, Dr. Smith was for ten years president of Rust College, Holly Springs, Miss.

The workshop will offer small group examination of five major areas of concern, each led by widely-known authorities. These major areas, their leaders and specific concerns are:

Drugs and Alcohol — Ms. Ruth Hargraves of Washington, D.C., program coordinator for the Department of Drug and Alcohol Concerns of the Board of Church and Society. Concerns: education, rehabilitation, legislation, and maintenance programs.

Population and Poverty — Dr. Roger Bost of Little Rock, director of the state's Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services. Concerns:

hunger, welfare, emerging nations, abortion, euthanasia and economics.

Interpersonal and Group Relations — Mr. Elijah Coleman, area coordinator, Voter Education Project and part-time lecturer in Black History at Philander Smith College. Concerns: human relations, liberation, generation gap and family life.

Ecology — Dr. Cecil McDermott, chairman of the Department of Mathematics and Dr. G. Thomas Clark, associate professor of Biology, both of Hendrix College. Concerns: exploitation of natural resources, energy, pollution, and balance of nature.

The Christian's Responsibility and Politics — Mr. Robert Sarver, assistant professor, Graduate School of Social Work, UALR. Concerns: abuse of

power, legislation, lobbying, and the work of the General Board of Church and Society.

The following local church persons are encouraged to participate in the workshop: chairperson of Church and Society (Social Concerns), other members of the Council on Ministries, college students, church school teachers and leaders, UMW and UMM members and "any other persons interested in developing helping skills within the local church."

The session begins at 6 p.m. Friday and will conclude by 4:30 Saturday afternoon.

The registration fee is \$5 per person; motel room and meals extra. Lodging arrangements must be made by participants. Registration form (below) should be sent to Dr. Myers B. Curtis, North Arkansas Conference, 715 Center St., Little Rock, Ark. 72201.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Church _____

District _____

FEE ENCLOSED \$ _____

On rattling the plowshares . . . What response to threats of war?

S word rattling is frightening no matter from where it comes. It is especially so when even the slightest "clank" of the aggressor's dagger is detected in our own armory or hinted by our own leaders.

It's not that such talk just plain scares us — though it does and should. It's that even the suggestion of such a posture is so utterly contrary to what we would like to believe is still our national self-image. Sword rattling is something the American public has never tolerated — at least knowingly. Other countries might make a national policy of such, but not the USA!

In spite of the fact that in Vietnam we lost a large share of whatever military innocence we might have ever possessed, we can still properly claim that when we have had to fight a war, it has been as defendants and not as aggressors. The slightest hint that we would be the initiators of military aggression ought to be met with an overwhelming popular reaction: No! Never!

Such a role — that of the intentional military aggressor — has been repugnant to our national sense of morality. And that moral sensitivity, in spite of ample reason for it to be otherwise, is not only still very much alive but is, gratefully, showing significant indications that its health is improving. It had better be if it is to cope with the mounting pressures it is to receive in this war-endangered world.

Grim reminders

Consider recent events:

- Remarks from our President and Secretary of State that the use of force by the U.S. in the Middle East could not be ruled out.
- The growing acceptance of consideration of aggressive military intervention by the U.S. in the Middle East.

Several proposals are being made by responsible people that immediate aggressive military intervention by the U.S. is "the only answer" to ending the oil cartel which has such serious consequences to the West. (Example: an article in the Jan. 25 issue of *The National Observer*, by Johns Hopkins University Professor R. W. Tucker, entitled "An Argument for U.S. Invasion in the Mideast," is a frightening, unreal proposal, seemingly made in all seriousness.)

We are witnessing the beginnings of a softening-up process, aimed at making such unbelievable proposals acceptable to the American public.

- The flaring up of the unfinished war in southeast Asia, with indications that the U.S. has been far more involved than we have realized in violations of the Paris Peace Agreement of two years ago.
- The prospect of renewed and increased aid to Vietnam.

Such circumstances are grim reminders of just how delicate are the times; how fuel-hunger and greed and desperation could very easily precipitate a new war.

Needed: Christians who "cop in"

So what does all this mean to persons of faith? Plenty!

It means that rather than giving way to the gloom and despair of such harsh realities, we search out and practice as never before what it means to be followers of the Prince of Peace and what his way, the way of peace, means to such a time.

To those worldly realists who look for "bolder" answers, such a response may sound naive, even a cop out. To these we would simply say: "It's not our idea; it's You Know Whose."

To be sure, the issues are complex, the answers will not be easy, and the solutions will not come without considerable sacrifice. But one thing we can know: while the swords are being rattled, we must "rattle louder" the plowshares!

We must think and do and "be" those things that make for peace.

†

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Manager John S. Workman
Associate Editor Doris Woolard
Editorial Assistant and
Bookkeeper Karen Compton
Office Secretary Kathleen Storey
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Poetry Editor Barbara L. Mulkey
Contributing

Editors Alf A. Eason
R. O. Beck
Myers B. Curtis
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sparrow's fall

a recollection from childhood

Although childhood memories, for the most part, are of happy experiences, there are events which are unpleasant to recall.

One such in my own childhood was when, in my first experience with a BB gun, I killed a sparrow.

Dimmed by some 40 years' distance the event remains in my memory — although as a hazy, silent, slow motion drama; a tragicomedy relived through the out-of-focus lense of memory, through which facts and illusions are filtered to produce an unreal fantasy.

Summer. Hot, dry. A gentle breeze.

The high grass in the field back of the parsonage in Fayetteville, Arkansas rustles, Africa-like.

The tree. The bird, seen through the peep sight down the long barrel of the gun.

The conflict of wanting to shoot but hoping to miss.

The shot.

The bird flying, flying — the relief of having missed!

But then the bird falling, falling, falling.

And that strange mixture of emotions:

'pride' at having not missed;
then the pain, the hurt — the hated hurt — of having hit.

The anguished, futile desperation of wanting to undo it all — to see the bird fly again . . .

I held in my hand the bird I had killed.

Warm.

Like the summer sun.

In recalling this I must acknowledge that my memory has been kind to me by not letting me forget.

And it has served me by demanding that I examine just what it was, and is, in that far-removed event — which some would call a totally inconsequential happening — that has dimensions as vast as the universe and as unfathomable as the mind of God.

.....

God grant that as adults we might feel toward one another what as little, innocent children we felt toward the birds of the air.

†

Off the Top of the Head

Slip knot (or slip not)

Being a service institution, we try to help people. That's why before printing it we corrected the following item, sent to us just this way (names omitted by us, of course):

"Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. So-and-so who were untied in marriage on December . Mrs. What's-her-name is formerly blank-blank."

Now — several observations seem appropriate, just two of which I think I'll mention. First, I knew that at my own wedding I sort of came apart, but it had not yet occurred to me that what had happened was that I got "un-tied." I'd always thought of it as being sorta the other way around.

And second: If this couple were untied by the ceremony, the lady who now thinks she is Mrs. What's-her-name is still Miss blank-blank and somebody better get the word to her fast.

It also occurs to me that had we not really been on our toes down here at the paper we could have corrected the mistake in this fashion:

"Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. So-and-so who were tied up in marriage on . . ." etc., etc.

So you see we do manage to do some things right around here.

Anyway, best wishes to the happy couple. Knowing the preacher who did the uniting, I'll bet he got them all tied up good and proper.

†

JSW



Task Force On Junior High Ministries

Dr. John W. Gattis, third from right, of the Board of Discipleship in Nashville, Tenn., was the resource person for a task force meeting in Paragould District on Jan. 20-21. Meeting at First United Methodist Church, Paragould, the group made a study of the educational program for junior high youth. Dr. Gattis, who is director of Educational Ministries with Junior Highs, led the task force in making and setting goals and priorities for the future.

Open dates for Alcohol-Narcotic Education programs

Mr. Alan T. Tucker, educational assistant for the Christian Civic Foundation, will present the Alcohol-Narcotics Education Program at the following schools during February:

Mon. Feb. 3 — Rural Dale.
Tues. Feb. 4 — Glenwood.
Wed. Feb. 5 — Delight and Dierks.
Thurs. Feb. 6 — Ashdown.
Tues. Feb. 11 — Fordyce P.T.A.
Fri. Feb. 14 — Village.
Mon. Feb. 17 — Magnolia HS.
Wed. Feb. 19 — Willisville.
Fri. Feb. 21 — Nashville HS.
Tues. Feb. 25 — Arkadelphia, Peake Middle.

Anyone wishing to have Mr. Tucker speak at their church, club or other group is invited to contact the Founda-

EMPHASIS ON VOLUNTEER SERVICE AT GARDNER MEMORIAL

During the month of January members of Gardner Memorial Church, North Little Rock, have discovered through a series of programs sponsored by the Social Concerns Work Area of that church, numerous areas in their community where volunteer service is needed.

Through the six Sunday and Wednesday evening programs the congregation has heard of the following volunteer opportunities:

At the beginning session, Mrs. Grace Bond, administrator for Riley's Oak Hill Manor, spoke of the need for volunteer workers at that nursing home. Other presentations have been made by Mrs. Doris Fulton, president of the volunteers at Memorial Hospital, North Little Rock; Mrs. Evelyn Graham, director of Central Services, spoke of services needed to assist the elderly; Mrs. Jean Cook told of volunteer opportunities at the Fort Roots VA Nursing Units; Mr. Jim Wetherington, director of North Little Rock Boys Club, presented areas of service at the club. (Some of the boys are now involved in a tutoring program.)

Pre-publicity for the series urged the membership to "make our church become the Church of Jesus Christ in our society."

tion Office, 1007 Donaghey Building, Little Rock, Ark. 72201, telephone 372-0318.

Hendrix Enrollments For Winter Term Set Record

Enrollment at Hendrix College for the winter term reached an all-time high with the registration on Jan. 2 of 1,032 students.

Typically, American institutions of higher learning lose a vast number of students during the first term. At Hendrix this year, however, 98 per cent of the first-term students returned for the second term.

The September enrollment of 1,058 at Hendrix represented the second largest enrollment in the school's history. In the fall of 1973, 1,061 students enrolled at Hendrix.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE MISSIONS COUNCIL ELECTS OFFICERS

Elected at a recent organizational meeting of the Little Rock Conference Council Board of Missions were: chairperson, Dr. Joe R. Phillips; vice chairperson, the Rev. Palmer Garner; secretary, the Rev. Robert Van Hook II; extension secretary, the Rev. George Tanner; recommended as conference missionary secretary, the Rev. Thomas A. Abney and chairperson for Health and Welfare sub-committee, the Rev. Norris Steele.

CREDIBILITY CORNER

We stated in the Jan. 16 issue of *Arkansas Methodist* on page six that "the Rev. Carl Beard, pastor of the Primrose United Methodist Church," was among Arkansans attending the recent National Council of Evangelism meeting in St. Petersburg, Fla. Mr. Beard is the former pastor of Primrose Church, but was recently assigned to the pastorate of Altheimer United Methodist Church. That congregation presented their pastor with a round-trip airline ticket to the meeting.

Focus on children in '75

Coming to Arkansas to lead curriculum and resource workshops for United Methodism's "1975 Focus on Children," is Miss Evelyn Andre of the editorial division of the Department of Children's Publications in Nashville.

Seventy such workshops, with 24 leaders from the Board of Discipleship, will be leading similar training events in conferences all across the country from January through April. This is the first major emphasis on children, within the denomination, since 1962-64.

Miss Andre is scheduled to meet with District Teams of the Little Rock Conference on Monday, Feb. 10th at Methodist Headquarters in Little Rock at 9:30 a.m. in the Friendly Couples classroom.

On Tuesday, Feb. 11th, Miss Andre will lead District Teams from the North Arkansas Conference in a similar workshop at Headquarters and at the same hour.

District Teams are to include the district superintendent, the district coordinator of children's ministries, along with four to six persons recruited from each district.

These meetings are designed to train District Teams who will in turn serve as consultants and/or give leadership for district meetings and Cluster groups.

Conference directors of children's



Miss Andre

work will also be present. Mrs. John L. Tucker of the Council on Ministries staff of the Little Rock Conference coordinates Children's Ministries in that conference. Mrs. Jim Beal of Newport is the coordinator of Children's Ministries in the North Arkansas Conference.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Rev. Ronn Kerr, a staff executive of the Board of Discipleship and predecessor agencies for nine years, left the board Dec. 31 to become an independent evangelist, free-lance writer, artist, and communications consultant.

Council Directors to Local Churches

'Miracles Do Happen'

The United Methodist Committee on Relief, from its inception 34 years ago, has been an agency centered around a ministry of caring for people — in the name of Jesus Christ. UMCOR, a division of the Board of Global Ministries, has helped provide a way for United Methodists to give and share with a world of people in need.

"Miracles Do Happen," is the theme for the 1975 One Great Hour of Sharing observance. Your gifts to UMCOR through the One Great Hour of Sharing, offering on March 9 can help miracles happen.

The world today is in trouble. Most of its people hurt — with hunger, disease, homelessness, despair. You may think there isn't much you can do about it. But you can! Miracles happen every day as a result of gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing. If you haven't played a part in these miracles you can begin now.

Again this past year millions of people — black, brown and white — have been affected by terrible natural catastrophes: the hurricane in Central America; a typhoon in Taiwan; floods in Bolivia, Brazil, Syria, Burma, Bangladesh, Chile, India and the Philippines; an earthquake in Indonesia; and famine, which threatens millions in Latin America, much of Africa, India, Bangladesh and Southeast Asia.

Your gifts have enabled UMCOR, working cooperatively with 31 other denominations through Church World Service, to aid five million people in 55 countries last year. UMCOR depends upon the One Great Hour of Sharing

offering for one-half of its annual resources.

Individually, we can do little in the face of the gigantic needs of people the world over. But collectively we can. One single hand held out to suffering humanity can be willing, but inadequate. Millions of hands held out together can help make miracles happen. Be generous with your gifts on March 9! What do you need to successfully accomplish the goals for One Great Hour of Sharing in your local church?

1. Council on Ministries should discuss the general planning and make assignments. Give this offering an all-church priority.

2. Check the list of materials under "Resources" (in the mailing received by your church) and place your order immediately.

3. It will help alert your members to this special day if you put brief announcements in your church bulletins ahead of March 9.

4. Offering envelopes are available, both for mailing and for distribution in church on Sunday, March 9.

5. Consider using minutemen and women speakers on March 9 and for two or three Sundays preceding this date.

All materials for the observance of this special day are to be ordered on the blank received in the mailing to your church. The completed order blank is to be mailed to: United Methodist Communications, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, Ill. 60201.

NEWS and opinion

summary by Doris Woolard



Transmission of funds to the Korean Methodist Church has been suspended temporarily by the World Division of The United Methodist Church Board of Global Ministries because of a split within the Asian denomination. Each of two groups claims to be the Korean Methodist Church. A "moratorium" on monthly installments, of a total of \$142,500 budgeted for 1975, was put into effect in early January. A contingency fund of more than \$44,000 for project funding has not been affected since that money is allocated on an "as needed" basis rather than a monthly schedule. Dr. Lois Miller, chief executive of the division, said the freeze would continue only until officials of the board can ascertain the facts.

Dr. J. Morgan Johnson, an educator, and Dr. Rosalie Johnson, a physician, are the third United Methodist missionary couple or family to be barred from working in southern Rhodesia by the Ian Smith government in less than two years. They were given 30 days to leave, according to a cable, dated Jan. 16 and sent to the Board of Global Ministries in New York.

In an open letter to President Ford the world hunger task force of the Presbyterian Church, U.S. (Southern) said: "We are convinced that now, as never before, there must be a commitment from every segment of our society — public and private, government, economic, humanitarian — to focus resources upon both meeting the immediate critical need and working for long-range solutions to the deep-seated causes of the present world food crisis."

Representatives of religious and labor bodies attending a Conference on Occupational Health in Airlie, Va., adopted a resolution pledging to work jointly toward the elimination of occupational diseases and health hazards. The event was co-sponsored by the United Church of Christ Board for Homeland Ministries and the Industrial Union Department of the AFL-CIO.

The relationship of maleness to femaleness is the largest ethical issue facing the Christian Church, according to Dr. Lloyd Svendsbye, recently installed president of the nation's largest Lutheran seminary. In his inaugural address at Luther Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., Dr. Svendsbye said it was an issue for liberals and conservatives, for people of all income levels and vocations, for all races and for people on all continents.

Louisianans involved in a public opinion poll in December revealed an overwhelming feeling that penalties for possession of marijuana for personal use should not be abolished. The survey of more than 1,000 voters, conducted by the Dallas, Texas firm of Louis, Bowles and Grove, Inc., on behalf of two daily newspapers in Baton Rouge, indicated that only about one in five favored doing away with marijuana possession penalties.

Dr. David W. Preus, president of the American Lutheran Church, told a group of college presidents and educators of his denomination that the church does not want colleges to be a "neutral place for neutral people," but rather to be "open, exciting, free, disciplined communities of unashamed disciples of Christ . . . people whose faith precludes worry about God being undone by human inquiry."

An editorial in the Mormon periodical, Church News, comments that "legislative hearings and debate (on the proposed Equal Rights Amendment) will doubtless produce millions of words uttered on both sides with much emotion. But all of this will not change the fact that men and women are different, made so by a Divine Creator. Each has his or her role. One is incomplete without the other."

Dr. Arthur S. Flemming, U.S. Commissioner on Aging, addressing a meeting on The Church and the Elderly, criticized compulsory retirement in government and private business, describing it as "agism" in today's society. He said, "We are passing over an opportunity for utilizing older persons in life solely because they are older. They can make a unique contribution to our society."

Argentinian evangelist Louis Palau, often described as the "Billy Graham of South America," said in an interview during a lecture tour in the New York state area that a moral and spiritual revival is underway in Latin America. Citing numerous evidences, he said the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Lima, Peru, recently sponsored the distribution of more than 500,000 copies of the New Testament to school children and military personnel there. In Bolivia, "The Living Bible" is planned for use as a textbook in all government schools for the next three years.

Canon Burgess Carr, general secretary of the All Africa Conference of Churches, based in Nairobi, Kenya, praised the efforts of U.S. religious groups in opposing U.S. business practices that bolster "racist and colonial regimes" in southern Africa. Canon Carr made his statement at a New York press conference during which representatives of the Church Project on U.S. Investment in Southern Africa announced a series of stockholder challenges against seven U.S. corporations doing business in that country.

Three officials of the Church of the Brethren general board staff will, by invitation, direct a leadership seminar in New Delhi with 20 bishops of the Church of North India, under joint sponsorship with the Church of North India. Sessions will cover human relations, organizational development, management and budgeting.

Orthodox Jewish leaders have expressed full support for concerted action to root out alleged corruption in the nursing home industry and to improve facilities for care of the aged. In a statement, the Orthodox body urged "that we heed the cry of the aged in their loneliness and despair, and that we safeguard them from the indignity and pains resulting from indifference and negligence."

In a precedent-shattering move, Pope Paul has accepted the nomination of a woman, Bernadette Olowo, as an ambassador to the Vatican. The pontiff agreed to receive the credentials of 27-year-old Miss Olowo, named by President Idi Amin as Uganda's envoy to the Holy See. Miss Olowo, a secretary in Uganda's embassy in Bonn, will also serve as Ambassador to West Germany.



President Ford Attends Congressional Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Gerald Ford is greeted by the Rev. Louis H. Evans, Jr. (left), pastor, and the Rev. Robert C. Lamar (right), moderator of the United Presbyterian Church's General Assembly, after attending the 29th annual "Service of Intercession and Holy Communion in connection with the

Convening of the Congress" at Washington's National Presbyterian Church. It was the first time in several years that a Chief Executive has attended this service, former President Nixon never having done so while in the White House (although he did several times as Vice President) —RNS Photo

News from the churches

THE REV. HAROLD SPENCE, Fayetteville District superintendent, was the guest speaker for the January meeting of United Methodist Men of First United Methodist Church, Bentonville.

THE REV. LARRY POWELL, pastor of Cavanaugh United Methodist Church, Fort Smith, is teaching a course at Westark Community College. The course, entitled Survey of the New Testament, is taught on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

THE REV. BEN JORDAN, Paragould District superintendent, was the revival speaker in Griffin Memorial United Methodist Church, Paragould, Jan. 10-12. The Rev. Joe Linam is pastor.

CENTRAL United Methodist Church, Rogers, is participating in a Meals for Senior Citizens program which is being co-sponsored by several Rogers area churches and the local Office of Human Concerns. St. Andrews Episcopal Church is the host church for the Wednesday noon meals.

DONALD HUENEFELD, lay leader in First Church, Augusta, presented the message on Sunday, Jan. 19.



Church School Teacher Receives Love Gift

Dr. David N. Miles, for 10 years teacher of Friendship Circle Class, First Church Blytheville, receives a gift of \$2,000 from Class President Billy Joe Nelson, to be used for a trip to the Holy Land. The class sponsored a series of money-making events during the fall to finance the trip.

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DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Below is a schedule for the Daily Bible Readings, which the Board of Discipleship invites you to use as a regular guide in your homes.

Feb. 2—Sunday I Cor. 1:26-31
Feb. 3 Jonah 3:1-5
Feb. 4 Jer. 1:4-8
Feb. 5 Luke 4:16-19
Feb. 6 Gal. 5:4-8
Feb. 7 Mark 9:33-37
Feb. 8 Psalm 16:1-11
Feb. 9—Sunday Matt. 5:13-16

A HANDBELL/CHOIR ROBE Dedication Concert was held at First United Methodist Church, Searcy, Sunday, Jan. 19. Three handbell choirs and two children's choirs performed at the service. Dr. J. Ralph Clayton, pastor, conducted the dedication ceremony. The robes were purchased with the proceeds from a choir robe benefit concert held last year. The handbells were made possible through the Mrs. B. A. Rand Memorial Fund. Monty Bell is director of music, and Mrs. Jim B. Jones and Mrs. Marsha Koch are directors of the children's choirs.

CAROL SMELLEY of Youth Homes, Inc., was a recent guest speaker at Amboy United Methodist Church, North Little Rock, for a Sunday evening potluck supper.

WINFIELD United Methodist Church, Little Rock, is holding an adult series on family life. Featured speakers have included Dr. Woodrow Williams of the Christian Counseling Center and former faculty member at ASU and the U. of A. in Fayetteville, who spoke on Sunday evening, Jan. 19. Mr. Jack Seward of the Family Service Agency of Pulaski County will be the speaker at a later date.

DR. ROBERT GOODLOE, associate professor of religion at Hendrix College, is conducting a four-week discussion on "The Prophets" at First United Methodist Church, Conway. His subjects will be Zephaniah, Nahum and Habakkuk, and the Book of Lamentations. The series began on Sunday evening, Jan. 19 and will continue through Sunday, Feb. 9.

A PROGRAM entitled "Russia and The Church" was presented at a recent family night potluck supper in Midland Heights United Methodist Church, Fort Smith, by Mrs. Wilbur Sterling, layperson of the congregation.

DR. CHARLES KEMP of the Children's Clinic, Jonesboro, was the first speaker in a series of Sunday-at-Six Services being held at First United Methodist Church, Jonesboro. The theme of the series, which began Jan. 19, is Christians In Important Vocations.

THE REV. JOHN S. WORKMAN, editor of *Arkansas Methodist*, was the pulpit guest at Fairview United Methodist Church, Camden, on Sunday, Jan. 19.

MARK MILLER, student at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville and quarterback of the Razorback football team, was the Student Recognition Day speaker at First Church, Augusta. He was assisted by Carol Ann Kittrell, Sam Beard, Ann Huenefeld, and Cheryl Wedgeworth.

HILTON MCDONALD spoke at Emmet United Methodist Church on Student Recognition Day, with Rooney Warren, Kathy Whetstone, Robert Paul and Steve Hill assisting. Donna Grimes presented the sermon at Midway Church. Both churches are on the Emmet Charge in Hope District; the Rev. A. J. Lightfoot is pastor.



Louisiana Pastor Preaches at Texarkana

Dr. D. L. Dykes, left, pastor of First Church, Shreveport, and Bill Mann, song leader, second from left, led in a preaching series at First Church, Texarkana, Jan. 12-15. Shown with them, left to right, are the Rev. Connie A. Robbins of the Little Rock Conference, Mr. Jeff Stewart, Shreveport layman, and Dr. Edwin B. Dodson, pastor at First Church, Texarkana.

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AN EIGHT-SESSION study of the book *Born To Win* will be led at Trinity United Methodist Church, Little Rock, by Dr. Travis Tunnell, beginning Jan. 26th. The Sunday evening transactional analysis series will conclude on March 16th. Sessions are scheduled for 7-8:30 p.m. Fees collected from registrants in the course will be used to help equip Trinity's new youth building which will be ready for use in a few weeks.

THE FAMILY of the late Earl Whitaker of First Church, Harrisburg, Ark., has established in his memory The Earl Whitaker Memorial Scholarship Fund for Continuing Pastoral Education, for the purpose of providing the Harrisburg pastor with opportunities to further enrich his life through continuing education. Participants in establishing the fund are Mrs. Earl Whitaker of Harrisburg; Dr. Beverly Whitaker of Austin, Tex., and Dr. John Whitaker of Memphis, Tenn.

MARILYN CROSBY, admissions counselor at Scarritt College, Nashville, Tenn., presented a program on the college in First Church, Benton, on Sunday evening, Jan. 19.

THE SENIOR HIGH YOUTH of Winfield Church, Little Rock, traveled to Marble Falls Ski Resort the weekend of Jan. 24.

THE JUNIOR AND SENIOR HI UMYs of Trinity Church, Little Rock, will hold monthly Craft-Nights to make arts and crafts items for the Aldersgate Fair which has been scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd. The project is under the direction of Mary Turrentine, director of Youth and Adult Ministries.

THE YOUTH of Wesley United Methodist Church, Conway, sponsored a chili supper for the congregation, to raise money for the purchase of items for the kitchen.

OFFICERS elected for United Methodist Women of Keiser United Methodist Church, Jonesboro District, are as follows: Norma Cunningham, president; Lona Crews, vice-president; Mary Oliver, secretary, and Judy Martin, treasurer. The Rev. Lowell Eaton, pastor, installed the women at the morning worship service on Jan. 19.

THE REV. BEN STEPHENS, pastor of Homestead Heights Baptist Church and Chaplain of the Fort Smith Police Department, addressed the January meeting of United Methodist Men in Cavanaugh Church, Fort Smith.

Personalia

GARY WAYNE EDWARDS, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Ray Edwards of Prairie Grove, and Elaine Grigg of Gassville, Ark., were married in Whiteville Baptist Church, Dec. 29, by the father of the groom.

KATHARINE LYNN CLARK, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Clark of Greenwood, was baptized in Greenwood United Methodist Church by her grandfather, the Rev. J. M. Rogers, pastor.



Air Force Chaplain Returns To Home Conference

Lt. Col. Willie B. Walker, recently retired from the U.S. Air Force, has returned to the North Arkansas Conference to serve the pastorate at Bradford. He had served as a pastor to Air Force personnel and their families, not only in the states but in faraway places including Alaska, Japan, Vietnam and other countries. Col. Walker graduated from Hendrix College and attended Perkins School of Theology. Shown with him is Mrs. Walker, a native of Jonesboro. They have two children—a son, Warren, who recently graduated from Hendrix, and a daughter, Melodie, who is presently a student at Hendrix.

Arkansan, Indian educator reunited by unusual events

One day in January of 1972 Miss Rose Visuvasam, head mistress of Balar Kalvi Nilayam (Childrens Education Home) in Madras, India, took time away from her busy duties to serve as hostess to a group of traveling American church members.

The visitors were participants in the Churchmen's Study Tour of India, led by Dr. Carl Soule, retired staff member of the former Board of Missions of The Methodist Church. They had traveled to India to visit Christian ministries related to the church's Board of Global Ministries. And Balar Kalvi Nilayam, a normal school and nursery and kindergarten of outstanding reputation, was one of the most long-standing of such ministries.

The Beginning of an Unusual Venture

Neither Miss Visuvasam nor Mrs. William G. Reese of Little Rock, one of the American visitors, could have known that three years later the two of them would visit again in the Reese's home in Arkansas. Nor could they have imagined the unusual events which would lead to that reunion in Little Rock during Christmas week of 1974.

Interviewed during her visit with the Reeses, who are members of Little Rock's First United Methodist Church, Miss Visuvasam reflected on that 1972 visit in Madras. "Of all the persons on the tour, Mrs. Reese showed the greatest interest in our work," she recalled. "Naturally I was drawn to her."

The Indian educator told of how she had shared with Mrs. Reese the school's plans of developing a special education program, a project that was later to become one of the first in that Indian state to aid educable mentally

retarded children.

She remembered how Mrs. Reese had told of their own daughter's interest in special education and that she was studying in that field in America. The Arkansan volunteered to send to Miss Visuvasam information on how she might pursue the possibility of similar study in the United States.

The eventual outcome was that Miss Visuvasam, who had risen to the office of head mistress at the institution where 20 years ago she began as a nursery school teacher, took a sabbatical year to use in study which would further enrich her beloved school.

Arriving in Boston in June, 1974, Miss Visuvasam immediately began her studies at Peabody College, Nashville, as a Board of Global Ministries Crusade Scholar.

It was at Peabody where she met the Reese's daughter, Mary, who was completing her graduate work there in special education. Their meeting was itself a surprise event, neither realizing their mutual tie until it was discovered in a casual conversation one day.

With the coming of Christmas holidays, time allowed for the Arkansas visit by Miss Visuvasam, thus making the reunion possible.

More About the Madras School and its Head Mistress

Balar Kalvi Nilayam was the first nursery school and the first nursery teacher-training institution in India. Many of the graduates of its teacher-training program have pioneered in establishing nursery schools in villages and in urban industrial areas. That program presently has an enrollment of 27 young women high school graduates. After completing the two-



Miss Visuvasam

year course they may take a government examination for certification as teachers in nursery, kindergarten and primary classes.

Balar Kalvi Nilayam's nursery and kindergarten presently serves over 700 children from ages two-and-one-half to 11. The new special education program serves 41 children, 20 of whom receive resident care.

When asked how she expresses the purpose of the school, Miss Visuvasam says "service" is the key word. "We could very easily cater to the rich and become a self-supporting school. But I find that the middle-income group is the one most in need — homes where both husband and wife are working and the children are neglected. These cannot afford the high tuition and fees often required by other schools. This is one way we feel we can serve the community."

Miss Visuvasam is a "third generation Christian," her grandfather being the first in the family to become a Christian in the predominantly Hindu nation. Her mother died when she was two-and-one-half, and her father, a lawyer, when she was seven. Her brothers and sisters cared for her during her younger years.

"I did not like to work and study then," she recalls. "But after coming to this Methodist school, there was something that really helped me. I have the satisfaction today that I am able to work and serve my own people. This was given to me through the missionaries."

Miss Visuvasam is a graduate of Madras University, where she earned the bachelor of arts degree.

Her current visit to the United States is her second. Her first was in 1966 when she came at the invitation of the Women's Division of the Board of Missions as one of "The Team of Twelve," a group of young women of some seven nationalities who traveled

for six months in the United States speaking and serving in various Methodist projects.

Her current study program will be complete this month. She will then itinerate in several mid-west Annual Conferences, a tour arranged by the Board of Global Ministries. She is hopeful that it will assist in providing much-needed financial aid to the Madras school's varied programs of Christian service.

'The Other Half of the Banana'

Asked how the food shortage was affecting her school, Miss Visuvasam said she had just learned that the price of rice had increased seven times. Along with the increased price, the quantity allowed the school had been decreased. "Never in all these years have they had to do that," she said. "I was very sad as soon as I heard this, because I know how our children enjoy their afternoon food so much. I just couldn't think about it for some time. How could they do it? (reduce the supply). But maybe they're not in a position to give anymore."

When asked what she felt could be done in light of the world hunger problem, she replied "If my neighbor in Bangladesh is having problems, and we can afford at all to give, we must give. We can always share. If you have one banana, you can eat half and give the other half to someone else. We cannot any longer be selfish, because the world has come so close to each other. If it is within our power to do so, we have to do something for others."

And what does Miss Rose Visuvasam see as the major priority for Christians? "If we have true Christian love, then other things will work out. We are so selfish. We have gone so far away from the love that Christ taught us that we are in trouble."

"If we have that love, then so many other things could be worked out."

NOTE: Miss Visuvasam may be addressed at Balar Kalvi Nilayam, 2 Ritherdon Road, Vepery, Madras - 7, India.

the editor



Primary Children In A Shed Classroom

The youngest class in the Nursery at Balar Kalvi Nilayam is for children two-and-one-half years of age. There are also kindergarten and the first five classes of primary school. Early training includes the inculcation of important health habits — rest periods, toilet training, physical exercise, and cleanliness. Religious instruction is an integral part of the program. The children are taught to observe, reason and think, and are given many opportunities for self-expression through art, music, and drama.

Thursday, January 30, 1975

You're Never Too Old To Hear Better

Chicago, Ill.—A free offer of special interest to those who hear but do not understand words has been announced by Beltone. A non-operating model of the smallest Beltone aid ever made will be given absolutely free to anyone requesting it.

Send for this non-operating model now. Wear it in the privacy of your own home to see how tiny hearing help can be. It's yours to keep, free. The actual aid weighs less than a third of an ounce, and it's all at ear level, in one unit. No wires lead from body to head.

These models are free, so we suggest you write for yours now. Again, we repeat, there is no cost, and certainly no obligation. Thousands have already been mailed, so write today to Dept. 4164, Beltone Electronics, 4201 W. Victoria Street, Chicago, Ill. 60646.

The Sunday School Lesson

by William M. Wilder



A Serving People

Lesson For February 9

ORIENTATION: This is the third session on the people of the early New Testament Church. Previously we have seen them as an empowered people, worshiping, and are now to see them at work and in service to one another.

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 8; Ephesians 4:11-16; Titus 3:8-14; James 2:14-17; 1 Peter 2:9.

DEVOTIONAL READING: Isaiah 1:10-17.

AUDIO-VISUAL RESOURCES: "The Unfinished Task" 72 min., B & W, The story of a father who disapproved his son's call to the ministry, yet at his son's death takes up his work; from Concordia films, 3558 So. Jefferson, St. Louis, Mo. 63118; or "Poverty — where to begin" — a Family FS from Family Films, 4823 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood, Calif. 90038.

INTRODUCTORY MATERIAL

One of the Scripture verses in last week's lesson gives a framework for the idea of the Church as the "serving people," and this is in Acts 2:47 where it says, "And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were *being saved*." (italics mine).

This phrasing highlights the difference in attitude between those who think of salvation as a fixed and final state, and those who think of it as a constant growing in grace. Personally, I like the understanding that we are on the way, and in the process of being saved. Even Jesus grew in stature, and in favor with God and man (Luke 2:52), and so must we. Paul, incidentally, suggests much the same thing when he says we are to grow up into Christ (Eph. 4:15, NEB).

It should be mentioned that Luke and Paul did not always seem to agree theologically, and that Luke wrote approximately one-fourth of the New Testament (Luke-Acts) which amounts to more than that written by anyone else, including Paul.

LOOKING AT THE LESSON

In today's lesson our Scripture deals with Peter, Paul, and James. As a teacher you might ask three class members to read the appropriate material, and prepare to represent these three men in a "discussion group." In this way you can enliven the proceedings by discovering things they had in common, and wherein they disagreed. They could read the Scripture assigned their particular man, as a starting point, and perhaps do a little research into the character of the man.

This particular grouping of Scripture may make some Christians a little uneasy for there is an insistence upon doing something about your faith which frightens those who talk of God's acceptance based entirely on one's declaration

of belief and loyalty. Here, in both James and the Letter to Titus, is expressed a type of Christianity based on relationship. This is one reason that many scholars reject the Pauline authorship of Titus; it just doesn't sound much like Paul, or at least the way we usually think of Paul. What do you think?

However, it might be noted that despite all of the insistence on Paul's primary thrust of justification by faith, he closes the 12th chapter of Corinthians by saying, "And I will show you a still more excellent way," and proceeds to give the Love chapter, which stresses not justification by faith, but justification by relationship.

(Had you ever thought of Paul's 13th chapter as contradicting some of his other writings — or at least the way the Reformers chose to interpret them? Perhaps Paul is closer to the understanding expressed in the last parable told by Jesus in the 25th chapter of Matthew than we've been willing to recognize.)

It makes one wonder just how well Paul and James got along. I expect they would have agreed that neither faith nor works can stand alone, and that even as you accept a man's profession of faith, you must also examine his dealings with others if you want to find out what kind of a follower of the Lord Jesus he is.

(What do you think? Is it enough just to study the Bible and talk about the needs of the heathen — the hungry — the sick and desolate? Or should we do something? Do you think that doing something, or failure to act, has any bearing on whether we are Christian or not?)

A MISSIONARY OFFERING

Surely the eighth chapter of 2 Corinthians is one of the great chapters of the New Testament though it is not quoted often. It tells a story of great heroism — wherein a people who are in dire need themselves take up an offering for the needy of another land.

This is the reason the Church in every generation has been taking up offerings for someone and getting help to those who need it. Sometimes it seems we get Honduras Relief, Methodist Retirement Village, Pension Endowment, Methodist Children's Home, Methodist Hospital lumped one after the other, and then we recall the early Church having an "abundance of joy and extreme poverty which overflowed in a wealth of liberality" (2 Cor. 8:2), and so we do our best, too.

We make a joke, at times, about taking offerings, but offerings warm you like nothing else. You give some money, representing your time, talent, and bodily energy, to a cause, and you become more interested and concerned for that cause. A giving Church is a warm Church, and when it begins to ration its generosity, you can see the freeze settling in.

GIFTS FOR ALL

As we look at Paul's admonition in Ephesians 4:11-16, there is a great temptation to equate Christian serving with the ministry of Church leaders such as prophets, evangelist, pastors and teachers. Unfortunately, this has become a reality for many people. The Church does its service primarily through its pastor, and many laymen fail to comprehend that Paul's teaching applies to them.

The Oxford Annotated RSV Bible suggests we leave out the comma after saints so as to get the real meaning of the Greek — that all Christians are to be equipped for ministry, active spiritual service.

(Do you think that God meant for you to have a ministry — to your family, neighbors, friends? Do you think it's partly your concern that the Church grow into unity of faith — to the full knowledge of Christ?)

THE CHURCH AS A SERVING AGENT

1 Peter 2:9 told the early Christians they were chosen, a holy people, a group to declare the wonderful deeds of God. Along with Titus, it lends itself to exclusiveness, and there have been people in every generation who have sought to narrow the margins of the Church.

Titus 3:10 tells us to withdraw fellowship from someone who does not agree, and let them go their own way for they will be punished. I have no doubt that the Church of Christ uses this verse as substantiation for withdrawing fellowship from trouble-makers in their church, or from us poor Methodists who don't know any better.

Thank God the Titus letter does not represent the true fellowship of Christ, who opened doors for people like Nicodemus who came by night, for the outcast woman at the well, for the woman taken in adultery, and for Peter who denied him. The Christ even asked forgiveness for those who crucified and rejected him, and even opened the door widely to the man who cried, "Lord, I believe; Lord, help my unbelief" (Mark 9:24). Wherever exclusiveness has developed, it has come from man-made concerns rather than from the Master.

The early Church sought for four qualities to exist in the life and work of the people: A **felicity** that showed up in a state of gratitude and well-being; an **elasticity** that gave them the ability to adjust to nationalities, races, classes and creeds, rich or poor; an **ecumenicity** that allowed them to discover the common bonds of faith rather than the things which might divide them; and the **tenacity** that would enable them to hold firmly to their faith in good times as well as bad.

Had you noticed that the four beginning letters of those words spell feet? May the Church use those feet to march on towards the city of God.

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Next week: A Reconciling People

From Our Readers . . .

Views on women pastors, ERA, UMW

WOMAN PASTOR RESPONDS ON ERA, CLERGYWOMEN

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to Bishop Frank's views on United Methodist Women, ERA, and the acceptability of women pastors — as expressed in the *Arkansas Methodist*, January 16, 1975.

Bishop Frank has "reservations" regarding the "radical changes that have taken place in the formation of United Methodist Women" and believes they have lost influence by not providing a study program as in the past. Correction, please! United Methodist Women do provide a study program. Several studies are promoted every year by every level of the organization — the Women's Division, the Jurisdictional organizations, the conference executive committees, the district organizations, and the local units. The local units are encouraged to study within the unit and to cooperate with their local church in providing a church-wide study.

In the past, the women's organization (W.S.C.S. and W.S.G.) sponsored an annual School of Christian Mission. United Methodist Women now cooperate with the Program Councils of the two Arkansas conferences in sponsoring the Arkansas School of Christian Mission which is open to both men and women. The major portion of the funding for this School comes from United Methodist Women, including fees assessed of every local unit of UMW in both conferences. If the women have lost influence, perhaps it is here through their cooperation with the Program Councils.

As immediate past-president of the Fort Smith District United Methodist Women, I suggest that the formation of United Methodist Women does not represent as radical a change as do the structure changes effected in the church by the 1972 General Conference.

With regard to ERA, Bishop Frank states that an amendment to the constitution might "at best take 25 years to properly interpret." I suggest that without an amendment, state and local legislation will not be enacted within 25 years — if then. Our Arkansas legislators are not known to be forward-looking. If integration had been left to state and local legislation, integration would not now be a fact.

In regard to the acceptability of women ministers and speaking as a woman lay pastor under appointment to two small United Methodist churches, the Bishop's remarks are the most discouraging words I have heard from anyone in the United Methodist Church. If persons of such influence as a bishop do not encourage churches to accept women as pastors, the acceptability of women will come about much more slowly.

I am deeply grateful for the support and encouragement I have received from both women and men in the church since entering the ministry. From the very beginning, the women of my home church have been very supportive of me — as have the men. Many ministers of the North Arkansas Conference have been especially helpful and encouraging. I am truly grateful to the people of the churches I serve for accepting my ministry. Having a woman as pastor was a new thing for both churches, but I guess they — especially the women members — were not aware that my acceptability was questionable solely on the basis of sex.

I wonder what kind of influence the Bishop's remarks will have upon women who may be experiencing a call to the ministry at this time. I would say to them, "If God calls you into the ministry of Christ's church, do not let the words of a bishop or of anyone else stand in your way."

Dorothy Collier
145 North 49th Street
Fort Smith, Ark. 72901
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UMW PROVIDES STUDY PROGRAMS, PEOPLE RESPOND

To the Editor:

I would like to respond to Bishop Frank's statement in the article entitled "Bishop Frank Shares Views on Major Issues" in the January 16th issue of the *Arkansas Methodist*. He said — "women are in danger of losing the most powerful influence in the Church in the radical changes that have taken place in the formation of United Methodist Women — in the failure to provide for the study program which has always been such a powerful influence."

One of the basic goals from the very beginning of United Methodist Women has been "to study and interpret in words and action the revolutionary message of the gospel." One way we strive to accomplish this goal is through our mission studies each year.

Through this study and interpretation we have been able to provide 40 per cent of the total budget for 1975 of the Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. We are providing 51 per cent of the total budget of the National Division of the Board of Global Ministries and the World Service of the Church provides only 35 per cent of this budget. In the World Division the women provide 34 per cent of the budget and World Service 25 per cent. Women also give through World Service and Advance Specials in their local churches.

We believe when a person studies and

knows the needs they will respond to this need in Christian love.

Arkansas also has one of the more successful cooperative Schools of Christian Mission. This is sponsored each year by the United Methodist Women of both conferences and the Conference Councils. At this school we train leaders to return and lead the mission studies in their home churches. This is a major emphasis each year. We feel that as United Methodist Women we have a responsibility to see that not only do women study and know the needs and concerns of our day but that all people — men, women, youth and children have this opportunity for study and action.

On the basis of the above I think one could conclude, we as United Methodist Women, are providing for study and that people are responding to this opportunity in a fine way.

Mrs. Aaron Barling
4809 S. "W"
Fort Smith, Ark. 72901
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BETTER THAN EVER

To the Editor:

The January 16 issue of the *Arkansas Methodist* carried an article entitled "Bishop Frank Shares Views on Major Issues." As a woman I feel that Bishop Frank did a great disservice in this article with his criticism of the United Methodist Women.

The structure of the United Methodist Women seeks to meet the needs of all women by offering a broader base to its members. There are many studies which are offered to serve a wider spectrum of interest and background. The reading program alone could be sufficient to exert the "powerful influence" which Bishop Frank feels is so lacking in the United Methodist Women.

It is my opinion that the United Methodist Women organization is more inclusive and meets the evangelistic needs of today better than any previous

women's organization. This is shown in the stated purpose of the United Methodist Women which I suggest Bishop Frank read and study before making any further derogatory comments about the organization.

Mary Lou Gall
1300 N. First St.
Jacksonville, Ark. 72076
†

ERA INFORMATION OFFERED

To the Editor:

United Methodist Women who receive the pink sheet entitled, "Ladies Have You Heard," now being mailed throughout the state by those who oppose ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, may call me at 225-3460 for the full context of those parts of the YALE LAW JOURNAL, Volume 80, Number 5, April 1971, which are taken out of context by the author of the sheet. Specifically, they are:

- (1) Pages 944-945, in reference to a woman's right to work inside the home.
- (2) Page 952, in reference to the right to child custody by the divorced woman.
- (3) Page 973, in reference to the deferment of a parent by military draft.
- (4) Pages 954-964, in reference to the effect of the ratification on "seduction laws, statutory rape laws, laws prohibiting obscene language in the presence of women, prostitution and 'manifest danger' laws."

These sheets are being mailed under the pseudonym of "W.W.W.W." or "Women Who Want To Be Women," P.O. Box 5362, North Little Rock, Ark. 72119. Their distortion of fact is, in my opinion, unconscionable; their furtiveness, irresponsible.

Miriam D. Raney
39 Robinwood Dr.
Little Rock, Ark.
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New inter-service hymnal called 'landmark publication'

WASHINGTON, D.C. (RNS) — For the first time since 1959, military servicemen and their families at U.S. installations and overseas are beginning to sing from a new inter-service hymnal during religious services.

Described as a "landmark in hymnal publication," the "Book for Worship for U.S. Forces" has been published and is currently being distributed to Army, Navy and Air Force posts, ships and bases. The first printing amounted to 558,000 copies, but a spokesman said another 200,000 are needed and will be requested.

The 815-page hymnal is the result of five years' work by the Hymnal Advisory Group of the Armed Forces Chaplains Board, under whose supervision it was produced, with the three branches of service splitting the \$1,075,000 total contract cost on a basis proportionate to the number of copies each will receive — Army, 45 per cent; Navy, 32 per cent; and Air Force, 23 per cent.

Interested persons may write to any of the three Chiefs of Chaplains — Army, Navy or Air Force — here in Washington to request a copy. After the second printing, which he hopes will be later

this year, copies will be sold by the Government Printing Office here for \$10 to \$15 per copy.)

The new hymnal is different in many significant respects from the "Armed Forces Hymnal" published in 1959. The older hymnal contains 350 hymns and liturgical hymn-like responses (in 512 pages — 302 fewer than the new one), whereas the "Book of Worship for U.S. Forces" has 611 hymns and responses, 200 of which are chanted for guitar or other instrumentation, and including 60 Gospel songs, 40 folk hymns and 16 spirituals — none of which appear in the old hymnal.

Another important distinction from the old hymnal is that the new one does not have the hymns divided into Roman Catholic, Protestant and Jewish sections, as the 1959 hymnal does — in fact, there is no topical division or categorization of any kind, although an expanded index provides adequate referencing. The old hymnal also listed the hymns by church or liturgical year or subject.

Scripture readings published are from the Revised Standard Version or Good News for Modern Man (New Testament only).

Rand McNally & Co. did the actual

printing, under contract with the Government Printing Office, at a cost of \$1.79 per hymnal.

Ten criteria were used in the selection of the hymns: Scriptural fidelity (i.e., relative freedom from introspection and clearness of language and meaning); spiritual reality and wholeness; simplicity and beauty (of both verse and music); structural soundness; anticipated acceptability of hymns to churches and chapels.

Also, hymns appropriate to seasons of the church year, civil year, etc.; tunes meeting the test of sound music structure (within range of male voice); significant percentage of hymns written in today's thought forms and styles; multiple purpose test; and representative of type test. The attempt was also made to have hymns representative of all periods since the First Century, Chaplain Ammons told RNS.

The preface of the "Book of Worship for U.S. Forces" refers to it as a "unique" and "contemporary interfaith hymnal." "Hymns and worship resources have been carefully selected to provide for the spiritual needs of many diverse groups of worshipers within the military community."

Survival and values major issues, college presidents told

WASHINGTON, D.C. (UMC) — The target was survival of the nation's independent colleges, as the presidents of United Methodism's schools gathered here Jan. 11-12.

That survival "depends on whether we are worthy" and not upon economic problems, confusion in language and declining enrollments, they were told by Dr. John R. Silber, president of Boston University. His keynote theme of survival was picked up throughout the annual meeting, as was his optimistic assertion that "if we fight faithfully, I have no doubt we will find the resources to survive."

The National Association of Schools and Colleges of the United Methodist Church elected as president Dr. Harold H. Hutson of Lycoming College, succeeding Dr. Robert W. Eckley of Illinois Wesleyan University. New vice president is Dr. Roy B. Shilling, Jr., of Hendrix College. Dr. David G. Mobberly of Nashville, Tenn., was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

President Silber said such schools must come to terms with their real problems, especially those value-related, "or we won't have a purpose that makes our survival important."

"There is only public higher education," a public service performed by both private and government-sponsored institutions, said Silber, so "we must stop talking about ourselves as private institutions." He urged use of the terms "independent" and "state-supported." He called also for clear distinction between the concepts of cost and price, noting that the actual cost of higher education is similar in both types of schools but the price to the student is about five times higher in the independent ones.



Hendrix President Elected To National Office

WASHINGTON, D.C. (UMC) — Dr. Harold H. Hutson (second from left), president of Lycoming College, became president here Jan. 12 of the National Association of Schools and Colleges of the United Methodist Church. Shown with him are Dr. Roy B. Shilling, Jr., of Hendrix College, new vice president; Dr. Robert S. Eckley of Illinois Wesleyan University, retiring president, and Dr. David G. Mobberly of Nashville, Tenn., re-elected secretary-treasurer. (UMC Photo)

Calling "open admission" policies dangerous but important, Silber said they are not good for every college, but "we must provide our share of open admission until the problem of (retardation) is overcome." At the same time he warned against the tendency to "merely level down rather than raise each person to his highest level," reminding that "there is nothing inherently undemocratic about excellence."

The policy of scientism or logical positivism has dominated college educa-

tion since 1900, said Silber, pitting values over against facts and resulting in a "dogmatism that says all values are relative." He declared that one of United Methodism's roles in education is "to combat that point of view, not by a religious dogmatism but by secular philosophical discussion of the issue."

As to values, Silber said, "families and the church have almost ceased to function as educational factors," leaving television advertising and programming as spreaders of values, including "the

crassest form of hedonism." As an example, he pointed to Archie Bunker's program as making "racism again lovable and respectable." The nation, he added, has "made a giant step backward in racism," as evidenced by recent opposition to school busing.

Though college enrollments will continue to decline, he said, the independent schools are vital, because "in a mass society, it becomes increasingly important for small units of education." He noted that schools have survived the depression and other crises "worse than those yet to come."

Noting that three schools had "departed since we last met," the association's retiring president Eckley pointed out that United Methodist-related colleges account for one per cent of total higher education enrollment in the U.S. and called on them individually and collectively to "become a creative force."

In a sermon, President Waights G. Henry, Jr., of LaGrange College asserted, "Ours is a generation that basically believes it may do as it pleases with the world," and urged "the renouncing of sin in self and society, and getting on with God's business of loving this world and all that dwell in it."

The association voted to meet concurrently with the church's Board of Higher Education and Ministry, next Oct. 29-31 at Oklahoma City, in order to augment exposure of each group to the other. It also voted to incorporate in order to further mutual steps in funding and research.

Theological schools rated

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMC) — The top 12 theological schools in the nation, ranked by a Columbia University survey, include four United Methodist-related seminaries.

With equal ranking in sixth place were Claremont (Calif.) School of Theology, Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta; and Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Duke University Divinity School at Durham, N.C., was ranked 12th.

The rankings were made by deans of accredited and university-affiliated schools of theology who were asked, "What in your opinion are the top five schools in your profession?"

Professional schools of theology were among 18 categories of professional schools ranked by the deans in each respective area of study such as architecture and nursing. The only United Methodist school in the other categories was Boston University.

The other eight schools of theology in the top 12 included two denominationally-related seminaries: Princeton Theological Seminary, a United Presbyterian, U.S.A., school, and Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va., a Presbyterian, U.S., school. The others may have had denominational roots but are now independent. Claremont is also related to the Disciples of Christ (Christian) Church.

The survey of deans of all 1,181 accredited and university-affiliated schools in 17 fields of professional study as well as the deans of 70 music schools was conducted by the Comparative Organization Research Program at Columbia University. Responses were received from 79 per cent of all deans. In all but one (public health) of the 18 fields, more than half of the deans supplied ratings.

Membership gains, losses analyzed

EVANSTON, Ill. (UMC) — An even dozen of United Methodism's 73 annual and missionary conferences in the U.S. showed membership gains unrelated to mergers in 1973, the most recent year for which complete reports are available, the denomination's statistical office said here Jan. 13.

The largest gain not affected by merger was the 2,244 reported by the Florida Conference. The largest percentage gain was the 2.11 in the Central New York Conference which added 1,601 new members in 1973. The Florida gain was .70 per cent.

As a whole, the denomination lost 129,219 members in 1973 to a new total of 10,063,046 in the U.S. A membership decline has been reported each year since 1965, except in 1968 when the

former Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren Churches were united.

Other conferences reporting non-merger related membership gains for 1973 were Louisiana, 651 members, or .49 per cent; Maine, 43 members, or .14 per cent; Missouri West, 678 members, or .51 per cent; North Arkansas, 167 members, or .17 per cent; Oklahoma, 19 members, or .01 per cent; Peninsula, 839 members, or .84 per cent; Red Bird Missionary, 16 members, or 2.09 per cent; South Carolina, 705 members, or .31 per cent; South Georgia, 232 members, or .16 per cent; and Yellowstone, 273 members, or .99 per cent.

Two other conferences showing increases were Alabama-West Florida and North Alabama with 2,388 and 8,335 new members respectively. However, these

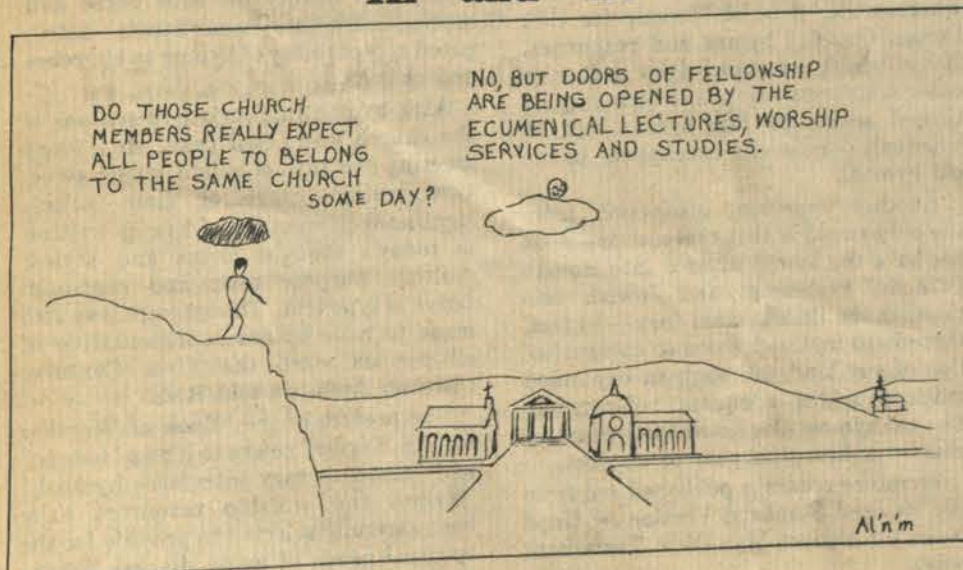
two conferences were involved in a merger with the former Central Alabama Conference which may account for all, or most, of the gains.

Another report from the statistical office shows that five conferences out of the 50 not involved in mergers which involved boundary changes within the past four years showed a membership gain for the first year of the current quadrennium compared with the first year of the previous quadrennium.

These conferences are Red Bird Missionary, Florida, Kentucky, Peninsula and North Carolina.

Greatest decreases shown in comparing the same two years for conferences not involved in mergers was the 17.45 per cent in New Mexico and the 18.32 in Oklahoma Indian Missionary.

"Hi" and "Lo"



Wesley Chapel Fund Aided

LAKE JUNALUSKA, N.C. (UMC) — A \$500 contribution to the Wesley Chapel restoration fund from the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church has been received at World Methodist Council headquarters here.

The Rev. Lee F. Tuttle, general secretary of the WMC, said the check came from the Board of Finance of the CME Church, one of three predominantly-black U.S. Methodist bodies in the WMC.

To date, some \$194,500 has been received toward a U.S. goal of \$875,000, including \$33,705 by the WMC office here, and \$160,810 by the United Methodist Council on Finance and Administration in Evanston, Ill.

Arkansas Methodist Children's Home

—Memorial and honor gift list continued—

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MRS. ORA CALVER by Mr. & Mrs. S. M. Capps	ROY HARTSELL by Marla Johnston	MARILYN LYNCH
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MRS. MAVIS ECKLES by Mr. & Mrs. S. M. Capps	by Mrs. Katherine E. Massenthin	BEN W. MARTIN
LEO EASON by Alpha Tau Chapter of Alpha	by Mrs. Nell Spain	by J. P. Walt
Delta Kappa	WALLACE F. HARRIS by Mrs. Wallace F. Harris	GABE MEYER
ALAN EDGAR by Mr. & Mrs. Bill Newsom &	MRS. HOLT by Mrs. Edna Prater	by J. P. Walt
Angie	MRS. FREIDA HARTIN by Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Taylor	BENTON "Brothers" MOORE III
by Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Edgar	by Methodist Men's S. S. Class,	by Mr. & Mrs. James H. Young
by Mr. & Mrs. C. L. Horne, Jr.	McCrory	MRS. MAY MARLAR
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MRS. REX (Margaret Sims) FULBRIGHT by The Donald McKnight Family	BERT HALLER by Mrs. Ruth Haller Russell	by White Hall U. M. C.
MRS. REBA FOWKES by Frances & Edward Harris	VANNAY HALLER by Mrs. Ruth Haller Russell	MR. W. P. MILLER
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by Mrs. H. M. Broach		BERNARD R. NEILL

To be continued

THE UMYF of Elm Springs United Methodist Church, Springdale, had charge of a recent Sunday service in their church. With emphasis on the theme of how to "Be Like Christ," 16 sermonettes were presented, each dealing with a different aspect of Christ's life and personality. In addition the youth ushered and provided music.

MORE THAN 50 MEMBERS of Wilson United Methodist Church braved freezing snow and ice on a recent Sunday evening to honor Mrs. Vivian Reese, a long-time member of the congregation, who is moving to West Memphis. She was honored with a buffet dinner and presented a gift in recognition of her "love and devotion to her church and community."

Mr. John Strunk

A memorial service for Mr. John Strunk was conducted at First United Methodist Church, Harrison on Thursday, Jan. 9, with the Rev. John M. McCormack, pastor, and the Rev. Max Whitfield, pastor of St. Paul Church, Harrison, officiating.

Mr. Strunk had served as church treasurer for 12 years. The pastor reports that Mr. Strunk had written checks to pay all district and conference askings, and Advance Specials for the entire year of 1975. The checks were mailed the week of his death. He is survived by Mrs. Strunk.

They go together!



We have been partners for more than fifty years!

Let the partnership endure.

Great things have been done in the past half-century in the name of Christ and modern medicine through this union. Like the rolling hills and fertile deltas of Arkansas—the future sprawls out before us and greater achievements yet lie ahead.

Both need each other—to strengthen—to sustain. This healing mission of the church was born in the great heart of Methodism and in that heart it must ever remain.

Clasp hands and let us go on together.

METHODIST HOSPITAL GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY DRIVE

North Arkansas Conference United Methodist Church

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COLDS
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666

600 ASSORTED SWEET ONION PLANTS
With free Planting Guide
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Home of the sweet onion
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Aldersgate 'Review and Preview'

Poetry Panorama

By Barbara Mulkey

There's not as much poetry in winter as in spring . . . when flowers bloom and song birds sing. Or as in summer, with long, bright hours for children's play. There's not as much poetry in winter as in the fall . . . when covenant of color covers all. But winter, don't forget, is proof that once again old earth can pass the hardest test.

Winter Meditation

The bitter, slashing wind has torn
The tired leaves from their long-held moorings,
And the barren limbs
Stretch lonely and cold
In stark nakedness.

The locusts have long since stilled
Their raucous evening discords;
The winter clouds drift close,
They threaten frost . . . and cold . . . and rain . . .

—by Charles A. Stuck
Little Rock, Ark.

Restoration

Chill winter breezes, like robbers
Pounce upon the unsuspecting trees
With a cruel and ominous tread.
Then, mercilessly beating and thrashing them,
They strip them of all their raiment
And leave them bare and seemingly dead.

Then soon the Good Samaritan, Spring,
Passes that way and compassionately
Anoints them with sunshine and rain,
While tenderly draping them in her vestures
Of splendor and magnificence,
She restores them to life again.

—by Mary W. Robinson
Russellville, Ark.

†



'Country Fair' Leaders Honored

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Deaton are presented a plaque of appreciation by outgoing Aldersgate Board president Ed Wimberly in recognition of the Deaton's service as co-chairpersons of the Aldersgate Country Fair of 1974. The fair netted \$6,100 for the camp, double that received the previous year. Host Pastor Dr. James Argue (seated, left) applauds.



New Challenge for '75

Co-chairpersons for the 1975 Aldersgate Country Fair Mr. and Mrs. Jim Vines tell of the goal of \$10,000 set for the May 3 event. Aldersgate's executive director, Mr. Ray Tribble, is seated in foreground.



'Barbershop' Music!

The "Cotton Cord Twisters" provided special music at the Aldersgate dinner. Listening intently to the music are Board member Mrs. Austine Williams (left), who gave the invocation, and Mrs. Eugene M. Frank.

Aldersgate Fellowship

Approximately 170 persons attended the Annual Meeting of Aldersgate, Inc., held at Pulaski Heights Church, Little Rock, Jan. 16.



THE YOUTH of Vantrease United Methodist Church, El Dorado, were in charge of a recent Sunday evening service at their church. Mrs. Paul Mitchell, organist, accompanied the group as they sang. AT LEFT: This choir of young children presents special music for morning worship at Vantrease Church on the first Sunday of each month.

'Let's Sing Just One More'

Part-time Aldersgate staffer Ms. Dorothy Pickens provides accompaniment as Aldersgaters gather 'round for informal singing after the dinner meet. Making music are Cliff Peck (left) and Winston Faulkner, both of Little Rock.

