

Arkansas Methodist

Arkansas United Methodism's Newsweekly

Little Rock, Arkansas, Thursday, September 30, 1976



95th Year No. 39

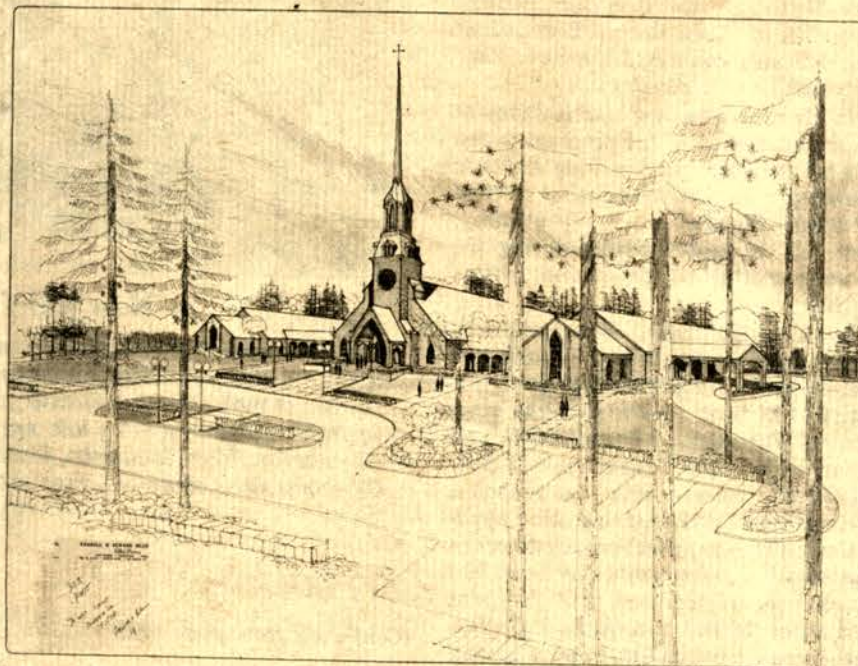
Metropolitan churches take forward-looking actions

Highland and Pride Valley congregations merging — to build on new site

Two Little Rock-area churches, Highland and Pride Valley, have agreed to unite their congregations and have adopted a plan of merger to become effective Oct. 1. The plan, approved Aug. 22 by the Pride Valley Church and Sept. 19 by the Highland Church, was developed by a committee composed of members of the two congregations. The churches had examined, over a period of approximately two years, the possibility of merger. For the past seven months they have been engaged in a "yoked parish" arrangement in which they have shared ministry and fellowship. The new name of the merged congregations will be "Highland Pride Valley United Methodist Church."

Both congregations have approved plans for a new structure (see photo), to be placed on six acres adjoining the present Pride Valley location, at the intersection of Markham Parkway (under construction) and Kanis Road. The site is approximately five miles west of the Little Rock city limits. The area is the scene of projected major residential developments, with two or three subdivisions, containing approximately 600 homes, presently planned.

Dr. J. Edward Dunlap, superintendent of the Little Rock District, said the project was considered "the number one priority" of the District's Board of Missions. He said that that board had developed a comprehensive program relating to all the growth areas of the District, and that they had projected the



DRAWING OF PROPOSED BUILDING PLAN for future Highland and Pride Valley church plant as sketched by the architectural firm of Fletcher Miller Dean and Associates.

site as a prime location for a future congregation. He reported that two other Protestant denominations had plans for new churches in the area. He praised the two United Methodist congregations for their "very positive and enthusiastic" vote on the merger.

The Rev. Louis Mulkey, in his fourth

year as pastor of the Highland Church, said that while any such change was difficult for persons, he saw it as an opportunity for both congregations. He said that one of the major challenges of the move was that of developing a ministry in a new area to be served. He said "everything now hinges on the

Historic moves made by four local churches

Four local churches — two in the Little Rock District of the Little Rock Annual Conference and two in the Conway District of the North Arkansas Conference — are engaged in plans which represent historic moves, oriented to providing ministry of significant consequences to their respective areas. Both situations, though different in many respects, are similar in that they involve some "giving up" and some "taking on." Their stories are told in the two accompanying articles.

financial picture."

The Rev. Kirvin Hale, retired member of the Little Rock Conference who is serving in his third year as pastor of the Pride Valley Church, reported that that congregation had voted unanimously for the merger. He said "I don't see a thing in the world to keep the growth and ministry of this new church from being very successful. It's a wonderful opportunity for the people of Pride Valley; they feel that way, and I do, too."

Dr. Dunlap reported that the cabinet

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Washington Avenue and Rose City Beacon to form new congregation

In an unique and historic move, two United Methodist congregations in North Little Rock have voted to dissolve their present congregations and form a "brand new" church in order to more adequately provide a ministry to the eastern section of North Little Rock.

The two congregations, Washington Avenue and Rose City Beacon, voted in separate Church Conferences, both held Sept. 19, to disband on Dec. 31 and to form the new church on Sunday, Jan. 2. At that time all properties of both churches will be transferred to the trustees of the new church. Bishop Kenneth W. Hicks will bring the sermon at that first service.

Dr. Robert E. L. Bearden, superintendent of the Conway District, in which the present two congregations are located, said that the move was the result of a study of over eight months duration. He said the situation was unique and that he couldn't recall any instance within the North Arkansas Conference when a similar move had taken place. He stressed that the move was "not a merger" of the two churches, but was the creation of an entirely new church. "Neither of the former congregations," he said, "is going to 'be absorbed' by the other."

Dr. Bearden said that the plan called for the new congregation to use the facilities presently housing the Rose City Beacon congregation, located at 4525 Lynch Drive in eastern North Little

Rock. The Washington Avenue Church's facilities are located at 2401 Washington Avenue, approximately 20 blocks east of the central downtown area of the city.

Dr. Bearden said the persons involved were "most excited and thrilled" and were eager to proceed with the project. A name for the new church will be chosen after its formation. Its charter membership role will be opened at the Jan. 2 service and will remain open until Easter.

The Rev. J. Hillman Byram, in his second year as pastor of the Washington Avenue congregation, said that while there was a "lot of understandable sorrow" which persons experienced in giving up their church home of many years' standing, the congregation looked upon the new church "with a sense of mission and excitement." "This has been a church with a great mission," he said. "We've helped establish three or four congregations in North Little Rock, and we've had a great spirit in the past and look on the new venture with the same spirit."

Mr. Byram said that the Washington Avenue congregation had conducted an extensive study concerning its role and had considered as many as five possible options for its future ministry. He said the decision to dissolve and form the new church would enable them "to get on with the ministry we need to be doing." He said he felt that "one strong church could do the job better than two in

adverse circumstances."

The Rev. Bob Edwards, in his third year as pastor of the Rose City Beacon congregation, said the members of that church were "excited" about the decision because "it really is creating a new church and will give all of us an opportunity to minister to the whole eastern part of North Little Rock in a much better fashion." He said the Rose City congregation voted unanimously to dissolve and establish the new church.

'Service of Affirmation' participants to include ecumenical leaders

Leaders of various church bodies in Arkansas will take part in the Oct. 10 "Service of Affirmation," a worship service designed as the official welcome to Bishop Kenneth W. Hicks, recently assigned as resident bishop of the Arkansas Area of The United Methodist Church, and Mrs. Hicks.

Clerical leaders of church bodies within the state will join in the opening processional of the service, set for 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Little Rock, and will be recognized during the service. Guest participants will be: The Most Rev. Andrew J. McDonald, bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Little Rock (State of Arkansas), The Rt. Rev. Charles A. Higgins, dean of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, representing The Rt. Rev. Christoph Keller,

A "Committee on the New Church" has been appointed by the District Superintendent as follows: Mr. Harold Davidson (chairman), Mr. Jim Lane, Miss Amy Woodsmall, Mr. Curtis Harris, Mrs. Gladys McKelvey, Mr. Lee Davidson, the Rev. J. Hillman Byram, Mr. Danny Daniels, Mr. Roy Files, Mr. Charles Eagle, Mrs. Marie Caple, Mrs. Vi Phillips, Mr. Tommy Thomas and the Rev. Bob Edwards.

bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Arkansas; Bishop Frederick C. James, bishop of the 12th Episcopal District of The African Methodist Episcopal Church; Dr. Charles Ashcraft, executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention; Dr. William S. McLean, general presbyter, Presbytery of Arkansas (Union), and Dr. James Rainwater, executive minister of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Arkansas.

The sermon will be given by Bishop Finis A. Crutchfield of Houston, Tex., resident bishop of the Houston Area of The United Methodist Church.

An "ecumenical welcome" will be given by the Rev. Dean Sudman, speak-

(Continued on page two)

Bishop challenges Council to 'look to future'

Bishop Kenneth W. Hicks has challenged the Council on Ministries of the Little Rock Conference to "talk future, future, future," and to keep before the Conference's agencies a continuing "accounting of (their) purposes."

Speaking at the Council's first meeting of the year, Sept. 20 at Little Rock, Bishop Hicks told the some 30 members present at the organizational session that "one of the most permanent things in the world is change" and that the institution which doesn't face the reality of change "is going to have some problems." The bishop told the group that in light of the fact that it was "becoming increasingly costly to keep valuable institutions going," he doubted if the church "could justify our continued existence without accounting for our purposes." He said he saw it as one of the Council's jobs "to keep this before the Conference."

The bishop said it was difficult for the church to concentrate upon the future "because we have such a great past," but he insisted that to be faithful, the church must focus on the future. "Our needs," he said, "are really the expression of the pain we're feeling for the decisions we made yesterday." He told the group, "We ought to use that understanding of ourselves to plunge into the conquest of the potential that lies in the future." The bishop said that hope, even more than love and faith, had been "the great obsession" of the church. "This is what separates 'the people of God' from 'God's people,'" he said.

Concerning its goals and programs, the bishop told the Council, "I'll probably be pressing you to say, 'What does this mean?' and 'To what extent is this achievable?'" He told the Council, "I don't intend for there to be Cabinet meetings that I can't attend — and that's the way I am about the meetings of this body." In a concluding statement he said he considered Christianity as "not when we get on the other side" but as "the joy and thrill of the walk together."

Council Organizes, Hears Reports

Elected at the session as officers for the year were: Chairman, Dr. J.

Edward Dunlap, superintendent of the Little Rock District; vice chairman, Dr. John Lindsay, pastor of First Church, Pine Bluff; secretary, Mrs. Eugene Cobb of Ashdown; treasurer, Mr. Grafton Thomas of Little Rock; at-large members of the executive committee: Mrs. N. J. Garrett of Crossett, Mrs. Zenobia Waters of Little Rock and Mrs. Hazel Dabney of Pine Bluff; representative to the Jurisdictional Council, the Rev. Elmo Thomason of Little Rock; Council on Finance and Administration representative to the Jurisdiction, Mr. Richard Meredith of Little Rock. The Council also officially confirmed the Rev. Elmo Thomason as its director.

In his report to the Council, Director Thomason reviewed the program priorities for the year and noted highlights in the work of various agencies. Associate Director, the Rev. Carr Dee Racop, reported on camp activities during the summer, noting an increase in participation.

Dr. Ray Hozendorf of Arkadelphia, chairman of the Council on Finance and Administration, reported that five applications had been received for the position of Director of Stewardship and Finance. He stated that the search committee was pleased with that response and was hopeful of receiving other applications. (Those applications are to reach the Area Treasurer's office by Sept. 30.) Dr. Hozendorf reported that the joint committee of the two Annual Conferences would meet on Oct. 1 and following that would seek a meeting with the CFA's of the two Conferences to confirm the naming of the new officer, who will succeed Mr. Grafton Thomas upon his retirement in early 1977. Mr. Thomas has served as Area Treasurer for the past 14 years.

The Council heard a report from Dr. Duane Bruce of Oklahoma City, executive director of the Council on Ministries of the South Central Jurisdiction. He expressed concern that small-membership churches receive more attention and assistance and that more leadership training be developed for minority-membership congregations.



New COM Officers Elected

Shown at the Sept. 20 meeting of the Council on Ministries of the Little Rock Conference are newly-elected officers (seated), Dr. J. Edward Dunlap, superintendent of the Little Rock District, chairman, and Mrs. Eugene Cobb of Ashdown, secretary. Standing, from left, are: Associate Director Rev. Carr Dee Racop, Director Rev. Elmo Thomason, Bishop Kenneth W. Hicks, and Dr. Duane Bruce of Oklahoma City, executive director of the South Central Jurisdiction.

AFFIRMATION

(Continued from page one)

ing on behalf of the Arkansas Council of Churches. Mr. Sudman, pastor of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church in Little Rock, is a member of the Council's Division of Christian Unity and is a trustee on the organization's Board of Directors.

United Methodist clergy and lay officials invited to participate in the processional are the three retired bishops residing in Arkansas, the superintendents of the 13 districts of the Arkansas Area, the five directors of the Councils on Ministries of the two Conferences, and the presidents of Hendrix College and Philander Smith College.

Worship leader for the service will be Dr. Clint D. Burleson, pastor of Lakewood Church in North Little Rock and chairman of the North Arkansas Conference's Committee on the Episcopacy. The invocation will be given by Dr. Virgil D. Keeley, superintendent of the Pine Bluff District and chairman of the Little Rock Conference cabinet. "Expressions of Affirmation and Welcome" will be given by Dr. George W. Martin, pastor of First Church, Hot Springs and chairman of the Little Rock Conference's delegation to General Conference, and Miss Mildred Osment of Jonesboro, chairman of the North Arkansas Conference's delegation to General Conference.

Miss Susan Brown of Fort Smith, president of the North Arkansas Conference Youth Council, will read the scripture and Mr. John Blundell of Little Rock will give the prayer. The Litany of Affirmation will be led by Mrs. Zenobia Waters of Little Rock and the benediction will be given by the Rev. Ben Jordan, superintendent of the Paragould District and chairman of the cabinet of the North Arkansas Conference.

Following the Litany of Affirmation, Bishop Hicks will be presented to the congregation. The order of service provides for a response from the new bishop.

Special music will be presented by the Chancel Choir of the host church, under the direction of Mr. John Summers, organist and choirmaster.

HIGHLAND and PRIDE VALLEY

(Continued from page one)

of the Little Rock Conference had approved the merger and that Mr. Mulkey would serve as pastor of the new congregation. He reported that no specific plan had been developed for use of the present Highland Church facilities, located at Cedar and 13th Streets. He said that among possible uses being studied was a center for ministry with minorities.

Members of the building committee for the new structure are Mrs. E. L. Alexander, Mr. Harry Ambrose, Mr. Perry Bolding, Mr. Francis Brain (chairman), Mrs. E. D. Galloway, Mr. Don Lambert, Mrs. Ruth Nunnally, Dr. Allen Rozzell, Mrs. Willis E. Starks and Mr. Thurman Woodworth. The committee is composed of an equal number of members of the two former congregations.

Appointments announced

Bishop Kenneth W. Hicks announces the following pastoral appointments in the North Arkansas Conference.

Effective Sept. 1:

Morrow — Paul Dubar.

Effective Sept. 15:

Levy, North Little Rock — Harould Scott.

Clinton — Ellsworth Watson.

Piggott — William Hightower.

St. Paul, Fort Smith — Arvest Lawson.

Van Buren, First Church — James O. Linam.

Wyatt Memorial, Fort Smith — Otha Strayhorn.

Tyronza — Russell M. Bailey.

Forrest City, Forrest Hills — Alfred Eckles.

Hickory Ridge — Jim West.

Effective Oct. 1:

Bono — Mike Orr.



Children's Home Offering Plans Revealed at Dinner

Members of the Methodist Children's Home Board of Trustees, the Home's District Commissioners and District Superintendents of the two Annual Conferences, were guests of Board Member and Mrs. Charles T. Meyer Jr., at a dinner held Sept. 23 at the Little Rock Country Club. Shown are (from left) the Rev. Ed Keith, the home's superintendent, and Mrs. Keith, Board Chairman Mr. H. H. Fulbright and Mrs. Fulbright, Mrs. Kenneth W. Hicks and Bishop Hicks and the Meyers. Mr. Meyer, the board's State Support chairman for 12 years, detailed plans for the annual Methodist Children's Home offering, Dec. 12. Bishop Hicks addressing the gathering, said that the home, in bringing its ministry of love and faith to children, was "adding the essential element of hope." He said, "You can share love and faith; you have to do something to develop hope."

New guidelines for ordained ministry effective Jan. 1

NASHVILLE, TENN. (UMC) — The procedure by which individuals enter the ordained ministry of the United Methodist Church will be changed dramatically beginning Jan. 1.

Major features of the new process approved by the 1976 General Conference include a greater emphasis on the role of the local church in recommending candidates for the ministry. A "supervising pastor" on each district will also be trained to guide candidates through a new style of experiential, contextual, inductive learning.

The process actually begins when an individual expresses an interest in the ministry and asks for information. New resources are being developed by the Division of the Ordained Ministry here including a 50-page paperback book entitled *The Christian as Minister*. Writing the book is Dr. Richard Hunt, a faculty member at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

The Rev. Robert Davis, a staff member of the Division, said a variety of resources and materials are being planned to help individuals explore the ministry to assess their own "calling, gifts, and graces." By starting early, he said, interested individuals can be prevented from feeling victimized by premature or uninformed decisions.

"Persons such as high school students have often been directed into the license to preach studies and to district committees on ministry without an opportunity to look at the variety of options open for ministry within the church," he said. "By the time some discover that the ordained ministry isn't for them, they have invested a great deal of time and money and have taken church scholarships. If they back out, they feel significant adults and other friends will be disappointed."

To Broaden Understanding

A central purpose of the process is to broaden a

candidate's understanding of the church and ministry. In many instances, Mr. Davis said individuals have gone into the ordained ministry after having experienced the life of only one congregation and the leadership of only one or two pastors.

The new materials will describe the options for Christian ministry in the United Methodist Church: the "general ministry" of all persons who profess the Christian faith, the "diaconal ministry" for non-ordained, full-time workers in the church, and the "ordained ministry." Included in the materials will be cassette tapes containing interviews with various types of individuals who are in ministry in a variety of settings.

If persons identify an interest in the ordained ministry, they must make their desire known to their local church Pastor-Parish Relations Committee. The committee will in turn report to the annual charge conference which may then recommend the person as a candidate. This recommendation goes to the appropriate ministry groups on the district, annual conference, and general church levels. The status of a "candidate" must be renewed annually by the action of the local church charge conference. A person must be a member of the local church for at least one year before being recommended as a candidate.

"We are trying to make clear the lines of accountability," Mr. Davis said. "The fact is — and has always been — that the local church recommends persons for the ordained ministry. It has been easy for local churches to put that responsibility off on a district committee or an annual conference board of the ministry."

Following the recommendation of the local charge conference, the candidate comes under the nurture and guidance of the district committee on the ministry. At this point the candidate will receive from the Division of the Ordained Ministry in Nashville a

guidebook of about 150 pages and two cassette tapes which will outline a process he or she is expected to complete.

After reading *The Christian as Minister* and receiving the recommendation of the church conference, the individual will be assigned a "supervising pastor" in his or her district who will be a consultant as the candidate goes through the guidebook and other materials.

To Apply To All Candidates

The major import of the new legislation is that all candidates for the ordained ministry will be required to go through the process whether or not they are planning to attend seminary or work for a "license as local pastor." Formerly, candidates could take a correspondence course through the Division offices in Nashville and receive a "license to preach."

Mr. Davis said it is hoped that the candidacy process will be accomplished prior to the time individuals enter seminary since they will have to complete the process before they can be ordained as deacons or licensed as local pastors.

The new license as local pastor studies will be built around a new list of duties of the pastor found in the 1976 *Book of Discipline* and will be very practical, according to Mr. Davis. "They might be referred to as a 'crash course' or 'how to do it in ministry,'" he said. "It will explain how to fill out forms, how to conduct a funeral, how to exegete a scripture, how to prepare a sermon, etc."

The role of the local pastor in the new *Book of Discipline* is defined as transitional. Such persons, however, will have the authority to administer the sacraments of baptism and holy communion during the time they are under appointment to a local church.

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The Editor's Pulpit

The Religion of the American Voter

A vital concern in an election year

Granted that the religious beliefs of candidates for public office are a valid subject of interest and inquiry, it strikes us that the topic, in regard to the current Presidential campaign, has been handled and mishandled to the neglect of an issue of equal significance: the religious beliefs — or misbeliefs — of the voter. And specifically, how the voter "uses" those religious beliefs in regard to political matters, nonpartisan and otherwise.

To be sure, the individual voter is not asking for or seeking the trust and confidence of the electorate. The candidate is. And therefore the candidate's religious beliefs, as a basic factor in fashioning his private thoughts which eventually find expression in his public actions, are a legitimate concern to the electorate.

But we speak here to another dimension of the issue: We submit that the way, the fashion — the "style" — in which the vote fulfills that civic responsibility can in itself become a moral issue. The manner in which the voter makes his decision — that manner in itself — can take on moral dimensions. We would think that voters who profess to be religiously oriented would be especially sensitive to such a circumstance.

To be specific: Morality is reflected by the "size" of the issues we allow to influence us, to sway and determine our vote. For example, when four years ago Senator Edmund Muskie wept in public, that instance alone was said to be instru-

mental in his defeat. We submit that it is "immoral" for the electorate to allow such an irrelevant happening to play such a dominant role in a decision as significant as choosing a candidate. (We would think that the kind of sensitivity that brings tears is to an individual's credit rather than to his shame.)

Our point is that the voter, as surely as the candidate, has large moral responsibilities to fulfill. And one point at which those responsibilities frequently surface is in answer to the question, "What are the big issues and what are the small issues at hand?"

The above is not necessarily motivated by the number one topic of the week, Governor Jimmy Carter's remarks made after an interview by Playboy magazine. We're not especially eager to join the multitudes who are making comment on those remarks, for to do so makes us guilty of the very "moral irresponsibility" we herein condemn. But the situation presents a classic case in point, illustrating how we let relatively small matters hold inordinate sway over major decisions.

At issue is not so much the content of the candidate's remarks — though they are not without significance — as it is the popular reaction to them and the "morality" of that reaction itself.

Are we, as voters who rightfully demand moral accountability in our candidates, willing to accept the same accountability for ourselves? In this case, such accountability would seem to require that the voter make a rational — as opposed to "emotional" — response, asking "What are the real issues? What was said and not said?, and a determination to place the situation in context and perspective. (What about the interview itself? What will it say in totality?)

This is not an apology for a Democratic candidate; it is an appeal for a sense of moral responsibility on the part of the American voter.

Another aspect of the situation is not irrelevant to our present concern. Why Playboy magazine?

Why not Playboy magazine?

We can't see how it will hurt Playboy's readers to hear a little New Testament morality translated into A Real Modern English Version by a Southern Baptist layman. Some of Playboy's readers might not see it or hear it anywhere else.

The whole thing may well have been a political mistake. It may have been an unnecessary and untactful self-disclosure. We admit that it smacked of too much "sharing" and "openness" to our liking, and the language was no credit to the candidate and the image he has projected.

But whatever it was, we're sure it doesn't deserve the kind of prolonged attention and misattention we're afraid it's going to receive. And our point here is that just such prolonged attention, to the neglect of weightier matters, will be a greater judgment upon the American voters than upon the candidate.

Arkansas Methodist

Established 1882

Official newspaper of the Little Rock and North Arkansas Annual Conferences of The United Methodist Church

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PUBLISHED every Thursday except weeks of July 4 and Dec. 25 at United Methodist Headquarters Bldg., Little Rock, Ark. Second class postage paid at Little Rock, Ark. When asking for change of address

please include key number, new and old address and pastor's name.

POSTMASTER: Mail form 3579 to Box 3547, Little Rock, Ark. 72203.

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE to Box 3547, Little Rock, Ark. 72203. Articles other than editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editor.

EDITORIAL and business offices located in United Methodist Headquarters Building, 715 Center Street, Little Rock, Ark.

NEWS SERVICES: United Methodist Communications (UMC), United Methodist boards and agencies: Religious News Service (RNS), and others.

Products or services advertised are not necessarily endorsed by this newspaper or by The United Methodist Church.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year.

MEMBER: Associated Church Press, United Methodist Assn. of Communicators

Iowa Methodists bring gift to Heifer Project

Forty United Methodists from Iowa came to Arkansas weekend-before-last, bearing a gift of \$20,000 for Heifer Project International, the Arkansas-based agency which provides livestock to needy persons around the world. The gift, given by members of the Iowa Conference, was used to provide pasture land at HPI's International Livestock Center near Perryville. Arkansas' Bishop Kenneth W. Hicks participated in a Service of Dedication of the land on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 19.

Designated "Iowa Methodist Meadows," the gift was made in honor of two former managers of the Livestock Center, both native Iowans, Dr. Clarence Mannasmith of Morrilton and Mr. Willis McAlpin of Conway, and Mr. Don Ridenour, chairman of the Iowa United Methodist Heifer Project Committee.

Dr. Mannasmith is the recently-named president of United Methodist Men of the North Arkansas Conference and Mr. McAlpin is a member of First United Methodist Church in Conway. Mr. Ridenour, a farmer at Keswick, Ia., presided at the service and presented the \$20,000 check to HPI Executive Director Ed Geers of Little Rock.

Heifer Project International has often been utilized by the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and United Methodists have been one of the leading groups of some 11 denominations which channel relief work through its facilities. Last year Iowa United Methodists gave more than \$70,000 through HPI.

The Iowa group, made up of individuals representing approximately 16 local churches, travelled by one bus, one



PRINCIPAL PARTICIPANTS at the dedication of "Iowa Methodist Meadows" were (from left) Dr. Clarence Mannasmith, Mr. Willis McAlpin, Mr. Don Ridenour, Bishop Kenneth W. Hicks and Fr. Ed Geers.

BISHOP HICKS speaks at dedication service for "Iowa Methodist Meadows," at Heifer Project's International Livestock Center near Perryville.



car and one airplane to arrive in Arkansas on Friday evening, Sept. 17. On Saturday they toured HPI facilities and visited Winrock International Livestock Center near Morrilton. During their three-day stay they were quartered at Mather Lodge at Petit Jean State Park. **Arkansas Methodist** editor John S. Workman spoke at a morning worship service held by the group at the lodge on Sunday. Mr. Ridenour was coordinator of the trip. Dr. Ed Zelley,

director of Iowa United Methodist Information, was among church officials accompanying the group.

In its 33-year history HPI has placed over 90,000 animals in more than 90 countries and 20 states in the USA. Last year it provided livestock and technical aid valued at more than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to persons in 25 nations and 14 states.

Administration a 'ministry,' superintendents and directors told

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMC) — The district superintendency is the most vital connectional office and the annual conference council director is the most vital program office in The United Methodist Church, Dr. Jameson Jones, Denver, Colo., told newly appointed superintendents and council directors meeting here.

"You are the link that means life and leadership for the whole church," the president of Iliff School of Theology declared.

"Too often when we hear the word 'administration,' we think of the mess — activities, meetings, mailings, paper work, things we'd like to get rid of," he said. "Instead, administration is to bring order and coherence to all these activities — linking each to a common purpose, and relating them in mutually supportive ways to one another."

One of the reasons a person finds it difficult to accept a new calling of administration, he suggested, is that inadequate thought, time, or attention has been given to the full scope of opportunities that can come through administration.

Emphasizing that good administration is a ministry, Dr. Jones pointed to the root word for "administration" which means "to serve," and read the words of Jesus to his Disciples: "Whoever would be great among you must be your servant . . ."

"You are indeed called to a ministry of administration," he declared, "but so is every minister. Do it well, and show others how."

Attending the sessions at Scarritt College were 96 new superintendents, 14 new conference council directors, and 10 associate conference directors. Sponsors of the event were the Council of Bishops, the General Council on Ministries, and the Division of the Ordained Ministry.

Workshop sessions dealt with such topics as the appointment process and the function of the pastor-parish rela-

tions committee. Information sessions were conducted on legal issues, general church financial commitments, and the use of property. "Skillshops" dealt with the consultant role, supervision, and program planning.

SUCCESSORS TO NEW BISHOPS NAMED

Successors to newly-elected bishops in four major United Methodist churches in the South Central Jurisdiction have now been announced. Included are the Revs. F. Hauser Winter, Broadway UMC in Kansas City, Mo., to Trinity UMC, Grand Island, Nebr.; Clarence J. Forsberg, St. Paul Church in Lincoln, Nebr., to Missouri Church in Columbia, Mo.; Walter L. Underwood, First UMC in Ft. Worth, Texas, to St. Luke's Church in Houston, Texas; and John W. Russell, superintendent of the Tulsa (Okla.) District, to Boston Avenue Church in Tulsa.

Sunday is —

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

'One Lord, One Table'

United Methodist offerings will support

- Crusade Scholars
- Minority Scholars
- United Methodist Chaplains

Sunday, Oct. 3

TIME TO REGISTER FOR

NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE YOUTH TOUR

Nov. 20 — Nov. 28

Nine-day tour to Washington, D.C., New York, and Philadelphia

For students in the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades and high school graduates of 1976 from the North Arkansas Conference.

Scholarships in the amount of \$50 each are available for up to 10 youth. Recipients will be selected on the basis of recommendation from their pastors. If interested, write the Rev. Thomas Barnett, P.O. Box 35, Charleston, Ark. 72933.

Price of \$215 includes travel by Greyhound bus, all meals while in Washington, D.C., and dinner at a world-famous restaurant in New York.

REGISTRATION FORM — RETURN BEFORE OCT. 15

Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Date of Birth _____ Phone _____ Church _____
Parent or Guardian _____
Signature of Parent _____ Your Signature _____

Registration fee (\$30) enclosed — Remainder (\$185) due Nov. 1.
Make check payable to: North Arkansas Conference Youth Tour.

Please indicate choice of roommates:

1. _____ 2. _____

Mail to: North Arkansas Conference Youth Tour
Council on Ministries
715 Center St.
Little Rock, AR 72201

World Communion Dollars At Work

To the Editor:

Many of us will partake of the elements of the Lord's Table on Oct. 3, which is designated World Communion Sunday . . .

I want to tell you how I've experienced benefits of the special communion offering. Several of the leaders with whom I've worked in the Evangelical Methodist Church in Bolivia received their higher education through Crusade Scholarship Funds which receive 50 percent of this particular Communion Sunday offering and others so designated during the year.

One of the national-level work areas of the Church is filled by Dr. Jorge Pantelis, a recent graduate of Union Theological Seminary, New York City. He is responsible for the area of "Life and Mission" which includes evangelism and continuing pastoral education and lay training.

Mrs. Fanny Pantelis studied with her husband and is in charge of the area of Communication. She also took studies in Women's Work.

I know your love gifts are put to good use through this channel. Your generosity will help others to benefit.

Helen B. Wilson
835 Quapaw Ave.
Hot Springs, Ark. 71901

†

'LONELY, NEGLECTED AND FORGOTTEN'

To the Editor:

There is an area in our Conference responsibility that is sadly neglected. It has been my observation for over forty years that the retired minister, in general, has been greatly neglected by the men in the active ministry, the district superintendents, and the bishops. I do know that if one of the retired men can be of service to a particular pastor, he is called upon. But even then many have said that they were never thanked for their services and very few ever received mileage for their cars.

In a recent Conference session I heard a remark, "I wonder why all these old men and their wives hang around conference." And some of the retirees have told me they were recognized only when some active minister wanted a vote for his particular motion.

These older people become ill from time to time and some have a chronic disability and they are lonely, neglected, forgotten. One retiree, recently deceased, flatly stated that in his illness of many months his only ministerial visitor

Laity Day observance, Oct. 10

"A Nation Under God" will be the theme for Laity Day, to be observed Sunday, Oct. 10, throughout United Methodism. The special day recognizes the significance of the ministry of the laity in the church and the world. Many congregations in both Arkansas Area annual conferences will observe the day by having lay persons as speakers in worship services.

The 1976 theme is related to a two-year observance of the nation's Bicentennial celebration, with last year's observance being focused on "Shaping Our National Life." Dr. David W. Self, associate general secretary of the Board of Discipleship and director of the Division of Lay Life and Work, has noted that the special day "reminds us that the United States of America has always been strongly influenced by citizens who have been believers in Jesus Christ . . . (though) not all of our national

was another retiree. It is not in my knowledge that any ministers attended his burial rites.

There will be many to protest the above statements but I would ask, "To whom, when, and where, how many times?" Being a retiree I can flatly state that outside the pastors of the church where my wife has her membership there has not been one minister "brother" in my home in the past ten years.

Please, you eager beavers, don't set up some sort of superficial program to kill this criticism. After ten years most of my friends have gone into the other land.

A Retiree
(Signed, but name withheld on request)
†

WHY NO VOTE?

To the Editor:

I am a member of the Eureka Springs United Methodist Church, of which the Rev. Theo Luter is the pastor, in his seeking an answer in the regard of the right of Lay Pastors and/or Associate Ministers to vote on Clergy Delegates or the policies or Discipline of the Church.

I have represented our Church at Annual Conferences, and have noticed, observed and wondered why he and others did not vote on issues at these annual conferences, but it was never explained to me why?

Since then I learned that it was entirely due to the lack of certain higher education needed to obtain full ministerial status. Since he performs the same duties within the Church, as do those with a degree or doctorate, WHY THE DISCRIMINATION?

I read in the *Arkansas Methodist* that our new bishop, Kenneth W. Hicks, stated that he was a firm believer in JUSTICE. Now is the time for him and his official cabinet to bring equal justice for those Lay Pastors and/or Associate Ministers who preach in the smaller Churches . . .

I sincerely hope that someone will bring this matter before the next Annual Conference for equality among our Arkansas preachers.

Charles F. Peterson
2 Virginia St.
Eureka Springs, Ark. 72632

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'SUPPORTERS DESERVE AN ANSWER'

To the Editor:

We of the "Bible Belt" Southern Protestant persuasion had envisioned a "saviour" on the horizon on a charging white horse clad in the armor of salva-

behavior has been carried out in the spirit of Christ." He said "on the whole, the Christian religious undergirding of our citizens and leaders has been obvious in our national actions."

Dr. Self said the day is a time when "nearly ten million United Methodists join other Christians in recognizing our dependence on God for shaping our lives which in turn becomes our share in the nation's life."

Three passages of scripture, Psalms 33:22, Exodus 20:3 and Matthew 6:33, are suggested as the basis of Laity Day observances.

The Board of the Laity of the North Arkansas Conference recently requested all pastors in that conference to submit names of their Laity Day speakers to Mr. Bob Cheyne, Conference lay leader, by last Monday, Sept. 27, for publication in next week's issue of the *Arkansas Methodist*.

IT WAS TIME FOR THAT KIND OF CHANGE IN WASHINGTON.

Virtually every news media has given much space and time to describing in great detail the religious convictions and moral strength of Democratic nominee for President of the United States, Mr. James (Jimmy) Earl Carter. Every Monday morning we are greeted with a picture of the Carters either going in, or coming from their Church in Plains, Ga. The Governor is quoted on theological issues; and his "born again" religion is constantly defined for the American citizenry.

I had told the Church School Class that I teach (part time) that here was indeed a person we could believe in and support. I said that he had the moral strength and Christian character that this great country of ours needed. I said that he was not afraid to articulate his faith.

This past week the news media reported on the existence of a full interview granted by Governor Carter to *Playboy Magazine*. That interview WILL BE published in an upcoming issue of the magazine. In the course of the interview Mr. Carter gave a rambling explanation of (among other things) his own definition of the "sin" of lust. He evidently got carried away with the "aura" of the magazine's image and used what has been politely described by newsmen as "earthy" language in his description of lust. The Governor may be found very vulnerable on the content of the interview; and will probably be answering questions about it for the balance of the campaign.

The question that I think needs to be answered, above all others, of this incident, is "Why did he grant the interview to *Playboy Magazine* in the beginning?"

Although you constantly hear plaudits of the literary content of the magazine, it has always been and remains a container for sexual exploitation and degradation. I am still amused at the preacher who had a parishioner of his buy a *Playboy* and tear out the "dirty" pictures and give it to him because it "had such good stories in it."

It is my judgment that Governor Carter has made a grave error in judgment and moral leadership. I think that even the Southern Protestant "closet" reader of *Playboy* will reject this theological "double standard." We have had that kind of "leadership" in our nation's capital too long now. A leadership that espouses strong moral leadership on the one hand and is found wallowing in the arena of moral and spiritual decay on the other.

The "great" debate of last evening did not pursue this event; however the great number of Protestant Christians who have supported the Governor (because of his exhibited faith) deserve a definitive answer to this issue.

James W. Lane, Lay Leader
The Conway District/
North Arkansas Conference
The United Methodist Church
8 Sierra Court
North Little Rock, Ark. 72118

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NEWS and opinion

summary by Doris Woolard

Dr. Gordon Rupp, a professor at the University of Cambridge, told the World Methodist Conference at its recent meeting in Dublin: "The truth about us has not been that we have been too withdrawn from the world but too much in it." Dr. Rupp said, "Heaven save Methodism from a religion which is a million miles wide and half-an-inch deep."

Dr. Joseph H. Jackson, president of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., the nation's largest black denomination, has called for a strong defense budget and more attention to U.S. military preparedness. Drawing on his experience of a recent tour of U.S. Air Force bases in Europe, the long-time leader of the denomination cited 24 countries now under Communist control.

Presiding Bishop John Allin of the Episcopal Church told an estimated 6000 persons attending the denomination's 65th General Convention that "Permissiveness and self-indulgent license often masquerade under the name of freedom."

The Rev. Nelson H. Smith Jr., president of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., delivering his annual message, said: "Racial injustice, discrimination or the limitation of one's rights here in America is worse than those same conditions in Godless, non-democratic nations because we declare that we are 'one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.'"

The Rev. Keith I. Pohl, editor of the Michigan statewide United Methodist weekly publication, has declared in an editorial entitled "Roman Catholicism:

Third World Hope," that "Roman Catholicism offers the best hope for the poor masses of the Third World." Noting that he differs with that church's stands on such issues as abortion, birth control, gambling, and alcoholic beverages, Mr. Pohl adds, "I have recently gained new respect and deep appreciation for the courageous witness which the Roman Catholic Church has been making on behalf of the Christian struggle for social justice and human rights."

President Ford, an Episcopalian — and honorary chairman for National Bible Week, has encouraged all Americans to observe the annual National Bible Week, Nov. 21-28 this year. His message says: "The United States of America, conceived under God two hundred years ago, this year rededicates itself to the spiritual and moral values that will transform our people. This transformation rests not only on the guidelines of our national Constitution but upon the Holy Bible itself . . . The Bible provides a new inspiration to new generations . . ."

The Lee School Committee in Lee, Mass., has voted unanimously to require a period of silence for meditation or prayer in its public schools. In early September a three-judge federal panel in Boston ruled that the Massachusetts law on school meditation or prayer was constitutional. The statute prescribes that "at the commencement of the first class each day in all grades in all public schools the teacher in charge of the room in which each class is held shall announce that a period of silence not to exceed one minute in duration shall be observed for meditation or prayer, and during any such period silence shall be maintained and no activities engaged in."

While the number of students enrolled in a total of 446 Hebrew Day Schools in the U.S. and 52 schools in Canada this Fall remains relatively unchanged, 22 new schools have been established this year, including nine at the high school level, according to a report by the National Society for Hebrew Day Schools.

By DR. FRANCIS CHRISTIE
Professor of Religion
Hendrix College
Conway, Arkansas

Reconciled Through Jesus Christ

Scripture: Romans 5

This and the next three lessons for this series are based on chapters 5-8 of Romans. Writing for *The Interpreter's Bible*, John Knox asserts that these chapters constitute "the most important section of the letter, if not of all Paul's correspondence." This is a strong statement, but it expresses a view rather widely held.

The student is urged to read these chapters and to form his or her own evaluation of them. Since the words are fairly familiar to many, it is suggested that the four chapters be read, at one sitting, from some version other than the King James Version or the Revised Standard Version. *The New English Bible* and *Good News for Modern Man* are mentioned as two possibilities. Also, readers, and perhaps classes, will find it helpful if they will write their own paraphrases of some of the material. In these chapters Paul begins to translate the Gospel into life situations.

What Now?

For the past several weeks these lessons have tried to make the point that human efforts alone are not effective in the accomplishment of righteousness. That is, Paul has been attempting to convince us of our own inadequacies, or, if we do not need to be convinced of these, to get us to admit our insufficiency. This leaves us in a predicament that, for many, appears worse than where we started. What now?

Well, Paul, in Romans 3:21-4:25, proclaimed that faith in Christ is the suitable response. But this could be only a phrase of convenience or a pious platitude. The question is: What effects does this produce? What actually happens when one accepts reconciliation? What is to be restored?

The answer is that when one accepts reconciliation that person is reconciled. That is, the person finds peace. "Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1). The word "since" could as well be translated "because."

Peace With God

Most of us would be quick to deny enmity with or hostility towards God. This would be unthinkable. Peter DeVries has a character in one of his novels say, "My wife is one of my favorite people." But he goes on to make a mess of the relationship by trying too hard to convince himself and others of this. So it often is with our relationship to God. Paul lays it on the line and asserts that, whether we know it or admit it or not, we conduct ourselves like enemies of God (Romans 5:10). This is pretty strong language. It is bad enough to be an enemy of another human being. But consider the evidence. Harrell F. Beck, in *The International Lesson Annual, 1976-77* (page 58), states it well. "Sin separates us from God. It is a breach of the relationship with him for which we were created. As sinners we break his laws, thwart his purposes, and actually become the enemies of God in deed and in spirit." It is our conduct, not our words, that makes us as enemies. Perhaps we are not real enemies; but our conduct hardly marks us as real friends. Our lips and our deeds are not always in harmony with each other. When we are thoughtless of any of God's creatures we are not behaving as friends of God, and the opposite of friend is enemy.

Peace is seen as the opposite of enmity or hostility. It is much more than the absence of conflict, more than mere truce. It is friendship. *Good News for Modern Man* translates Romans 5:11, "We rejoice in God

through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has now made us God's friends." That is great! God's friends! It brings to mind Jesus' statement to his disciples that he would now call them friends.

The relationship of Jesus with others demonstrates what friendship with God means. Carl Sandburg, in 1916, wrote a poem critical of much in the religion he saw in that day. The title of the poem was "To a Contemporary Bunkshooter." The poet's scorn for sham contrasts with his eloquent testimony of the meaning of the friendship of Jesus. A few lines are quoted: "Jesus had a way of talking soft . . . he never made any fake passes and everything he said went and he helped the sick and gave the people hope . . . He never came near clean people or dirty people but they felt cleaner because he came along . . . This Jesus was good to look at, smelled good, listened good. He threw out something fresh and beautiful from the skin of his body and the touch of his hands wherever he passed along." Being a friend of God involves acceptance and practice of the love of God as shown in Christ. This is reconciliation. It is peace — the peace that passes all understanding.

Relationships Made New

This dimension of reconciliation — friendship — recasts and renews previously existing patterns of relationship. Think for a moment on some of our more apparent human relationships. The bonds of love between wives and husbands flower into new richness when the partners in marriage are friends. Blessed indeed is the family in which children and parents and brothers and sisters discover and practice genuine friendship.

Students and teachers can enter into new areas of understanding if they are willing to let down the barriers and become friends. The same could be said of pastors and parishioners, employers and employees, buyers and sellers, politicians and constituents. Think what it means when you introduce someone as your friend.

A vital part of our faith within the biblical tradition is that all of creation and existence is related to God. Over and over we affirm this. The ministry of Christ was to enrich and enlarge a relationship already present. The Christian doctrine of the incarnation, God made flesh, means that the essential character of God was revealed in the person of Jesus. As William Barclay says, "Jesus did not come to change God's attitude; He came to show what God's attitude to men is and always was." (*The Letter to the Romans*, Westminster Press, 1955, P. 76). The Christ event in history invites "whosoever will" to begin with a fresh start in a vital new relationship to God and man as typified in Jesus' assurance to the woman taken in adultery — "Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more."

The clean slate of forgiveness places on each one who accepts it the responsibility to extend the same sort of forgiveness to others. Under this pattern all relationships, old and new, take on a new radiance. Reconciliation to God is demonstrated in reconciliation to persons. Reconciliation to any of God's children is a part of our reconciliation to him. Jesus opened new avenues to harmony with what is. Existing relationships are made new — recreated — through acceptance and practice of reconciliation.

This is what the Church really ought to be about. It should be building bridges and mending breaks rather than creating sustaining barriers. Each of us should ask

ourselves, "Am I an agent of reconciliation?"

But, What About Justice?

Sin is wrongdoing, and "wrongdoing must be punished." "The penalty must be paid." Somehow, we find it difficult to extricate ourselves from formulas of retribution. The essential message of our faith is that mercy, love, and grace supersede vengeance and wrath. Periodically the people of God have to be brought back to this home truth, only to forget it again and return to the old attitudes of "an eye for an eye." The word of Jesus remains, "But I say to you, love your enemies . . ." "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God."

This does not mean, however, that love and forgiveness remove the consequences of our actions. Deceit will still result in someone being deceived. Murder still results in death. Wars continue to kill. Poverty and injustice go right on producing bitterness and hatred. Hatred still warps personalities. Greed produces greedy persons. The law of sowing and reaping is not subject to repeal or, as of this writing, amendment.

But God is beyond these emotions and characteristics. His love transcends all of this, and the acceptance of this love helps us to rise above the ugliness created by our prideful and selfish concerns. God's justice is written into the immutable laws of existence, but his love for us abides even when we violate these laws. "There is a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea."

What Does It Cost?

How can we write reconciliation into our church budget? It costs us nothing more than surrender of our stubborn and willful ways. This turns out to be much more than appears on the surface. It cost Jesus and the martyrs of the faith their lives. The memory selection for this lesson is Romans 5:8 — "God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us." This has been the subject of much dogmatic speculation. It possibly is rather simple.

I recall a conversation with Chad Walsh a few years ago. He had remarked that "Careless Love" might very well be the theme song of Christianity. When I asked him what he meant he referred to this passage from Romans and explained it as follows. If there were two of us alive and one of the two had to die, Jesus would say, "Let me die." The other person would protest, but would finally give in and let Jesus die even though it would not be the "just" thing to do. The willingness to die for, or even to be embarrassed on behalf of another, is what the love of God as revealed in Christ means. This surrender, and the acceptance of it, is the price. Again, if the Church is to be the agent of reconciliation, it must give its life rather than to seek it. Reconciled by his death, we are saved by his life.

We Rejoice in God

The fruits of the reconciled life are victories over self, hatred, suspicion, fear. Paul said we "rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received our reconciliation" (Romans 5:11). Or, as translated earlier in the lesson, we are now "God's friends." Many of the anxieties, dreads, defeats, and disappointments pass away as they are replaced with peace, grace, and hope. These are the joys of reconciliation. It is ours to claim and to give.

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Can 'Methodist drink' be 'mixed'?

NEW YORK, N.Y. (UMC) — Corporate mergers can cause strange bedfellows.

The investment policy of the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries' World Division states that no investment shall be made or retained if "corporations shall be deeply involved in . . . the promotion, manufacture and/or sale of alcoholic beverages. . ."

So what happens if the Coca Cola Company buys Taylor Wines as an-

nounced recently and the World Division has 12,800 shares of Coke stock?

It should be remembered that the Coca Cola Company was founded by a Methodist layman in Atlanta, Ga., by the name of Asa Candler. Emory University's theological school there was named for his brother, Bishop Warren Candler. And Coke has often been referred to as "the Methodist drink."

The treasurer of the World Division, Ms. Florence Little says she will call the matter to the attention of the investment committee when it meets next month in Denver, Colo. Still to be determined, she said, is whether the acquisition of Taylor Wines could be construed to make Coca Cola "deeply involved" in alcoholic beverages.

Hendrix graduate named to new post

DAYTON, Ohio (UMC) — The Rev. W. Cannon Kinnard, St. Louis, Mo., director of the Conference Council on Ministries of the Missouri East United Methodist Conference, has been named a field consultant for United Methodist Communications (UMC) and assigned to the 8-state South Central Jurisdiction, effective Jan. 1, 1977. Arkansas is among the states he will serve.

In making the announcement, Dr. Curtis A. Chambers, UMC general secretary, said Mr. Kinnard will consult with annual conference leaders and others about the general program of The United Methodist Church, with special emphasis on communications and bene-

volence interpretation. His office will be in St. Louis.

Mr. Kinnard has been conference council director of the Missouri East Conference since 1970. Prior to that, he had been pastor of Memorial United Methodist Church in Farmington, Mo.; Vinita Park United Methodist Church in St. Louis, and associate pastor of Webster Hills United Methodist Church in Webster Groves, Mo. He was born in Thompson's Station, Tenn., and attended Hendrix College at Conway, where he received the bachelor of arts degree in 1951. He received the master of divinity degree from Vanderbilt University Divinity School in 1954.

Arkansas Methodist

News from the Churches

A "COUNTRY FAIR" will be held in the courtyard of First Church, Osceola, on Saturday, Oct. 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. under the sponsorship of the church's United Methodist Women. Handcrafted articles, bakery items and "attic treasures" will be on sale. A luncheon will be served beginning at 11 a.m. Tickets are now on sale or may be purchased at the door. Persons wishing to display arts and crafts may write or call Mrs. William M. Taylor Jr., Rt. 2, Osceola, Ark. 72370. Mrs. Joe C. Thomas is general chairperson.

ASBURY CHURCH, 1215 Schiller, Little Rock, is hosting a "Today's Youth-Plus" study program for church school teachers, counselors and parents, on the four consecutive Sundays during October. On Oct. 3, Mrs. Verna Maxwell and Mrs. Millicent Cook, both of Lakewood Church, North Little Rock, will make presentations designed to aid teachers in greater effectiveness. On Oct. 10, 17 and 24, Dr. Francis Christie of the Hendrix College faculty, will lead discussions on the Old and New Testaments and Methodist Beliefs. The 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. sessions will be conducted in the church's Education Building.

DR. J. EDWARD DUNLAP, Little Rock District superintendent, will officiate at a Service of Consecration for the new parsonage of Bryant United Methodist Church next Sunday afternoon, Oct. 3. An open house will be held in conjunction with the consecration from 3 to 5 p.m. The Rev. and Mrs. Guy Downing, pastor and wife, occupy the new home.

THE REV. DEE EDWARDS, youth director at First Church, North Little Rock, and a senior at Hendrix College, presented the sermon for last Sunday's morning worship at First Church.



Ghana Missionary Speaks

John Owusu Afriyie, Methodist missionary to Ghana, West Africa, spoke at a recent Sunday evening service at First Church, Jonesboro.

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CONCERNING RETURN OF PICTURES

Again, we must request that persons or organizations submitting pictures for publication enclose postage to cover the cost of mailing pictures they wish to have returned following publication. Only those pictures accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope, or postage, will be returned. Such pictures should also bear the name and complete mailing address of sender on the reverse side.

THE REV. HAROLD K. DAVIS, superintendent of Hope District, was guest speaker at the September meeting of the United Methodist Men's Club of First Church, Ashdown. Superintendent Davis spoke concerning the recent World Methodist Conference which he attended in Dublin, Ireland. Mrs. Davis and the ladies of the church were also special guests at the spaghetti supper meeting.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN of First Church, Hamburg, honored with a luncheon three of their ladies who have given many years of dedicated service to the Hamburg church. They are Mrs. Bruin Campbell, choir director; Mrs. T. W. Chapman, pianist, and Mrs. W. D. Law, organist. Each was presented a Special Membership in United Methodist Women. Mrs. Harold Tyson is president of the UMW unit.

GOLDEN AGERS of Lakeside Church, Pine Bluff, are planning a two-day Fall Trip to the Ozarks. The outing will include dinner at the Venetian Inn in Tontitown, overnight at Mt. Sequoyah with an "everybody" birthday party, and lunch at Wiederkehr's in Altus. Mrs. Hazel Dabney is in charge of arrangements.

DOING SOMETHING ABOUT WORLD HUNGER...

A "LOVE BAKE" is being sponsored by United Methodist Women of Indian Hills Church, North Little Rock, this Saturday morning. The ladies, who will meet at the home of Jo Ella Cruse for the project, have been requested to take bread pans or muffin tins, flour, yeast, oleo and eggs, in addition to sack lunches. The breads will be sold on Sunday morning, with proceeds designated for World Hunger.

A 24-HOUR HUNGER-THON scheduled from Saturday noon until Sunday noon of this weekend at First Church, West Memphis, will dramatize the hunger pangs which daily are experienced by millions of human beings over the globe. During this period members of the congregation may drink water, but will deny themselves soft drinks, juices or food. Over 70 First Church junior and senior high youth have not only asked to participate in the Hunger-Thon but have volunteered to raise funds to relieve world hunger.

UMW Executive Committee of N.A. Conference to meet in Paragould

Ms. Joan Clark of Dallas, regional director of United Methodist Women, will meet with the Executive Committee and other committees of the North Arkansas Conference UMW organization, in a Fall planning session to be held in Paragould on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 8-9. The sessions will be held in the home of Mrs. Ben F. Jordan. In addition to the Executive Committee, members of the Program Planning and Finance Committees will also be meeting.

The schedule calls for a meeting of the Program Committee at 1 p.m. on Friday, dinner at 6 p.m., and the Finance Committee meeting at 7 p.m. with the Executive Committee meeting at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning.

Persons planning to attend should send reservations to Mrs. Ben F. Jordan, P.O. Box 668, Paragould, Ark. 72450, indicating name, office, address, arrival time, and whether or not they need motel accommodations. Reservations will be arranged for those who request housing.



MRS. HAZEL DABNEY (left), Pine Bluff District UMW president, and Mrs. James Nix, Little Rock Conference president.

Pine Bluff District women hear Conference UMW president

Mrs. James Nix of Lonoke, president of the Little Rock Conference organization of United Methodist Women, was the featured speaker, at the Fall meeting of Pine Bluff District at Carr Memorial Church, Pine Bluff on Saturday, Sept. 18. Mrs. Nix, who was a conference delegate to the World Conference of Methodists in Dublin, Ireland, presented highlights from that event and from the assembly of the World Federation of Methodist Women held during the preceding week.

Mrs. Hazel L. Dabney, of Pine Bluff, district president, presided over the business session and the presentation of the missions studies for this year. The roll call of the 35 UMW units in the district was answered by the president or a representative from each, who reported on the number of members in her unit, the number attending the meeting, the unit's pledge and whether or not it was paid, and one outstanding program or project of the year. Each respondent presented a flower representing her unit to Mrs. Margie Jenson of Stuttgart, who placed the flowers in an arrangement symbolizing what can be accomplished when persons combine their individual efforts and work together. The arrangement was presented to Mrs. Ann Tillman of DeWitt, the youngest member present — and district coordinator of Global Ministries.

Assisting Mrs. Dabney with a skit related to the mission study, The Nations of Southern Africa: Christian Dilemma, and entitled, Sizwe Bansi and Bantu, were Mrs. Tillman and Mrs. Ella Mae Rooks. Mrs. Thomas Sutton presented the study of People and Systems, and Mrs. Rubye Lee Jackson of Pine Bluff, the study on the gospel of Mark.

The meeting closed with the reading of a litany from the Psalter, led by Mrs. John Ross of Pine Bluff, district coordinator of Christian Personhood.

The annual Spring meeting will be held on Sunday afternoon, March 13th, at which time new officers will be elected.

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A FASHION SHOW will be presented at Philander Smith College in the M. L. Harris Auditorium next Sunday, Oct. 3 at 5 p.m., under the sponsorship of the Sorors of Gamma Gamma Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., a public service organization. Proceeds from the event, for which \$2 donations are requested from those attending, will go to the United Negro College Fund drive. The public is invited.

Daily Bible Readings

Oct. 3—Sunday John 4:7-26
Oct. 4 John 4:43-54
Oct. 5 Mark 10:46-52
Oct. 6 Luke 7:11-23
Oct. 7 John 9:1-11
Oct. 8 John 11:32-45
Oct. 9 Acts 3:1-10
Oct. 10—Sunday Acts 13:28-39

AUDITIONS SCHEDULED

The Arkansas Boys' Choir, a non-profit cultural organization incorporated last year in the Greater Little Rock area, announces preliminary auditions to be held on three consecutive days in downtown locations of the city. The schedule is as follows: Wednesday, Sept. 29 — Arkansas Arts Center, 4:30-6:30 p.m.; Thursday, Sept. 30 — First United Methodist Church, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 1 — Albert Pike Resident Hotel (Second Baptist Church), 6:30-8:30 p.m. Further information may be obtained by calling Dr. Don L. Collins, the choir's founder and executive director: Conway, Ark. — 329-6982, or in Little Rock and North Little Rock — 666-5727 and 835-2307.

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Personalia

KRISTI NOELLE was born to Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Gosness of Nashville, Ark., on Sept. 9. She is the granddaughter of the late Rev. Noel Cross, and Mrs. Cross, who lives in El Dorado, Ark.

MARC JOYNER, a member of the Cherokee Village UMY, has returned from a mission trip to Mexico with the Frank Gonzales God Squad Team. The group is composed of high school and college church youth from over the U.S. and Mexico, who provide their own support for the entire summer's mission work.

Changing Address ?????

Please help by sending us your complete new address and the name label on front page of this publication two weeks before moving. Send to: ARKANSAS METHODIST, P.O. Box 3547, Little Rock, Ar. 72203.

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All things great and small;
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SALE

Saturday, Oct. 2 — 12 Noon to 3 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 3 — 12 Noon to 3 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 4 — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
Eighth and Center
Little Rock
Activities Building

AD RATES

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.

ATTENTION FINANCE CHAIRMEN: Book-keeping problems? We can usually give you faster, more accurate and detailed financial records than you are now getting, at a fraction of the cost. For information, call 227-0274 or write F. A. Dean Company, 1004 Biscayne, Little Rock, Ark. 72207. Service available anywhere in Arkansas and you do not have to be a big church to afford us.