

I saw the Christian Faith alive!

by S. Duane Bruce

EDITOR'S NOTE: On July 7 a chartered bus, carrying 26 youth and adults from the Northwest Texas and New Mexico Conferences, was involved in a serious accident while enroute to Mt. Sequoyah for the Jurisdictional Youth Ministries week. Dr. Bruce, who is executive director of the South Central Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church, offices in Oklahoma City, writes of that accident, an account of which appeared in our issue of July 10.

I saw the Christian faith very much alive this week following the tragic accident near Siloam Springs, Ark.

Those near the crash scene told me of the gallant efforts of Archie Echols, Carol Coggin, George Butler and members of the Siloam Springs fire department as they took chain saws to uncover those who were more seriously injured, who had been covered by the lumber being hauled by the truck involved in the collision. Observers expressed the belief that because of the quick work of these and the administering of first aid to the Rev. Richard Pittman, Jerry Robison (the bus driver), Jodie Eastham, and the Rev. Wilson Holman, their lives were saved.

I heard how the four medical doctors and their nursing staff at Siloam Springs dropped their regular cases and cared for these young people and adults in a most wonderful way.

I heard how the pastor and his wife, along with members of the Siloam Springs United Methodist Church and community, rallied to do everything

possible to take care of the group — getting to the hospital for first aid treatment, feeding those who were able to eat, securing transportation for those who could go on to Mt. Sequoyah. The young people and others could not say enough kind and gracious words about the people of the Siloam Springs United Methodist Church.

I heard expressions of appreciation about the Oklahoma and Arkansas highway patrolmen who worked the accident. They were so careful and concerned about each person involved.

I sat in the waiting room outside the intensive care unit of Washington General Hospital in Fayetteville, where dear ones were waiting anxiously for word about those who were critically hurt in the accident. I saw these young ministers from the Northwest Texas annual conference, comforting, listening, helping the nurses at times, taking telephone calls, running necessary errands — and I know all of us were constantly breathing prayers for those who were suffering, for those who ministered to them, for those who waited anxiously. I saw these young men waiting all night long for just an encouraging word about Wilson, Richard, Jodie, the bus driver, and others.

I saw pastors of the Fayetteville area come by and visit personally with each member of the families, giving comfort and encouragement. I saw and heard the doctors as they worked tirelessly with each of the injured. I saw the nurses as they labored to make each comfortable and minister to their every need.

I saw a layman, a car dealer in the area, give the keys to a new car to Archie Echols and say, "keep it as long as you need it to transport family members to and from the hospital, to run the necessary errands for them — and here is \$15 to make telephone calls."

I saw Rev. and Mrs. Lee Cate open the doors of Mt. Sequoyah to the families of the critically injured.

I heard the father of one of the young ladies who was seriously hurt, say, "It's certainly good to be a Methodist, a Christian, and see how everyone seems to care — really care!"

I heard a mother say, "I've seen these young ministers from a distance as they worked in the conference, but I have seen something very deep within each of them during these hours. I thank God for them and for The United Methodist Church."

I heard a young minister say, "Really, this is what the Gospel is all about."

I saw the Christian faith very much alive this week, in many ways. I would affirm the words of the young minister: "Really, this is what the Gospel is all about," and I, too, would say, "It's good to be a part of the Christian fellowship and The United Methodist Church."

We rejoice now that those who were injured more seriously, are now showing signs of improvement. The road of recuperation is going to be a long one for most of them — they will continue to need our prayers and our ministries. I am convinced that they will know the caring ministries of the Christian fellowship through The United Methodist Church in many ways.

Arkansas Methodist

Arkansas United Methodism's Newsweekly

Little Rock, Arkansas, Thursday, July 24, 1975



94th Year, No. 29

'School of Christian Mission' in session at Hendrix

The annual Arkansas School of Christian Mission is in session this week at Hendrix College, Conway. The event, being attended by over 300 persons from the two Arkansas Annual Conferences, is divided into two sessions — the Three Day School, Wednesday through Friday, and the Weekend School this Saturday and Sunday, July 26, 27.

Two study courses are being featured

in the school: A Nation Under God and Southeast Asia: Christian Presence. In addition, a Bible study on The Prophets is available to all participants and two special emphases are being presented: United Methodist Women and The Conference Council on Ministries — What is it, What does it do, How can

(Continued on page two)



From Vietnam to Arkansas

The Montgomery Class of First United Methodist Church, Texarkana (Ark.) is sponsoring a refugee family from Vietnam. Shown welcoming the head of the family is Mrs. Margaret Montgomery, contact person for the class. The family, which consists of the parents and five children, is living in a house renovated and furnished by church members, who have also made arrangements for employment for the father and special schooling for the children.

Christian Civic Foundation names new assistant

The Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas has announced the election of Mr. Michael S. Gipson of North Little Rock as the agency's new educational assistant. He will head the Foundation's Alcohol-Narcotics Education program conducted in the public schools of the state. His employment is effective Aug. 1.

A graduate of Sylvan Hills High School, Gipson holds the B.A. degree from Henderson State University where he majored in Sociology and Race Relations and the M.A. degree from East Texas State University where his major was in Sociology and in Criminology. He holds an Arkansas Teaching Certificate and is 26 years of age. He is a Baptist layperson.

Mr. Gipson has served as an Assistant Instructor at East Texas State University, where he taught Criminology. From 1971 to 1975 he has been an Instructor of Sociology at Westark Community College in Fort Smith, where he taught Sociology and Law Enforcement. During that time he served as a director of the Youth Service Bureau of Sebastian County and held an honorary commission as Deputy Sheriff. He is married to the former Linda K. McClellan. They have an infant son, Brock



Michael S. Gipson

Dwayne, and make their home in North Little Rock.

The Rev. Edward W. Harris of Little Rock, executive director of the Foundation, states that in addition to his other duties Mr. Gipson will be available for engagements at churches, colleges, civic clubs, PTAs and other interested groups. Appointments may be arranged by calling the Christian Civic Foundation office in Little Rock, telephone 372-0318.

Sponsoring A Refugee Family?

The Arkansas Methodist would like to keep readers posted on churches which are sponsoring Vietnamese refugees. If your church, or groups within it, is doing so, or is cooperating

with other churches in such sponsorship, we invite you to send details to the paper.

Ben Few Camp Meeting

The 1975 Ben Few Methodist Camp Meeting will be held Aug. 1-10 at the Ben Few Camp Ground near Princeton in Dallas County. Evangelist for the annual meeting will be Dr. George W. Martin, superintendent of the Arkadelphia District. The Rev. Fred H. Haustein, pastor of St. Andrew Church, Little Rock, will be song leader and youth director. The Rev. Jeff Davis, pastor of the Sparkman Parish, is the host pastor.

Principal daily worship services will be held at 11:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. with a morning prayer service at 7 o'clock. A full program of activities is planned for children and youth, and adults may participate in the Adult Bible Study at 3 p.m. each day. Mrs. Tyler Harrison of Little Rock, chairperson for this year's meeting, states that a special invitation is extended to youth, and that dormitory facilities are available for youth from ages 13 to 18 years.

A memorial service is scheduled for 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 10 with the Rev. Robert W. Trieschmann of Arkadelphia, campus minister of the Wesley Foundation at Henderson State University and pastor of the Okolona Circuit, as preacher.

Among other special events will be an

appearance on Sunday, Aug. 3 at 3 p.m. by the Agape Singers from Little Rock, who will present a program of gospel music.

Other leaders during the week are Mrs. Wilda Sue Brazeale of Sparkman, pianist, Mr. Lafayette Coker of Camden, Adult Bible Study leader and Mrs. Ola Wylie of Fordyce and Mrs. Nettie Looney of Holly Springs, leaders of children.

The Ben Few Camp Ground was established in 1898 and named in honor of the Rev. Benjamin A. Few, pioneer Methodist preacher in Arkansas. The Rev. Mr. Few was the father of the late Rev. Benjamin C. Few of Mountain Home, retired member of the North Arkansas Conference, who died this last week, on July 15.

The camp ground is one of four such sites maintained by groups of United Methodists in Arkansas. They are the site of annual evangelistic meetings conducted in a "homecoming" atmosphere in which family-oriented worship, social and study activities are enjoyed. Mrs. Harrison states "If you have longed for 'the good old days,' come join us!"

Ben Few Camp Ground is located two miles west of Princeton, just off Highway 8.

The Rev. Ben Few

Veteran pastor dies

The Rev. Benjamin C. Few of Mountain Home, a retired member and long-time pastor in the North Arkansas Conference, died suddenly at his home Tuesday, July 15. Friends report that he had been working in his garden where he collapsed and died almost immediately. He was 86.

A native of Black Rock, he was one of six children of the late Benjamin A. Few, pioneer Methodist preacher in Arkansas, and Lucretia Adeline Gregory Few. He was a graduate of Henderson Brown College and Emory University, Atlanta.

Bro. Few was admitted On Trial in the Little Rock Conference in 1910 and in 1915 transferred to the North Arkansas Conference where he served the remainder of his ministry. He was ordained Deacon in 1913 and Elder in 1916. He retired in 1957 after 47 years of active ministry.

S. H. "Herb" Allman

Former lay leader dies

Samuel H. (Herb) Allman of Hot Springs, a former Lay Leader of the Little Rock Annual Conference and leader in church and community affairs, died July 15. He was 79. A member of Grand Avenue United Methodist Church, he was active in Conference, District and local church activities and was a member of the Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church. He was a teacher for 47 years of the Allman Bible Class and was a past president of Men of the Church of Hot Springs.

Born at Erin, Tenn., Mr. Allman was a resident of Hot Springs for 60 years. He was a retired employee of Texaco with 38 years service. He was a past president of the Downtown Rotary Club, a World War I veteran and a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Barracks 317. He was a 50-year member of Sumpter Masonic Lodge 419, a member of the Masonic York Rite body, a past grand commander of Knights Templar of Hot Springs, a past patron of the Order of the Eastern Star, Hot Springs Chapter 69, a 35-year member of the Sahara Shrine Temple, a member of United Commercial Travellers and Woodmen of

the World.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Ruby Howard Allman; a son, S. H. Allman Jr., of Texas; a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Tilden of Alabama; two sisters, Mrs. Rook Bailey and Mrs. Laura Griffin, both of Tennessee, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was July 17 at Grand Avenue United Methodist Church. Officiating were the Rev. Norris Steele, pastor, Dr. C. Ray Hozendorf, the Rev. Alfred Doss, the Rev. Ralph Hale and the Rev. Martin Denny. Burial was at Greenwood Cemetery.



At Leachville Dedication

The education building and parsonage at First Church, Leachville were dedicated in special ceremonies on July 6th. The dedication was combined with a homecoming celebration and display of items relating to the church's history, including pictures and a friendship quilt dating from 1931. Shown are dedication service participants (from left) R. D. Jackson, Norman Kennett, T. J. Pierce, Edna Hall and A. G. Taylor, members of the Board of Trustees, Jonesboro District Superintendent Dr. J. Ralph Hillis and the Rev. James Harrison, pastor.

Council Directors to Local Churches

Ideas on celebrating the Bicentennial

The U.S. Bicentennial is a unique moment in history. This 200th anniversary of the American Revolution challenges us to look at the past from the perspective of the present. In so doing, we hope to build a future consistent with our Christian ideals, a future responsive to the reality of the 21st century.

As "secular" observances are planned and implemented in the 50 states, church leaders and congregations will want to consider "religious" aspects of the Bicentennial.

We as United Methodists are joining with fellow Christians and fellow Americans of all faiths to observe the Bicentennial. Although the 200th anniversary of U.S. Methodism will be coming (1984), there are ways we can relate as United Methodists to the U.S. Bicentennial from

a Christian, Methodist perspective.

The July-August, 1975 issue of *The Interpreter* has some excellent articles on the Bicentennial year observance. Pages 3-16, writers take a brief look at United Methodist history, where the church is now and some insights as to where it may be going in the future. Also involved are suggestions for "Getting a Handle" on the observance and some resources to stimulate planning in your church.

There are some ideas "floating around" about how we can observe properly the bicentennial year among Arkansas Methodists. If you have any suggestions, please contact your Conference Council Director, 715 Center, Little Rock, Ark. 72201.

School of Missions (Continued from page one)

your church benefit from it? The school is sponsored jointly by the Boards of Missions and the United Methodist Women of the Little Rock and North Arkansas Conferences.

The Rev. Frank Jones, pastor of First United Methodist Church, Brookfield, Mo., is the instructor for the study on *The Prophets*. Mr. Jones is a former member of the North Arkansas Conference.

Members of the leadership staff for the course *A Nation Under God* are the Rev. E. Edwin LeMaster, dean of Sue Bennett College, London, Ky., Ms. Marie Whitmore Watkins of Little Rock, a teacher in the Pulaski County Special School District, Mrs. E. Clifford Cummings of Dixon, Ill., president of the Women's Division and a vice president of the Board of Global Ministries, the Rev. William A. Cheyne, pastor of the Ashdown-Richmond Charge, and Mrs. J. J. Johnson of Kansas City, a teacher in

numerous Conference mission schools.

The leadership staff for the course *Southeast Asia: Christian Presence* consists of Mrs. H. Olin Troy of Chattanooga, Tenn., and Mrs. H. V. Anderson of Oklahoma City, both teachers in various mission schools, Dr. Charles H. Germany of New York City, staff member of the Board of Global Ministries, and Dr. Marvin H. Harper of Ellenwood, Ga., retired former professor at Candler School of Theology.

Mrs. Cummings will lead the special emphasis session on United Methodist Women and Dr. Myers B. Curtis, director of the Council on Ministries of the North Arkansas Conference, will lead the session on *The Council on Ministries*. Dean of the School is Mrs. Ed Davis of Sherwood, associate dean is the Rev. Thomas A. Abney of Monticello and registrar is Mrs. Harriet Kelley of Benton.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MINISTERS

Ministers who will reach their 65th birthday while still serving in a full-time capacity, and not drawing Social Security, should apply three months before their 65th birthday at their local Social Security office for Medicare. This applies to ministers who are eligible, and wish to participate in Medicare.

Ministers who have passed their 65th birthday, and have not applied for Medicare, but wish to do so, should contact their Social Security office immediately.

Should a minister's wife reach age 65 before the minister, she should apply for Medicare at the local Social Security office.

It is the minister's responsibility to secure his or her own Medicare coverage.

For those 65 and older, the Hospitalization and Medical Expense Program of the Conferences provides supplemental hospitalization and medical expense coverage only.

The Editor's Pulpit

From the Bottom of the Heart

Calls to evangelism: good news, but . . .

Pendulums swing. They always have and they always will. And generally speaking, the swinging is for the good — bringing renewed emphasis to neglected interests and concerns. But it is also true that the attention given to a newly-spotlighted interest means a corresponding loss of attention to what may still be very timely and vital concerns.

We refer to the repeated calls going out across our church for a renewed, more vigorous evangelistic stance. Such calls reflect an honest and much-needed effort to move us closer to our primary mission, to "what the church is all about." And it is hard to argue with the contention that "a greater emphasis on evangelism" is needed, for it is — if by evangelism we mean the taking of the good news of the whole gospel to the whole person.

But as justified as such calls are, they can harbor subtle dangers — just as can any call asking for the attention of the whole church. And as such, they should be subjected to the best of our critical appraisals and evaluations.

For example: Have we made an adequate examination of our motivation for such calls? Has that motivation come from a sense of divine imperative or have our calls been more in the order of knee-jerk reactions to repeated reports that across the church we are losing members in alarming numbers?

Certainly we should do our utmost to reverse that trend. But in so doing we should carefully weigh our motivation. Does it come only from a desire to "reverse a trend for the sake of the record"; or does it come from a conviction that we must better serve persons in the name of Christ — to offer, with more zeal, the good news of the gospel?

The first — to reverse a trend — is a worthy ambition, an urgent one. But by itself it is an incomplete motivation. The priority question remains: Is our call for a renewed, vigorous evangelism a call "of God" or "of man"? That question may long since have been properly settled. If so, fine. If not, we need go no further until it is.

Another question: What do we mean by renewed emphasis on evangelism? Does that mean we relax our attention to crucial social issues such as hunger, the quest for peace, and minority, ethnic and women's rights? Does it mean that we go light on missions and put education even further on the back burner than we already have in recent years? If this is what we mean by a renewed emphasis on evangelism, we need to go back to the drawing board.

The fact is, of course, that the gospel cannot be fragmented or compartmentalized into our neat categories. It is God's whole word to the whole person. And in our calls for a renewed emphasis on evangelism we will do well to remember that.

Seen overall, the current calls for a renewal of evangelism are good news. But we must be cautious that they do not end up more our own doing than God's.

The old one-two

Recently I happened upon two friends whose conversation had been on the sad state of world affairs, who had been bemoaning the fact that bad news seemed to greet them at every turn. I arrived just in time to hear one make a comment which I have not been able to put out of mind. He said that his church was the one place he could go and "feel good all week."

How significant that statement! And that's the way it should be.

Not the superficial "feel good" of escaping the hurts and sins and sorrows and uncertainties of the world, but the "good" feeling of knowing there is a word that is both a redemptive judgment and a balm in Gilead.

Not the phony feel good of having our sin overlooked or winked at or bought off by some cheap grace; but the genuine good feeling of being introduced to a gospel that both convicts and forgives by a grace made more significant, more "precious," by the cost with which it was won.

The good feeling of having the heavy claim of that gospel laid upon us to go forth boldly in the cause of truth and right and justice and mercy.

The good feeling of knowing that there is a fellowship which sustains us and of which we are a part in sustaining others.

No — it isn't enough just to feel good. But it is significant to know that in such a time as ours there is a place where there are resources — a Presence, a power — to equip persons to live as they were meant to: as whole, redeemed, human beings.

To know that is to feel good all week.

Off the Top of the Head

Lightning bugged

To make your problems seem a bit more bearable let me chat with you for a moment about mine.

It's my dog again. Ole Susio. (That's pronounced "sue-see-oh" — and, frankly, it's a name that I've never felt very comfortable with. My children tell me it's Spanish for "stupid," and I don't think anybody should name anything that, much less a good friend.)

But anyway, my problem is that Susio's come down with what appears to be a nervous disorder. Ever since one day last month when we had an especially bad lightning storm she's been, as they say, climbing the walls. And she doesn't even have any walls.

But she does have a fence, and that's the problem. On the night when it all started she had a house guest in, a friend from Nevada. Seems the girls were enjoying the security of our fenced-in back yard when whatever it was that happened, happened. And they both got so exuberated over it they chewed (chewed!) their way through the bottom of our cedar stockade fence, mind you!

And that's not all. Since that first time, it's happened on about four other occasions at other places in the fence. And what with all the patchin' 'n scratchin', I've had about all of that kind of recreation I can enjoy. Fortunately there's a nice hedge hiding the damage, so the neighbors can't see what a mess we've got.

But fences can be patched. What bothers me is the possible damage to Susio's psyche. We've put her on massive, 24-hour dosages of tender, loving care and she appears to be responding. At least she eats better what she's supposed to and chews less what she's not.

I note, too, that my neighbor's got similar problems with his dog, so if Susio does have to go to the State Hospital maybe we can get them both in on some sort of group plan. But whatever, if I don't come up soon with a solution to my problem I'm going to run out of fence and patience at about the same time. Surely someone out there knows how to cure a dog with Susio's condition. I need an answer fast.

†

Birthday fallout

I haven't told anybody in our office this yet, but when I was on vacation I tried to grow a beard. About all it looked was dirty.

And besides, most of it came out — of all things — gray!

So I've got two good reasons now not to look like Ernest Hemingway. And besides, I'm not sure I'm up to adapting to a change of image.

†

Kicking the habit

It's easy to give up writing poetry. I've done it a thousand times.

†

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NEWS and opinion

summary by Doris Woolard



The U.S. Army now has a hymn as a result of an Army Bicentennial Hymn Composer Competition sponsored by the Army Chief of Chaplains. Composed by Sergeant First Class Ralph Lee Bowerman, the three-stanza "Mighty Is Our Army," was selected from more than 1,200 civilian and military entries. The competition was part of the Army Chaplains Corps' 20th birthday observance. Sgt. Bowerman was awarded \$7,500 for his winning entry.

For the first time in the history of the Methodist Church of South Africa, women have been recommended for pastoral appointment. If approved at the October annual conference session, three women will begin the regular probationary period, usually six years, before full clergy standing is attained. The denomination is South Africa's largest.

Family Ministries, an adoption agency based in California that is handling placement of more than 50 Vietnamese orphans, has been enjoined from requiring specific religious affiliations from prospective adoptive parents. The case has far-reaching implications for all Vietnamese orphans. Superior Judge Lester E. Olson issued the preliminary ruling stemming from cases involving Dr. and Mrs. Richard S. Scott and their attempt to adopt a Vietnamese child. The Scotts claimed that Family Ministries acted in violation of their constitutional rights in requiring adoptive parents to be members in good standing of an "evangelical Protestant Church."



—RNS Photo

Cooperation In Space

HOUSTON, Texas — The Apollo-Soyuz Test Project (ASTP) is symbolized in this painting by artist Bert Winthrop. Elements include the ASTP mission insignia, a representation of the docked Apollo and Soyuz spacecraft and portraits of the five prime crewmen. All are super-imposed against the "Earth's sphere" in the center of the picture. Launches of the U.S. space vehicle (left) and the Soviet one are depicted in the lower right corner. The five crewmen are (clockwise from the ASTP emblem): Thomas P. Stafford, Donald K. Slayton and Vance D. Brand of the United States and Valery N. Kubasov and Aleksey A. Leonov of the Soviet crew.

Page Four

Seventh-day Adventists report that a new church with an average membership of 125 is formed every 24 hours in Central America. Dr. B. L. Archbold, head of the church's Inter-American Division told the 52nd World Congress of the denomination, meeting recently in Vienna, that in the last five years 399 new churches were organized and 4,412 new church homes dedicated in Central America.

"Western civilization is crumbling," evangelist Billy Graham told delegates to the Baptist World Alliance meeting recently in Stockholm, and said that only a gigantic spiritual revival will save it. He warned that the world faces starvation on an unprecedented scale and that a third world war could bring the end of "the world system dominated by evil."

Dr. Stephen F. Olford, of the weekly syndicated Encounter series, told the 150th anniversary meeting of the American Tract Society that "no great revolution has ever taken place in the history of mankind that has not started with print." Dr. Olford said, "... There are thousands, even ten thousand, ways of getting the Gospel across. But I am going to suggest that next to the Gospel in person ... is the Gospel in print."

The World Council of Churches, which has a policy of responding to human suffering wherever it may occur and wherever it is permitted to assist, in March appealed to its 272 Protestant and Orthodox Churches for \$1 million to aid Indochinese. The sum was oversubscribed by \$800,000.

Lewis Myers, a Southern Baptist missionary on furlough from South Vietnam, speaking of the influx of Vietnamese refugees into the U.S. noted at Miami Beach that "before the missionaries fled Vietnam, there was one missionary family for every one million people. Now in the U.S. there are five Christian families who can witness to every one Vietnamese person."

Alcoholics Anonymous held their annual international convention at Denver recently with over 18,000 persons from 29 countries attending. The heart of the convention was a series of talks given by members telling their experiences in overcoming alcohol. "We are a happy bunch," one member declared. Another noted "we are a people joined together by one thing — a powerlessness over alcohol. To recover from that, and to be able to help others as well, is really a very wonderful thing."

"Christians should either change their conduct or change their name," Dr. Billy Zeoli, president of Gospel Films, told some 1,600 youth and adults, ministers and laymen at the closing session of the International Christian Endeavor convention. He stressed that change is part of becoming a Christian.

The wide dispersal of Vietnamese refugees throughout the U.S. has been called a "most stupid thing" because it brings isolation to a people who need the fellowship of others of their own nationality. Dr. William T. Liu, director of the University of Notre Dame's Center for the Study of Man in Contemporary Society, said such isolation of refugees "will harm their psychological well-being."

Rabbi Seymour Siegel of Jewish Theological Seminary in New York said, "The 'bias for life,' requires that all individuals — most especially those involved in the healing arts — should direct their efforts toward the sustaining of life where it exists; that means and procedures which tend to terminate life or harm it are unethical; and that where there is a doubt, the benefit of that doubt should always be on the side of life."

Historic Ordination

GREEN LAKE, Wisc. — Leaders of three denominations in Wisconsin — all participants in the Consultation on Church Union — joined here in the laying on of hands for the ordination of 12 United Methodist ministers in an ecumenical service that is believed to be the first of its kind in the state.

Representing the COCU denominations were Dr. Ralph Ley, president of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ, Christian Methodist Episcopal Bishop E. P. Murchison, and United Methodist Bishop Jesse R. DeWitt, together with the general secretary of the nine-denomination union movement, the Rev. Dr. Gerald F. Moede, a member of the United Methodist Wisconsin Conference.

In addition to the historic ordination, local congregations of two of the three denominations represented intend to unite in Milwaukee — Concordia branch of Central United Methodist Church, and St. John's CME Church. The United Methodist Church has transferred title for the Concordia Church to St. John's.

Steve Stevens, secretary of the London based Nationwide Festival of Light, has called on the British public to be vigilant and make greater effort to outlaw the flood of "grossly indecent film" reaching local theaters. He cited evidence that "in London's suburbs and in the provinces many children are gaining admittance to these harmful films."

Eight projects related to the American Indian culture were among the 22 Bicentennial projects most recently approved for matching grants totalling \$280,575 from the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration.

A new world center to further evangelism is scheduled for completion at Wheaton College (Ill.) by September 1977. Although it will bear the name of Evangelist Billy Graham, the evangelist said, "This is not a monument to me, but a dynamic center from which strategies and trained people will go around the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ." Both Mr. Graham and his wife, the former Ruth Bell, graduated from the interdenominational college in 1943.

A curriculum outline on world hunger has been designed in Princeton, N.J. by a Jesuit priest and a mother of four children who is a former elementary school teacher. Called "Spread the Bread," the outline is geared so that teachers in elementary, junior or senior high schools may adapt for use the core material to suit the needs and interests of age groups. To date, eight schools in the area are using parts of the outline.

A new book by Dr. Howard J. Clinebell Jr., has just been published offering models and methods for using a "human potentials" approach to enriching normal marriages and helping those in serious trouble, particularly during the first five years and in the preparation for marriage period. Entitled "Growth Counseling for Marriage Enrichment: Pre-Marriage and the Early Years," the volume is one of numerous books authored by Dr. Clinebell, professor of Pastoral Counseling at the School of Theology at Claremont, Calif.

Dr. Jacob A. O. Preus, president of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, urged 300 participants in the denomination's theological convocation in St. Louis "to deal with each other with honesty and integrity and in the spirit of love and forgiveness." He said the denomination "is in an excellent position to render a great contribution to Lutheranism and to all of Christendom if we can discuss our differences in a manner which will be productive and beneficial for ourselves and others."

Arkansas Methodist

'High Church, low church, country church'

Take pick in church music, author says

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMC) — Churches are beginning to discover they don't have to be musically "high church," "low church," or "country church," according to William E. Wolfe, a staff member of the United Methodist Board of Discipleship.

In a new book entitled, *Music You Wear* (Tidings), Mr. Wolfe who has a background in both radio and Christian education, says some churches are discovering the joy of a pluralistic approach to music.

"This means that churches have the freedom to use a folk prelude, a traditional call to worship, a gospel hymn, a rock anthem, a classical offertory, a country response, and a soul benediction one day," he says. "Next week they can switch it all around, if they want to and if it fits the worship concept chosen for that service."

Different Strokes For Different Folks

Because of the wide age and interest span found in most churches, Mr. Wolfe believes they can provide the most natural community setting for sharing musical expressions of different people.

He describes the pluralistic approach to today's music as an "attitude of openness, expectancy, respect, hope,

trust and love." The counterpart is a polaristic approach — the kind where individuals and groups brand certain categories or styles of music as either "good" or "bad."

"Choir directors sometimes pride themselves on being defenders of 'good music,' displaying for all to notice their superior training and taste," he observes. "Many a bride-to-be has given up her prospects for a church wedding when she was told that the pop song she wanted played was not 'suitable' or 'approved' for use, even if it was theologically strong in concept. Church boards have sometimes compounded the problem in an attempt to offer variety by declaring special youth Sundays when young people could have 'their kind of music' while many adults took the day off."

Mr. Wolfe's book includes many such references to music and church life but it is not a "church book." Like the approach to music he describes, he believes persons of all ages and interests should seek more deliberately to understand what popular music as a mirror of our culture is reflecting.

To understand the young today, Mr. Wolfe believes adults must attempt to understand music of the young. Record sales, like the stock market, immediately

reflect the changing moods of the nation, he believes.

Until recently most music belonged to adults, but musically speaking, Mr. Wolfe says, adults today as a group have lost their voice. "We've come to a rather astonishing time today when very little music is being produced for adults."

"Nowhere is the lack of interest in new

music more apparent than in the church, where the word 'new' has to apply to hymns written 30 to 100 years ago," he contends. "That is particularly strange since the church through the years, especially in the 16th and 18th centuries, was one major area of society specializing in new music."

'Worship, music, arts' in national meet

BUCHANNON, W.Va. (UMC) — For more than 900 United Methodist musicians and worship leaders attending "Renaissance '75" here Aug. 3-9, their repertoire of program options will range from pipe organs and choir music to dulcimers and wood-carving.

Variety will be the name of the game for the national convocation on worship, music, and other arts. Sponsoring the event on the West Virginia Wesleyan campus will be three groups: The Fellowship of United Methodist Musicians which ordinarily hosts its separate meeting for musicians biennially; the United Methodist Board of Discipleship's Section on Worship which sponsored its last national convocation on worship in 1969; and the Choristers Guild, an ecumenical organization serving directors of children's and youth choirs.

Designed for musicians, ministers, lay

workers and students of all denominations, "Renaissance '75" will include:

- Twenty-five seminars and workshops ranging from consideration of weddings and funerals to disposable art in worship.

- Major sessions on worship design, adult choirs, organ, conducting youth and children's choirs, the Black musical experience, liturgical dance-chancel body language, and drama in worship.

- The premiere of an original work on the Bicentennial theme by Lloyd Pfautsch sung by a choir of convocation participants under the direction of the Southern Methodist University professor.

- Premiere of an organ composition by Gerre Hancock, organist and choir master at St. Thomas Church in New York City.

'What happened to the offering plates?'

Churches try electronic transfer of tithes, offerings

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMC) — If you notice that very few people are dropping anything in the offering plate this fall, don't worry, you're probably visiting in one of the five metropolitan areas where churches are trying "First Fruits — ACTS."

Translated, that means "First Fruits — Authorized Contribution Transfer Service."

Developed by 10 denominations through the National Council of Churches Stewardship Commission, 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.

United Methodists are cooperating in First Fruits through the Section on Stewardship of the Board of Discipleship.

Members Ready For This?

Clifford Lott, head of the section, said the idea began two years ago when an

article in *Business Week* magazine told how banks would soon be inundated with paper if more organizations did not turn to electronic fund transfer.

Mr. Lott and another representative of the NCC Commission visited with officials at the Federal Reserve System in Washington who were surprised because in their projections for electronic fund transfer possibilities they had not considered religious and charitable groups.

"For once the church may be too far out in front," Mr. Lott admits. "Local church members may not be ready for this."

Joining with the 10 denominations in First Fruits is the National Association of Church Business Administrators.

Metropolitan areas experimenting with the program during 1976 are Philadelphia, Kansas City, Atlanta, Los Angeles, and Dallas/Fort Worth. The program is completely voluntary for both churches and individuals in the churches. The NCC is providing training and resources this summer and fall and will conduct continuous evaluation

through 1976.

This is how First Fruits works. The church member authorizes his or her local church to send a record of their financial commitment (no less than \$10 per month or quarter) to Investment Data Corporation of California, a data processing group which can transfer funds in any bank in the nation. The company authorizes the 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 homes, and other religious institutions as well as to congregations. From each transfer, the Company deducts 65 cents for its services, 6½ cents of which goes to the NCC Commission for its First Fruits staff and material. The donor may receive a monthly statement from his or her church and an annual summary from the data processing company.

What About The Offering?

Mr. Lott acknowledges there are some problems with the plan but he feels most

are concerned about what happens to the offering section of a worship service. Mr. Lott says First Fruits will require a "re-symbolization."

"People first brought farm produce and put it on the altar. Then they substituted coins and paper money. Then they substituted checks. Now they can substitute an electronic transfer system," he said.

Despite some problems with First Fruits, Mr. Lott believes the program is most important from a theological standpoint. "Many individuals have their utilities and insurance bills paid each month by electronic transfer systems, in any case. They pay their regular bills and then give the church from what is left over. First Fruits helps donors give a higher priority to the church."

Churches outside the five metropolitan areas who are experimenting with First Fruits may join the program, according to Mr. Lott. Resource materials will be furnished but the churches must take care of their own development and interpretation.

Controversial adult study unit approved

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMC) — An elective "lifestyles" study unit for United Methodist adults, withheld from publication in May by the editor of Church School publications, has received approval by the denomination's Program-Curriculum Committee, and will be available Jan. 15 with a slightly revised format and a new title.

"A Christian Perspective on a Variety of Lifestyles" will be the title of the 48-page booklet and accompanying cassette tape. Originally, the unit was to have been available in September as 12 separate four-page leaflets accompanied by a cassette tape. The original title was, "Life Choice, a Christian Perspec-

tive on Alternate Lifestyles."

At their May meeting, members of the Program Curriculum Committee approved by a 13 to 10 vote margin a similar unit description proposal for youth. Following the narrow vote, Dr. Ewart G. Watts said he was personally unwilling to take the responsibility for the adult study unit already being printed. The Committee approved his motion asking that the adult unit be mailed to all members and that it receive at least a two-thirds approval before release. Editor of the unit is Nellie Moser.

Committee members consider general description proposals at their meeting twice a year but do not ordinarily review

the resources in their final form. The approved descriptions are assigned to editors for implementation.

Dr. Watts told United Methodist Communications that the two-thirds approval was given and the unit will be tested in several local churches this fall. Assisting with the field testing will be the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the group which originally proposed the study unit.

Following approval of the adult unit, Dr. Watts said an editor will be selected soon to proceed with the study unit for youth which has as its working title, "Looking at Alternate Lifestyles From a Christian Perspective."

IN SUPPORT OF RETIRED MINISTERS

A number of pastors have requested copies of the book, *THIS 'N THAT* by T. T. McNeal to handle on consignment. Any pastor may receive copies by ordering from T. T. McNeal, 623 West Main Street, Paragould, Ark. 72450. The retired ministers of both Annual Conferences in Arkansas receive all the profit from the sale of this book. This is an opportunity for all pastors to aid our retired ministers. Less than five copies can be ordered from Cokesbury in Dallas. The book sells for \$3.50.

—paid advertisement



for August 3, 1975

Resources For Christian Growth

by WAYNE S. WHITE

ORIENTATION: In this time of many shortages we are thankful for abundant resources for the growing Christian. We can only begin to make a list of the riches available with God himself leading the list. One lesson could not by any means exhaust his goodness to us: his great love, his trust in us, his provision for personal insight, his companionship in trial or sorrow, the gift of courage in testing times, and his desire to supply all our needs in and through Jesus Christ.

SCRIPTURE: Philippians 4:4-9; Colossians 3:1-17.

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON: By reviewing last Sunday's lesson on the Holy Spirit in Christian growth we can sense the outreach of God to us. Now we can look within ourselves to see how receptive we are to God's spiritual gifts, and how grateful.

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Our Sense Of Need For Growth

A man who realized his own great need to grow as a Christian asked, "How can I become a better Christian?" This might be a good starting point for everyone of us. If by act or word we fail to continue growing, we are not alive to the spirit and tinged with false pride. How can we expect the blessing promised to those who are meek, which is translated as "teachable"?

Our inquiring friend was told that he could be a better Christian by making use of such resources as prayer, the Bible, the Church, Sunday School and serving other people. He listened with some impatience and replied, "I know all about them. But what about spiritual resources?"

How would you answer his question? If anyone criticizes a Sunday School class and says it is not spiritual, just what does he mean, and how do you reply? Obviously the list above is spiritual, if they are used spiritually. Now if he means by spiritual something that is emotional, then it depends on what touches his emotions. But if he appropriates Bible riches so that he sees life with new perspectives and deals with people and himself on another level, something is happening to his spirit. All good things can be available, but we are only exposed without taking them in; they are wasted on us.

If we go to Church in a negative or self-centered mood, we are to blame if we seem to get nothing from the service. As the old saint said, if we bring ever so small a light to the meeting, God will fan it to a great flame. If we read the Bible as seekers, and attend meetings with an open mind and hungering heart, we will find rich nourishment.

Wherever there is a person, there is a possible spiritual experience. Persons are

spiritual, and can be approached on a high human level toward realizing the promise that "where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there."

Test yourself on this. When you see people do you see the real person or only a mask to hide anguish or anxiety? The unattractive fellow who works with you seems rude and rough. But he may be in deep trouble, and trying to hide it or gloss it over. Do you look for the real person?

The Christian's Great Resource Is Christ

I asked a man in my Church what helped him most to grow spiritually. His answer was, "Jesus Christ is the greatest power in my life." He told how some friends had helped him first by a simple invitation to an unstructured prayer fellowship. Then some whose relation to Christ seemed true and real had told of a Bible study group that helped them, and invited him. He went with them, and said one step seemed to lead to another. He is known by many as a strong, committed Christian ready to share anyone's problems.

The personality of Jesus enriches us and seems to grow richer as we learn more of him. Early in my ministry I read every life of Jesus I could get, and built my library around the best. E. Stanley Jones helped me disassociate Jesus from our western culture and see him not only as a native of the East, but as a universal Teacher, Master, and Saviour. We have not helped the cause of Christianity by identifying it with our brand of nationalism, and certainly He is Christ for more than the white race, and being a Jew he is a glorious gift from Judaism.

A man who came to understand Jesus and lived close to the high Christ-like standard of life was Thomas Kelly. He wrote in his precious little book, *A Testament of Devotion*:

"We Western peoples are apt to think our great problems are external, environmental. The outer distractions of our interests reflect an inner lack of integration of our lives . . . And we are unhappy, uneasy, strained, oppressed and fearful . . . For over the margins of life comes a whisper, a faint call, a premonition of richer living which we know we are passing by. Strained by the very mad pace of our daily outer burdens, we are further strained by an inward uneasiness, because we have hints that there is a way of life vastly richer and deeper than all this hurried existence, a life of unhurried serenity and peace and power."

Jesus said this to his generation, "Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Jesus is willing to provide the needed help for any person's weakness, illness or problem.

Reading Is A Resource

The Bible tops the list of essential books to read for Christian growth. As we discussed in last month's Sunday School lessons the Biblical discussions of human problems has much help to offer us today. People had fears, anxieties and all human difficulties in those days.

The supreme revelation of God is seen in the Bible in the life, teachings and work of Jesus.

More recent good reading for Christian growth is the writings and biography of devoted Christians. One American whose writings give high spiritual guidance is John Woolman. An able business man in early New Jersey he wrote plaintively of a modern worry: "The increase in business became my burden" so he found inner peace by sending his customers to other dealers. He said he learned to be content with "a plain way of living" and he reduced his expenditures because he found that "the least degree of luxury hath some connection with evil." His *Journal* like that of other great Christians is helpful.

Thinking Is A Resource For Christian Growth

Since we can direct our thinking, the Philippians lesson recommended for today (4:8) guides us. "Brethren, whatever is true, . . . just . . . pure, (etc) think about these things."

To think on these things is not merely an invitation to daydream or romanticize. It calls for sustained concentration on applying ourselves to the virtues that make living Christian. Meditation is an art worth learning. In moments of contemplation the spirit of God communicates with us and quickens our spirits. "Man," says Watkins the philosopher, is not primarily the talking animal or the tool-making animal. These are but the external expressions of his mental life. He is primarily the contemplative animal. To be human and contemplative is one and the same thing."

Life takes on more meaning and gets a larger frame of reference for a person who can meditate. It awakens us to an awareness of the presence and power of God.

Our Inner Resources Can Be Released

People in emergency situations have marvelled at their own strength when they needed it in a crisis. They were able to do things they were never able to do before, in ordinary times. A woman was thrown clear in a car crash and as she picked herself up she heard her child crying. A bit dazed she made her way to a wrecked car, under which was her child. She actually pushed the car off the child, and later wondered at the miracle. Such feats of strength have been done by others, so that we believe we all have much more ability than we usually use.

The power is there, either in us, or is available through us. Like gasoline, we note that a car does not create power from gasoline, but rather releases the power from the sun which was stored up millions of years ago. So the refined gas, when properly mixed with air and a tiny spark can pull great loads.

All of us have greater spiritual power than we use. An emergency can call it out, but why not get it put to use so that life will respond to the call of Christ, and join with him and his followers to build that Kingdom of Heaven which he lived and died for?

News from the churches

WESTSIDE CHURCH, Camden, is planning its second annual homecoming for Sunday, Aug. 17. The preacher will be the Rev. James Robert Scott, pastor of First Church, Magnolia, who, as assistant to Dr. J. L. Dedman at First Church, Camden, was the organizing pastor at Westside. Dr. Arthur Terry, the present pastor, was District Superintendent of the Camden District at the time the church was organized in the summer of 1947.

ASBURY CHURCH, Little Rock, held an Intergenerational (Family) Vacation Church School during June. On the five Sunday nights of the month all groups, children, youth and adults, met for dinner and had group classes afterwards. Dr. David Cheairs taught the adult study on Romans; Mrs. Becky Burgess led youth study on "Responsible Before God"; and the children used regular VCS materials. Additional sessions were conducted for children. The Rev. Fred Arnold, pastor, assisted by Mrs. Mary Lazenby, taught the music section. Mrs. Wayne McGraw, director of the school, and Mrs. Joe Dickerson, directed crafts. Mrs. V. B. Story is director of Christian Education at Asbury.



BACK HOME are the Rev. and Mrs. Ralph VanLandingham, now serving the Moorefield-Southside Charge. Recently retired as a Chaplain (Lt. Col.) in the Air Force, Bro. VanLandingham served in England, Germany, Labrador and Vietnam. He is a graduate of Hendrix College and Perkins School of Theology, and served appointments in the Little Rock Conference before entering the chaplaincy.

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TEN UNITED METHODIST YOUTH from the Hazen Church made a trip to Six Flags Over Texas and Seven Seas June 10-13, made possible by funds raised at a "rock-a-thon." Chaperones were the Rev. David Prothro, pastor, Mrs. Bill Woods, youth coordinator, Mrs. Joe Carter and Mrs. Eugene Miller. The Rev. Robert W. Trieschmann was bus driver.

THE REV. EARL B. CARTER, pastor of First Church, North Little Rock, was director of the South Central Jurisdictional Laboratory and Seminar School at Mt. Sequoyah July 11-18. In his absence the Rev. Rufus Sorrells, recently retired, presented the message for morning worship.



THE MINERAL SPRINGS and Wakefield churches recently welcomed the Rev. Robert E. Woody and family to the pastorate of that charge with an "old fashioned pounding." Both churches have scheduled revival meetings. Rev. Woody will be the evangelist for the July 27-Aug. 1 revival at Wakefield Church, and the Rev. Thomas A. Abney, campus minister at the University of Arkansas at Monticello Wesley Foundation, will preach for the services at Mineral Springs, Aug. 4-7. Rev. Abney serves also as pastor of the Wilmar Circuit.

HARRISON FIRST CHURCH observed June 15 as Gideon Sunday. Guest speaker was Mr. Jim Davidson, a member of Winfield Church, Little Rock, who was accompanied by his family. An offering of \$470.06 was received for Gideon work, the largest ever received by the church for that purpose.

MRS. CLYDE WILLIAMS of First Church, Nashville, was recently presented a Past President's Pin by the women of the church. Mrs. Williams was a president of the former Women's Missionary Society, the first president of the Women's Society of Christian Service and the first president of the local unit of United Methodist Women. The presentation was made by the pastor, the Rev. David B. Wilson, at a morning worship service.

THE JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP of Markham Church, Little Rock, had a retreat at Camp Ferncliff recently. Fifteen youth attended and made plans for the remainder of the summer. Allen Dawson, a junior at Hendrix College and Markham's summer youth director, planned the retreat.

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Little Rock, held a family fellowship supper to close their 1975 Family Vacation Church School recently. The Finch Brothers Quartet presented special music.

THE ARKADELPHIA DISTRICT UMY sponsored a Youth Revival recently, with the Rev. Don Eubanks, Des Arc Church pastor, presenting the messages. Average attendance was 110. The services were held at Oaklawn Church, Hot Springs on Monday; at First Church, Arkadelphia on Tuesday, and First Church, Malvern on Wednesday. Supper was served each evening. The youth from Pullman Heights Church, Hot Springs, sang on Monday evening and the Share Singers from Sheridan, on Wednesday. The Rev. John Dill is the District Youth Coordinator.

LAKE STREET CHURCH in Blytheville honored the Rev. and Mrs. Charles P. Reed with a pounding at the Fifth Sunday Fellowship Meal June 29. A shower of gifts welcomed the Reeds' appointment for the third year. Special recognition was shown new members and those observing birthdays during the quarter.

LEFT: PARKVIEW CHURCH, Benton, held a Galilean Service recently at Hurricane Lake. Pastor Rayford Diffie gave the message from one boat, with choir in other boats. White cross floats in innertube. Eighty-five attended the event, which included recreation and a picnic supper.



Jonesboro First Church's 'Christian Edition'

The Christian Edition, youth choral group of First Church, Jonesboro, recently returned from a two-week singing, witnessing and mission tour of Arkansas, Texas and Mexico. Composed of some 80 high school and college youth, the group has made five mission tours since 1971, visiting seven states and Mexico. They consider their mission tours to be "definitely not sight-seeing vacations," but opportunities to witness through song and service. Mrs. Bill Cox, educational assistant at First Church, directs and accompanies the group.

RIGHT: Sixty-seven youth and ten adults were on the recent Christian Edition tour. While in Mexico they centered activities in Ciudad Victoria under the leadership of the Rev. John Eils, independent missionary who has established churches in small villages, a Bible school and an orphanage. Members of the group are shown with Mexican children in San Antonio, Mexico.

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FORREST CITY DISTRICT ministers and families met in Forrest City June 19 at Stewart Park for a picnic welcoming new families to the District. New officers of the Ministers' Wives Fellowship were elected as follows: Faye Douglas of Marianna, president; Alta Strayhorn of Elaine, vice president; Ella Mae Meadors of Helena, secretary-treasurer and Vicki Hall of Earle, scrapbook chairman. The group presented Irma Thomason with a fern stand and sang "happy birthday" to her.

TRUMANN FIRST CHURCH is devoting the four Sunday nights in July to the study of Jonah. The pastor, the Rev. J. Leon Wilson, presented the background of the book on the first Sunday night; the second session was presented by L. B. Baker. Mrs. H. L. Methvin served as leader for the third session and Mrs. Jim Forrester will conduct the last session, July 27. Mrs. Carter Loveless, coordinator for Global Concerns of the UMW and Mrs. J. A. Talbot, chairperson on Missions, were in charge of the arrangements and the sessions.

FIRST CHURCH, MURFREESBORO welcomed their new pastor, the Rev. John Dill, and family with an "old fashioned pounding" June 29. In addition the new pastor and family were greeted by a brand new parsonage upon their arrival at the charge.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN of First Church, Gravette, held a fellowship tea July 13 and heard a message by Mrs. Ora Couch of Fayetteville, District UMW treasurer. Mrs. Couch challenged the local group to strive to become a force for good in state, national and world concerns as well as in local interests. A candlelight dedication service was held, followed by refreshments and visiting. Among out-of-town guests were Norma Faye Wilson, Conference UMW Membership Chairperson and Margaret Wooten, both from Fayetteville. Also recognized was Dorothy Fordyce, District Recording Secretary, a member of the local unit.

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.

July 27—Sunday Luke 11:5-10
 July 28 Romans 8:28-31
 July 29 Exo. 16:9-12
 July 30 Gen. 18:27-33
 July 31 Romans 1:13-15
 Aug. 1 I Thes. 4:1-3
 Aug. 2 Gen. 27:34-38
 Aug. 3—Sunday John 6:24-27

†

THE REV. BILL WILLIAMS, in charge of student recruitment at Hendrix College, was a recent pulpit guest at Indian Hills Church, North Little Rock.



A "MEETING ON WHEELS" was held recently by the UMW of the Fisher Church. Mr. Ned Darter chauffeured the group in his Winnebago trailer, visiting Aldersgate in Little Rock. Sharing their lunch with Director Ray Tribble were Eva Bush, Polly Ford, Cleo Trobaugh, Sandra Wixson, Marcia Glenn, Alice Dale and Milly Jones.

†

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

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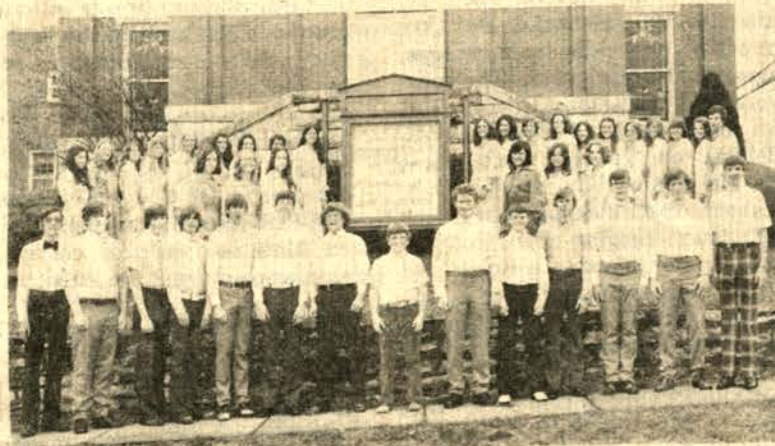
FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

CONFERENCE THEME:

"Send Me, Lord"

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Special music by the New Covenant Singers



A Junior and Senior High Youth Group from First United Methodist Church, Harrison, the New Covenant Singers have been heard by numerous churches in our Conference. Their primary concern is to encourage and to assist where needed in helping other congregations establish youth groups or choirs. Sally Jo Gibson is the Director of the group. Assistant Youth Director Margie Riddle travels with the choir.

RESERVATION REQUESTS should go to Mt. Sequoyah Assembly, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701. **TELEPHONE:** 501-443-4531 for additional information or consult your local church office.
OPEN TO MEN, WOMEN AND YOUTH



Judge Woodrow Seals

Judge Seals of Houston, Tex., is a lay delegate to the Texas Annual Conference, the Jurisdictional and General Conferences and is a member of United Methodism's General Board of Church and Society. He was appointed U.S. Attorney during the Kennedy administration and to the U.S. District Judgeship by President Johnson in 1966.



Henry W. Rainwater

Serving his third year as Lay Leader of North Arkansas Conference, Rainwater is a businessman from Walnut Ridge. In his previous position as Paragould District Lay Leader he led one of the most active district programs in the Conference.



Robert D. [Bob] Cheyne

Cheyne, Lay Leader Elect of Bentonville served for three years as Lay Leader for Fayetteville District and is currently Charge Lay Leader of his home church. He is director of Advertising and Public Relations for Cooper Communities, Inc.



Bill Kennedy

Kennedy, a certified director of music in The United Methodist Church and a member of the National Fellowship of Methodist Musicians, is president of Kennedy Investment Services, Inc. of England, Ark. He is widely known in the area for his leadership as a song evangelist.



Bishop Eugene M. Frank

Assigned in 1972 as Episcopal leader of the Arkansas Area, Bishop Frank came after 16 years as Resident Bishop of the Missouri Area. He was elected to the episcopacy in 1956 and was president of the Council of Bishops during the first year of the new United Methodist Church (1968-69).

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Program

Saturday, August 2, 1975

- 1:00 p.m. REGISTRATION
W. E. "Buddy" Arnold Jr., North Little Rock
Conway District Associate Lay Leader
2:30 p.m. FIRST GENERAL SESSION
Presiding, Henry Rainwater, Walnut Ridge
Conference Lay Leader
Welcome to Mt. Sequoyah, Rev. Lee Cate,
Superintendent
"Comments From the Bishop"
Bishop Eugene Frank
"Sing Along With Bill"
Bill Kennedy, England, Arkansas
3:30 p.m. "Send Me, Lord"
Judge Woodrow Seals, U.S. District Judge
Houston, Texas
4:15 p.m. "Why Should The Lord Send Me"
Small Group Sharing Sessions
Martin Building
5:30 p.m. Supper
6:30 p.m. Small Group Sharing Sessions
Martin Building
7:30 p.m. SECOND GENERAL SESSION
Presiding, Dick Fikes, North Little Rock
Associate Conference Lay Leader
Entertainment by Methodist Youth Group)
From Harrison, Arkansas
8:15 p.m. "The Lord Sent Me"
Judge Woodrow Seals
7:30 p.m. Small Group Sharing Sessions

Sunday, August 3, 1975

- 7:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion
Bishop Eugene M. Frank
7:30 a.m. Breakfast
9:00 a.m. THIRD GENERAL SESSION
Presiding, James W. Lane, North Little Rock
District Lay Leader, Conway District
Songs of Inspiration, Bill Kennedy
9:30 a.m. "Do Something for the Lord"
Judge Woodrow Seals
10:15 a.m. "Reflections"
Henry Rainwater, Conference Lay Leader
10:30 a.m. "Our Future Together"
Bob Cheyne, Bentonville
Conference Lay Leader Elect
10:45 Break
11:00 a.m. "Come, Ye That Love the Lord"
Presiding, Marvin Gaither, Batesville
Associate Conference Lay Leader
Songs of Inspiration, Bill Kennedy
Worship Service, Dr. Robert E. L. Bearden,
Conway District Superintendent
Benediction, Charles Rasberry, Jonesboro
District Lay Leader, Jonesboro District
12:00 Lunch
1:00 p.m. Adjournment

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General Program Co-Chairmen
Warren Blaylock, Alma
Marvin Gaither, Batesville