

Arkansas Methodist

Arkansas United Methodism's Newsweekly

Little Rock, Arkansas, Thursday, May 6, 1976

95th Year, No. 19



Editorial Correspondence from Portland

General Conference: 'Revival Meeting, High Mass, County Fair and Family Reunion'

'The Spirit is here'

"There is nothing like a United Methodist General Conference. In terms of fervor it resembles a revival meeting. In moments of solemnity, a High Mass. In regard to confusion, it is sometimes like a County Fair. In its activism it occasionally resembles a political convention, and in its friendliness and conviviality it's akin to a family reunion."

In that fashion Dr. Curtis Chambers, executive secretary of the Joint Committee on Communications/United Methodist Communications, introduced a first-day news briefing at the General Conference now in session in Portland. And the analogies have proved to be apt ones, for at the end of the first week of the two-week session, the conference has been all of these things and even more.

The almost 1000 delegates from seventy-three annual conferences in the United States and thirty-five overseas conferences have heard thousands of words in a multitude of speeches, a passel of sermons, not a few confrontations on volatile issues, and enough good "church guitar" and choir music to last a month of Sundays.

But in spite of all that has transpired in the one full day of plenary sessions and three days given to legislative committees and plenary meetings, there has been little hard news in regard to "what the conference has done."

That does not mean, however, that little is happening.

Quite the contrary. As one sits in the sessions, listens to reports, disturbed by some of the oratory and turned off by some, thrilled by the music, moved by some of the sermons and speeches, and unmoved by others and awed beyond expression by the awareness that here are people called Methodists gathered from scores of nations around the world — in such a setting one is impressed that there is more happening here than can be reported in news releases or recorded in official journals.

For the Spirit is here. That is for sure. Perhaps, at times, not as one would imagine or even wish. As in the blistering attack of a United Methodist Bishop upon the sins of our nation, the church in regard to its involvements in past wars and present militarism. And its two Native American United Methodists prick the conscience of the conference by their hard-hitting response to the church's Bicentennial Resolution which made no reference whatever to their peoples' contribution to our national heritage.

And the Spirit is present as the church considers ways to help feed a hungry world. And the Spirit's presence is felt as ethnic minorities, women and other groups struggle for new attention to their causes.

And the Spirit is here as the church, painfully aware of the numerical losses, reflects on that fact with its eye to the future and with a renewed commitment to evangelism. And the Spirit is felt as the Holy

Communion is shared with sisters and brothers from around the world, and in other moving times of worship.

From our vantage point at the side of the speaker's platform we are able to study the faces of nearly 1000 delegates. Always in view are friends and associates of our two Arkansas Annual Conference delegations (in their own vantage points of front and second-row seats!). On seeing them one thinks of our congregations at home, from the smallest to the largest, and is moved by the realization that Arkansas United Methodism is as much a part of this gathering and of this great church as is any other segment of the nine-million-member denomination. It is true, what Dr. Chambers said, "There is nothing like a United Methodist General Conference."

Though there is not, at this writing, much to report on "what the conference has said or done" in respect to specific legislation. There will be more than enough of that when the legislative committees begin bringing their long and involved reports to the plenary sessions. But perhaps the biggest news — even then as it is now — is what is being "done" with and in this conference. And that is, that it is being "done" with — that the Spirit is moving within this session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. And that fact symbolizes our Church's greatest hope for the future.

Bishop Frank gives memorial sermon

Bishop Eugene M. Frank of the Arkansas Area was the preacher at the first morning worship service at the General Conference, now in session in Portland, Ore. As the official memorial service for the session, the service recognized the 14 bishops, 16 widows and wives of bishops and the one delegate to the current conference who have died since the last general conference in 1972. Bishop Frank was chosen by the Council of Bishops to deliver the message.

In his sermon, Bishop Frank said, "Every memorial service is a celebration of remembrance and expectation." He cited remembrance as "the central theme of the Old Testament" and said that in the New Testament "the deepest covenant we have with Christ is a sacrament of remembrance."

Referring to those being memorialized, Bishop Frank said, "We love them still and we cherish every memory. We have our joy in anticipating our reunion with them, for we believe with all our hearts in the communion of the saints."

Among the South Central Jurisdiction-associated persons memorialized were Bishop Paul E. Martin, episcopal leader of the Arkansas-Louisiana Area, 1944-'60, Bishop Kenneth W. Copeland of the Houston Area and Bishop W. Angie Smith, retired, of Dallas.

Special music at the service was given by the 15-member Guitar Choir of Mill Valley United Methodist Church, Mill Valley, Calif.



Lead Arkansas Delegations

Miss Mildred Osment, a layperson of the North Arkansas Conference, and Dr. George W. Martin, Arkadelphia District superintendent are leaders of the delegates from their respective conferences.

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Opening Night

Bishop Eugene M. Frank of the Arkansas area at his station on platform during opening night service. At his left is Bishop Maynard Sparks, retired, of Sacramento, Calif.

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Arkansas delegates named to committee offices

Portland, Ore. (Arkansas Methodist) — Three Arkansas delegates to the General Conference have been named to Legislative Committee offices at the session now in progress in Portland.

North Arkansas Conference delegates elected were Robert B. Cheyne from Bentonville, named chairman of the Legislative Sub-Committee on Communications of the Council on Ministries. Mr. Cheyne is lay leader from the North Arkansas Conference. Nadine (Mrs. Hugh) Hardin of Fort Smith was named secretary of the Inter-Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy. Mrs. Hardin is also a member of the Board of Global Ministries.

The Rev. John P. Miles of the Little Rock Conference delegation was named secretary of the Sub-Committee on Trustees of properties of the Committee on the Local Church. A reserve delegate, Mr. Miles assumed the seat of Dr. Virgil Keeley of Pine Bluff who was hospitalized on Friday evening of the first week of the two-week session. (See page two.)

The session which began April 27 is scheduled to adjourn May 8.

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Arkansan figures in designing of General Conference emblem

An Arkansan, Carl C. Hall of Little Rock, was a key figure in the design of the official emblem of the General Conference now in session at Portland, Ore. As chairman of the Commission's Committee on badges and seatings, one of Mr. Hall's responsibilities was to provide the commission's artist with information pertinent to the design of the emblem.

As a fifteen-year member of the commission, Mr. Hall, when he completes his term in 1980, will have served longer than any other member of the 16-member commission. This is the sixth session of the Quadrennial meeting in which he has participated either as a delegate or member of a commission.

Interviewed in Portland by the Ar-

kansas Methodist, Mr. Hall said it was the policy of the commission to locate the place of meeting of the conference among the churches' five geographical jurisdictions. The current session of the first of the Western jurisdiction since the conference was held in San Francisco in 1952. The next session, to be in 1980, will meet in Indianapolis, Indiana.



Campbell



Williams

Distinguished Alum Awards presented

Harold W. Campbell, insurance agent and businessman at Camden and Dr. G. Doyne Williams Jr., associate professor of surgery at the University of Arkansas Medical Center in Little Rock, were honored Saturday, May 1, with Distinguished Alumnus Awards at the annual Hendrix College Alumni Day luncheon. Both are 1957 Hendrix graduates.

Campbell, a Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter, served as president of the student body and the Senior Class while enrolled at Hendrix, and in 1960 was named Camden's Outstanding Young Man. He has served as president of the Arkansas Association of Mutual Insurance Agents and as chairman of the Governor's Advisory Board to the State Insurance Commissioner. In 1966, he was selected as Mr. Mutual Agent of America.

A former mayor of Camden, he has filled many leadership roles in his community and in 1975 was chosen Camden's Man of the Year. He is a church school teacher and a member of the Administrative Board and the Council on Ministries at First United Methodist Church, Camden.

Dr. Williams graduated from the University of Arkansas School of Medicine in 1961 with honors. He was the recipient of the Buchanan Academic Key in 1960 and again in 1961. His internship in medicine was spent at

Duke University in 1961-62. He served his residency in general surgery at the University of Arkansas Medical Center from 1962 to 1966 and two years later served another residency at the same institution in thoracic surgery.

Dr. Williams was chief of general surgery at the U.S. Army's 93rd Evacuation Hospital in Long Binh, Vietnam in 1966-1967, and the following year was chief of general surgery at the U.S. Army's Womack Hospital at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Dr. Williams has authored or co-authored more than 40 articles for medical journals, and he is the originator of several innovative techniques which are currently being used in coronary surgery.

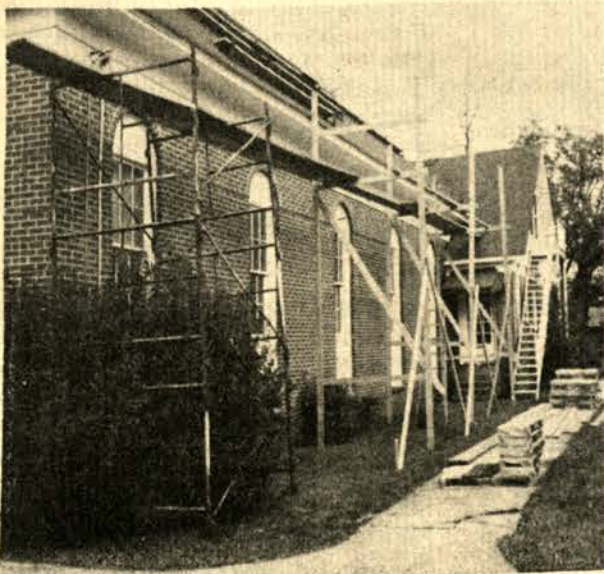
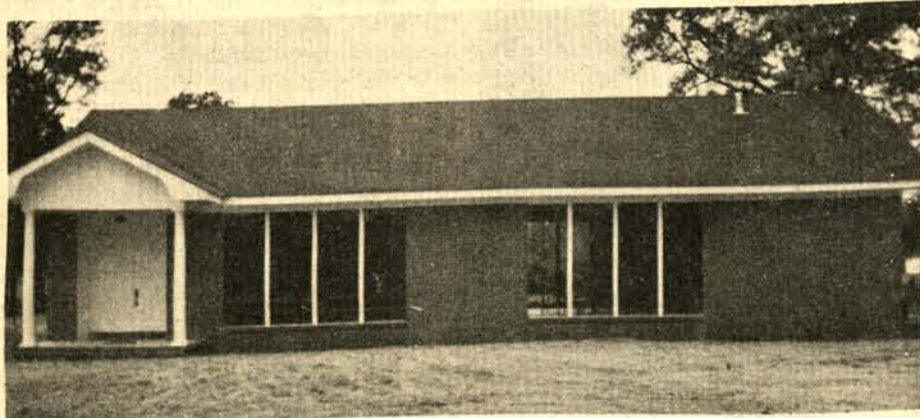
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Arkadelphia District Lay Rally

The Arkadelphia District Lay Rally will be held at the First United Methodist Church in Arkadelphia beginning at 6:30 p.m. on May 25. There will be old fashioned Methodist singing and testimonies. We are also asking each church to bring a love offering for the Methodist Church at Cabot. Please mark this important date on your calendar now.

†

Sparkman Church Adds Unit, Renovating Sanctuary



Sparkman United Methodist Church recently began using its new Memorial Fellowship Hall (shown above). Dr. George W. Martin, Arkadelphia District superintendent, officiated at the opening service for the new structure erected at a cost of \$35,000. The sanctuary is currently undergoing extensive renovation and the roof is being replaced — all at a cost of \$4,400. Co-chairpersons of the Building Committee are Mr. James Taylor and Mrs. John DeLaughter.



Bishop Frank Honored

Bishop Eugene M. Frank (right) is presented a plaque by Dr. Roy B. Shilling Jr., Hendrix College president, and Mr. Ed Lester (left), chairman of the Hendrix Board of Trustees, in recognition of his four years of distinguished service on that board.

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Philander Smith ceremonies Sunday

Dr. C. Ray Hozendorf, pastor at Winfield Church in Little Rock and chairman of the Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees of Philander Smith College, will be the speaker for the college's Baccalaureate Service at Wesley United Methodist Church, 11th and State Streets in Little Rock, Sunday, May 9 at 10:40 a.m.

The Commencement Exercises will be held at 6 p.m. on the South Mall of the Administration Building with Dr. Grant Shockley, president of Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Ga., speaking.

Born at Mendenhall, Miss., Dr. Hozendorf holds degrees from Millsaps College at Jackson, Miss., Duke Divinity School, Durham, N.C. and did postgraduate work at Garrett Theological Seminary, Evanston, Ill. He has served several leading churches in Arkansas and as superintendent of the Camden and Little Rock Districts. He has filled numerous

positions of leadership in his conference and has served as a delegate to both General and Jurisdictional Conferences. He is currently chairman of the Council on Finance and Administration of the Little Rock Conference.

Dr. Shockley, a native of Philadelphia, Pa., graduated from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania where he was elected to Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. He holds degrees from Drew Theological Seminary and Columbia University. He has served with distinction both as pastor and as teacher, and has lectured widely. Teaching experiences have included those at Clark College, Gammon Theological Seminary, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Perkins School of Theology and Iliff School of Theology. He has written several books and articles, including, "The New Generation in Africa."

Additional commencement activities will include the President's Annual Fellowship Breakfast, hosted by Dr. Walter R. Hazzard, in the College dining hall at 8 a.m. on Sunday, and the President's Reception in the foyer of the Administration Building immediately following the Commencement Exercises.

Retired chaplain dies

LT. COL. G. F. HYDE

Lt. Col. Gilbert F. Hyde, aged 73, of Fort Smith, a retired Army chaplain and United Methodist minister of the North Arkansas Conference, died Sunday, April 25. He was affiliated with Goddard Church in Fort Smith.

Chaplain Hyde was born at LaFayette Springs, Miss., and was graduated from the University of Mississippi. He received his theological education at Southern Methodist University and into the Little Rock Conference in 1930 and transferred into North Arkansas Conference in 1947. Prior to entering the chaplaincy he served the following pastorates: Swan Lake Circuit, Gillett, Blevins, Bingen Circuit, and Forester.

Col. Hyde's chaplaincy career had its beginning in 1936 when he served in that capacity with the Civilian Conservation Corps. He served in the Army chaplaincy from 1941-46 when he entered the Veteran's Administration chaplaincy. He retired in 1963.

Survivors are his wife, Freda; a son, David L. Hyde of Little Rock; a daughter, Mrs. John Kenney of Illinois; a sister, Mrs. Doris Beresford of Texas; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The Rev. Archie Boyd, pastor at Goddard Church, officiated at the funeral service at Fentress Mortuary in Fort Smith on April 27. The Rev. Robert W. Robertson, pastor at Western Hills Church, Little Rock, conducted the graveside service at National Cemetery at Little Rock on April 29.

Arkansas Delegate hospitalized at Portland

Portland, Ore., May 3 (Arkansas Methodist) — Dr. Virgil D. Keeley, superintendent of the Pine Bluff District and a delegate to the General Conference now in session here, was hospitalized Friday evening as a result of a recurring heart condition. He is reported to be stabilized and improving.

Mrs. Keeley, who accompanied her husband to Portland, said that Dr. Keeley was admitted to Physicians & Surgeons Hospital on Friday evening. He was placed in the intensive care unit where he remained until Sunday when he was transferred to a private room. Mrs. Keeley said that many of the Arkansas delegates had visited and called the hospital to offer assistance and aid. She said early reports indicated that her husband would be hospitalized a week to ten days before being able to return to Arkansas. He was receiving visitors on Sunday.

Correspondence can reach Dr. Keeley at Physicians & Surgeons Hospital, Room 150, 1927 N.W. Lovejoy, Portland, Ore. 97209. (Tel. 503-224-6500).

Bishop Frank, delegates, share impressions

On May 3, first day of the second week of General Conference, the **Arkansas Methodist** visited with Bishop Eugene M. Frank and the chairpersons of the two Arkansas Annual Conference delegations, Dr. George W. Martin from the Little Rock Conference and Miss Mildred Osment from the North Arkansas Conference. Their comments concerning the mood of the conference:

Bishop Eugene M. Frank: The real work of the conference began this morning (May 3) following a full week of legislative committee meetings. The reports from those meetings will now be coming to the plenary sessions. I sense that the mood of this conference is very mature in that these committees are listening to many, many ideas — and some of them are quite outlandish.

If I read what is going on I think the way is being prepared for a more mature and adequate opportunity for the structure we now have. And I think it is perfectly obvious now that some of the very radical things that have been in the news, such as the homosexual term episcopacy question have been settled with the legislative committees with a rather overwhelming majority in favor of leaving the **Discipline** the way it is. The study on human sexuality will probably evoke considerable debate; but it is the only one I see being a highly controversial issue.

On another matter I am discouraged. At this point evangelism seems to be coming in almost as a minority report from the legislative committees. World hunger and ethnic minority concerns are taking precedence over evangelism. These other concerns are vital, of course, but I'm depressed because the recommendation of the Council of Bishops, that evangelism should be a great thing for the next quadrennium, is at this moment not materializing.

Miss Mildred Osment: At this moment I sense the mood of the conference as one of anticipation waiting for the reports from the legislative committees. But even though the quadrennial theme is proposed as "The call to Christ and committed to change," the conference doesn't seem to be in the mood to make very many changes. I think the committees are being very careful; that's why the conference seems very conservative to this point.

The missional priorities I see emerging are world hunger, the ethnic minority churches. I think the conference wants to come forward with some new form of evangelism. If we have lost members — and there are many feel we have — they feel a new plan for evangelism will bring them in.

Dr. George W. Martin: Each General Conference develops its own personality in terms of its agenda. And in contrast with the one in Atlanta, I find this to be a conference much warmer in spirit. I think there is almost a cautious approach to some of the major issues. The conference wants to be responsible on the one hand, but does not really want to plunge the church into another unwise course of action on the other.

I think there is concern here for some real clarification — of our clergy leadership roles in terms of superintendency, and of missional priorities, et cetera. I think the mood of the conference is being to get a real sense of bearing. I don't sense any dramatic or sensational kinds of courses to come out of this week's action, but I do think we are going to see some real wise decisions made.



North Arkansas Conference Delegates

Lay delegates (seated, left to right) are Mildred Osment, Homer H. Fulbright, Bob Cheyne, Nadine Hardin. Clergy delegates (standing): Dr. Joel A. Cooper, the Rev. Earl Carter, Dr. Charles McDonald, the Rev. Ben Jordan.



Little Rock Conference Delegates

Little Rock Conference delegates seen at their table (left to right): Clergy delegates — Dr. George W. Martin, Dr. J. Edward Dunlap; Dr. Virgil Keeley; Dr. Negail Riley; Lay delegates — John Blundell, Don Riffin, R. P. Meredith and Mrs. Zenobia Waters.



En route to Portland

Mr. Homer H. Fulbright of Searcy, a member of the North Arkansas delegation to General Conference, is shown with Mrs. Fulbright on flight to Portland.

Arkansans Get Together

Dr. R. Bryan Brawner, general secretary of United Methodism's Council on Finance and Administration (left) and reserve delegate William M. Shepherd and Mrs. Shepherd of Little Rock visit.



Off the Top of the Head

Travel notes and stuff

Portland, Ore., May 3 — Knowing how eager you must be to learn how your reporter is doing way off here in the west, I submit the following:

• **Item One.** First off, I was delighted, as I prepared to board the plane in Little Rock, to discover that we wouldn't have to go through one of those long, closed tunnel-like chutes, but would actually get to walk out to the plane and see it full view before climbing aboard on the stairs. I like that better because it gives me a chance to check things out — like kicking the casings and giving the motors a quick once-over.

And the airplane people appreciate this help, too. For as I went aboard, the pretty stewardess seemed pleased to learn that everything appeared to be in order and that we could take off at their convenience.

• **Item Two.** I thought it was hard to write news articles and stuff in the confusion of our offices in Little Rock. But compared to this General Conference press room, our place is as quiet as a bunch of Methodists at a Catholic confession. This trying to think and write with about fifty people banging away on typewriters and shouting and such is a kind of challenge I haven't enjoyed before. "Interesting" is about the most complimentary thing I can think of to say about it.

• **Item Three.** Having never gotten over having to pay more than 35 cents for a hamburger and a dollar twenty-five for a good hot plate lunch, I'm having real problems on this trip. So, the other morning, when after eating my egg and toast and jelly and stuff, the nice lady said "that'll be two dollars and eighty-seven cents, please," I knew that once again it was Safeway for me.

I've now made my second walking trip to the grocery and have thoroughly enjoyed by grapefruit and vienna sausage and oranges and two fig newtons and am eagerly anticipating my banquet can of chili and beans.

I have to call in a story to our paper this morning, and if they report to me that some of our churches have sent their "Arkansas Methodist money," I'll get to eat out tonight. I've got my eye on that veal cutlet plate with two vegetables, a salad, and a real dessert. Hot Dog!

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JSW

Arkansas Methodist

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Multidisciplinary Educational Conference

Dr. Gary R. Collins, professor and chairman of the Division of Pastoral Psychology and Counseling at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Ill., will be the featured speaker at a Multidisciplinary Education Conference in the Chapel of the North Little Rock Division of the Veteran's Administration Hospital on May 13. From 9 to 10 a.m. Dr. Collins will speak on "The Distinctive Aspects of Religious Counseling" and from 1 to 2 p.m., his subject will be: "The Christian Psychology of Paul Tournier." There will be no registration fee. The conference was planned by the Chaplain Service and Professional Education of the hospital.

†

Wesley Seminary offers Bicentennial study

"Ministry in America: Into the Third Century" is the theme for a Bicentennial Symposium to be held at Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C., June 21-25. The event is open to 150 ministers from throughout the U.S.

Professor James T. Clemons, director of the seminary's Summer School, reports that the event will feature addresses on the future of ministry in America by John B. Cobb Jr. of the School of Theology at Claremont, Letty M. Russell of Yale Divinity School, James M. Lawson Jr., pastor of Holman United Methodist Church, Los Angeles, and William Stringfellow, attorney and theologian from Block Island, R.I.

Scholarship Fund established at Hendrix

An endowed scholarship fund of \$20,000 has been established at Hendrix College by Dr. Joe G. Robbins, who served as chairman of the college's physics department for 28 years. Established in honor of Dr. Robbins' wife, in recognition of her dedication and devotion to young people, the fund has been designated the Iva May Clemmer Robbins Endowment Fund. The income from the fund will be used for an annual award to a deserving Hendrix student who has "demonstrated dedication to the elimination of inequalities in society."

Mrs. Robbins, the daughter of the late Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Lee Clemmer of Gentry, taught in public schools in Joiner, Jacksonville and Conway and was associated with her husband in the ownership of the Conway Book Store during the years 1932-1944. She is a graduate of the University of Arkansas and a member of Phi Mu sorority and Kappa Delta Pi educational fraternity.

Both Dr. and Mrs. Robbins have made numerous contributions to the youth of Faulkner County and have been benefactors of the new pediatric ward of the Conway Memorial Hospital and the Youth Center of the city's First United Methodist Church. In 1965 Mrs. Robbins established an endowed scholarship fund at Hendrix in honor of her husband.

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Hendrix sets unique Alumni Institute

The first Hendrix Alumni Institute will be conducted June 11-13 at the institution's campus in Conway. The event, the first of what is planned as an annual occasion, will combine seminars, other learning opportunities and recreation.

Resource leaders and themes for this summer's session will include the following: Hendrix Professors Robert Meriweather and Richard Yates and Mr. James O. Powell, editorial director of the *Arkansas Gazette*, will lead a seminar on the history of presidential politics; Professors Don Marr and Bill Hawes will lead a session on the arts and crafts; Professors Burvin Alread and John Pickett will discuss the economics of energy; Professors Tom Clark and Art Johnson will lead a session on ecology and conduct a canoe trip down the Cadron Creek. Sessions on Southern

and contemporary American fiction will be led by UALR Professors Chuck Chapell and Gene Lyons.

Recreation will include swimming, tennis, golf and free time. Cost will be \$35. Participants will be housed in air-conditioned dormitories and eat on the campus. For registration form or information, write: Rodney Todd, Treasurer, Hendrix College, Conway, Ark. 72032.

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Aldersgate to open Treatment Center

The new Aldersgate Youth Treatment Center, to be located at Ferndale, approximately 16 miles west of Little Rock, on property recently donated by the Dr. Allen Rozzell family, is scheduled to open soon. The facility will provide resident care and rehabilitation for socially disturbed adolescent youth.

Mr. Thomas P. O'Connor has been named manager of the center. To date, two other full-time staff members have been employed, Sarah Ward, social worker, and Richard Varmer, counselor.

Mr. O'Connor reports that the center's program will include a farm-type project requiring a small tractor. He lists among other needs a used piano, clothing for boys of ages 12-17 and assorted lumber and plywood. Persons interested in helping provide such items may contact Mr. O'Connor at Aldersgate, Inc., 2000 Aldersgate Rd., Little Rock, Ark. 72205 (telephone, 225-1444).

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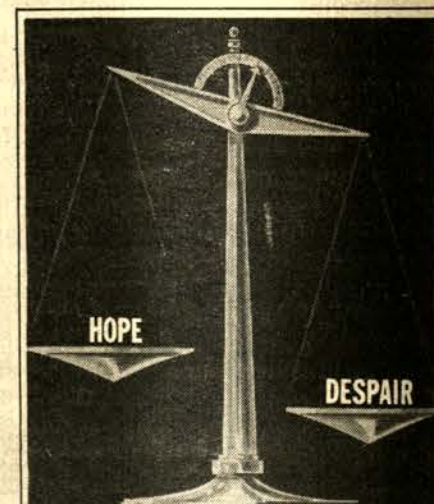
Perkins announces 'Preaching Institute'

An "Institute on Preaching in the Context of Worship" will be held at Perkins School of Theology, SMU, June 28-July 1. Sponsored by the seminary's Office of Continuing Education and the Section on Worship of the General Board of Discipleship, the event will feature ten seminars (from which each participant may select two), workshop sessions, and worship services.

Workshop leader will be Dr. John Killinger, professor of Preaching, Worship and Literature at the Divinity School of Vanderbilt University. Preacher for the event will be Bishop Robert E. Goodrich Jr., of the Missouri Area. Leaders of the ten seminars will be Perkins faculty members, Board of Discipleship personnel, and teachers and pastors from various schools and churches.

Registration fee for the event is \$25. Detailed information and registration forms may be secured by writing: Office of Continuing Education, Perkins School of Theology, SMU, Dallas, Tex. 75275.

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YOU may tip the scale

Many people live on the edge of despair and hopelessness. This is true in your town, throughout the U.S. and the world. It doesn't take much to tip the scales.

A little medicine might make them well.

Education, even a little, could open the door to a better life.

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For more information about general benevolence programs write:
United Methodist Communications,
1200 Davis St.,
Evanston, Ill. 60201



"On Our Way" was the theme which dominated the quadrennial meeting of United Methodist Women of South Central Jurisdiction in Kansas City, April 2-4. Shown here are some of the 15 women who attended from Little Rock Conference. The representatives included: Mrs. James Nix, conference president, Mrs. Zenobia Waters, Mrs. Hubert Blakley, Mrs. Louis Fish, Mrs. Ida Bell Mitchell, Mrs. W. C. Patton, Mrs. Hazel Dabney, Mrs. John Rushing, Miss Annie Lou Shope, Mrs. George Meyer, Mrs. E. T. Davenport, Mrs. Trebie Shaw, Mrs. Gordon Buergey, Mrs. Juanita Jones and Mrs. Rubye Lee Jackson, of the jurisdiction's Core-Planning Group.





Camp Directors' Training Event

Fourteen camp directors attended a North Arkansas Camp Directors Training Event at Kamp Kaetzell, April 21-23. The Rev. Bob Cagle (at left) of First Church, Gainesville, Ga., was the resource leader. Shown with him are (left to right): the Revs. Vernon Paysinger of Paris, Ark., and Allan Hilliard of Cabot, who planned the event and the Rev. Wayne Clark of Indian Hills Church, North Little Rock, conference coordinator of camping.

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Moral decline endangers freedom

SILVER SPRING, Md. (RNS) — There is a moral decline in America, according to a Seventh-day Adventist editor, that is bringing with it basic dangers to freedom.

"History shows that an uncomfortable percentage of this world's problems have originated with good people determined to make others good," said Editor Roland R. Hegstad of Liberty magazine.

These, he said, are the dangers that confront liberty when moral foundations crumble: "That we will trade freedom for security; that we will seek to recover virtue through legislated morality or enforced conformity; that we will redefine freedom for something more compatible with our elastic morals."

Mr. Hegstad spoke at the 28th National Conference on Church and State sponsored by Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

He declared, "An example of enforced conformity is government using Title IX of the Civil Rights Act to compel even private colleges and universities to abandon such dis-

tinctives as inquiry into student morals, dress codes and so forth."

The editor also charged the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare with moving to control the accreditation of colleges receiving subsidy from government such as student loans and grants.

He quoted the provost of a sectarian university saying recently that the golden rule at the present time is that "he who has the gold makes the rules."

Private institutions, Mr. Hegstad asserted, must expect a degree of public control if they draw on the public treasury.

"It is not partnership with Caesar but partnership with God that is the great need of our churches today," he said, "And if we don't realize this truth soon, we'll be back in the good old days with a vengeance — the good old days when religious liberty was called a 'diabolical doctrine' (attributed to the 16th century French Reformer Theodore Beza) and separation of church and state was a dream unborn."

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Marriage Enrichment Weekend in North Arkansas

Thirteen couples attended a recent Marriage Enrichment Weekend at Subiaco Abbey in northwest Arkansas. The event, sponsored by First Church, Fort Smith, utilized a program provided by the Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church. Leaders were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johnson of Glen Oaks Church, Dallas, and the Rev. and Mrs. Don Hazelwood, Fort Worth, Tex. First Church plans a second weekend event to be held in the fall of 1976 or early spring of 1977 which will provide a training opportunity for new leaders for this program in the Arkansas area. The goal for that event will be a minimum of 30 couples.

Thursday, May 6, 1976

COME TO THE FAIR ALDRSGATE COUNTRY FAIR

2000 ALDRSGATE ROAD

3 Miles West of University off 12th Street (or Kanis Road)

FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 14, 1976

SPAGHETTI DINNER — 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Adults—\$2.00 - Children under 12—\$1.00

AUCTION—7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1976 — 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

AUCTION, RUMMAGE, COUNTRY STORE, ARTS and CRAFTS, PLANTS, BOOKS, FLEA MARKET, CHILDREN'S AREA, ENTERTAINMENT, FOOD AND DRINK, FISHING AND SWIMMING, AND DUNKIN' BOOTH.

Proceeds from the country Fair will go for support of year round programs to help children, youth and adults.

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NEWS and opinion

summary by Doris Woolard

Associate Justice William H. Rehnquist of the U.S. Supreme Court, addressing a Lutheran Laymen's Fellowship Banquet, offered some "reservations" he has about the "extent" to which the nation's churches have taken public positions on major issues. "In the first place," he said, "to what extent can a church claim to speak for its members (when making public declarations)? And if it does not claim to speak for its members, is it being entirely candid when it takes a public position on a controversial issue?"

Sunday schools have a future — if those who run them adjust their programs to current American realities, predicts Dr. Iris Cully, visiting professor of religious education at Lexington Theological Seminary (Ky.) and author of *New Life for Your Sunday School*. Dr. Cully says the Sunday school must be treated as "part of the whole church . . . It cannot be the one avenue for the church's education. It is important, but it is not the whole. This means that it cannot do its own planning as if it were an independent entity."

The Rev. Robert Sprinkle, "Good News" strategist for General Conference, said the tone of petitions to the General Conference was not one of wanting to "hand-cuff the agencies" as much as one of insuring a method of accountability and sensitivity to the concerns of the constituency. "Good News" is an unofficial evangelical group within The United Methodist Church.

Roman Catholic Archbishop William W. Baum of Washington, D.C. told an Easter audience that humanism is the "prevailing ideology" in which the nation's policies are formed, but without roots in divine revelation human values can be "deformed and perverted."

Stan Frebert, California advertising agency executive whose use of humor and satire have extended into the realm of religious radio and TV "sports," has received the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission Christian Service Award. In Fort Worth to receive the award, Mr. Frebert said, "I would no more do a commercial that was not entertaining, honest or valid than anything. I have never done dirty jokes or veiled innuendos. That's the easy way. It's harder to get laughs on a more cerebral level."

Arch Monson Jr., national Boy Scout president, reaffirmed the organization's stand "that every member subscribe to a belief in God." He said "In recent years, this Scouting tenet has been challenged in some circles . . . Scouting in America has made many changes in its program and organizational structure, but it never has and never will tamper with its principles."

A new Gallup Poll shows that 79 percent of Americans interviewed favor the teaching of morals and moral behavior in schools, with 15 percent opposed. The survey, conducted in more than 300 selected locations in the U.S. with 1,538 adult respondents, indicated that 84 percent of parents having children in public schools favor such instruction, with 12 percent opposed.

A New Jersey court of appeals has unanimously upheld the constitutionality of state laws which restrict Sunday sales. The Sunday law had been challenged by a K-Mart store in Monmouth County which was fined \$275 for illegally selling shirts on Sunday. Monmouth is one of 11 counties in the state where voters have approved a restriction on Sunday sales.

A compromise bill, designed to allow school boards in Florida to require up to two minutes of silent meditation in the classroom each day, cleared a House education subcommittee in Tallahassee. The amended bill gives the 67 school boards in the state the option of installing a meditation period.

Pressures on the Christian Family

By VICTOR H. NIXON,
Pastor, Huntington Avenue
United Methodist Church, Jonesboro

Scripture: Joshua 24:1-18; Romans 12.

Foreword: My ragged copy of Webster's dictionary defines "pressure" as "a constraining force, influence, or impulse of any kind."

The lesson this week deals with those constraining forces and influences which are brought to bear upon the Christian family.

As the father of a teenage daughter I have become increasingly aware of the social pressure which can affect my family life. Recently, after a long day of preacherly duties I went home and changed into a comfortable old pair of faded Levis, intending to engage in a little "R and R" with a novel in my favorite chair. Not so! My casual dress caught the scrutinizing eye of my fashion-conscious daughter, Aubrey Kaye.

"Daddy, your pant legs are too short!"

"What?" Looking down, expecting to find that I had put on my cut-offs by mistake. Nope. The boney knees were covered.

"Nobody wears their jeans that short anymore!" She knelt down and tugged at the hem of my denims. "Your socks are showing." I had the distinct feeling that I had unknowingly exposed myself.

"Well, granted, they have shrunk a little, but I promise not to go outside the house," I said reassuringly.

"At school we call them 'High Waters.'" She was still jerking on my pants, attempting to stretch them to an acceptable length.

"Hey! You're going to pull them off! . . . High Waters? What does that mean?" In addition to an obsolete wardrobe, now I had the problem of translating teenagese. The generation gap had severed the Nixon household!

"You know. It's like you are expecting high water with your pants so short. That's what we say to kids who wear them . . . 'Hey, you lookin' for high water?'" She laughed. "They're supposed to come down over your shoes."

"Oh, I get it. The latest put-down for when you don't dress like everyone else. Right?" I said, recalling my disdain for all those unfortunates of my teenage years whose pants didn't have a buckle in the back. Nothing's changed.

"Yeah . . . Daddy, those look terrible!" She said disgustingly, and left the room.

I couldn't relax the rest of the day because I felt self-conscious about my "High Waters," which I may give to the Salvation Army. Social pressure is something with which I am well acquainted.

Pressure in Joshua's House

And so was Joshua. Before the assembled tribes of Israel at Shechem, Joshua confronted the people with a choice: "Choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Josh. 24:15).

As the Israelites moved into foreign territory they

tended to assimilate the customs and worship of their adversaries. The God of Abraham and Moses simply became one god among many. They tended to forget who it was that had brought them up out of the house of bondage, had led them through the years of wandering, and had enabled them to overcome the opposition of foreign powers. Under the pressures of the day radical monotheism was in danger of degenerating into idolatrous polytheism. Joshua reminded his people that they must make a choice.

And so must we. There used to be a lot of talk about "creeping socialism" in our country. Perhaps today we need to be aware of a kind of creeping polytheism within the family as it succumbs to the modern pressures to worship not one God but several.

Unlike Joshua our problem is not with the "gods of the Amorites," but with the gods of success, materialism, power, money, and social standing. Whether as individuals or as families, Christians have always been under pressure to compromise their beliefs, to assimilate or adopt social practices contrary to their values. Our problem is not pressure so much as it is idolatry, plain and simple.

Martin Luther, the Protestant reformer who had great insight into the kind of relentless pressures to which we often succumb, once said that "whatever your heart truly relies upon that is your god." It is evident that we are faced in the 20th as he was in the 16th century with an erosion of basic Christian commitment to the God who was in Jesus the Christ by reliance upon all of the secularistic panaceas that flood our homes. The basic problem has not changed from Joshua to Luther to John Doe. It is still a question of what it is that drives us or enslaves us, that to which we devote ourselves ultimately.

Our god can be a split-level home with all of the latest conveniences or a big promotion (ministers read: "appointment"), educational achievement, social acceptance, or even our families! Whatever holds for each of us the promise of salvation or success (is there a difference?) is appropriately termed a god if it is the primary object of our devotion.

A common misunderstanding is that idolatry means the diversion of faith wholly away from God himself to some merely non-divine thing falsely identified as divine. Actually, the idolater regards the non-divine things as a symbol of God's presence. Schubert Ogden has rightly observed that

His idol for him the indispensable evidence of God's power and favor, and so, while his trust is indeed in God, it is not whole, but is finally divided between God himself and the idol.¹

For Ogden the real issue of faith finally is not **whether** we are to believe in God, or even **what** god we shall believe, but **how** we are to believe in God.

And here there are but two possibilities clarified once for all by the Protestant Reformers: either we are so to believe in God that we finally place our trust in him **alone**; or else we are so to believe in him that we divide our ultimate trust by placing it in part in some idol alongside him.²

Joshua thrusts the choice upon us: whether to divide our loyalty or to unify it in the one God.

Conformity or Transformation?

But how does one go about unifying his trust in God, living in the land of the Amorites without adopting their local gods, wearing "High Waters" in the midst of pressure to conform to the accepted standards of dress?

The mother who watched the marching band and lovingly reported, "They were all out of step but my son, John," was sentimentally prejudiced.³ To be out of step in this instance was surely not commendable. But there are instances when the opposite is called for, when faith demands that we march to the beat of a different drummer. Paul was speaking in this vein when he said, "Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect" (Romans 12:2). To present oneself totally to God demands a radical change.

Two key words are used by Paul in this verse which warrant further explanation. The first word is a derivative of *schema*, translated "conformed," which means "outward appearance, form, or shape." Paul is warning us not to shape ourselves according to popular values. Conformity is letting someone else determine what my life shall look like.

The other word is "transformed." The Greek word is *metamorphousthai*, from which we get our word "metamorphosis," meaning a striking change in appearance or character. The pressure of conformity is countered not by resistance or non-change, but by transformation of one's inner self, "the renewal of your mind." It is significant that this word appears in the New Testament only in a **passive** verb form, where something or someone acts upon the subject.

In other words, one overcomes worldly conformity and creeping polytheism not by doing anything; but by allowing God's grace to transform his existence, mind and body. Only when we are willing to trust God, and him **alone**, are we genuinely faithful and steadfast in a world of infinite pressures.

Once to every man and nation
Comes the moment to decide,
In the strife of truth with falsehood,
For the good or evil side;
Some great cause, God's new Messiah,
Offering each the bloom or blight,
And the choice goes by forever
Twixt that darkness and that light.

—James Russell Lowell⁴

¹Schubert M. Ogden, *The Reality of God* (New York: Harper & Row, 1967), 24.

²*Ibid.*, 24.

³*International Lesson Annual*, 1975-76, 311.

⁴*The Methodist Hymnal*, 242.

†

Next Week: "The Problem of Drugs and Alcohol"
Scripture: I Corinthians 6:9-20; Galatians 5:13-26

Council Directors to Local Churches

A World Methodist Youth Tour will be conducted, Aug. 16-31, 1976 for youth and young adults under sponsorship of the Evangelism Committee of The World Methodist Council. The purpose is for youth to experience "The Wesleyan Movement and Our Witness Today." Those making the tour will depart Dulles Airport, Washington, D.C., on Aug. 16 and return on Aug. 31 by Pan American ITC (Inclusive Tour Charter). Travel arrangements are by Republic Travel, Ltd.

Approximately 150 United Methodist young people and young adults from the United States will be accepted on the tour, to be joined by 50 European youth

World Methodist Youth Tour offered

at Dublin, Ireland. The Rev. Don Cottrill and the Rev. Jimmy Bass, staff members of the General Board of Discipleship, will direct the tour with assistance of three other leaders in the World Methodist Conference.

Young people making the tour will be full participants (delegates) in the World Methodist Conference but will make side trips and enjoy activities not planned for other members of the conference. Included in the program of the conference will be worship, Bible study, presentations by World Methodist Committees, and some World Methodist Council meetings, around the theme "The Day Of The Lord."

Total cost of the tour will be \$694 with mode of payment as follows: \$100 deposit upon registration and the balance due July 1, 1976. Persons going will make the tour at their own expense. Additional information is available from your Conference Coordinator of Youth Ministries or Conference Council On Ministries Office.

†

New audiovisual on International Women's Year Concerns

AS STRONG AS THE LAND is a 19-minute, 96-frame color filmstrip about rural women in various parts of the

world, their problems and their efforts to change their lives. Its purpose is:

- to inform U.S. women about rural women in this country and in Asia, Africa and Latin America;
- to describe some of the positive and negative ways in which development programs have affected women;
- to look at the situation of rural women in a global context;
- to provide a program resource for program areas related to International Women's Year, the concerns of women, and issues of hunger and justice.

Check with your Conference Film Library, 715 Center St., Little Rock, Ark. 72201.

Arkansas Methodist

From the Churches

DR. MOUZON MANN, Hope District superintendent, will be the speaker for a revival series at Oak Forest Church, 25th and Fair Park Blvd., Little Rock, Sunday, May 9 through Wednesday, May 12. Dr. Mann, who served as pastor at Oak Forest during its early years, will preach at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, and at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Song evangelist Bill Kennedy of England, Ark., will direct the music for the series. A prayer vigil from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. will precede the revival on Saturday.

GURDON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH announces a homecoming for Friday, May 21, to begin at 6 p.m. with a potluck dinner, and featuring as inspirational speaker, Dr. Clint Burleson, who grew up in that congregation. Following the dinner hour, the congregation will move to the sanctuary for hymn singing, a church history, and the inspirational message. A collection of photographs of former pastors is being assembled for permanent display in the fellowship hall. Anyone who can contribute a head-and-shoulders view, billfold-size picture of a former pastor is requested to mail the same to Grace B. Nelson, 908 Pine St., Gurdon, Ark. 71743.

GARDNER MEMORIAL CHURCH, 18th and Schaefer Sts., North Little Rock, announces a churchwide "Bicentennial Weekend" celebration to be held on the church grounds, May 28-29-30, beginning on Friday evening with an old-fashioned Box Supper Social complete with auction, square-and-folk-dancing, and a Community Sing. Saturday activities will include an all-day Fair with games, a cake walk, Keystone Cops, a potluck supper, a combination modern and early American style show, and old-fashioned vaudeville. A basket lunch and simulated "ole time Church Meeting" will follow Sunday morning worship. Prizes for best costumes and for the best beards and/or mustaches will be awarded. The public is invited. The Bicentennial Committee, whose chairperson is Mrs. Bettye French, has engaged in detailed planning for many weeks in advance of the event.

MISS HELEN WILSON of Hot Springs, a missionary to Bolivia, was the speaker for a church fellowship dinner sponsored by United Methodist Women at Des Arc during Holy Week. Seven UMW members were honored with Special Membership pins and certificates. Special Membership gifts are channeled through the Women's Division of Global Ministries for mission projects.



Wed For 65 Years

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Edrington, the oldest couple active in Shiloh Church, Paragould, were honored recently by the congregation on the occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary. Mrs. Edrington has worshipped in all three sanctuaries which have been used by the congregation during its 88-year history. The couple displays here a plaque — custom-made in their honor. Other gifts included corsages presented by the UMY.

Daily Bible Readings

May 9—Sunday Joel 2:21-32
May 10 John 14:16-27
May 11 John 15:26-16:15
May 12 Acts 1:1-14
May 13 Acts 2:1-12
May 14 Acts 2:29-41
May 15 Gal. 5:18-26
May 16—Sunday Isa. 49:5-13

HUNTER CHURCH, 3301 Romine Rd., Little Rock, is engaged in a Churchwide Mission Study for the five Sunday evenings during May. "Southeast Asia Speaks Out" is the topic being presented by persons from the southeast Asian community in Little Rock. Participants for the beginning session on May 2 were Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Bhagat and Miss Florence Hope. Other Sunday evenings will feature the following: May 9 — Mrs. Norman Hendrixson, Burma; Miss Tai Lu, Vietnam; Mrs. Hipha Kumar, Thailand; Miss Yvonne Ninal, Philippines, and Mr. Chhomdoeun Buon, Cambodia; May 16 — Mr. Hem Pariah, Miss Asha Sahita and Mr. Imnan Bohra, will speak on major religions of the region; May 23 — Miss Pearl McCain of Little Rock will tell of her former life and work as a missionary in the area. The series has been arranged by the church's Work Area on Missions, whose chairperson is Mr. A. M. Chambers. The services, which begin at 7 p.m., are open to all interested persons.



Miss Osment Honored

Miss Mildred Osment, who heads the North Arkansas delegation to General Conference — now in session in Portland, Ore. — was honored by the congregation of Fisher Street Church in Jonesboro (her home church) at an Appreciation Supper before her departure. Here, her pastor, the Rev. George R. Cleary, presents a "love offering" from the congregation.

Obituaries

MISS MILDRED SCOTT

Miss Mildred Scott, a member of Gardner Memorial Church, North Little Rock, and president of United Methodist Women, died March 25 in a North Little Rock hospital. The funeral service was held at Gardner Church with the pastor, Dr. Charles Casteel, officiating.

Miss Scott, for 29 years an employee in the accounting department of the Kroger Company, was at the time of her death president of her church's organization of United Methodist Women. She had served as a North Arkansas Conference officer in the Wesleyan Service Guild, and for three years as secretary. She was a former member of the Aldersgate Camp Board.

Survivors include her mother, Mrs. Jesse T. Scott, of North Little Rock; six brothers, Hubert Scott of Mabelvale, Billy Scott of Olympia, Wash., Berlin Scott of Smithport, Pa., J. T. Scott of Ames, Ia., Don Scott and Jim Scott, both of North Little Rock; four sisters, Mrs. Hiawatha Newberry of North Little Rock, Mrs. Juanita Branaman of Bellaire, Tex., Mrs. Imogene Carey of Saramac Lake, N.Y. and Mrs. Linda Moore of Bartlesville, Okla.

Memorials may be made to Gardner Memorial Church or Aldersgate Camp, 2000 Aldersgate Rd., Little Rock, Ark. 72205.

MRS. B. L. WILFORD

Mrs. Elizabeth Witt Wilford, wife of the late Boone L. Wilford, died April 1, 1976, at 97 years of age. She is survived by three sons, Robert Boone Wilford of Harrison, John Lockhart Wilford of Black Rock and William Edwin Wilford of Victoria, Tex., and one daughter, Mrs. Ailee Rose of Long Beach, Calif. Other survivors include 15 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

The Wilford's ministry in the North Arkansas Conference, preceding his death in 1957, spanned the entire first half of this century. Pastorates and conference assignments included Wheatley, Holly Grove, Forrest City, Batesville District Presiding Elder (two terms), Newport, Van Buren, Booneville District Presiding Elder, Cotton Plant, Conference Evangelist, Swifton, Piggott, Pocahontas, Huntington Avenue at Jonesboro, Brinkley, and after retirement, Salem, Newark, Caraway and Black Oak.

The Wilfords made their home in Jonesboro following his last pastorate. For the past 10 years Mrs. Wilford had made her home with her son John and family at Black Rock.

The service was held April 3 at Huntington Avenue Church with the Rev. Ben F. Jordan, superintendent of the Paragould District, assisted by the Rev. Bill Kirkland, pastor at Black Rock, officiating.

Mrs. Wilford was an aunt of the Rev. S. B. Wilford, a retired member of the North Arkansas Conference.

Licensed to Preach

Mr. Darrell Kersey (left) receives the License to Preach from the Rev. Ben Jordan, Paragould District superintendent, during Easter morning worship at Shiloh Church, Paragould. Looking on are Mrs. Kersey and daughter Linda Andrews, both members at Shiloh. Mr. Kersey, a student at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, will receive an appointment in June.



Chaplain Cox Receives Promotion

Chaplain Billy Howard Cox, Deputy Post Chaplain at Fort Hood, Tex., receives his eagles during a ceremony marking his promotion to Colonel. Pinning the insignia on Chaplain Cox are Major Gen. John Hill, Deputy Comdr. of III Corps and Fort Hood, and the chaplain's wife, Delle. Cox, a native of Huntsville and a member of the Little Rock Conference, served as associate pastor at First Church, North Little Rock, and as pastor of Shorewood Hills Church in Jones Mills, prior to entering the Army chaplaincy.



MRS. ALICE PRESTON of Murfreesboro will be the featured speaker for a Mother's Day program at Duncan United Methodist Church in Little Rock District on Sunday, May 9. Mrs. Preston attended Southern State College in Magnolia and is a graduate of Philander Smith College in Little Rock. She is a Little Rock Conference representative on the Regional Advisory Committee of United Methodist's Women's Division, is vice president of Arkadelphia District United Methodist Women, and was a delegate to General Conference in Atlanta in 1972. Mrs. Preston is the mother of the Rev. Clark Preston, a pastor in Wichita, Kans.

Personalia

ROGER BEAL, Hendrix College junior from Newport, has been elected president of the Student Association. Beal, the son of the Rev. and Mrs. Jim Beal, is also an alternate delegate from the North Arkansas Conference to Jurisdictional Conference, which will meet in Lincoln, Neb., July 13-15.

AD RATES

Arkansas Methodist advertising pays

Liner ads cost only \$.75 per line, or part of line; \$.50 per line for identical ads after first entry. Display ads cost \$5 per column inch for first insertion. For additional information write: Arkansas Methodist, P.O. Box 3547, Little Rock, Ark. 72203, or telephone 374-4831.

FOR SALE: Wurlitzer Concert Organ with two manuals and 32 pedals, nearly new. Sounds like pipe organ. Contact Clear Springs Missionary Baptist Church, Route 2, Box 403G, Benton, Ark. 72015 (Phone: 778-8869)

FOR SALE: 16 church pews, 13 feet 9 inches long; 2 pews, 10 feet long. Padded seats and racks for books, pencils and envelopes. May be seen at First United Methodist Church, Norphlet. Call 546-2577 or write P.O. Box 28, Norphlet, Ark. 71759.

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United Methodists in Arkansas



Easter Celebrations on Vann Dale Charge

ABOVE: Children at Ellis Chapel gather for Sunday afternoon Easter Egg Hunt. The day began with a congregational Sunrise Service in the out-of-doors, where songbirds added their music to that of the church choir. BELOW: Members of Central United Methodist Church located on Highway 64, west of Wynne, mingle with tourists who stopped to worship with them on Easter. The Rev. Billy F. Powell is pastor of these churches in Forrest City District.



Community Sunrise Service

ABOVE: Vocalists Tracy Crumpler, Debbie Vinson, Gloria Watson, Marie Lewis and Pianist Kathy Davis of Silver Hill United Methodist Church, presented special music at the Community Easter Sunrise Service at Mt. Holly Presbyterian Church. BELOW: The Marysville-Silver Hill United Methodist Youth Choir also provided special music for the event.



Congressman Alexander Visits ASU

Representatives of United Methodist Women and the Board of Church and Society in the First Congressional District were among constituents who met recently at Arkansas State University to discuss with Congressman Bill Alexander issues relating to upcoming Food Stamp legislation, the problems of hunger in the U.S. and the world, and other social issues. Left to right, Mr. Ronnie Sparks (in shadows), of the Christian Civic Foundation, the Rev. Jim Randle of the ASU Wesley Foundation, the Rev. David Moose, pastor of Shiloh Church in Paragould, Congressman Alexander, Mrs. Freddie Nixon of Huntington Avenue Church in Jonesboro and Mrs. Marie Jordan of Paragould District.



ASU Wesley Foundation Team

"The Meaning of Ministry of the Wesley Foundation," was the subject of a recent Sunday evening worship service presented by this team at Lake City United Methodist Church. Team members, left to right, are Tom Craft, Mariko Cornell, Elaine Craft and Teresa Reed. The Rev. Jim Randle, pastor of the Wesley Foundation at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, led the team.



Seventh Grade Confirmation Class

This class, 30 in number, was received into full membership at Central United Methodist Church, Fayetteville, on Palm Sunday. Shown with them in second row are Dr. Joel Cooper (at right), senior pastor, and the Rev. Marvest A. Lawson (at left), associate minister.



Oak Forest Youth Hold Retreat At Tanako

These 23 youths and counselors of Oak Forest Church, Little Rock, spent a recent weekend in a retreat at Little Rock Conference's Camp Tanako on Lake Catherine. In addition to fun and games, several hours were devoted to the serious study of the beliefs of The United Methodist Church, under the leadership of Mr. Meredith Cravens, director of Christian Education. On Saturday evening, the Rev. Carr Dee Racop, associate director of the Little Rock Council on Ministries, joined the group as an additional resource person.



Rock-A-Thon Nets Over \$1300

Twenty consecutive hours of rocking by members of the UMYF of the Grady-Trinity Charge brought in \$1300 toward a summer trip to Florida. Bobby Dreher (at left) who received a prize for bringing in the most money, is shown with fellow rockers, Rodney Hardin and Bruce Harvey. The event began at 4 p.m. on a Friday evening and concluded at 1 p.m. on Saturday. (The rockers were permitted a 5-minute break at five minutes before each hour.)



Confirmation Class At Lincoln

This class of nine was received into the membership of First United Methodist Church at Lincoln on Palm Sunday by Pastor Uriah Smith. Each was presented a Bible.



Church Pianist At Fifteen

Joesette Cummins, the 15-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Cummings of Mt. Carmel Church in Pine Bluff District, serves as pianist.