



## Study of periodicals bringing leaders to Arkansas

Next week, June 25-26, First Church in Little Rock will host one of three national "round table" meetings to study the general periodicals of The United Methodist Church. Authorized by the General Council on Ministries, the study is assigned to United Methodist Communications (UMC) and will be conducted by a staff team (members at left).

Project director is Dr. Edwin H. Maynard of Evanston, Ill. (shown presiding), editorial director of UMC's Division of Program and Benevolence Interpretation. Other team members (beginning at left, around table) are Ruth H. Jewett (address not known), Norma S. Wieting of Oak Park, Ill., the Rev. William C. Henzlik of Park Ridge,

Ill., (Dr. Maynard), Linda K. Beher of Evanston, Ill., Dr. Leonard M. Perryman of Dayton, Ohio and Newtonia V. Harris of Park Ridge, Ill.

Some 20 additional persons, church executives and secular communicators, are expected to participate in the study, objectives of which are to develop a philosophy of communication for the entire church, determine what function periodicals can be expected to perform, evaluate present publications and develop options for future publication of periodicals. These will be presented to the 1976 General Conference. The other round table events will be held in Philadelphia and Los Angeles.

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# Arkansas Methodist

Arkansas United Methodism's Newsweekly

Little Rock, Arkansas, Thursday, June 19, 1975

94th Year, No. 25

## Bishops Carroll and Cannon preachers for Bishops' Week

Bishops of the South Central Jurisdiction will be joined next week, June 23-26, at Mt. Sequoyah Methodist Assembly, Fayetteville, by ministers and laypersons of the jurisdiction for several days of informal fellowship, inspirational preaching, Bible study and singing. Bishop William R. Cannon of the Atlanta Area and Bishop Edward G. Carroll Sr. of the Boston area will be the resource leaders for the event.

Bishop Cannon, this year's Willson Lecturer, holds degrees from the University of Georgia, Yale University, and honorary degrees from Asbury College, Temple University and Emory University. He served pastorates in Georgia, as professor of Church History at Candler School of Theology and as dean of Candler School of Theology and Emory University before his election to the episcopacy in 1968. He was a delegate to the Ecumenical Conference of the Methodist Church at Oxford University, and has served as a delegate to the World Council of Churches.

This lecture series is one of approximately 30 such lectureships established by the late J. M. Willson Sr. and Mrs. Willson.

Bishop Carroll, ordained an elder in the Washington Conference (D.C.), has degrees from Morgan College, Yale University and Columbia University. In 1935-36 he participated in the World Student Federation mission to India, Burma, and Ceylon. Denominational assignments have included membership in the Program Council of the Division of Interpretation, Committee on Review, and Bishop Carroll has been a delegate to the last three General Conferences. He was elected a bishop in 1972.

Dr. W. J. A. Power and Marjorie Power will be the husband and wife team leading the morning Bible study Tuesday through Thursday. Dr. Power, professor of Old Testament at Perkins School of Theology, is a graduate from the University of Toronto, where he earned his Ph.D. in Hebrew. In 1967-68 he studied contemporary Israeli archaeology at the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem. In addition he

has studied at the Carl Jung Institute in Zurich.

Mrs. Power has served as a church school teacher at Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas and also as a member of the religious radio panel at KRLD, Dallas. She has given leadership in various workshops along with her husband.

Evangelistic singer and recording artist Bill Mann of Dallas will direct the song services.

Seventeen annual conferences will be represented at the jurisdictional event by the following episcopal leaders:

Bishop Eugene M. Frank of the Arkansas Area, host bishop; Bishop Robert E. Goodrich Jr., Missouri Area; Bishop Don W. Holter, Nebraska Area; Bishop Paul V. Galloway, Houston Area; Bishop Alsie H. Carleton, Northwest



Bishop Edward H. Carroll Sr.

Texas-New Mexico Area; Bishop Ernest T. Dixon Jr., Kansas Area; Bishop Paul W. Milhouse, Oklahoma Area; Bishop Finis A. Crutchfield, Louisiana Area;



Bishop William R. Cannon

Bishop O. Eugene Slater, San Antonio Area, and Bishop W. McFerrin Stowe, Dallas-Fort Worth Area.

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## Sponsorship of Vietnamese families best way to help refugees, say church agencies

Churches and pastors who are looking for a way to assist Vietnamese refugees at Fort Chaffee can perform the greatest service by helping to find sponsors for individuals or families, according to a letter received from Dr. Charles P. McDonald, superintendent of the Fort Smith District and United Methodist coordinator of area relief efforts in behalf of the refugees.

Dr. McDonald has been requested by the United Methodist Committee on Overseas Relief (UMCOR) and Church World Service (CWS) to act as their official representative in receiving applications for sponsorship at the Fort Smith District Office, from churches within a 300-mile radius of Fort Smith.

When a church or group has decided to sponsor a family, a letter of intent and commitment should be sent to that office. From there it will be taken to the Church World Service Office at Fort Chaffee for processing. Listed below are procedures which should be followed in

order to expedite the process of sponsorship.

### VIETNAMESE REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP PROCEDURES FOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES

Sponsorship is not a legal commitment, but the sponsor does assume a clear moral commitment to help the refugee to the best of his ability. The sponsor's role may be assumed by a family (or an individual) in your congregation, an organization of your church, or by the congregation itself. The signer of the letter of commitment will be the contact person for Church World Service as they respond to your inquiry and work out the details of sponsorship.

There is no form to be signed, but it is expected that the sponsor will write a letter of intent and commitment which will include the following:

(1) RECEIVE THE REFUGEE FAMILY — The sponsor should state the

maximum number in the family group to be sponsored. It is hoped that you will be open to sponsoring a family, regardless of the skills available in the family group.

However, if someone in the sponsoring group has a job opening, a description of this job should be noted in the letter of commitment. While there is no contract time period, it is envisioned that the process of assimilation should take no longer than one year.

(2) PROVIDE SHELTER, FOOD, AND CLOTHING — The degree of need in this area will be discussed when you are contacted by Church World Service. Shelter may be in the home of one of your members, or in an apartment/house provided by the sponsoring group.

(3) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE — Money will be needed until the refugee becomes self-sufficient. It is hoped that other churches who are unable to

(Continued on page two)





New Fellowship Center at First United Methodist Church, Conway.

## Fellowship Center dedicated

The new Fellowship Center at First United Methodist Church, Conway, built at a cost of \$345,920, was dedicated in a special ceremony on Sunday June 1, following morning worship. Bishop Eugene M. Frank presented the dedicatory sermon and officiated at the ceremony, assisted by Dr. Robert E. L. Bearden, Conway District superintendent, and Dr. Harold O. Eggenberger, pastor.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the center were held in October of 1969 when the Rev. Ben F. Jordan, now Paragould District superintendent, was pastor. Mr. Robert E. Sly served as chairman of the building committee and Mr. William J. Dean was chairman of the

finance committee.

A building fund drive to secure pledges had begun in April of that year, when the Rev. Worth Gibson served as pastor — before going to his present pastorate at First Church, Jonesboro. Dr. J. Ralph Clayton, now pastor at Searcy, was superintendent of the Conway District during that period.

The site for the new facility was purchased from the Camp and Farris families of Conway. The center is the third building in the church complex; the sanctuary was erected in 1915 and the education building in 1955. Furnishings for the new unit were provided at a cost of \$10,681.

### Council Directors to Local Churches

## 'Dynamic Church Schools in the Local Church'

—Theme for Mt. Sequoyah event—

An opportunity will be afforded busy district superintendents and pastors to become more familiar with United Methodist Church curriculum resources in a special leadership class, "Dynamic Church Schools in the Local Church," at Mt. Sequoyah, Fayetteville, Arkansas, July 13-18.

Designed especially to give participants an intensive orientation within a six-day period of the philosophy, theology, methodology and resources of The United Methodist Church School, district superintendents and pastors will find invaluable helps to answer questions and give counsel to local church school workers.

Miss Margie McCarty, the Board of Discipleship, Nashville, will be the leader. In addition to the district superintendents and pastors, educational directors, Church School superintendents, superintendents of the study program and work area chairpersons of education are urged to attend.

"This is a long needed course," said Dr. S. Duane Bruce, Executive Director of the South Central Jurisdiction, "to aid those who have multiple responsibilities in the local church and do not have the

time to acquaint themselves in detail with the various age level resources of the Church School.

This course is one of a number of opportunities being offered on the ministry of the Church School during the Laboratory Training Enterprise, July 13-18. Applications may be secured from the Council on Ministries offices, 715 Center St., Little Rock, Ark. 72201.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

The tie in the vote for eighth and final position on the Nominating Committee for the North Arkansas Conference was referred to me. In the absence of any plan or formula for handling this I requested that a lot be cast and the decision fell to Mary Ellen Jesson of Fort Smith.

In addition, I recommend that Mr. Tom Hilliard serve as first alternate in the absence of a lay member and that the "runner-up" for eighth place in the clergy election, the Rev. Waymon Hollis, serve in the same capacity.

Bishop Eugene M. Frank

## Refugee sponsorship

(Continued from page one)

assume the role of sponsor will provide money for a general assistance fund that you can call upon when needed. The refugee persons or families may be picked up at Fort Chaffee at a time arranged by Church World Service or transportation will be provided for the family to their destination.

(4) **EMPLOYMENT, SCHOOLING** — The sponsor will assist the refugee family in finding employment and in school enrollment for the children.

(5) **MEDICAL COSTS** — There will be a need to cover ordinary medical costs until employer provides medical insurance. Every refugee has had a physical examination, and health needs will have been met before they are cleared for sponsorship.

(6) **MISCELLANEOUS** — The sponsor must be ready to help the refugees with some of the less tangible aspects of resettlement, such as adjustment to a new culture, acquainting the refugee with U.S.A. law and requirements, etc. Also, once employment is obtained, the sponsor will assist the refugee to locate permanent housing, acquire minimal furniture, arrange for utilities, etc.

Those interested in sponsorship should not attempt to contact Fort Chaffee directly. Your letter of commitment, taking into account the above areas of responsibility, should be addressed to "Church World Service," and mailed to this office: P.O. Box 3634, Fort Smith, AR 72901. We will immediately send it through the proper channels.

### Corrections

On page two of the June 12 issue of **Arkansas Methodist** in the listing of North Arkansas Clergy Delegates to General Conference a line was inadvertently omitted. The item should have stated that Dr. Charles McDonald is superintendent of the Fort Smith District, and the name of the Rev. Ben F. Jordan, superintendent of Paragould District, should have been listed as one of the Clergy Delegates to General Conference.

The four **Clergy Delegates** are Dr. Joel A. Cooper, pastor of Central Church, Fayetteville; the Rev. Earl B. Carter, pastor of First Church, North Little Rock; Dr. Charles McDonald, superintendent of Fort Smith District; the Rev. Ben F. Jordan, superintendent of Paragould District.

Also it has come to our attention that on page two of the June 5th issue of our publication the listing of Little Rock Conference Lay Delegates to General Conference should have identified Mr. John Blundell as lay leader of the Ashdown Church and as a resident of Ashdown rather than Texarkana.

We deeply regret these errors which occurred in the last minute press of trying to accommodate all of the Annual Conference material before our Tuesday morning deadline.

For additional information write or call: Rev. Charles P. McDonald, P.O. Box 3634, Station A, Fort Smith, Ark. 72901. Telephone - 783-0385.

### Application for Sponsorship

Vietnamese and Cambodian Refugee Resettlement Program

Send to: Church World Service, P.O. Box 3634, Fort Smith, Ark. 72901

Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Church \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of Contact Person and/or Sponsor (if different from Pastor): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Business Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Preference - (a) Family size \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Age Range of Family \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Skill of Head of Family \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Refugee Family if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nearest Airport or convenient pick-up point \_\_\_\_\_

Relevant Information \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Family assigned \_\_\_\_\_

Post Resettlement Report \_\_\_\_\_

Possible Job \_\_\_\_\_



# A Lover's Quarrel

by Francis Christie\*

I have a "lover's quarrel" with the United Methodist Church. Like many such quarrels, mine starts with stirrings of restlessness and vague uneasiness. I think that I am not alone in my concerns. Some of the problems are easily discernible. Some are not.

Most of my questions have to do with the present and future state of this church many of us have come to view with the kind of regard we hold toward a nurturing parent.

Can Methodism survive prosperity and apparent success? Divisive and schismatic movements within the church? The pervasive secularism of our day? The opportunism that characterizes so much of our public, political, and corporate life? Its own pluralism, expressed in its love for and proclivity toward tolerance?

Methodism has a penchant for bureaucratic structures. This aspect of its genius, though frustrating at times, has enabled it to do things beyond the bounds of possibility for other groups.

Perhaps the greatest peril in bureaucracy is that it leads to bureaucratic thinking. Bureaucratic thinking, in turn, expresses itself in a mind-set in which ritual successes conceptualized and achieved by the bureaucracy become self-seeking — ends in themselves. As such, they assume exaggerated importance in the value systems of institutions and the persons constituting those institutions.

Where structure is derived from function it has value and meaning. In a church these functions are activated by careful assessment of priorities, historic identities, and contemporary realities.

Institutions begin to atrophy when they no longer respond to the needs which created them and to the persons who support them. They can function for a period of time on residual sentiment, but this is temporary fuel at best.

The choices confronting Methodism are simple, but the making of choices is complex. The alternatives are: (1) continuation in the present direction of ensconcing self-servicing and self-perpetuating bureaucratic structures characterized by mechanical and ritual successes; (2) a careful and comprehensive assessment, reappraisal, and reinterpretation of the historic genius of the Methodist movement in light of contemporary issues and emerging opportunities for service.

This church has sought to "serve the common good" — to minister in loving realism and charitable thoughtfulness. Its "practical" theology has enabled it to minister in unique and effective ways — to "do religion," to respond readily to challenges and to accommodate to change.

Much of the temporal power of this structure today resides in the General Council on Ministries, which could well represent the most pervasive and potentially dangerous kind of bureaucratic thinking. It, generally, is operated by amateurs — amateur bureaucrats, if you will. An amateur is one who acts out of love for the activity in which he participates. The professional is recognizable and can be identified easily. The true amateurs (lovers) are enamored of the system and act "out of love." This can be dangerous, because they are just doing "what the church calls on them to do."

This body, growing out of the restructuring of 1972, has within it the dangerous seeds of bureaucratic thinking. The pervasiveness of the bureaucratic thinking engendered and promoted in this structure is now being felt and expressed at the annual conference and local church levels.

It is possible that the Bishops of the church are in process of losing much of their historic influence. Many will see this as salutary; but such a radical dislocation of power could do lasting harm to the church. Board executives, the

professional bureaucrats, may be distracted from their specialized missions so that they dissipate their skills and modify their integrity in attempting to conform to the projected patterns, programs, and whims of the GCOM. Conferences, particularly the General and Annual Conferences, are becoming annual or quadrennial "meetings" rather than deliberative or legislative bodies.

The smell of death hovers over much of the local church's activity as it attempts to emulate the GCOM; and this extends to some of the institutions related to the church. There have been, and are, abortive attempts at correction.

Paul's Philippian jailor asked, "What must I do to be saved?" We know the answer he received, and that answer remains the ultimate answer. But we are thinking now in a more immediately institutional context. Some suggestions are offered. These are things we can do at the local church or district levels.

1. We can study with care the history of the Methodist movement — its generating and sustaining genius.
2. We should survey the contemporary scene and take a careful inventory of our effectiveness.
3. This will entail probing and understanding of the existing structural patterns and programmatic thrusts of the United Methodist Church.
4. Get to work. Demand explanations and accounting. Find out why and how things are being done. It is probably all right to have bureaucrats, but we must insist that they serve rather than be served. The mission of our church is to serve, but not to serve itself.
5. Refute, but with charity and tolerance, those movements which threaten to destroy the essential genius and historic mission of this great church. Many special interests covet our support. The Scriptural injunction to be as cunning as serpents and as gentle as doves has peculiar relevance at this point.

\*Dr. Christie is Academic Dean of Hendrix College, Conway, and is a ministerial member of the North Arkansas Conference. We appreciate his willingness to share this page while the editor is on vacation.

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## From HERE and THERE

### Some post-Annual Conference thoughts

Editor's Note: There's probably a parable in the following, but we aren't sure just what it is. But having recently completed the hectic schedule of Annual Conference sessions, we suspect some readers might be able to identify with this rare bit.

LONDON, June 14 — The Manchester Guardian yesterday quoted as an example of "stoicism" the following unsigned letter, ostensibly from a bricklayer to his contracting firm:

Dear Sir:

When I got to the building I found that the hurricane had knocked some bricks off the top.

So I rigged up a beam with a pulley at the top of the building and hoisted up a couple of barrels of bricks. When I had fixed the building, there was a lot of bricks left over.

I hoisted the barrel back up again and secured the line at the bottom, and then went up and filled the barrel with extra bricks. Then I went to the bottom and cast off the line.

Unfortunately, the barrel of bricks was heavier than I was and before I knew what was happening the barrel started down, jerking me off the ground. I decided to hang on, and halfway up I met the barrel coming down and received a severe blow on the shoulder.

I then continued to the top, banging my head against the beam and getting my finger jammed in the pulley. When the barrel hit the ground it burst its bottom allowing all the bricks to spill out.

I was now heavier than the barrel and so started down again at high speed. Halfway down, I met the barrel coming up and received severe injuries to my shins. When I hit the ground I landed on the bricks, getting several painful cuts from the sharp edges.

At this point I must have lost my presence mind, because I let go the line. The barrel then came down, giving me another heavy blow on the head and putting me in the hospital.

I respectfully request sick leave.

—adapted from The Midweek Call to Worship, First UMC, Augusta, Ark.

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## Arkansas Methodist

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Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Hunt and Bishop Frank



Guests were given opportunity to visit some of the apartment units in their wooded background setting.



The Village Women's Board served as hostesses for a silver tea which was a part of the Sunday afternoon celebration.

#### Pension Fund Memorial Gifts

Little Rock Conference

BISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN

by Mrs. Kenneth L. Spore

THE REV. KENNETH L. SPORE

by Mrs. Kenneth L. Spore

#### Methodist history films

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMC) — Two new Methodist films have been released which will be of special interest to persons seeking resources related to the Nation's Bicentennial.

"Burning Bright," a 28-minute color film, deals with major aspects of the history of The United Methodist Church and other churches of Methodist origin in the United States.

"The People Called Methodist," a companion film to "Burning Bright," extends the historical view of the U.S. Church to a world view of Methodism.

The 28-minute color documentary film was produced so that Methodists in different lands could share with each other their own ways of worship, church life, mission and ministry.

#### New History Of Arkansas Methodism Advance Subscription

Pre-publication price — (\$2 Discount) — \$7.95  
Regular subscription price per copy — \$9.95

(On and after May 25, 1976, date of publication)

Please order copies for undersigned at \$7.95 each.  
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Arkansas Methodist Publication Committee

#### Hendrix receives NSF grant

Hendrix College has received a \$5400 matching grant from the National Science Foundation to purchase scientific equipment needed to improve undergraduate instruction.

This instructional improvement project is under the direction of Dr. M. Warfield Teague, associate professor of chemistry. The grant is effective June 1, 1975, and will expire May 31, 1977.

The grant is part of \$4,571,900 the NSF has recently granted to help colleges and universities in 49 states, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

In the 13 years since the program was established, NSF has assisted 1200 institutions through 7,372 grants totaling \$68.5 million. This year 884 institutions submitted 1891 proposals requesting almost \$19 million.

For rental or purchase information, contact the United Methodist Film Service, 1525 McGavock St., Nashville, Tenn. 37203.



Bishop Frank leads Service of Consecration in front of the T. L. Hunt Center at Methodist Village.

#### New Methodist Village at Fort Smith

More than 500 interested individuals of Fort Smith and the surrounding area attended the recent Service of Consecration and open house at the new Methodist Village at Fort Smith.

The complex, planned with the senior citizen in mind, is situated on a 29-acre site adjacent to the Methodist Nursing Home and includes 96 units. There are 24 efficiency apartments, a dining room, recreation room, TV lounge and offices.

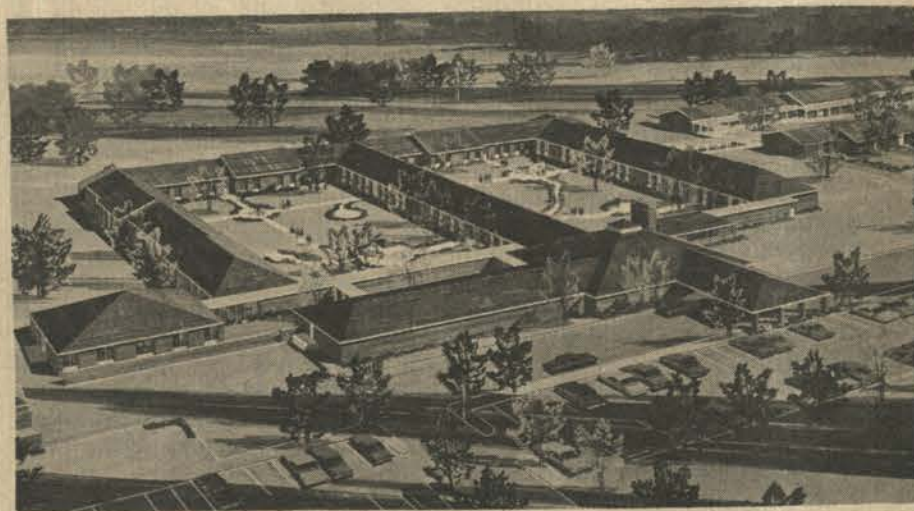
The central service building has been named in honor of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Hunt who for many years have with deep dedication served as friends and benefactors of the nursing home.

Residents have available services which include 24-hour emergency medical assistance, a shuttlebus, planned activities, all in an atmosphere which permits them to live in comfort while maintaining their own life style. Intellectual, recreation

and spiritual activities are geared to meet each individual's needs.

Some of the apartments are still available for occupancy, according to Mr. E. L. Smith, administrator of the Nursing Home and manager of Methodist Village. Persons who would like to receive more information or make application are invited to write Mr. Smith at Methodist Village, 1915 South 74th Street, Fort Smith, Ark. 72901.

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—Architect's sketch

#### Trinity Village retirement project launched in Pine Bluff

Several years of joint dreaming and planning by the congregations of three Pine Bluff churches — First Baptist, Lakeside United Methodist and First Presbyterian — will soon culminate in the construction of Trinity Village, a retirement complex for the area's older citizens. The venture began last month with a kick-off dinner.

It is anticipated that the first unit, which will cost an estimated \$2,550,000 and will include space for 114 residents, will be in use in about two years. Two million dollars are being raised through a permanent financing arrangement. The remaining \$550,000 will come from a community-wide fund raising program, 75 per cent of which was pledged at the kick-off dinner held last month. In 1973 a non-profit corporation, sponsored by the three churches, was chartered by the State of Arkansas as Trinity Village Incorporated.

The complex, which will be patterned after Presbyterian Village in Little Rock, will be built on a 15-acre site in

Southwest Pine Bluff. Included will be 74 single-bed rooms and 20 two-bed rooms, a kitchen and dining room for preparing and serving meals to all residents; recreation and lounge areas; meeting and activities rooms; a library, an infirmary and administrative offices.

Projected plans call for the future construction of apartments and a Health Care Center. Mr. Willard Burks, United Methodist lay leader for Pine Bluff District, is the architect for the project.

Trinity Village Incorporated has a Board of Directors which includes 23 officers, fourteen of whom are members of the Building Fund Executive Committee and five of whom serve as the Building Committee.

Mr. George B. Ryland, chairman of the Board of Directors and a United Methodist leader in Pine Bluff, commenting on the church and community project said, "... together we prepare to serve God's children through this ministry of compassion."

Arkansas Methodist



# NEWS and opinion



summary by Doris Woolard

**FAMILY '76**, a two-year program described by its sponsors as "the most significant attempt to raise family consciousness in churches throughout the U.S. and Canada in our time, will hold a massive week-long Continental Congress on the Family in St. Louis from Oct. 13-17. Plans call for some 3,000 participants selected from various geographical regions, church backgrounds and traditions, professional viewpoints and philosophical orientations. In 1976, the second half of the FAMILY '76 project will include eight Regional Family Conferences in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Seattle, Southern California and Toronto.

**Restoration** of historic Wesley's Chapel in London will begin immediately and proceed on a pay-as-it-goes basis, according to an announcement by the World Methodist Council as it met at Lake Junaluska, N. C. Dr. Lee F. Tuttle, general secretary of the Council, said the General Purposes Committee of the British Methodist Church has confirmed a decision to start with the \$600,000 that has been raised for the restoration. Another \$1.2 million will be needed to complete the job. U.S. Methodists have given only \$200,000 of the \$875,000 they have been asked to contribute.

**In an unprecedented action** for the United Methodist Church the Southern New England Conference has adopted a one-year moratorium on accepting new candidates for the parish ministry. Although there are some 15 candidates who have applied for positions this year, none of the 315 congregations in the conference have vacancies.

**Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum**, director of Interreligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee, declared in St. Louis that the ability of differing religious groups in the U.S. to live and work in harmony is an achievement that "may well be the most valuable 'export' we have to share with other nations, peoples, and non-Western religious communities."

**Alaska's lawmakers** have given financially-strapped Alaska Methodist University at least a two-year lease on life by approving a two-year \$2.3 million lease-option agreement and raising tuition assistance to students at the private institutions so that they will pay no more than the \$300 it costs to attend the state owned University of Alaska each year. The lease-option arrangement is intended to give the university two years to get on its financial feet. If it succeeds, the \$2.3 million will be considered a gift from the state. Otherwise, the sum will be deducted from a sale price.

**Publishing and distributing** Christian literature in Spanish have become major businesses in Miami, according to a Religious News Service report. Earlier this year, the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries established Centro-Lit in the Tamiami United Methodist Church as a distribution house for Spanish-language Christian literature. Various other denominational and non-denominational Miami-based agencies are publishing and distributing large quantities of Christian literature.

**Canon Burgess Carr**, chief executive of the All Africa Conference of Churches, testifying before the United Nation's Security Council, said announced plans to eliminate some aspects of apartheid (racial separation) in Mamibia (South-West Africa) are "peripheral" and do not mean "restoration of the inherent dignity" of the black population.

**Media Action Research Center, Inc.**, a church-launched research project has accused commercial television networks of failing to meet their promise to remove violence from children's programs. Media Action said that in the 1974-75 season, when reform was supposed to become apparent, acts of violence and aggression appeared every three and one-half minutes of actual program time on Saturday morning offerings on NBC, ABC and CBS. Dr. Nelson Price, the new head of United Methodist Communications, is president of Media Action Research Center.

**Moment**, a new magazine for America's Jews, has an initial audience of more than 10,000 subscribers. Founded by noted author Elie Wiesel and Leonard Fein, professor of contemporary Jewish studies at Brandeis University, Moment hopes to serve as "a new, independent medium to keep up with the growing spirit that has been springing up in the American Jewish community over the past ten years," according to an announcement in the first issue.

**Father Emeric Lawrence**, a Benedictine monk who has ended his teaching career after spending the last eight years on the campuses of two Lutheran colleges — one stint at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa and the other at Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn. said, "We better get used to living together and loving one another in this world because in the next, where we all hope to be, there are no Lutherans, Methodists, Catholics, Baptists, Anglicans or any other brands of Christians: all are one in Christ."

**Barbara Herman** has the distinction of being the first female cantor to be certified after completing a full course of studies at a recognized Jewish school of sacred music in New York City. As a cantor, Ms. Herman is authorized to serve as co-officiant at religious services, direct and supervise all musical activities in a synagogue, and assist a rabbi in such services as weddings, bar or bas mitzvahs, and funerals.

**Gov. M. Thomson Jr.** of New Hampshire has signed a bill authorizing school districts to allow voluntary prayers and recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in public elementary schools. Under the law, school districts may decide the matter through local option. Students not wishing to participate may refrain.

**Minnesota Attorney General Warren Spannaus** told Minnesota United Methodist delegates that he favors raising the state's "age of majority" from 18 to 19 because there are too many high school seniors who are 18 and the present law, in effect, allows high school students to buy liquor.

**The Winston-Salem Recreation and Parks Commission** (N.C.) has reaffirmed its policy of not permitting religious activities in city parks. Nick Jamison, recreation director, told the commission that the issue of separation of church and state would be involved in the use of public facilities for religious purposes. The city's two stadiums are available for lease to groups, religious or secular, but the public parks and their facilities are not.



## Advance Planning For United Methodist Series

Dr. Roger Bourland (seated right), senior minister of First United Methodist Church, Omaha, Neb., has been selected as the featured preacher for the 1975 United Methodist Series of The Protestant Hour. He will preach 15 sermons on the theme, The Controlling Force, on Sundays beginning Sept. 28 and continuing through Jan. 4, 1976. Going over advance plans for the broadcasts are Mel Olson, also seated, musical director. Standing, left, is Dr. Robert L. Robertson, director of South Central Jurisdiction Methodist Communications, and Dr. David M. Abernathy, producer and executive director for the series.



# United Methodism in Arkansas . . .



## Brother Sorrells Honored

The Rev. Rufus Sorrells, pastor of First United Methodist Church, Fordyce, was honored recently on the occasion of his retirement after 39 years in the ministry. "Brother Rufus, This Is Your Night" focused on highlights from his pastoral career, including his ordination in the Fordyce Church.

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THE REV. CHARLIE CROUTHERS, pastor of The Church of the Nazarene in West Helena, was guest speaker at a recent meeting of United Methodist Men of West Helena-Lexa Churches.

THE REACH OUT SINGERS from Sylvan Hills United Methodist Church, North Little Rock, presented a singing worship service in Washington Avenue Church, North Little Rock, on Sunday evening.

THE SENIOR UMY of First Church, West Memphis attended a retreat and canoe trip May 23-25 on the Spring River. The Rev. and Mrs. Ben Hines, pastor and wife, were among the chaperones.

THE YOUTH CHOIR of Beebe United Methodist Church recently presented a musical program in Central Avenue United Methodist Church, Batesville.

FIRST CHURCH, Stuttgart had 257 entries in its recent Arts and Crafts Festival. Thirty-four ribbons were presented and 24 entries went to the Pine Bluff District Festival. Mrs. David Knoll and Mrs. Cleo Patterson organized the show.

FOURTEEN MEMBERS of the Arkadelphia District Parsonettes traveled to Murfreesboro to dig for diamonds recently. Mrs. Betty Graham is president.



THE REV. EDDIE WARREN (holding son, Chris), associate pastor of First Church, Benton, and Mrs. Warren were presented a money tree by Del Roberson (right) on behalf of the congregation. The Warrens will go to Dallas where Mr. Warren will resume his ministerial training at Perkins School of Theology, SMU, this fall.

ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY DAY is being held weekly on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at First Church, Lonoke. The event for all children grades one through six is directed by Greg Alagood and Eddie Campbell. Activities include arts and crafts, music, recreation, and story time.

AMBOY United Methodist Church, North Little Rock, held a potluck dinner recently to honor the Rev. Muriel Peters, pastor, and Mrs. Peters on their reappointment to Amboy.

FIFTY-THREE children were enrolled in the vacation church school held at Prairie Grove United Methodist Church. Mrs. L. W. Luginbuel was dean of the school. The Rev. Ray H. Edwards is pastor.

THE REV. R. B. BROWN, pastor, baptized and received into Mt. Olive United Methodist Church, Fordyce Parish, 18 boys and girls on a recent Sunday.

COTTON PLANT United Methodist Church held a commencement program at the end of the week of vacation church school with a display of crafts and refreshments. The Rev. Wilbert Feagan is the pastor.

HAMPTON CHURCH, Monticello District, held a Senior Citizens Day recently. Mrs. W. R. Stringfellow and Mr. Earnest Huff were honored as the oldest persons present and Mrs. Oscar Johnston was honored as the person with the greatest number of grandchildren. A basket lunch followed morning worship.

THE SENIOR UMY of Marvell Church presented a Christian musical drama for the youth of Wilson, Keiser, Joiner and Turrell. The Senior high youth of Keiser Church recently held a fund-raising softball game to raise money for a trip to Nashville later this summer. The Junior high youth of Keiser sponsored a Rock-a-thon to raise money for a camping trip.

THE REV. RONALD CLARK, associate pastor at Central Church, Fayetteville, and Mrs. Clark were honored at a potluck dinner on Sunday, June 8, their last Sunday before going to the new pastorate of St. Paul Parish, Harrison.

JULIA ANN HILLIARD, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Allan E. Hilliard of Cabot, and John Carroll Frost, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wiley L. Frost of Marked Tree, were married Saturday, May 31 in Greene Chapel on the Hendrix College campus, with the bride's father and the Rev. Jon Guthrie, minister at the college, officiating. Mr. and Mrs. Frost will be seniors at Hendrix this fall.

THE REV. AND MRS. Thurston Masters were the recipients of a silver tray with the inscription "First United Methodist Church, DeWitt, Arkansas, 1965-1975" and a love offering from the congregation of that church. The Masters have transferred to the pastorate of Cavanaugh Church in Fort Smith.

HANK BRAY, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Bray of Hampton, was presented the Eagle Scout award at a recent morning worship service in First Church, Hampton.

TWENTY-THREE YOUTH and four adults departed from First Church, Jacksonville, recently for a mission trip to Lydia Patterson Institute in El Paso, Tex. The trip was planned in cooperation with the Human Awareness Committee of the Metropolitan Board of Missions of The United Methodist Church.

THE SENIOR UMY of First Church, Paragould, recently returned from a trip to Florida. While in Florida the group visited Fort Walton Beach, the Gulfarium and the Destin deep sea fishing fleet. On the return trip they traveled through Mobile, Ala., for a tour of Bellingrath Gardens, and through Biloxi and Gulfport, Miss.

THE YOUTH of Cherokee Village United Methodist Church have held car washes, snack suppers and a rummage sale to finance an anticipated trip to Mexico in July. They are also engaging in a Bible study on Sunday evenings with the Rev. Roy Poyner, pastor, and Fred Heard, layman, leading. Mrs. Margo Strebe is youth coordinator.

THE SENIOR BETHANY SINGERS of First Church, Texarkana, under the direction of Mike Freyer, recently made a five-day singing tour to San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Houston and Monterrey, Mexico.

BROTHER HAL WEBBER, radio personality from station KLRA in Little Rock, spoke to the Creative Year's Club luncheon held in St. Luke Church, Little Rock, on Wednesday, June 4.

THE REV. ROBERT ARMSTRONG, a second year student at Perkins School of Theology, was pulpit guest in Winfield Church, Little Rock — his home church — on a recent Sunday.

DR. RICHARD RUBLE, chairman of the Department of Religion and Psychology at John Brown University in Siloam Springs, was the pulpit guest on Sunday, June 1, in First Church, Siloam Springs.

## Personalia

BOB EDWIN DODSON, son of Dr. and Mrs. Edwin B. Dodson of Texarkana, was elected president of the Student Government Association at Centenary College in Shreveport.

THE REV. AND MRS. Gene Ratekin were honored with a reception following a recent Sunday morning worship service at Sherrill United Methodist Church. They were presented a silver coffee service and love offering.

JUDY MELTON and Robert David Wagner, son of the Rev. and Mrs. E. Stanley Wagner, were married in Tigert United Methodist Church, Hot Springs, with the pastor, the groom's father, officiating.

MRS. SARAH FINCH, secretary at Western Hills Church, Little Rock was honored at a recent churchwide dinner for new members. Mrs. Finch, a lifelong member of the congregation has served as secretary for the past decade. As an expression of appreciation for her many services, Mrs. Finch was presented a watch. The program included a skit entitled, "As the Office Turns," a spoof — written by James Douglass — on what happens on a busy day in the church office.

## 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.

June 22—Sunday . . . . . Matt. 10:26-31  
June 23 . . . . . Mark 4:35-41  
June 24 . . . . . Luke 9:23-26  
June 25 . . . . . Psalm 119:25-29  
June 26 . . . . . Lam. 3:19-24  
June 27 . . . . . Psalm 23:1-6  
June 28 . . . . . Prov. 27:10-12  
June 29—Sunday . . . . . Luke 10:8-12

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THE EVANGELISM Work Area of Moorefield-Southside Church, Batesville District, reports 31 additions plus 6 children to the preparatory roll, with 16 confessions of faith and 20 baptized. The Rev. Oliver W. Logan is pastor.

THE JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH of First Church, Malvern made a five-day trip to Dallas, Arlington, Houston and Galveston, Tex., June 1-5, accompanied by the Rev. and Mrs. Charles Ashcraft, pastor and wife, and other counselors.

THE MALE CHORUS of Arkansas State University presented a musical concert following a Family Night potluck supper at First Church, Forrest City, on Tuesday evening, June 3.

HERMAN HESS, professor at Arkansas College, Batesville, presented a recital on the new organ at First Church, Newport on Sunday evening, June 1. Mrs. Hess sang selections by Bach, Handel, Franck and Mozart and Mr. Hess played selections by Soler, Bach and Vienne.

THE VARIATIONS, the youth choir from First United Methodist Church in Dallas, presented a musical concert in First Church, Ashdown on Saturday evening, June 1. The Rev. and Mrs. Walker Bailey were among the adults accompanying the group.

"MOSES — THE LAWGIVER" will be presented as a six-part series on CBS and Channel 11 this summer beginning on Saturday, June 21 at 9 p.m. The following segments will be seen on consecutive Saturdays at the same hour: June 28, July 5, July 12, July 26 and Aug. 2.



MRS. GEORGE CLEARY (left), wife of the pastor of Cotter United Methodist Church, receives money tree from Mrs. Isaac Rudge, past president of Cotter UMW. The presentation was made at the May meeting of UMW before the Clearys left for their new pastorate at Fisher Street-Pleasant Grove, Jonesboro.



## A Contagious Witness

By Marguerite (Mrs. R. K.) Bent  
(Past President  
North Arkansas WSCS)



Cordella Donaldson

Cordella Donaldson was born in Jamaica. She was not sent to school regularly while she was growing up. She never went to high school, but she was a Christian and attended a retreat. While there it seemed the Lord said to her, "I'm going to send you to a strange land." She dreamed about that land and imagined what it would be like. Meanwhile, she worked as a domestic and clerked in stores.

An opportunity came when Bishop Blakely of Philadelphia came to Jamaica. He brought her to the United States and sent her to a college in the east. There they told her she must go to high school. Because she was beyond school age, the Bishop told her to come home. Then he sent her to Shorter College in Arkansas.

After finishing there she was working in one of the medical centers, when the immigration officials came and told her she was not permitted to work and must go back to Jamaica if she was not in school. That is when she came to the College of the Ozarks. Walking across the campus it seemed familiar. It was the place she'd dreamed about.

Cordella can speak convincingly on world peace and brotherhood in excellent English. She sings and especially loves hymns. She directed programs for international nights at the College and at First Methodist Church. She taught other students to dance to a Jamaican work song while she carried a heavy load on her head. Many different churches and schools around Clarksville enjoyed her singing and description of life in

Jamaica. She made many friends on and off campus. She graduated May 18th from the College of the Ozarks.

But above all, Cordella is a vivacious, radiant, dedicated Christian witness. She is a Methodist, and believes God sent her to the College of the Ozarks and now, after much prayer, she believes it is his will that she go to Scarritt College in Nashville, Tennessee and major in church and community work.

Scarritt has accepted her and given her a scholarship which covers a big part of her tuition. But there are books and supplies, room and board, and personal expenses; so much more is needed. She receives no help from home for her parents are no longer living.

Methodist Women never miss an opportunity to further missions. They lead the Church in reaching out to all the world. Already many individual Methodist Women of several churches have contributed money for Cordella.

If other individuals would like to help put this lovely girl through our Methodist college for Christian workers and send her back to Jamaica a contagious witness, please send any amount you can to Mrs. R. K. Bent, 615 Hill Street, Clarksville, Ark. 72830.

†

### Arkansas Methodist Memorial Gifts

ALFRED A. KNOX  
Rev. and Mrs. Allan E. Hilliard  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Furrow  
Mrs. J. Q. Schisler  
Lillian Bibb Wilson  
Mr. and Mrs. C. Ray Tribble  
Dr. and Mrs. John A. Bayliss  
Methodist Foundation  
Rev. and Mrs. J. Robert Scott  
Dr. and Mrs. Ewing T. Wayland  
Rev. and Mrs. John S. Workman  
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Compton  
†

### Arkansan Elected To National Contact Board

Richard C. Butler Jr., chairman of the CONTACT board of directors at First United Methodist Church, Little Rock, has been elected to a three-year term on the 27-member board of CONTACT Teleministries, USA. His election occurred at the agency's fourth conference recently held in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. Butler has been active in the CONTACT program since its establishment at First Church in the summer of 1969.

†

## Rural church in Monticello District on the move

By Mrs. Herman Lisemby

The Kingsland United Methodist Church numbered 103 members March 1, 1974. In the past 13 months 21 new members were added to the church roll. Their love of God and for their fellowmen caused these 124 dedicated Christians to accept their responsibilities of stewardship. By working together they have accomplished an astounding number of goals and are proceeding to other projects with amazing speed.

In 1949 the congregation moved into a new building; the old church building had been used for 65 years. Early in 1974 it became apparent that the frame building needed extensive repairs. Immediately a building fund was established, goals were set, and work began.

The goals already reached include the following improvements: the foundation was repaired, the entrance was enlarged, new sidewalks were added. New

opaque windows were installed throughout the church, those in the sanctuary are stained shades of lavender to match the ceiling tile. Carpet was installed in the sanctuary and foyer. A massive walnut table was refinished and placed in the foyer. Memorial gifts of a new communion table, crocheted altar cloths, new floral arrangements, and an antique brass piano lamp add to the beauty of the sanctuary. One of the rooms in the education department was painted and updated.

Dark red bricks were placed around the frame building. A brick sign was constructed on the church lawn. It supports the bell taken from the original church. The bell had been in storage for 25 years. It was cast in Tiffin, Ohio on August 10, 1909. The bell and mountings weigh 570 pounds. The bell is painted gold, the mountings are silver, lettering on the sign are in black and white. It is

used every Sunday to call the congregation to worship.

In addition to the improvements to the church building, the members were busy serving God by helping others.

They presented a musical program, 43 lap robes, and 83 pieces of linen to the Rison Nursing Home patients.

The annual Christmas pageant was staged, fruit baskets were delivered to the aged and shut-ins.

They accepted and delivered over 100 pairs of new shoes to the Methodist Children's Home along with school supplies, clothing, cosmetics, linens, miscellaneous items and a love offering of \$90.

The Pension Fund Pledges were met and exceeded.

They accepted and donated 417 khaki suits to the Tucker Intermediate Reformatory. These uniforms are used to reward good behavior and meritorious

service by the inmates.

A singing school was sponsored; monthly bulletins were printed, and a scrap book of the history of the church was started.

The Kingsland Circuit is located in the Monticello District. The Rev. Everett Vinson is the district superintendent. The Rev. Elam Turner is the pastor. Leo Elam serves as chairman of the Administrative Board and Building Fund Chairman.

Members of the Administrative Board are George Childs, George Harold Childs, G. W. Kight, W. A. Lisemby, Herman Lisemby, Woodrow Rogers, W. H. Rogers, James Rogers, James Drake, Herb Garrett, Bobby McKinney, Cecil McKinney, Eugene Rhodes, and Dusty Rhodes. Mrs. Arlene McKinney is financial secretary. Trustees are George Childs, Eugene Rhodes and W. H. Rogers.



Three Generations, All Delegates

Three generations of the Riffin family were represented among official delegates to the recent session of the Little Rock Conference in Hot Springs. From left, Don Riffin, from Asbury Church, Little Rock; Lee Ann Ashcraft of Jones Mill, youth delegate from Arkadelphia District; and the Rev. and Mrs. Robert L. Riffin, pastor and wife, of Portland-Wilmot Charge. Lee Ann is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Ashcraft, the elder Riffin's daughter and son-in-law.

KINGSLAND CHURCH  
before recent  
renovation.



AFTER addition  
of brick on  
exterior, new sign,  
and old bell  
brought out  
of storage.





The Sunday School Lesson  
for June 29, 1975



# A New Person In Christ

by WAYNE S. WHITE

**ORIENTATION:** Christian Growth is the theme for July and August. It inspires wonder to think that life is growth, and that we are made to grow. Our spirits, like bodies, have needs for the food of growth; we need to exercise the spiritual aspects of living; and we can choose the directions and goals of spiritual growth.

**BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE:** John 15:1-11.

**DEVOTIONAL READING:** Matthew 5, the Beatitudes and part of the Sermon on the Mount. The hymn, "Spirit of God, descend upon my heart."

**PURPOSE:** The focus is on conditions for Christian growth. The John 15 passage is the familiar allegory of the vine. Look for new meanings in it, and discuss the relationship suggested and its rich symbolism. What, really now, is growing? How do persons direct their own growing? And how do they grow in relationships?

## A New Person

One whose way of living is drastically and definitely changed can be called a new person. Values he once held and sought for are not important; they are old to him. What he once enjoyed he no longer finds interesting. Those things are old. Now he gives himself to "new" purposes and works for "new" values.

Think about a person you know who experienced such a changed life. Perhaps he or you can give the exact time and place when such a decision and commitment were made. This new loyalty to Christ may have been accompanied by an exalted feeling of an inner glow, or heart warming (as Wesley described it). Some evangelists talk about the start of a changed life in terms of finding God, or finding oneself, of new life or vitality.

The "old" life was one of groping, groveling in lostness, coldness, boredom, ennui, and meaninglessness. Now the change becomes a peak experience.

A good start has been made, and even if it is followed by what seems plain, ordinary living, it has launched the Christian on the high road that leads through the narrow gate to a rich fullness of life. He may find that it helps to pray for "no dream, no prophet ecstasies, . . . or angel visitant, but take the dimness of my soul away" (Hymn, Spirit of God, descend upon my heart).

## Salvation And Christian Growth

Some Christians, however, are not familiar with the high moment often called a conversion experience. They point to the phrase in Acts where the apostles added to the Church those who "were being saved." Salvation for them is not a one-shot, one-time thing. It is a continuing experience, an ongoing process, a condition of being rightly related to God, through Jesus Christ.

Horace Bushnell believed that a "child is to grow up a Christian and never know himself as being otherwise." His epoch-making book, "Christian Nurture" gave a great impetus to religious education and placed a heavy responsibility on the church and family. If a person never considers himself not a Christian he must always grow. As he enlarges his world in youth, he must enlarge his ethics and his concept of God. As problems confront him in maturity his inner strength and religious vision must keep pace.

Religious growth is not easy or simple, but it is the natural thing. When Jesus placed a little child in the midst and said everyone to follow him must become as a little child, and the Kingdom belongs to the child, he implied that growth is the divine plan. If we only could and would keep on growing in mind, body and spirit as the little child, we would share the Christ-like life.

We who were born in a Christian home, of Christian parents, were baptized early and enjoyed from infancy the Church fellowship always thought of ourselves as Christians. We were "new in Christ" and if life got boring or if we did things a Christian should not do, we repented and found life "renewed" in worship, or in prayer, or in fellowship with other disciples.

Even Martin Luther admitted that his prayers were often lifeless, and felt dead until he joined others in the Church at worship. Then, he says, the spark kindled his spirit.

## Not The Start, But Growth Counts

Each person works out his own process of renewing and growth. If he is authentic and true to himself he will not live by formula or by dictation from others. The Protestant has historically insisted that each person has direct access to God and his Holy Spirit through Jesus. The working of the Holy Spirit and the person's own free spirit inspire and direct the growing process. Each one must be true to himself. Then he is authentic. Then he can be true to Christ.

## The Young Jesus Grew

The world's greatest demonstration of spiritual growth is the divine-human Jesus Christ. He grew. He grew as others do, from within. Luke's gospel described the boy Jesus at twelve, who "grew in wisdom, in physical stature, and in favor with God and man." Only a little is known about each of these four phases of all-round growing. The gospels tell of the boy Jesus with the scholars in the Temple, "both hearing them and asking them questions." Physically he did carpentry, and traveled on foot.

We can easily believe he achieved the high art of interpersonal relationships, and above all, was in close touch with his and our heavenly father.

Jesus made much of childhood, the time of great growth. He set the children in the midst of the crowd and said, "of such is the Kingdom" and "except you become as little children you will not enter the Kingdom." He called on people to continue the growth in wonder, reverence and openness. But, instead, we too often grow away from the child sense of joy in the wonder of life, and other Kingdom qualities.

Our education often educates us away from reverence for the new. We ask who made the world? and some adult who is supposed to know everything tells us that God made it. We had our question answered, and our curiosity is quenched. But we do not know anymore about the meaning of the word "God," and now we know enough and stop wondering. The one-word label on the cosmic spirit who is still doing much creating, and I hope always will, by definition and by limiting God, has put a stop to the growth of a child's spirit.

## QUESTIONS

Let us take a deliberate close look at ourselves. Why wait until some crisis or emergency makes the past come by and we see the end coming close? Here are some good thought-provoking questions asked by writers on personality:

1. When did you last feel deeply thankful?
2. What was your last soul-adventure?
3. Have you recently felt an awareness of the worries and hurts of other people?
4. Have you been aware of the wonder of God's goodness?
5. Have you felt the goodness of life, and how glad you are to be alive?
6. Do you appreciate the bodily dependence on air, which surrounds our bodies but must get into our lungs if we are to live? and water? and sunlight which transform polluting gases into oxygen through green leaves?



# Survey shows American family troubled, but strong, resilient

## Difficult times encourage return to basic values

NEW YORK (RNS) — Today's family is "troubled" but it is also "strong and resilient," a major nationwide survey has indicated.

"Individual family members express confidence in the health and well-being of their own families, their ability to work and sacrifice together," concludes a report of the study.

The study was conducted by the opinion research firm, Yankelovich, Skelly and White, which interviewed members (in most cases two per family) of a cross section of 1,247 American families and more than 150 professional specialists in various aspects of family life.

General Mills financed the study as the first in a projected series of research reports it is sponsoring on the family. The company has undertaken the project, according to a statement in the published 114-page report of the initial study, because of "its continuing commitment to the well-being of the nation's consumers."

Summarizing their findings, the Yankelovich surveyors reported, "For most families, uncertainty and concern have not fostered a sense of 'live only for today.'"

### Commitment To Values Strengthened

"Rather, they wonder how to cope with today, how to prepare for tomorrow while worrying about their nation and its leaders. In short, difficult times have served to strengthen family members' commitment to many values — family, financial security, savings and thrift — but they have also eroded family confidence in the future."

Many of the family experts interviewed thought "the United States has become so accustomed to affluence and economic growth that many families may be unprepared, and even unwilling, to face up to the threat of austerity and sacrifice presented by today's uncertain economy."

Of the families interviewed, 83 per cent said they were doing very well or fairly well themselves. But 56 per cent felt insecure about their long-range economic future, and 52 per cent thought the United States was heading for a depression.

Over half the American families surveyed, 53 per cent, reportedly expressed the view that they had a right to a better standard of living each year, whereas 45 per cent "have begun to accept the idea that each year may not be better financially."

The number who thought they could work out their own problems — 46 per cent — almost exactly equalled the number who thought solving their problems depended on what happened to the country — 45 per cent.

Comparing their situation with a year earlier, 14 per cent of American families said they were doing better, 48 per cent said their situation was about the same and 37 per cent felt they were worse off.

Asked to list their major concerns, 56 per cent of those who were fairly or very pessimistic about the country cited the economy, 47 per cent said lack of leadership and 24 per cent expressed major concern about the moral climate.

The Yankelovich surveyors expressed the conclusion that what had once been considered "the American dream" had come to be viewed as "a social right."

"This new orientation," the report suggests, "does not make it easy to adapt to the realities of the present, and the evidence suggests that many American families are psychologically unprepared for a period of scarcity or declining gross national product."

Discussing money as a subject of family argument, the survey report says 54 per cent of the families argue about money and 46 per cent do not.

"Families most likely to argue about money," the report says, include those who are least well off economically or those whose standard of living is lower today than a year ago."

Of those surveyed, 35 per cent said they thought bad times bring out the best in people, whereas 60 per cent thought they bring out the worst. The rest were not sure.

Teenagers apparently did not notice deadlines in family standard of living as readily as parents, or their parents had not kept them informed about the state of family finances. While 39 per cent of husbands and 36 per cent of wives said their standard of living was worse than a year previously, only 18 per cent of the teenagers thought so.

### Family Heads List Of Personal Values

Asked to name their most important personal values, those surveyed cited family (92 per cent), work (77 per cent), education (76 per cent), self-fulfillment (75 per cent), financial security (74 per cent), religion (62 per cent), doing things for others (61 per cent), having

children (60 per cent), not being in debt (60 per cent), patriotism (59 per cent) and saving money (55 per cent).

A related question calling for a list of aspirations found 55 per cent answering "having a secure retirement," 53 per cent "not having to depend on others," 50 per cent "raising children to be moral people," 47 per cent "being able to help others," and 45 per cent "being completely out of debt."

The survey report suggests that recession could slow down changes in male-female roles because "when income declines, the husband's role as provider and decision maker is reinforced." But it also says that a countervailing force may be an increasing number of working wives.

Families are cutting back in many areas to reduce expenses, the survey found. About half have already cut back on things like clothing, eating out, gifts and throwing out things that can be repaired. Some (18 per cent) are even postponing medical and dental checkups.

Despite the high importance given to being out of debt and saving money, 36 per cent of the families owed more money than they did a year earlier. And a third of American families paid for Christmas 1974 on credit or by charge accounts.

Still, many people report a high degree of satisfaction with many areas of their lives. There were 78 per cent who reported satisfaction with the "way I handle problems in my life," an equal percentage satisfied with the "way family works together" and 72 per cent with "amount of time spent with family." However, only 19 per cent were satisfied with the standards and values of society.

### 'Protestant Ethic' Dominates Value Structure

What the Yankelovich organization calls "the Protestant ethic" was found to "dominate the value structure of the American family." The survey found 56 per cent of all Americans committed to such beliefs as "duty before pleasure," "hard work pays off," "religion," and "saving even if it means sacrifice."

"Recognizing all their problems," the report says, "many American families still believe that some good things will result from the present bad times. They see themselves becoming wiser shoppers (70 per cent), less wasteful (59 per cent), satisfied with less (42 per cent) and more sympathetic and understanding (45 per cent)."

## Off the Press

**Storms and Starlight — Bishops' Messages on The Holy Spirit**, edited by Earl G. Hunt Jr. Tidings, 1908 Grand Ave., Nashville, Tenn. 37203. 117 pgs., paper back, \$1.50.

The General Conference of The United Methodist Church of 1972 issued a mandate calling upon the Council of Bishops to prepare a statement on "the importance of a personal experience of Jesus Christ and empowerment by the Holy Spirit." This volume of eight messages is the result of that call. It contains chapters authored by representatives of each of the Jurisdictions in U.S. United Methodism plus the overseas Conferences of the denomination.

Contributors are Bishops James S. Thomas of Iowa, Melvin E. Wheatley Jr. of Denver, Wayne K. Clymer of Minnesota, Dwight E. Loder of Michigan, Robert Goodrich of Missouri, Roy C. Nichols of Pittsburgh, Ole E. Borgen of the Northern Europe Central Conference, Kenneth Goodson of Richmond and Earl G. Hunt of Charlotte.

Evaluation: Been wondering how some UM bishops feel on current evangelical movements? This gives insight: good inspirational content and important for evaluation of current concerns.

## Your friendly neighborhood banker can look after church contributions

By Elliott Wright

NEW YORK (RNS) — Have trouble remembering to pay your church pledge? Been meaning to give to a church college?

Relax. Let the bank do it!

That is exactly what members of 10 denominations in five metropolitan areas can do beginning in the fall.

"First Fruits" is a voluntary, experimental program in which banks, with proper authorization, will make monthly or quarterly payments directly to religious institutions.

Bank Americard or Master Charge may also be used for converting pledges.

If "First Fruits" catches on in Philadelphia, Kansas City, Atlanta, Los Angeles and the Dallas/Fort Worth area, gone will be weekly "offering envelopes" — replaced by computers and by a system already used by insurance companies and some utilities.

The idea was developed by stewardship officials of 10 denominations working through the National Council of Churches' Stewardship Commission.

Planners hope they will revolutionize church financing, but they admit to some problems, especially what to do about the "offering" section of Sunday morning worship. They also face inevitable hostility from those parishioners who already believe that "pledging" somehow takes the element of "commitment" out of church support.

Churches taking part in the experiment: American Baptist, Christian (Disciples of Christ), Episcopal, Brethren, Missouri Synod Lutheran, Presbyterian U.S., Reorganized Latter-day Saints, United Church of Christ, United Methodist and United Presbyterian.

This is how "First Fruits" works. A member authorizes a local church to send a record of financial commitment (no less than \$10 per month or quarter) to a data processing group called Authorized Transfer Service.

The computer people then authorize a contributor's bank to make monthly or quarterly payments as determined by the account holder. The commitment lasts a year, and a giver may designate amounts to colleges, retirement centers and

other religious institutions as well as to congregations.

A record of the gifts is supplied to the giver by his bank in monthly statements and in an annual summary. Such records are considered valuable at tax time.

Now what about the "offering" section in worship? One suggestion is to use that part of the liturgy for "special offerings": a practice most congregations welcome in truly "special" situations but which most frown on as a regular occurrence — especially if members had already given at the bank.

A more likely possibility is stressing the "offering of self" as the choir sings the offertory anthem.

Another problem: What about the visitor who usually places something in the plate but would have no reason to join "First Fruits?"

And what about the quarter or dollar weekly pledge of young people who can't meet the \$10 minimum and have no bank accounts.

Those matters haven't been worked out.



# World Hunger tops Annual Conferences' concerns

EVANSTON, Ill. (UMC) — Concern for world hunger, election of 1976 General Conference delegates and action on a wide variety of petitions to the church's top law-making body highlighted the first third of United Methodism's 1975 annual conferences' sessions in the United States.

According to reports compiled by United Methodist Communications and NEWSCOPE, the national weekly newsletter of the denomination, most of the conferences concluding their sessions by June 3 had hunger high on the agenda. Included were special offerings received or reported, "alternate" meal facilities set up, major addresses delivered, and local church study and action programs approved.

Many of the conferences are asking General Conference to reaffirm the church's present stand on homosexuality, although at least five want to add an explicit bar to ordination of avowed homosexuals. None of the first 23 conferences reporting took any action relative to a theme or emphasis for the denomination in the 1977-80 quadrennium.

In elections for General Conference, the percentage of delegates who were not delegates in 1972 is running at 55 per cent, about 5 per cent lower than four years ago. A number who will be delegates to the sessions opening April 27 in Portland, Ore., were alternates in 1972.

## Women Delegates Gain Numerically

The conferences reporting through June 3 have elected 20 more women delegates than they did four years ago. A total of six of the delegations already have chosen women as their head, contrasted with only three out of all 1972 delegations, and only one of the 23 includes no women.

The Baltimore Conference has become the first in United Methodist history to elect an ordained woman as a delegate, although clergywomen have been alternates before. The Rev. Rebecca Kay Barger is pastor of the Roland Avenue-Evergreen church in Baltimore.

The 1972 General Conference included 128 women delegates. Another 147 were alternates.

Conference delegations which so far have chosen women to head them include Baltimore, Missouri East, Missouri West, New Hampshire, North Texas, and South Dakota. In 1972, only the North Carolina, Troy and Yellowstone delegations were headed by women.

In contrast, some 15 of the 1972 delegations from U.S. conferences were headed by lay men and of the first 23 reported this year, only two — Florida and North Indiana — will be so led.

New Mexico, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Puerto Rico, Alabama-West Florida and Red Bird Missionary have elected women this year when they did not four years ago. North Dakota is the only conference so far in 1975 not to elect a woman as a delegate to General Conference, although its jurisdictional delegation will include women.

Among the 1976 delegates already elected, 49 per cent of the clerical and 61 per cent of the lay were not delegates four years ago. In 1972, some 54 per cent of the clergy delegates and 64 per cent of the lay had not been delegates at the last previous General Conference, although a sizeable number participated as alternates.

Of the first 230 delegates reported this year, 28 are nonwhite.

Oklahoma elected a 16-year-old delegate and Florida has two who are 17. Peninsula chose the first husband-wife team, the Rev. Jervis and Mary Frances Cooke.

## Several Conferences Ask Explicit Barring Of Homosexuals From Ordination

While all the issues to face the 984 voting delegates in Portland are not yet defined, early reports apparently indicate little sentiment for a change in the church's stance on the issue of homosexuality which has been widely discussed in recent months.

The Social Principles adopted by the 1972 General Conference said that while homosexuals are "persons of sacred worth . . . we do not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider this practice incompatible with Christian teaching."

Alabama-West Florida, North Texas, Florida, Red Bird Missionary, Missouri West and Louisville were among those affirming the present statement. Alabama-West Florida, North Indiana, North Texas, New Mexico and Little Rock want added explicit bars to ordination of avowed homosexuals.

Troy supported the intensive study of human sexuality proposed by the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry. Kansas West asked each local church to study the causes of homosexuality, and North Indiana affirmed a ministry to homosexual members and the need for the church, at all levels, to work against injustices in criminal codes affecting homosexuals.

## Conferences Deal With Variety Of Issues

Louisiana is asking that present provisions for ordination relating to moral conduct be retained.

Among other subjects covered in petitions to General Conference, Mississippi is objecting to violence and sex on national television.

Alabama-West Florida objects to abortion except for medical reasons, and it joins Louisville and Florida in support for total abstinence. Florida also is asking the Board of Church and Society to support national and state legislation restricting advertising of alcoholic beverages.

Baltimore is asking a reduction of approximately one-half in the size of General and Jurisdictional Conferences. South Dakota and North Dakota want each annual conference to have at least two lay and two clergy delegates to General Conference, and Missouri West would require a youth between 16 and 18 years of age in each delegation.

North Texas is asking that lay pastors have voting rights in the annual conference on all issues except ministerial orders, clergy membership, constitutional matters and selection of General and Jurisdictional delegates; Alaska Missionary wants voting rights in the General Conference; and Red Bird Missionary is asking the right to ordain clergy.

Oklahoma wants space in regular curriculum for specialized board and agency study materials, and some way in which funds can be withheld from boards and agencies which support programs contrary to United Methodist policy.

North Texas and North Indiana favor making the

Commission on the Status and Role of Women a continuing agency of the denomination.

The concern for world hunger was demonstrated in a number of ways.

North Texas reported \$25,000 received in an emphasis during May toward a goal of \$37,000 based on 25 cents per day per member and it is considered probable that the entire amount will be received. The issue will be stressed again in the autumn.

New Mexico adopted a goal of each member fasting one meal per month; Troy called upon President Ford and Congress to develop a global strategy; Little Rock is asking a fast by members of at least one day a month.

North Indiana affirms hunger as a priority; Oklahoma set a seminar for next March and reported an offering earlier for more than \$11,000 for world hunger and refugee resettlement; Texas approved a program; Missouri East and Missouri West approved a convocation for later in the year similar to one held in the past year at which \$125,000 in cash and goods was contributed.

Baltimore set up a "hunger tent" where an alternate lunch was served and resource materials were available; Louisiana asked each local church to develop ways of responding to the crisis; New Hampshire encouraged financial support for hunger relief; Red Bird proposed a weekly fast of one meal.

Peninsula featured an alternate "developing country" diet at meal times, reported a 900 per cent increase in contributions to the United Methodist Committee on Relief in the first five months of this year and asked local churches to make hunger a priority; Louisville observed a fast on May 19, received an offering of \$1,000 for assistance, and made hunger an emphasis for 1976.

Florida received an offering of \$250,000 from local churches in response to a 57-day "fast and pray" observance, raised \$2,834 during conference to assist needy ministerial families in the Lucknow, India, region and adopted an emphasis on hunger for Lent of 1976.

## Most Sessions Dealt With Specific Local Or Regional Issues

Missouri East defeated a proposed \$600,000 for a new conference headquarters and approved an emphasis on evangelism for Lent, 1976. Florida rejected a proposed \$5,000,000 campaign to provide \$2,500,000 for church extension and \$2,500,000 for camps and conferences.

Baltimore supported a ban on handguns. Louisiana "strongly opposed" any legalization of gambling in the state. Peninsula opposed capital punishment.

Missouri West tabled a proposal to appoint a coordinator of an area-wide effort to resettle at least 600 refugee families in the state.

All but a few of the first 23 conferences to report indicated losses in membership during the past year. Mississippi, Alabama-West Florida, Florida, Louisiana, Puerto Rico and Peninsula reported gains ranging from about a dozen in Alabama-West Florida to some 3,000 in Florida.

(North Arkansas Annual Conference session which concluded after this report was issued announced a membership of 100,012, marking the first time its membership has exceeded 100,000.)

†

## Youth often have misconceptions about elderly, poll reveals

NEW YORK (RNS) — Old people are not as different as younger people tend to think, according to a survey by the Harris organization.

Older people were found to consider themselves alert, able to work, functioning well and not living wasted lives.

In the survey, conducted for the National Council on the Aging, Harris interviewed 1,473 people under 65 and 2,503 who were 65 or over.

Younger people tended to believe old people sleep and sit around a lot, find loneliness and poor health serious problems and have a hard time staying busy. Actually, survey responses indicated, such characteristics were true for only a

minority of older people, a percentage not much higher than among those under 65.

While 68 per cent of the younger people said they believed most old people spend considerable time watching television, only 36 per cent of the old people said that they did watch a lot, whereas 23 per cent of those under 65 did so.

In similar vein, 66 per cent of the younger group thought people over 65 "sit around and think a lot," but only 31 per cent of the older group gave that report of themselves, compared to 37 per cent of younger people who say they "sit around and think" often.

A majority (61 per cent) of younger people think "loneliness is a very serious problem" for those over 65. But only 12 per cent of the older group said they found loneliness a very serious problem. Seven per cent of the under-65 group said they had that problem.

Only 7 per cent of those 65 or over said "not feeling needed" was a serious problem for them, whereas 56 per cent of the younger people thought it would be. And 5 per cent of the young people themselves reported experiencing that problem.

Fear of crime would be a "very serious" problem for older people, in the opinion of half the younger group. But in fact only 23 per cent of the old people

said it was, only a little more than the 15 per cent of young people who are fearful of crime.

Statistics were approximately the same in regard to considering health a serious problem.

Older people would spend a lot of time sleeping, according to 42 per cent of the younger people. But only 16 per cent of the older people said they did sleep a lot, and 15 per cent of the young people said they did.

Only 6 per cent of the old people, as against 4 per cent of those under 65, report they do not have enough to do to keep busy. But 38 per cent of the young group thought old people would have that problem.

Arkansas Methodist



# METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME

The following people gave memorial gifts to the Methodist Children's Home as tribute of their love, sympathy, and respect of a loved one or friend. A memorial card has been sent to the family notifying them of this remembrance.

EDWARD ATKINS  
by Mr. & Mrs. Millard Pamplin  
by Bessie S. Thornton  
by Jack Richardson  
by Howard S. Hopkins  
RICHARD ANDRY  
by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Staggs  
MRS. W. B. ANDERSON  
by Mrs. A. C. Erwin  
GEORGE BOONE  
by The John W. Collins Family  
MRS. CARL BAILEY  
by Mr. & Mrs. Carl F. Stecks  
MRS. S. W. BOSWELL  
by Betty A. Green  
by Mr. & Mrs. J. P. Walt  
E. C. BLYTHE  
by Rachael Fullwood  
CAREY BLYTHE  
by Mr. & Mrs. W. Fred Rhodes  
CLIB BARTON  
by Mrs. R. M. Barr  
J. W. BLAKE  
by Mr. & Mrs. Dewey Price  
ED CAMPBELL  
by Johnnie Jones  
by Gertrude S. Boyd  
by Buell Thompson  
by Mrs. Mary Agnes Lawrence  
MRS. GRACE CUTHBERTSON  
by Mr. & Mrs. Elzie E. Meeks  
by Mrs. Faye Thompson  
by Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Hoffman  
by Mrs. Nellie Cuthbertson  
by Mrs. David T. Reese  
D. BYRON CARGILE  
by Mr. & Mrs. H. L. Strickland  
JOSEPH GILROY COX  
by Mr. & Mrs. Thomas C. Kennedy  
MR. AND MRS. ROY COCHRAN  
by Mrs. Sam H. Camp, Jr.  
JOHN F. DUNCAN  
by Mr. & Mrs. C. A. Thomas  
by Mr. & Mrs. R. E. Jeter  
by Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Ivey  
by Mrs. Hudgens Jeter  
MRS. MAXINE JACOBS DRIVER  
by Mr. & Mrs. M. E. Kale  
by Mrs. J. W. Hazle  
by Mrs. Ruth Wasson  
by Springtown Methodist Church  
by Mrs. Lena Bookout  
by Mr. & Mrs. H. F. Elsner  
by Mr. & Mrs. James A. Hendrix  
by Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur Holland  
by Mr. Bob Holland  
by Mrs. Emma Carter  
by Mrs. J. O. Bryant & Family  
by Mrs. Claud Rutherford  
by Mrs. Ann Whitney  
MELVIN DACUS  
by Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Thompson  
P. M. DACUS  
by Rachael Fullwood  
RICHARD HARDING DAVIS  
by Thomas and Ophelia Harris  
MRS. E. F. DUNN

by Carl Finch Family  
MRS. HELEN DRYE and SON, ROHN DRYE  
III  
by Col. and Mrs. Elliott A. Stoddard  
CHARLES OSCAR DOUBERT  
by Hackett United Methodist Church  
MRS. DELLA DRUMMOND  
by Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Alston  
MRS. ORVILLE DAVIS  
by Mr. & Mrs. Julian E. Young  
WALTER EDWARDS  
by Mr. & Mrs. Mercil Bankston  
M. S. "Shields" EDWARDS  
by Mr. & Mrs. R. L. Loggins  
GUS FULK  
by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Tarleton  
MRS. ALLEN FOSTER  
by Mr. & Mrs. R. L. Loggins  
THOMAS FLIPPIN  
by Mrs. Savanna Kersten  
MRS. CHARLES A. FARMER  
by Mrs. W. E. Leek  
MRS. MARTHA FARMER  
by Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Newton  
by Mrs. Minnie Pylon  
MRS. ANNIE MAY FRYER  
by Mr. & Mrs. John Carpenter  
MR. GOWER — Father of Mrs. Bill Foster  
by Mr. & Mrs. Carl Stecks  
MICHAEL GORMAN  
by Mr. & Mrs. J. Bert Webb  
by Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Strawn, Jr.  
by Ushers, Pulaski Heights Church, L.R.  
MRS. MATTIE C. GRIMES  
by Mr. & Mrs. John Carpenter  
WILLIAM HERBERT HANNA  
by Zollie Goodwin  
by Mrs. J. W. Swilley  
by Bill Lockett  
by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schwartz & Sons  
by Mrs. M. K. Bottorff  
by The D. Dean Royer Family  
by Mr. & Mrs. Gus Pugh  
by Mr. & Mrs. George Pugh  
by Mr. & Mrs. Walter B. Shelton  
by Mr. & Mrs. Tom Pugh  
BOBBY RAY HUFFAKER  
by Dr. E. Lloyd Norris  
STEPHEN HANNUM  
by Mr. & Mrs. R. A. Parkhill  
ARTIS HOLLAWAY  
by Mrs. Edward O. Manees  
by Mrs. Ted Morley  
DR. FRED HARRISON  
by Mr. & Mrs. R. A. Raymond  
MRS. JULIA HUFFMAN  
by Mable B. Hale  
by Mrs. Edith P. Myar  
by Mr. & Mrs. Garvis Pollard  
by Mrs. Marvin Carson  
by Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Motes & Tommy  
by Mrs. Jimmie Neal  
by Mrs. E. L. Bowe, Jr.  
WILLIE B. HOLLAND  
by Mr. & Mrs. J. C. Tankersley  
MRS. W. B. HOLLAND  
by Mrs. Lottie Tyler  
MRS. MARTHA HAYNES  
by Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Riels  
JACK HAYNES  
by Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Riels  
WARE L. HOPPER  
by Timothy United Methodist Church

JAMES H. HUTCHINSON  
by Mrs. Hudgens Jeter  
ROSS JOHNSON  
by Mrs. Dona Gibson  
MRS. SUSAN E. JONES  
by Mr. & Mrs. Dick Stewart  
GAITHER C. JOHNSTON  
by Rita & Jack Rhodes  
MRS. JIM KNOX  
by Rev. & Mrs. Harold Spence  
ERNEST A. KNIGHT  
by Mrs. Velda Fern Tillery  
by Carl & Ida Mae Stecks  
MRS. ALPHA KEELY  
by Mrs. W. W. Dike  
MRS. LIDA KEMP  
by Mrs. Albert Black  
REVEREND ALFRED A. KNOX  
by Mr. & Mrs. Troy H. Cate  
by Rev. & Mrs. James R. Chandler  
by Mrs. Homer Williamson  
MRS. ALMA LATIMORE  
by Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Thompson  
MRS. "Janet" GUY LACKEY, JR.  
by Mr. & Mrs. Ward Ramsey  
JANET HANDY LACKEY  
by Mr. & Mrs. J. P. Walt  
MRS. OLIVIA TROTTER LEAKE  
by Mrs. Edwin D. Gregory  
by Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Neal  
MRS. GRAYDON B. LEAKE  
by Mr. & Mrs. Harold Leake  
WILLIAM GEORGE LEONARD  
by Mrs. Ruby Love  
HENNIE RICE LOTT  
by Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Williams  
PAUL LEWIS  
by Mr. & Mrs. R. M. Priddy  
BILLIE GEORGE LEONARD  
by Mr. & Mrs. Donald J. Whalen  
WILEY A. McGEHEE, JR.  
by Mr. & Mrs. Clude Rogers  
by Mr. & Mrs. F. E. Bayliss  
by Mr. & Mrs. Van Tuberville  
MRS. ELIZABETH PEACOCK McPHERSON  
by Mrs. Elizabeth E. Maxwell  
LEE MARTIN  
by Mrs. Faye Thompson  
by Clyde Broach  
by Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Councille  
by Mrs. M. B. McLeod  
MRS. EXA FAVOR MATTHEWS  
by Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Ivey  
by Mrs. Lottie Tyler  
MRS. QUEENIE MATTHEWS  
by Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Hoffman  
MRS. HARDY MATTHEWS  
by Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Hickerson  
MRS. BURRELL MORGAN  
by Mr. & Mrs. Larry Brewer  
A. E. "Zeke" MONTGOMERY  
by Cecil W. Kuehnert  
H. P. MERRITT  
by Rachael Fullwood  
MRS. FRED MILLER  
by Mrs. J. W. Gilmore  
by Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Meiner  
by Mr. & Mrs. Roy Hull Smith  
by Mr. & Mrs. H. H. Lacefield  
MRS. PAULINE EMBRY MOSER  
by Mr. & Mrs. John Carpenter  
MRS. LOIS MORRIS  
by Mr. & Mrs. R. M. Priddy

HOWARD MITCHELL  
by Mrs. Mary Williams  
by Mrs. Moble James  
PERRY F. NELSON  
by Mr. & Mrs. Hillard Machen  
by Miss Ann Machen  
MRS. J. M. NICHOLS  
by Mrs. John C. Shaw  
MRS. WILL PARKER  
by Miss Emma Lide  
MRS. WILLIAM PENDLETON  
by Mrs. Douglas Futrell, Steve & Suzanne  
REV. T. O. RORIE, JR.  
by Mrs. Ed W. Dixon  
by Sue Illing  
HENRY ROGERS  
by Mr. & Mrs. Lee Parker  
SON of Mr. & Mrs. Bob Robertson  
by Mrs. Edna Prater  
MRS. T. H. RAY  
by Mrs. E. H. Davidson  
MRS. N. G. SAWYER  
by The W. I. Woodfords  
MISS MARY SIMPSON  
by Mr. & Mrs. A. F. Monrotus  
by Mrs. Inez N. Laubach  
MRS. ESSIE STEWART  
by Mr. & Mrs. Hope Quinn  
H. B. SILLIMAN  
by Mr. & Mrs. T. O. Silliman  
by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Gammill  
by Mr. & Mrs. Ed. Horton  
WILL THOMAS  
by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Patterson  
CARL VAUGHN, SR.  
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H. E. VAN CLEVE  
by Mr. & Mrs. Morgan Jones  
MRS. CLARA BELLE VERNON  
by Mr. & Mrs. John Carpenter  
FRANK WILSON  
by Mr. & Mrs. Mercil Bankston  
GENE D. WRIGHT  
by Dick Coleman Family  
MRS. ELIZABETH WOOLRIDGE  
by Friends of Rock Springs Church  
W. E. WILLIAMS  
by Thompson W. Murray  
by Martha Jane Murray  
PRESTON WHITLEY  
by Mr. & Mrs. Carl J. Graves  
MIKE WOODSON  
by Mr. & Mrs. Billy Hicks  
ED WRIGHT  
by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Dixon  
A. L. WARING  
by Mrs. W. D. Lunsford & Family  
MRS. STANLEY WOZENCRAFT  
by Mr. & Mrs. C. F. Taylor

## IN HONOR

Senior High Graduates of 1975 of Forrest City  
by Forrest City United Methodist Women —  
First Church  
Mr. R. M. Priddy  
by Mr. Ward Ramsay  
Dr. Alvin C. Murry  
by Pulaski Heights B & P W Club  
Mrs. O. T. Ward (Mother's Day)  
by Chaplain & Mrs. George Stewart  
†

## News in Brief

The Rev. Wilson O. Weldon, editor of The Upper Room since 1967 who announced earlier he would leave that post in 1976, has been appointed superintendent of the Charlotte District of the Western North Carolina Conference, effective in June.  
†

Historic Washington Prairie Church near Decorah, Iowa, the first Norwegian Methodist Church west of the Mississippi, has been chosen to appear on the medallion struck for Decorah's 1975 Nordic Fest.  
†

GROUPS — RESERVE NOW FOR THE GREAT PASSION PLAY! Tickets, lodging, & meals only \$11 at KELLER'S COUNTRY DORM RESORT, Rt. 1 — Eureka Springs, Ark. 72632, Phone (501) 253-8418.



## Cornerstone Laid At Hall Memorial Church

Dr. Mouzon Mann, fourth from right, Hope District superintendent officiated at recent cornerstone laying ceremonies at Hall Memorial United Methodist Church. To his right is the Rev. C. C. Hall, pastor at

Sweet Home and preacher for the occasion. At right front is the Rev. J. W. Hogan, pastor of Hall Memorial. Assisting in the ceremonies was the International Mason's chapter at Ashdown.

Thursday, June 19, 1975



## Poetry Panorama

by BARBARA MULKEY

*John Greenleaf Whittier wrote, "We live by faith; but faith is not the slave of text and legend. Reason's voice and God's are never at odds. What asks our Father of His children, save justice, mercy and humility, a reasonable service of good deeds, pure living, tenderness to human needs, reverence and trust, and prayer for light to see the Master's footprints in our daily ways."*

### My Faith

I believe in God . . .  
Who hung the stars in highest firmament,  
And gives instructions to the tranquil moon;  
Who stimulates the ancient solar fires,  
And owns the right to fashion marsh and dune.

I believe in God . . .  
Who caused the earth its constant course to run,  
And writes each year the seasons for the flowers,  
And trains the birds to fly their trackless paths,  
And tells each day to liberate her hours.

I believe in God . . .  
Who reaches down to touch the human heart,  
And strangely warm it with His boundless grace;  
Who hears the cry of need for sins forgiven,  
And sings for joy when sinners seek His face.

I believe in God . . .  
Who sent His Son to die on Calv'ry's hill  
And pay the bitter price for all my sin,  
Who points the way to heaven's eternal joy,  
And waits with love to see me enter in.

by Charles A. Stuck  
Little Rock, Arkansas

†

### My Friend

God — such a terrible, formidable word,  
wrapped in awe and fear.

Not so for me. For me, Dear Lord, loving,  
kind and forgiving.

My friend, with comforting words to help me  
down that "straight and narrow".

My future is His, to lift or to test.  
Forever, merciful, my friend.

by Laura Cummings  
Little Rock, Arkansas

†



### Welcomed Back

Mrs. Harold Copenhaver (left) of Huntington Avenue United Methodist Women serves punch to the Rev. and Mrs. James Chandler at a churchwide reception honoring them upon their return for their fifth year in the Huntington Avenue pastorate.

†



### Five Confirmands At Hamburg

These five young men were received into full membership of First Church, Hamburg, by Pastor William A. Stewart on recent Children's Sunday. They are John Foote, Mark Pounds, Louis McCloud, Barry Davis and James Hamilton.

†

### Perfect Attendance Awards Ceremony

Albert Marlar (back row, right) of Willisville United Methodist Church has a record of 21 years of perfect attendance out of his 23 years of life. Currently in the employee of Social Services at Prescott, he is a graduate of Southern State College at Magnolia, has served as MYF president and in many other areas of service to his church. Recognized with him were Gaylon Waters (to his left) for three years' perfect attendance; (Second row) Chester Waters, 11 years; Mrs. Waters, 14 years; Mrs. Tilman Marlar (Albert's mother), 18 years; (Front) Gayla Waters, two years; Amy Waters, three years, Amber Marlar, five years.



### Bulldozing Parsonage Site

Wes Cartwright (on the dozer) and Kebel Hinkle, members of the Parsonage Building Committee at First Church in Mountain View, prepare the site for construction of a new parsonage. It is anticipated that the project will be completed by late summer, according to Pastor Jesse A. Bruner.

†



### A Warm Reception

Ms Kathy Fadick (center) is welcomed as new education and youth director at First Church, Benton, by Mr. George Price, chairperson of the Council on Ministries. Entertainment for the reception was provided by the "Now Singers." Some of youth are shown assisting with serving of refreshments.

†



### Wheatley Parsonage Dedicated

The Rev. Elmo Thomason (right), Forrest City District superintendent, preached at Wheatley and officiated at the dedication of the Wheatley-Salem parsonage on a recent Sunday. Shown at left is the Rev. Charles Nance, pastor, and Trustees Leonard Gehring, John Allman, Durwood Byrd, and Floyd French, who assisted with the dedication ceremony which followed a potluck dinner. The Wheatley choir sang, Bless This House. Members of the Baptist Church joined the congregation for the ceremony and open house.

Arkansas Methodist