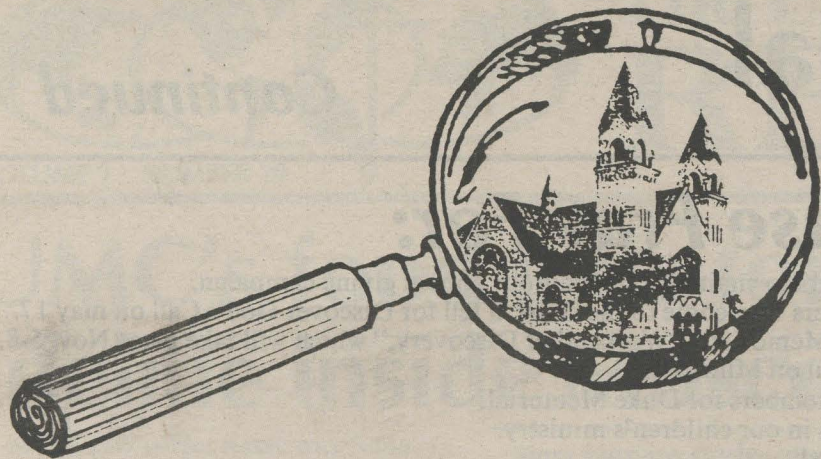


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DUKE UMC
504 W CHAPEL HILL STREET
DURHAM, NC 27701



Insights edition

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church
504 W. Chapel Hill St. Durham, NC 27701 (919) 683-3467
Ministers: W. Eric Carson, Clinton W. Spence

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MAY 8, 1992

Sunday, May 10, 1992 'Festival Of The Christian Home'

FOOD PANTRY — POWDERED MILK

9:00 a.m. "Going on to Salvation"	Prayer Room
9:00 a.m. Wesley Singers	Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. JOYBells	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. Confirmation	Whitford Hall
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages	
10:30 a.m. Ringing of the Tower Bells	
10:45 a.m. Carol Choir and Wesley Singers robe	
10:55 a.m. *Children/Youth Choir Day "Festival of the Christian Home"	Sanctuary
3:30 p.m. Sunday Study Group	Prayer Room
4:00 p.m. No Carol Choir	
5:00 p.m. No JOYBells	
5:00 p.m. Wesley Women	Whitford Hall
6:00 p.m. DMYF, "Friends . . . Forever" rehearsal	Whitford Hall
8:00 p.m. 12 Step Al-Anon and A.A.	Community Life Center

*Choir year ends following service.

HYMNS: By JOYBells, Wesley Singers, Carol Choir, and Sanctuary Choir.

USHERS:	ACOLYTES:	GREETERS:
Wil Drake, Captain	To be announced	Elizabeth Wilson
Jeff Bailey		Agnes Stephenson
Randy Bollinger		
Bill Bowles		
J. H. Chappell	ALTAR GUILD:	NURSERY:
Bill Coman	Holly Eggleston	Sharon Allen
Judy Coman	Tamela Davis	Robin Langford
R. L. Forrester		Karen Ochola
Richard Grogan	MESSSENGER:	
Lelan Phelps	Edith Toms	
Bill Stone		

Discover God's Call

A "Show and Tell" Presentation

Sunday, May 17

12:30-2:00 p.m.

Whitford Hall

(Snack luncheon and nursery

provided)

Why do I exist?

What difference can I make?

What's God calling me to do?

Perhaps you asked those questions as a teenager, but no one could answer them for you. Now at midlife or retirement those questions have resurfaced, and you still don't know where to turn.

The answer may await you at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, where dedicated Christians of all ages and walks of life will gather at a DISCOVER GOD'S CALL retreat for 48 hours from noon on Friday, September 25 through noon on Sunday, September 27.

That weekend could be the most important getaway of your life! Will you consider the possibilities?

To see slides of the weekend experience, meet the coordinator, hear several person's tell their impressions, and obtain information — COME TO THE SHOW AND TELL ON MAY 17 AFTER WORSHIP! Call Clint Spence or Ann Stallings if you have any questions.

Children/Youth Choir Day At Duke Memorial

Wesley Singers and JOYBells will rehearse in the Sanctuary on Saturday, May 9, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; Carol Choir will join us at 11:00 a.m. Following this important rehearsal, we'll go to Whitford Hall for a pizza party.

The Children/Youth Choir will be presenting "Festival of the Christian Home" on Sunday, May 10 at the 10:55 a.m. worship service hour. Come and enjoy their delightful songs of praise.

Following worship on May 10, Carol Choir and Wesley Singers will not have rehearsals again until fall. Yes, JOYBells will continue at least through June 3!!!

Visitation Days — May 14 and 28

May 14th and 28th are the next visitation times, so mark your calendar. Please meet in the church parking lot on these Thursdays at 9:45 a.m. to go out to cheer up folks. We'll eat lunch together afterwards. Some of our friendly visitors so far have been Kitty Copelan, Jean Hawkins, Ethel Williams, Elizabeth Wilson and Susan Teer. Come join us!

Random Thoughts With The Minister

Rev. W. Eric Carson

Here are some of the "random thoughts" that occurred to me as I walked early today. They are not placed in any order of priority, but simply as they came to me.

*The Habitat for Humanity House on Hill Street, now nearing completion, is one of the best mission endeavors of our church in recent years. Tom Atkinson has done, and continues to do, a superb job, aided and abetted by Melissa Carson, Maryellen Stone, and a weekly crew of consistent and loyal workers. The generous provision of the site by members of the church, coupled with the strong commitment of so many people, makes this a visible sign of Christian love in action.

*The worship services on May 10th and May 24th will be of special interest to the entire congregation. May 10th is Mother's Day and the "Festival of the Christian Home." That in itself makes it a very special day. We shall sing "hymns of the month" used over the last year and join with the children as they lead in the praise of God. May 24th is missionary emphasis Sunday. The Reverend Omar Fink will speak to us about the exciting development of the Methodist African University and ways in which we can be involved. Look for additional information in upcoming bulletins and "Insights."

*On the evening of May 17th a Youth Musical entitled "Friends . . . Forever" will be presented in the Whitford Hall. The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with a covered dish meal followed by what is going to be one of the highlights of the whole year. Don't miss it! It presents a wonderful opportunity to invite neighbors and friends and, most especially, those who have no church home.

Now my mind is racing. All kinds of "random thoughts" are clamoring for attention. I will mention one more: the church-wide picnic at the Teer Farm is on the afternoon on May 31. Put it on your calendar. It's always a wonderful time of recreation and fellowship.

Church Calendar For Week Of May 10

MONDAY, MAY 11

INSIGHTS INFORMATION DUE FOR MAY 22-JUNE 5

9:15 a.m. Parents' Morning Out, Nursery

11:00 a.m. Circle 2, Teer Farm

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting, Bradshaw Room

6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts, Whitford Hall

7:30 p.m. Celebration Singers, Bradshaw Room

7:30 p.m. Finance Committee, Library

8:00 p.m. Al-Anon and Ala-Preteen, Community Life Center

TUESDAY, MAY 12

12:15 p.m. Tuesday Study Group, Room 241

8:00 p.m. Central Al-Anon and Ala-Teen, Community Life Center

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

9:15 a.m. Parents' Morning Out, Nursery

9:30 a.m. Weekday School, Whitford Hall

10:00 a.m. Craft/Lunch Bunch,

Whitford Hall

7:30 p.m. Bethany Bells, Handbell Room

THURSDAY, MAY 14

7:30 a.m. "The Man in the Mirror", Parlor

9:45 a.m. Visitation Day, Meet at the Church

12:00 p.m. Thursday Study Group, Prayer Room

6:00 p.m. Choir Appreciation Dinner, Whitford Hall

6:15 p.m. Faith Sharing Group, Room 241

7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir, Choir Room

FRIDAY, MAY 15

7:30 p.m. Friday Evening Study Group, To be announced

8:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Community Life Center

SATURDAY, MAY 16

8-12/1-5 p.m. Habitat for Humanity, Hill Street

10:00 a.m. "Friends . . . Forever" Dress Rehearsal, Whitford Hall

More Duke Memorial News On Pages 2L, 3L & 4L

Durham, Duke Memorial

Continued

New Resources In The Library:

*Check these out from the Council on Ministries shelf.

The Wesley Hymns: Scripture lessons from Wesley hymns.

Opposites Attract: Are you married to your "opposite?" This book shows how your differences can be grounds for a great marriage!

Uneasy Manhood: Men's roles in our society are changing. This book deals with many issues that may be the source of "uneasiness."

Love is a Decision: Find out how to improve your relationship with a loved one or spouse.

Man in the Mirror: The Thursday morning men's group has been reading this book to find out about the "24 questions" most men face. You can, too!

Friendships of Women: The Tuesday Study group is just beginning this

book. Join them or read this copy to understand how women relate to each other and why their friendships are important.

Children at Risk: James Dobson's book about our children in today's society. Read it and find out how to minimize your children's and grandchildren's risk.

When Your Kids Aren't Kids Anymore: This one is for parents of children 16 and older . . . college or work bound, boomerangs, etc. Learn more about your relationship and how to parent these "Adults."

Adult Children of Alcoholics: If you grew up in an alcoholic or other dysfunctional home, this book may help you begin your healing process.

Being in Mission: Learn practical ways to be in mission in your church.

Please Pray For:

- * 2 leaders to chair and co-chair our annual giving campaign.
- * members who come to the show 'n tell for Discover God's Call on May 17.
- * Duke Memorial's "Weekend of Discovery," which will take place Nov. 5-8.
- * Council on Ministries.
- * New members for Duke Memorial.
- * leaders in our children's ministry.
- * our earth.
- * our ministers and staff.

You Can Help!

You can support the Council on Ministries by donating books you no longer need which have been helpful to you in the past, for the C.O.M. resource shelf. The Library is happy to receive these and other donations.



Society of St. Andrew

The Society of St. Andrew (Potato Project, Gleaning Network) seeks a housesitting/rooming situation for a school teacher volunteering her services this summer. References available. If you might be able to help, please call the Society of St. Andrew at (Durham, NC) 683-3011.

Help Wanted

The committee on nominations is now meeting to fill positions on Council on Ministries. To find out how and where you can serve, please call Eric Carson, chairman, at 683-3467.

Religious Newsbriefs

ROSEVILLE, Minn. (RNS)—Northwestern College, a conservative evangelical school once headed by Billy Graham, has fired a newly ordained Episcopal priest following circulation of an open letter contending that his new role was at odds with the school's conservative aims.

The Rev. Walter Dunnett is a New Testament scholar who has taught for 16 years in the Bible department of the non-denominational school.

He said an official had told him that his ordination had been the issue in his firing.

However, David Ondercin, Northwestern's vice president for academic affairs, said that "the differences" were "purely doctrinal," and the ordination had simply provided a reason for asking Mr. Dunnett "where he was on certain kinds of issues" such as baptism, salvation and absolution by a priest.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (Assemblies of God News Service)—The Assemblies of God Light-for-the-Lost program recently completed its 38th year of ministry.

As the missions arm of the Men's Ministries Department of the Assemblies of God, Light-for-the-Lost provides evangelism literature for the church's home and foreign missionaries.

CANTON, Mo. (Disciples News Service)—A Tulsa University professor has been named president of Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)-related Culver-Stockton College.

Edwin B. Strong, Jr. will succeed retiring President Walter S. Reuling, assuming office July 1. A 26-year member of the Tulsa University faculty, Mr. Strong serves as associate professor of political science.



Honor mothers on May 10

"Children obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother' — which is the first commandment with a promise — that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Ephesians 6:1-3.

SKJOLD PHOTO

United Methodist Happenings

EVANSTON, Ill.—In an unprecedented move, the United Methodist Church's chief finance agency has issued an "urgent message" defending its proposals for a 4-percent hike during 1993-96 in funds apportioned to each of the denomination's 37,400 local churches.

The General Council on Finance and Administration sent the message to all delegates to the church's top legislative assembly meeting May 5-15 in Louisville, Ky.

The action came in response to reports that resistance to a budget increase is on the rise in some parts of the denomination.

Religious Newsbriefs

TRENTON, N.J. (RNS)—Lawyers representing a small Presbyterian denomination in New Jersey have filed a legal challenge to a state anti-discrimination law.

They claim that its failure to exempt churches infringes on their First Amendment rights to freedom of speech and religion.

The challenge was filed in U. S. District Court on behalf of New Jersey members and pastors of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, a denomination based in Philadelphia with about 19,000 members nationwide.

The law, enacted in January, prohibits private employers from discriminating in the hiring and firing of employees based on sexual orientation.

The battery drawer

There is a drawer in my house called the "battery drawer." In it are triple A, double A, and B batteries. There are tiny, round ones, medium-sized, round ones, oblong, flat ones and chunky ones. These batteries serve one purpose . . . they make things run. They make my clock tick, my tape recorder play, my TV remote click. They also make my flash light shine, my calculator add, and my smoke detector beep.

But these batteries are not for me and my things. They are for my grandsons.

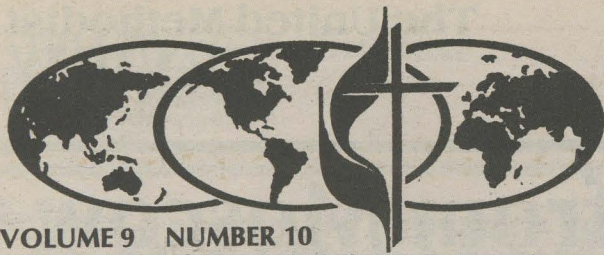
When the first grandson was born I learned that I must have batteries . . . ever ready. Each toy now seems to have written on the box . . . 'this toy requires batteries.'

When you and I were children we didn't know what batteries were, much less have a need for one. We sounded the toots-toots for our trains, the wheels for our cars, the crying for our dolls. We added the clippety-clop for our horses, the bang-bang for our guns and the crack for our whips. With a piece of chalk we played hopscotch, an old tin can we kicked 'Red Rover, Red Rover,' a discarded piece of rope we used to jump and jump for hours. And what we couldn't do with an old tire or an inner tube . . . and our imaginations?

That is why when I look at that "battery drawer" I am often sad. Could it be we are substituting batteries for something far more important?

I think I'll set up another drawer for my grandchildren. In it I'll put a few small nails, a piece of chalk, a number of rubber bands, some adhesive tape . . . perhaps some buttons and stray pennies, a handful of paper clips and a ball of string . . . then call it the "imagination drawer."

'By The Way' — Dede Casad



UMC's food gifts form lifeline inside Moscow

MOSCOW—Her name was Anna.

But it might as easily have been Lena or Julia—or the names of any of nearly 100 women standing in line last week in the shadow of St. Peter's and St. Paul's Russian Orthodox Church just a 15-minute drive east of the Kremlin.

On a frigid afternoon, Anna was waiting to receive one of many boxes of food that had arrived that day from United Methodists in the U.S.

Willing to wait

She, like countless other elderly Russians, was willing to wait for the food—and to receive it on a Maundy Thursday, a traditional day of fasting for Russian Orthodox Christians—for a simple reason:

Her family needed it.

"This food is really important to those people," explained Alexandra, a parish worker overseeing distribution of the 36-pound boxes of food to individuals standing outside a garage-size storage shelter.

"Many of our elderly have so very little, and their pensions are very small," she said.

When asked, Anna said that she wasn't sure where the food had come from. But, when told that it had been sent by United Methodist Christians from America, she beamed and made the sign of the cross with her hands.

"Thank you, thank you, thank you," she said.

Anna's words and broad smile symbolized the contact that is being made several days each week throughout Moscow with United Methodists in the United States.

Food arriving regularly

The means of that contact—food—is arriving regularly at a Moscow Red Cross warehouse via 1,000-box containers shipped by CSX/Scaland freight company.

The cost of the shipments—nearly \$5,000 per container from the U.S. to Moscow—is being borne jointly by the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Department of Defense, according to the Rev. R. Bruce Weaver, interim

More Moscow stories on next pages

chief executive of the United Methodist Committee on Relief.

The food itself consists of boxes of rice, powdered milk, chocolate bars and other items with which the boxes were packed a few weeks ago by individual United Methodists and other Christians across the United States.

On this Maundy Thursday, boxes were opened from such locations as Faith UMC in Coleman, Minn., Asbury UMC in Webster City, Iowa, and a collection center in Oroville, Calif.

Dr. Weaver and a delegation of four other United Methodists from the U.S. witnessed last week's food distribution outside St. Peter's and St. Paul's Church.

"This is just an example of what's going on all over Moscow," Dr. Weaver said.

Delivered by volunteers

He pointed out that many of the boxes are delivered by parish volunteers to individual apartments and homes for people unable to pick them up.

Dr. Weaver said that actual distribution of the food in Moscow is coordinated by officials of the Russian Orthodox Church and the International Peace Fund.

He noted that security for the food shipments has been very effective and that the food is arriving with very little damage or pilferage.

He praised the efforts of the Rev. Adam Kuczma, a Polish United Methodist pastor who is the church's coordinator of the Moscow food shipments, and Anatoly Kurnznin, Mr. Kuczma's Moscow counterpart representing the International Peace Fund.

"People here have expressed deep appreciation for what they've received in the name of Christ," Mr. Kuczma said.

A Russian government official, Stanislav Yelisseyev, also expressed gratitude for the food shipments and said he foresees the need for such aid,



REVIEW STAFF PHOTO BY STEPHEN L. SWECKER

MOSCOW—The Rev. R. Bruce Weaver, interim chief executive of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, hugs a Russian woman waiting for a box of food being delivered at St. Peter's and St. Paul's Russian Orthodox Church. Food boxes collected by American United Methodists especially are aiding elderly Russians who live on small pensions.

including medical supplies, for at least another year, until the ravaged Russian economy gets on its feet.

The Rev. Dorsey E. Levell of Springfield, Mo., a United Methodist minister, was among the delegation accompanying Dr. Weaver to observe the Moscow food distribution.

"I spent 27 years in the Army Re-

serves preparing to go to war with the Russians," Mr. Levell mused as he watched the boxes of food being loaded to go to St. Peter's and St. Paul's Church.

"Now I'm here delivering food when I might have been here in a war. This is so much better—a real spiritual experience!"

Publisher to head church newspapers

By JOHN A. LOVELACE
Managing Editor

The Rev. Ronald P. Patterson, 50, a veteran United Methodist book editor, has been named publisher of The United Methodist Review.

He is expected to begin heading the Dallas-based organization around July 1.

He was among 32 candidates who responded to a national search.

He fills the vacancy created last November by the death of the Rev. Spur-

geon M. Dunnam III, the Review's longtime editor and chief executive officer.

The newspaper's top management title has been changed to publisher. An editor will be selected after Dr. Patterson comes on board.

Since 1977 Dr. Patterson has been with The United Methodist Publishing House in Nashville, most recently as senior editor for United Methodist resources at Abingdon Press.

He was editor of both the church's 1984 and 1988 Book of Discipline (also known as the church's rules and policies) and will edit its successor volume, the 1992 Book of Discipline. The latter will be compiled following the denomination's 1992 General Conference May 5-15 in Louisville, Ky.

Dr. Patterson is an ordained clergy member of the West Ohio Annual Conference.

He and his wife, Marlene, have two adult sons.



Ronald P. Patterson

Satellite TV beams Easter miracle from Moscow

By STEPHEN L. SWECKER
Associate Editor

MOSCOW—Call it a tale of two tombs and a miracle!

The tale began on Easter eve as I watched hundreds waiting in Moscow's Red Square to visit the mausoleum of V. I. Lenin.

Inside the crypt at the Kremlin wall they would stare at the lifeless prophet of a lifeless ideology that for 74 years tried in vain to eradicate faith in the God of life.

Minutes later I walked past the glittering green, gold and red domes of St. Basil's Cathedral. There, as planned, nearly within earshot of Lenin's tomb, I heard the rich tones of Metropolitan Opera baritone and United Methodist layman John Anthony.

John was pre-recording the opening segment of a television broadcast that on Easter would link United Methodists worshipping in Moscow with United Methodists worshipping in Shreveport, La.

Not even Red Square's vastness nor the Kremlin's somber brick walls could mute John's powerful voice and the life-affirming message it boomed from Red Square.

"Were you there when they crucified my Lord? ... Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? ... Were you there when he rose up from the grave?"

And so went the ironic tale of two tombs—one occupied yet empty, another empty yet filled with the mystery of life itself. I was grateful that others, both in the U.S. and Russia, would have a chance via TV to glimpse some of the tale that I'd witnessed first-hand.

The broadcast, which was to be aired on Easter by the Vision Interfaith Satellite Network (VISN), was sponsored (for \$75,000) by the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries and produced by United Methodist Communications. It was the first-ever internationally televised Protestant Easter service originating from Russia.

As the Easter story itself testifies, however, miracles don't come easily. This miracle was no exception.

Week of unholy headaches

It was preceded by a Holy Week of

unholy headaches for TV producer and United Methodist layman David Stone from Shreveport and others who coordinated the Moscow end of the broadcast.

None of us could be certain until it happened, however, that the feat would actually take place.

My Russian interpreter warned me that "making problems at the last minute is a Russian custom." Incredible chaos in the three days immediately preceding the broadcast proved her to be prophetic.

The original plan called for the entire service and not merely John Anthony's solo to be televised from Red Square.

In the middle of Holy Week, the government suddenly withdrew permission for the event. A Russian military general, a friend of David Stone, apparently intervened (no one is sure how these things happen). Permission was restored.

Then word was received that Russian Orthodox Church officials had withdrawn their support. It turns out that the church has declared Red

Square a "temple," and Orthodox officials were thought to be wary of being too closely identified with a Protestant worship service.

Once again, a contact by David Stone with an Orthodox official and friend saved the day—temporarily!

Another blow to the dream of a Red Square event came when Russian officials who were providing equipment for the satellite uplink said, in effect, "nyet." They were fearful that the worship service would provoke violence by reactionary political demonstrators in Red Square.

'Move the service'

By Saturday, an exhausted David Stone made the call: "Move the service," he said, explaining this mostly out of a desire to avoid provoking violence by the demonstrators.

It probably was a good call. Thousand of demonstrators showed up at Red Square on Easter Sunday at the time the worshippers would have been there.

The worship service was relocated to the broadcast building for Russian television overlooking a park and the

spires of Optinskaye Padvorje Church.

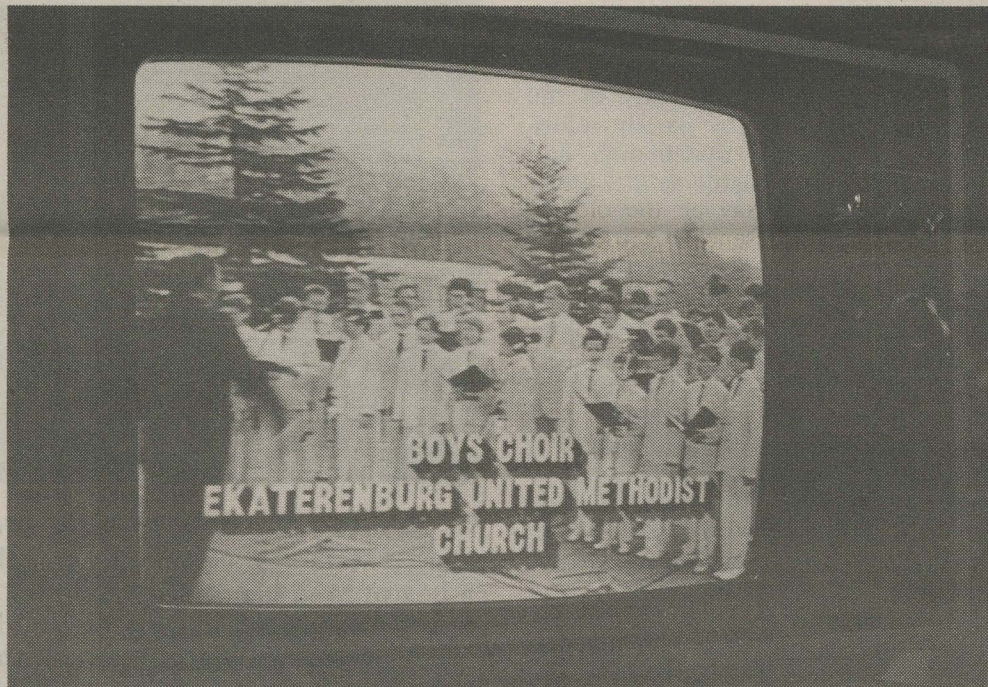
At three minutes until 5 p.m. Moscow time (8 a.m. CDT), a jubilant David Stone turned to the 200 or so, including three Russian choirs, gathered on a cold windy day at the Russian broadcasting station.

"They have sound and video of us in New York!" he said.

In the one hour of back and forth worship that followed with the Shreveport congregation—whose service could be heard but not seen by the Moscow worshippers—the satellite beamed to the U.S. images of the Rev. Dwight Ramsey, pastor of Broadmoor UMC in Shreveport; the Rev. Lydia Istomina, pastor of Broadmoor's sister congregation in Ekaterinburg, Russia, and United Methodist Bishop Ruediger Minor of Germany.

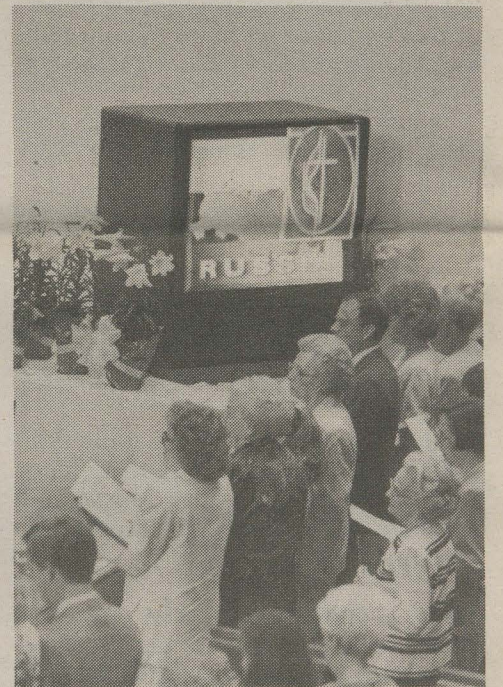
"This worship service ... demonstrates to the world our desire to stand in unity despite our diversity," Dr. Ramsey told the electronically linked congregation of Russians and Americans.

The tomb was still empty, hearts were full and a 20th century Easter miracle made history.



SHREVEPORT, La.—Television images from Moscow electrify Easter Sunday worship at Shreveport's Broadmoor United Methodist Church. A giant screen moni-

tor shows the boys choir from Ekaterinburg (Russia) United Methodist Church, sister congregation of Broadmoor.



REVIEW PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA B. ASTLE

Worshiper vows, 'Only Christ can unite countries like this'

By CYNTHIA B. ASTLE
Associate Editor

SHREVEPORT, La.—In Christ there was no east or west.

At 7:15 a.m. Easter Sunday the sanctuary of Broadmoor United Methodist Church was packed to its top-most balconies with nearly 400 worshipers eagerly awaiting a modern-day miracle—the satellite television cablecast that would link them from 8 to 9 a.m. (CDT) with their Russian Christian sisters and brothers.

At 7:45 a.m. an anxious hush fell over the animated gathering after the Rev. Dave Fortuna, Broadmoor's associate pastor, announced that the audio feed from Moscow had been lost. He told the congregation that the Easter worship would go on, even if it

meant that they could not hear the Russian side.

At 8 a.m. Broadmoor's worship began with an invocation by Bishop William B. Oden (Louisiana Area).

No one was quite sure what would happen, but, fittingly, on the morning when Christians commemorate the greatest of all miracles, the miracle of satellite technology was restored.

With large-screen and standard-size TV monitors positioned strategically throughout the sanctuary, Broadmoor worshippers saw and heard what they most wanted to experience—United Methodist worship from Moscow, the heart of what so recently had been an atheist state.

Even a brigade of television and print reporters, invited by the church to cover

the event, maintained an uncharacteristic respect during the worship service.

The significance of what was happening left many worshipers' faces marked with tears. Worshipers seemed most moved by the televised image of the boys' choir of Ekaterinburg United Methodist Church singing "He Lives."

More than a few noted after worship that their efforts to support the fledgling Russian congregation in Ekaterinburg had been well rewarded by the knowledge that the choir and its musical message might not have come into being without Broadmoor's assistance.

"It was amazing to see that their youths look so much like us," said 16-year-old Scott Herbel. "Just so short a time ago we thought of them as communists out to conquer the world, and now we see

they're not that different from us."

His friend, Kimberly Davis, 17, agreed. "Even though you couldn't always understand what they were singing, you knew they were saying the same thing as you, only in a little different way."

Melissa Simon, whose family was host two years ago to a Russian student, said the service gave her "chills and tears."

"It was just incredible," Mrs. Simon said. "It was just like seeing the Berlin Wall crumble right in front of us."

Broadmoor member James Magee summed up the congregation's appreciation of its special Easter event.

"You can have politicians get together all they want, but only Christ can unite countries like this."

New congregation in Moscow to begin May 10

MOSCOW—A new congregation of Russian United Methodists plans to hold its first worship service May 10 in Moscow.

The congregation is being formed at the request of some 40 Russian families, according to Chris Hena, a United Methodist missionary assigned to Moscow.



Chris Hena

Ms. Hena, a Liberia native who speaks Russian, said that the request followed several months of Bible studies she has led since arriving in Moscow last fall.

She said she and the Russian families have been attending a Russian-

American-Korean United Methodist Church in Moscow. But, as the numbers of Russians grew, so did dissatisfaction with the worship services having to be translated from Korean into Russian.

The group is breaking off from the Korean church with the pastor's blessing, Ms. Hena said.

Ms. Hena said that she had received a response from the Rev. Robert Harman, head of the World Program Division of the church's General Board of Global Ministries, approving of the new congregation and the way in which it was formed.

"I didn't set out to start a new church," Ms. Hena explained. "My goal in the beginning was to invite

people who were interested to study the Bible with me in my apartment."

But, she said, the more people learned, the more they wanted to know.

They reached a point, she said, where they felt strongly about the need to be together "as a church" where they could support each other and grow together in their faith.

Ms. Hena said that Centenary UMC in Lexington, Ky., has agreed to be a "sister congregation" to the new Moscow congregation.

She hopes that this relationship will lead to more opportunities for teacher training and Christian education, which the Russians desperately need and want.

So far as she is aware, this will be the second United Methodist congregation in Moscow. The "mother congregation," started in 1990, is pastored by the Rev. Young Chuel-Cho of the New York Conference.

A medical doctor is providing the key lay leadership for the congregation with which she's associated, Ms. Hena said.

She said the physician and others have been putting up posters all over the neighborhood inviting people to be part of the new church and that for their first worship service they've hired a meeting hall that will seat 300 people.

—STEPHEN L. SWECKER

Outreach to Russians poses 'bewildering array'

By STEPHEN L. SWECKER
Associate Editor

MOSCOW—Are you, your congregation or conference interested in assisting United Methodists in Russia?

If so, you have a bewildering array of choices.

Like much else in this sprawling city, getting the lay of the land can be confusing in the chaotic aftermath of the fall of communism and the resurgence of interest in religion following 74 years of religious repression.

Recent sightings of United Methodists include:

■ The church's General Board of Global Ministries has assigned a missionary, Chris Hena, to the Moscow area (see story above).

Ms. Hena works at a hospital for children with congenital disorders. Since her arrival in Moscow last fall, she also has been teaching Bible studies for youths and adults at a Russian-American-Korean United Methodist Church.

■ As a direct outgrowth of Ms.

Hena's Bible studies, a new Russian-speaking United Methodist congregation is planning to conduct its first worship service May 10.

No pastor has been assigned to the new congregation, but Ms. Hena says that the pastor of the Russian-American-Korean United Methodist church has agreed to serve the sacraments as needed.

■ The Russian-American-Korean UMC, whose minister is the Rev. Young Chuel-Cho, may be the oldest United Methodist presence in Moscow.

Mr. Cho is a clergy member of the New York Conference and appointed to his post by Bishop C. Dale White.

According to Mr. Cho's wife, the church was started by Chang Sun Kim, a Korean diplomat and United Methodist who moved three years ago from Washington to Moscow. Mr. Kim had been an active member of Ban Suk Korean United Methodist Church in Elmhurst, N.Y. The congregation receives financial support from a Korean mission committee in the New York Con-

ference, Mrs. Cho says.

■ A United Methodist congregation that organized last fall in the city of Ekaterinburg about 900 miles east of Moscow is thought to be the first United Methodist church on Russian soil outside Moscow.

The Ekaterinburg congregation was helped to organize by the Rev. Dwight Ramsey, minister of Broadmoor UMC in Shreveport, La. Its pastor is a Russian laywoman, Lydia Istomina. She works under the supervision of Bishop Hans Vaxby, episcopal leader of the church's Northern European Central Conference.

■ Three pastors of large United Methodist churches in the U.S.—the Rev. Maxie Dunnam of Memphis, Tenn., the Rev. William Hinson of Houston, and the Rev. James Buskirk of Tulsa, Okla.—began arriving in Moscow the week after Easter.

According to the Rev. H. T. Maclin of Atlanta, retired president of the unofficial Mission Society for United Methodists, the pastors are in Moscow to "assess the situation."

Mr. Maclin, who arrived in Moscow before Easter, said that he will help coordinate the visit of the three ministers. He said no specific plans have been made regarding future Mission Society activity in the city or in Russia.

He said, however, that the Mission Society has offered to work with the church's official mission agency (the General Board of Global Ministries) to develop the church's work in Russia but has not received a reply.

None of the above "sightings" include the more-or-less independent efforts of individuals, such as United Methodist layman David Stone, who was promoting group-exchanges between Christians in the U.S. and Russia.

In response to the bewildering array of church-related activities in areas recently liberated from communist rule, the General Board of Global Ministries has called a meeting for mid-May—immediately following the church's May 5-15 legislative General Conference—to help sort out the situation. The meeting is to be held at the Scarritt-Bennett Conference Center in Nashville.

Faith watch

Compiled from news and staff reports

IN GOD'S SERVICE: The 1992 Laity Sunday theme for United Methodists will be "We Are Called to Life in God's Service." Congregations usually observe Laity Sunday in the fall. Information on Laity Sunday resources is available from Section on the Ministry of the Laity, General Board of Discipleship, P.O. 840, Nashville, Tenn. 37202-0840.

SKY'S THE LIMIT: United Methodist-related Rocky Mountain College in Billings, Mont., will offer a new "aerospace adventure" camp June 10-19 for students in grades 7-11. Participants will fly in an airplane and "fly" in a \$100,000 flight simulator. More information is available from the college at 1511 Poly Drive, Billings, Mont. 59102.

NEW PROFESSORSHIP: The Rev. C. Eric Lincoln, scholar of American black churches, has been appointed E. Franklin Frazier Visiting Professor of History and Sociology at Clark University in Worcester, Mass. Dr. Lincoln has been a professor of religion at Duke University in Durham, N.C., since 1978. He will assume his new post in September. The United Methodist

minister has written or edited 21 books. His best-known work is "The Black Church in the African-American Experience," written with Lawrence H. Mamiya and released in 1990.

NEW PRESIDENT: Trustees of United Methodist-related Virginia Wesleyan College in Norfolk and Virginia Beach, Va., have selected the Rev. William T. Greer Jr. from a field of 125 candidates to be the college's new president. Dr. Greer, currently president of another United Methodist-related school, Brevard College in Brevard, N.C., will succeed Lambuth M. Clarke.



William Greer

Dr. Clarke will retire July 31 after 26 years as president. Dr. Greer will assume the Virginia Wesleyan post Aug. 1 after seven years at Brevard.

COLLEGE ELECTS: Trustees of United Methodist-related Emory & Henry College in Emory, Va., have elected United Methodist layman Thomas R. Morris as the school's 19th

president. Dr. Morris, an instructor in constitutional law at the University of Richmond, will succeed Dr. Charles W. Sydnor Jr. on July 1. Dr. Sydnor will become chief executive officer of a Richmond-based public television corporation.

SAMPLE NAMED TO CHAIR: The Rev. Tex Sample has been named the first occupant of the Robert B. and Kathleen Rogers Chair in Church and Society at United Methodist-related St. Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, Mo. Dr. Sample teaches theological and social ethics and is noted as a specialist in church and culture.

'VOICES' OF THE SPIRIT: The United Methodist Church has released a worship book in the Native American tradition that may be the first "multi-tribal" worship book produced by a mainline denomination. Called "Voices," the 92-page book reflects Christian worship traditions of 25 tribes and was developed by a committee of experts on Native American worship working with representatives of the church's Discipleship Resources unit.



Editorial

Healing our battles over policy at General Conference

For those experienced in the ways of The United Methodist Church, the terms "healing" and "General Conference" may not seem to go together.

The dissonance may seem unusually sharp over these two weeks, as 998 delegates struggle together to make policy for the 9.9-million-member denomination.

We think it's appropriate early in this General Conference to remind our delegates and ourselves that we Christians are entrusted with a specific healing ministry: the ministry of reconciliation (see related story elsewhere in this issue).

The apostle Paul makes this calling clear in 2 Corinthians 5:16-20. In those verses he gives a startling vision of a "new creation": the practice of grace through which humans can be healed of their mutual hurts by forgiving one another as God, through Christ, has forgiven us.

We commend Paul's words to the General Conference, to the whole church for whom only the General Conference can act and speak, and to any local congregation facing difficult decisions. Paul writes:

"We regard no one from a human point of view."

"Human point of view" assumes winners and losers, conquerors and conquered. But Christ sees all as children of God, worthy of loving respect. Striving to view one another with Christ's eyes

builds relationships that can weather dispute without disruption.

"All this is from God . . ."

We sometimes act as though we own our church. Reminding ourselves that we are the clay vessels through which God's extraordinary power comes can help us seek humbly to do God's will rather than our own.

"... not counting their trespasses against them . . ."

This is undoubtedly the hardest duty to which we are called. Our human hearts want to bear grudges, to cling to the injustices inflicted on us. But if we follow Christ, who prayed for forgiveness for even those who nailed him to the cross, we must forgive those who wound us with words or deeds—and seek the forgiveness of

those whom we wound.

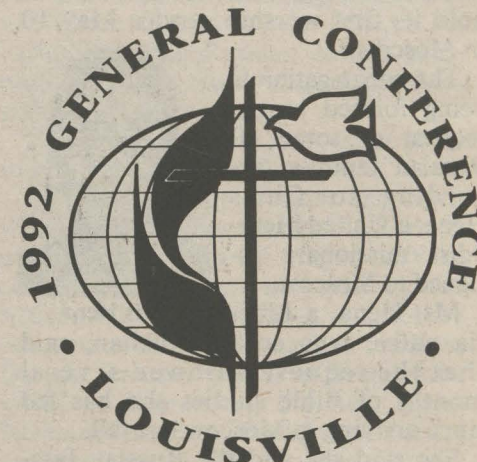
"So we are ambassadors for Christ . . ."

Ambassadors are called upon to carry out the instructions of a higher authority. Christ's instructions to do as he did provide the model of reconciliation on which to pattern our own behavior:

✓ Pray constantly for one another, especially before a time of decision.

✓ Worship regularly with one another, so that we remain focused on the One whose will we seek to do.

✓ Most of all, however much we may disagree on an issue, demonstrate frequently that we love and respect one another as sisters and brothers in Christ.



The dissonance between "healing" and "General Conference" may seem unusually sharp as 998 delegates struggle together to make policy.

Letters to the Editor

We're ineffective against sin without Jesus

In response to a letter by Brian McCarthy entitled "Is God a tyrant?" in the March 13 issue:

Mr. McCarthy misses the Rev. Maxie Dunnam's point when he builds a premise based on his own statement, "You can not personally accept Jesus unless you have heard of him and have heard of him in meaningful ways." The writer of Romans is 1950 years ahead of Brian (refer to Romans 10:14). Paul continued very clearly to preach personal salvation through Jesus Christ.

Mr. McCarthy's question remains, "Is God a tyrant?"

The Bible tells us God is a Holy God who won't accept unholiness. If we have sinned once we have violated all holiness. We can't just say we're sorry and we will be good from now on.

Not only are we unforgiven without Jesus, we're totally ineffective, and Satan will tempt us beyond our ability to resist. Our only defense against temptation and sin is to build our relationship with the only One who has been where we are and has successfully remained obedient and sinless.

Was God a tyrant when He allowed Jesus to be crucified that we all might be saved?

Clarence M. Jones
Dayton, Ohio

How is one voice heard?

I read the article entitled "UM delegates lament emphasis on gay issues" in the March 13 issue of the Review with sympathy and concern. I feel a need to protest.

I hear Christ's direction in his words to his disciples when he knew he would be leaving them "... love one another." He says, "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this way everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another" (John 13:34-35).

Is my gay brother who takes communion with me or my lesbian sister who sings in the choir a disciple and friend in Christ's eyes? Am I perhaps

The Bible tells us God is a Holy God who will not accept unholiness. If we have sinned once we have violated all holiness. We can't just say we're sorry and we will be good from now on.

called to let go of ingrained patterns of thought and belief; let them die, in a sense, for a few minutes in order to listen as Christ would to this friend?

How and if I can do this is not inconsequential to my obedience to my Lord's command. But, if I am to accept discipleship and work for healing in any way I must let my fears and ego die. I must allow Christ to lead me as a child and teach me how to be a friend. Only then will I be able to fully realize Christ's vision for my life and my church.

Jean Chapman
Belmont, Massachusetts

Concern for Israel

I am deeply troubled about the way the Israeli government continues to build settlements in the Occupied Territories, under the guise of giving Jewish immigrants a place to live.

We, as Christians, need to encourage our leaders in Washington to put pressure upon Israel to stop the continuing construction of settlements on the West Bank and Gaza; and that the United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338 be respected by Israel according to their interpretation by the U.N.

Charlotte O. Gill
Groveland, Florida

No false teachings

Regarding the editorial headlined "Search-and-destroy must cease" in the March 13 issue, I agree that intolerance, imperiousness and mean-spiritedness are not Christlike motivators. However, when false teaching enters the church, there must be a church-sanctioned process to confront the false teachers, educate them as to the errors, seek a remedy and then, if no remedy is obtained, start proceedings for imposed correction.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). Any faith that minimizes or disregards the importance of Jesus is wrong. According to Jesus, those people cannot come to the Father. If we love all people, then, in that loving spirit, we should seek ways to tell them of the only way to God through his Son, Jesus.

Barton Black
Allen, Texas

Serving God matters most

Sam Miller, in a letter in the March 27 issue, asks, "Why can't we accept the fact that other religions are as efficacious in meeting the needs of their adherents as Christianity is for us?"

In response, the most basic tenet of any religion is that it involves not how we get our needs met, but rather how we worship God. Since the Christian Bible tells us that Jesus Christ is the only name through which a person must be saved, the question to be asked is, "Can we serve the God who told us how to be saved without believing his word?"

Some people have had "needs met throughout the centuries without any religion at all. What is scary is that, for many, "having needs met" has become top priority, rather than serving God as our heavenly Father.

Kirk Dreiser
West Palm Beach, Florida

The Review welcomes letters from readers. Letters should be brief, must be original and must carry the signature and address of the author.

The editors reserve the right to edit, condense or reject any letters received.

Address letters for publication to "Letters to the Editor," United Methodist Review, P.O. Box 660275, Dallas, Texas 75266-0275.



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Faithfully yours

If God were a baritone, He'd serenade us like John

Metropolitan Opera singer and United Methodist layman John Anthony may not be the Pied Piper of Moscow's Red Square. But if the position ever comes open, I say give him a shot at it.



Based on the short time I recently spent with him in Moscow, the barrel-voiced baritone has two lungs and a big heart up on any competition.

Stephen Swecker John and I were together in the Russian capital during Holy Week along with other United Methodists preparing to produce, participate in, or, in my case, observe an internationally televised Easter worship service (see stories elsewhere in this issue).

In the days leading up to the worship service, however, John was the main show. With a smile and a laugh that demolished barriers of language, culture and politics, he made a substantial deposit of good will in the Russian-American friendship bank.

But the most lasting image of John that I took from our experience wasn't his considerable personal charm. Rather, it came from his willingness to share his enormous gift of music whenever and wherever the opportunity presented itself.

As he shared that gift throughout the week, it became evident that, for John, music isn't to be valued merely for its audible beauty. Instead, music can be a force of spirit that binds even strangers into community.

A tear was seen in the eye of an elderly Russian man as John stood in the middle of a church-sponsored soup kitchen and sang "Every Time I Feel the Spirit." Another man crossed himself.

The energy level of an Easter morning congregation of Russians and Americans surged as he surprised them with a soulful rendition of "Old Man River."

A small group of Slovenian youths applauded him in Red Square and requested his autograph after he taped "Were You There" outside St. Basil's Cathed-



MOSCOW—United Methodist layman John Anthony signs an autograph for a Russian admirer (left) after performing "Were You There?" in Red Square before the onion domes of St. Basil's Cathedral (right). Mr. Anthony's willingness to share his God-given musical talent captivated Russians and visiting Americans alike.

REVIEW STAFF PHOTOS BY STEPHEN L. SWECKER

dral for broadcast during the televised Easter service. And so it went through the week.

I know that John is a Christian. Best of all, though, he's a Christian who has claimed a gift that God has given him and uses it to do what God can't do without people such as he: serenade the rest of us into an

awareness that, divided though we are, we really are part of one huge and divinely diverse family.

If God were a baritone, I believe He'd do the same thing.

—STEPHEN L. SWECKER

Mr. Swecker is Faith Forum Page Editor of the Review.

My Witness

Next time, I'll move closer to Aunt Rebecca for prayer

By WESLEY F. STEVENS

My Aunt Rebecca turned 98 recently. Her telephone call advised me that some family and friends would be coming to her home on Saturday at three o'clock. She wondered if we could come.

Aunt Rebecca's sight is not good and her hearing, except for a little in her left ear, is gone. However, she is very much alive to everyone around her and each family member occupies a special place in her affections.

My wife and I made an early entrance

into Aunt Rebecca's dining room where she was seated in her wheelchair. Her daughter and daughter-in-law were making preparations for her guests. We greeted her. I stationed myself on her left side so that she could hear my replies to her questions.

Other family members arrived—my cousins, the last survivor of her husband's family, her brother, some grandchildren and, perhaps, a great-grandchild or two as well as some friends of the family.

The candles, signifying 98, were burning on the cake. We sang the hap-

py birthday song. Then, Aunt Rebecca asked me to pray.

I was somewhat caught off-guard. But, it was a nice thought and, after all, I am the "preacher" of the family. What is a preacher for if not to offer prayer on special occasions? I prayed.

Next time, if I have the opportunity, I will do it differently. I will not pray at a distance. I will go to Aunt Rebecca's left side and kneel and speak into her "good" ear.

Now, I'm sure that she was pleased that I was saying a prayer for her, but it would have been so much better if she could have heard it.

Older people and others who have hearing problems deserve better from us. Most of them make no demands even while much of what is being said in their presence is outside of their hearing range.

To be good stewards of God's Word, we must proclaim it in such a way that no one is left wondering what has been said. In addition to providing hearing aid devices in our places of worship, we need to be sensitive to the presence, wherever we are, of those who have difficulty hearing and remember to speak so that they can hear.

Of the Christ we worship, Charles

"My Witness" is a column through which Review readers may share meaningful experiences of the Christian life. The Rev. Wesley F. Stevens is administrator of Holly Hall, a Christian Retirement Center in Houston, Texas and a clergy member of the Texas Annual Conference.



Any reader may submit an article for consideration (two typed, double-spaced pages maximum length) to "My Witness," United Methodist Review, P.O. Box 660275, Dallas, Texas 75266-0275.

Wesley wrote:

*He speaks and listening to His voice,
New life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
The humble poor believe.*

Perhaps, in being able to hear the spoken word more clearly, those who routinely are excluded from conversational circles will experience the blessing of full acceptance within the community of love and grace—at church and at home.

Please, call me again next year, Aunt Rebecca!

What others are saying

"Constantly over the years [of captivity], I found consolation and counsel in the Bible I was given. I read the Bible more than 50 times, cover to cover . . ."
—Journalist Terry Anderson, former hostage in Lebanon.

"God is not launching a rescue operation. God is launching an invasion to take back his earth from corruption and death. God invites us to be a part of that invasion. Far more important things are at stake than our own spiri-

tual temperature. The aim is not our own personal salvation. Our aim is to join in this astonishing movement God has launched upon the earth to take back creation."

—The Rev. Theodore Jennings of Chicago Theological Seminary.

"The admonition is to be still and take cognizance of God. Stop, relax, be quiet, cease that perpetual fidgeting, cool it! And know God."

—Bishop Woodie W. White, Illinois Area.



Finance unit sends 'urgent message' on budgets

United Methodist News Service

In an unprecedented move, the United Methodist Church's chief finance agency has issued an "Urgent Message" defending its 1993-96 budget proposals.

The four-page April 15 memorandum from officials of the General Council on Finance and Administration was sent to all delegates to the denomination's General Conference, which meets May 5-15 in Louisville, Ky.

The finance unit took the action in response to church press reports suggesting that grass-roots resistance to a budget increase is on the rise in some parts of the denomination.

The General Conference will be asked to adopt a four-year denominational budget totaling \$495.65 million. The figure includes a 4-percent annual hike in the churchwide funds to which each local church is asked to pay an apportioned share.

A half-dozen of the denomination's 72 annual (regional) conferences have petitioned the General Conference to keep the budget at its 1989-92 quadrennial level.

'Grassroots' objects

Members of an ad hoc coalition, "Grassroots," initiated by Florida United Methodists, have phoned dele-

gates to lobby for holding the line on apportionments, said Charles W. Pearce of Miami, a spokesman for the unofficial group and a lay delegate to General Conference.

Critics are aiming much of their fire at church agencies that they claim "are making no efforts to economize."

The four-page message to delegates from Bishop John Russell of Fort Worth, Texas, finance council president, and the Rev. Clifford Droke, the Evanston, Ill.-based agency's chief executive, seeks to assure delegates "that the financial difficulties being faced by local churches and annual conferences were very much in the minds of (council) members" when they prepared the budget proposals.

"They, like you, are members and leaders in local churches and annual conferences that are dealing with tough times."

Dr. Droke said the letter to delegates "is ground-breaking for us." In other years, the council has taken a less aggressive role in advocating its proposals prior to conference sessions.

'Quite a debate'

Bishop Russell said the two finance-council leaders felt the need to send "some word about our budget . . . to all delegates because we are discovering in The United Methodist Review quite a

debate about the budget and a number of persons' raising questions about the increase. . . . The budget is being discussed in most annual conferences."

The increase "is defensible in light of the needs of the church," Bishop Russell said. "It may seem to some too great an increase in light of the economy. I admit that. I know what we're hearing and what the economy is."

The budget increase gives churchwide agencies far less than they requested, he observed.

Dr. Droke and Bishop Russell note in their letter that the 4-percent annual increase proposed for churchwide apportioned funds is less than the anticipated growth rate of local church funds.

Among other points in their message:

■ The budget brings dollars back to the local church in the form of stewardship programs, worship resources, training for church school teachers, support for ministries in ethnic minority churches and other resources.

■ General benevolence funds support missions in 57 countries, including areas of the former Soviet Union, and 1,046 missionaries.

■ Less than 4 percent of local church expenditures go to support the denomination's general benevolences.

■ The purchasing power of United Methodist local churches has increased (8.6 percent since 1973, adjusted for inflation), while the purchasing power of World Service—the denomination's basic apportioned mission fund—has dropped by 36.7 percent.

Baltimore paper criticizes proposed health-care plan

United Methodist News Service

The United Methodist Church's top legislative body is being asked to adopt a denominational health-care plan before crucial specifics that determine costs and benefits are spelled out, a regional church newspaper has asserted.

An article in an April issue of the Baltimore-based "United Methodist Connection" states that officials at the denomination's Board of Pensions admit the proposed UMCare system described in documents prepared for the General Conference "is a detailed summary of a medical care concept, not a finalized specific plan."

The churchwide plan for United Methodist clergy and agency employees and their families is being recommended for adoption by the General Conference, which meets May 5-15 in Louisville, Ky.

Church employees are now covered under a patchwork of agency and annual (regional) conference plans,

which vary in cost and benefits.

Katherine Martinez, director of the board's group health services division, told "Connection" staff members that no formal document spells out all details of the plan. She acknowledged, the story said, that specifics would be fully defined by the pensions board only after General Conference adopts the proposal.

The Baltimore newspaper charges that a literal interpretation of current plan descriptions "could mean that the Board of Pensions would be free to change any part of the proposed medical plan following its adoption."

The Rev. James Parker, top executive of the pension board, told United Methodist News Service that he is puzzled at some of the criticisms that are being raised.

"We are trying to hide nothing about UMCare. . . . A vast majority (of conferences and agencies) would pay less than they are now paying, with a net savings of \$40 million to \$50 million" because of the greater predictability of claims, Mr. Parker said.

Array of media will cover 1992 General Conference

United Methodist News Service

An unprecedented array of audio, video and print services will be available to communicate what is happening at United Methodism's top legislative body meeting May 5-15 in Louisville, Ky.

Delegates to the quadrennial General Conference will be addressing social issues and approving official policies and procedures for the denomination.

United Methodist Communications (UMCom), The United Methodist Publishing House, The United Methodist Review and other churchwide agencies and organizations, as well as annual conferences, are gearing up to make sure members in the pew have the information they want and need.

The General Conference attracts high interest because its actions affect the life of the denomination's 9 million mem-

bers around the world, according to UMCom staff executive Roger L. Burgess of Nashville.

The conference is also the only group that can speak officially for the church on ethical issues, which are often controversial.

While social issues such as homosexuality get major attention, Dr. Burgess says delegates spend hours on less newsworthy subjects that are also critical to the life of the church.

"We hope United Methodists will not limit their information about the General Conference to any one source," he said.

Already more than 30 public press representatives and 66 church press representatives have applied for accreditation, according to Thomas S. McAnally, Nashville, news service director.

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Survey results called challenge, no surprise

By PAMELA SCHAEFFER
Religious News Service

A national survey that may signal low confidence among United Methodists in their leaders and national church meetings was labeled "unsurprising" by a leading bishop, "shocking" by a conservative activist and "challenging" by the editor of an influential magazine.

The survey was conducted by the Gallup Organization in Princeton, N.J., under a joint commission from The United Methodist Reporter and Religious News Service (see Review, April 24).

Gallup polled United Methodists on their views toward General Conference, the national legislative that sets policy for the denomination, as well as their priorities for the denomination's mission.

Results were released in anticipation of the conference, which opened May 5 in Louisville, Ky., and ends May 15.

Leaders 'under suspicion'

"This is a time when leadership is under suspicion," said Bishop Joseph Yeakel of Silver Spring, Md. "I think it's part of the milieu we're in."

Bishop Yeakel, president-elect of the denomination's Council of Bishops, said he was also not surprised by a lack of enthusiasm for General Conference.

For example, only 14 percent of the survey respondents said they expected the meeting to have a major impact on their congregations.

"I don't think there ever was a time when United Methodists looked to General Conference to bring in the kingdom," Bishop Yeakel said. But there is, he said, a gradual leavening effect that affects congregations over time.

The Rev. Maxie Dunnam, a leading United Methodist conservative from Memphis, Tenn., was less optimistic.

NCC fights Asian child prostitution

United Methodist News Service

NEW YORK—United Methodist Lonnie Turnipseed recently called for expressions of moral outrage over the fact that thousands of children, some as young as 5, are being forced into the sex tourism industry in Asia.

Calling the phenomenon an extreme version of consumerism, Mr. Turnipseed, who heads the Southern Asian office for the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., said, "We are seeing what the unfettered free market ideology does to children."

Although statistics are hard to collect, the problem is alarming enough that an International Campaign to End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism has been formed.

The National Council of Churches (NCC) and North American Coordinating Center for Responsible Tourism are organizing the U.S. response.

"[The results] are further verification to me that we live in a highly secularized environment in which church members as well as non-members are influenced more by the entertainment media than by their religious institutions."

—James Wall

"Shocking" was Dr. Dunnam's reaction to a report that a cross-section of United Methodists say they put more stock in newspapers and television than in the Bible or religious leaders in shaping their views on issues.

The survey showed that 48 percent cite newspapers and television as primary sources for their views, compared to 23 percent who cite the Bible and 5 percent who cite religious leaders.

'Pretty desperate'

"We're obviously in a pretty desperate situation," said Dr. Dunnam, pastor of Christ United Methodist Church in Memphis.

He and others have appealed nationally to United Methodists to affirm conservative moral and theological perspectives on sexuality.

The Rev. James M. Wall, a United Methodist minister and editor of "The Christian Century," an ecumenical jour-

nal published in Chicago, said he regards the findings as "a challenge," proving that "the church works in an essentially hostile atmosphere."

'Secularized environment'

"They are further verification to me that we live in a highly secularized environment in which church members as well as non-members are influenced more by the entertainment media than by their religious institutions," he said.

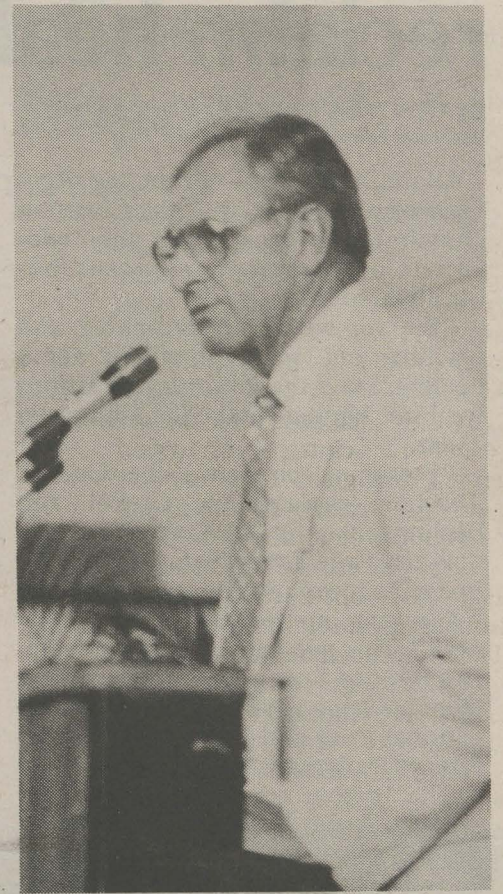
United Methodists responding to the survey gave top ranking to community service when asked to name a priority for the denomination's mission.

Service, cited by 34 percent, ranked higher than proclaiming the gospel, the choice of 26 percent, or changing society, selected by only 5 percent.

But Bishop Yeakel said sees a deep connection between those three actions.

United Methodists are, in fact, changing society as a result of a strong commitment to community service, and that service stems from their commitment to gospel teachings, he said.

In particular, he cited programs in congregations aimed at combatting hunger, homelessness, joblessness and drugs.



Bishop Yeakel
... 'no surprise'

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Pastor says UMC must reclaim healing ministry

By CYNTHIA B. ASTLE
Associate Editor

DUNCAN, Okla.—From the Rev. Gale Izard's perspective, the Christian church today engages in only two-thirds of the ministry Jesus bequeathed to it.

"We do well with preaching and teaching but we've forgotten about healing," says the minister of missions for First United Methodist Church of Tulsa.

"Preaching proclaims the Gospel. Teaching explains the Gospel. But healing makes real the Gospel."

With that assertion, Mr. Izard opened a recent two-day seminar, "An Adventure in Healing and Wholeness." This was one of 47 such training events being held around the church during 1992—37 at the congregational level and 10 for annual conference leaders.

The 10-hour course was created by the Rev. James K. Wagner, director of healing ministry for The Upper Room,

a division of the church's General Board of Discipleship in Nashville. The seminar is designed to train pastors and laypeople in the theology and practice of healing ministry in the local congregation.

"Intentional involvement"

These sessions grow out of an action by the church's 1984 legislative General Conference. That action supported "intentional involvement" in healing ministry by United Methodist congregations. Dr. Wagner has directed healing ministry since 1987.

Despite these eight years of experience, healing ministry remains largely unclaimed by local congregations, Mr. Izard noted.

However, recent evidence demonstrates a need for healing that congregations would be wise to note, he added. As examples he cited increasing requests for healing services in local congregations and responses to recent articles on healing in The Unit-



REVIEW STAFF PHOTO BY CYNTHIA B. ASTLE

DUNCAN, Okla.—The Rev. Gale Izard instructs United Methodist laywoman Robin McAdow (standing) and Episcopal laywoman Nancy Sloan in the Christian ritual of anointing.

ed Methodist Review.

In its broadest sense, healing ministry makes intentional and specific the kind of intercession most congregations make in general through their regular worship services, Mr. Izard explained.

Worshippers focus

In healing services, however, the intercessions regularly involve specific prayers and sacramental aids such as communion, anointing with oil and the laying on of hands, he added. These aids are intended to help worshippers focus on God's healing power so that they can cooperate with God in relieving the ailment, whatever its nature.

People's fears and misconceptions about what healing ministry is and how it works often are the biggest stumbling blocks to initiating the ministry in a local congregation, Mr. Izard said.

Among misconceptions listed by the 30 participants to which Mr. Izard responded were:

✓ **Some Christians think that healing ministry applies only to physical ailments.**

Jesus' healing ministry, Mr. Izard explained, dealt with at least five kinds of healing: spiritual (as in the forgiveness of sins), mental/emotional, relational, physical and "ultimate healing," which comes after death as one is renewed by eternal life. Christian healing ministry is based on Jesus' model, he said.

✓ **Some Christians believe that illness is God's punishment for sin.**

"This is not a New Testament concept," Mr. Izard said. "Jesus taught that God's will for us is health and wholeness. In fact, the Greek word, 'sozo,' which we translate as 'salvation,' can also be translated as 'health' or 'wholeness.'"

✓ **Some Christians resist what they see as "bargaining" with God for healing.**

"Prayer for healing and wholeness is not to manipulate God into doing something for us," Mr. Izard said.

"Prayer is getting ourselves in line with the goodness that God has for us. God requires our personal cooperation in healing because God respects our free will."

✓ **Some Christians have had bad experiences with charlatans or fear that all healing ministry is like some shown on television.**

Authentic Christian healing ministry recognizes that instantaneous healing miracles, especially for physical ailments, are rare, Mr. Izard said. Healing is a process, just as getting sick is a process.

"The question to ask is not 'Are you cured?' but 'Do you feel better?'" he advised. "Being cured and being healed are not necessarily the same thing."

✓ **Some Christians believe that healing ministry can take only one form.**

Mr. Izard pointed out that Jesus used many methods when he healed, tailoring his therapy to the sick person's need.

Using all resources

In addition, Scripture accounts tell of early Christians forgiving sins (spiritual healing), anointing with oil (physical healing) or seeking reconciliation between people (relational healing). These accounts show that God's healing uses all available resources, including those that today are provided by psychotherapy and medicine.

"It's offensive for someone to ask me to anoint them and lay hands on them, and then they don't seek healing through every means, such as diet, exercise, surgery, etc.," said Mr. Izard.

Above all, he stressed, healing ministry recognizes that all healing is from God and that people serve as God's instruments in the healing process.

"The responsibility for healing is not ours, but obedience to Christ's command to do the works he did, so that God may be glorified, is our responsibility," Mr. Izard said.

For information on "An Adventure in Healing and Wholeness," write Healing Ministry, The Upper Room, P.O. Box 189, Nashville, Tenn. 37202-0189.

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Durham, Duke Memorial

Continued

Membership Update

Membership as of March 16, 1992 952
 March 24 Mrs. Mabel R. Harris died -01
 March 29 W. Vernon and Libby Averett transferred from St. Luke Episcopal Church Hillendale Road, Durham +02
 April 13 Grace Irene Harris moved to Clinton, NC and became an affiliate member

of Grace United Methodist Church there. This does not affect her membership in Duke Memorial.
 April 05 Jane Needham Day transferred from Grace Episcopal Church, Brooklyn, NY +01
 Memberhip as of April 21, 1992 954



March Pledges

Budgeted \$27,728.55
 Received 21,653.50
 Under \$ 6,075.05
 Operating budget under for year: \$ 22,847.23
 Capital Campaign Fund (March): \$ 18,377.00
 C.C.F. total to date: \$543,832.78

April Pledges

Budgeted \$27,728.55
 Received 24,242.17
 Under \$ 3,486.38
 Operating budget under for year: \$ 26,333.61
 Capital Campaign Fund (April): \$ 16,117.50
 C.C.F. total to date: \$559,950.28

Mark Your Calendar For These Important

Information Due Date	Insights Due Dates	For this Issue of "INSIGHTS"
May 11		May 22-June 5
May 25		June 5-June 19
June 8		June 19-July 3
June 22		July 3-July 17
July 6		July 17-July 31
July 20		July 31-August 14
August 3		August 14-August 28
August 17		August 28-September 11
August 31		September 11-September 25
September 14		September 25-October 2
September 28		October 2-October 16
October 5		October 16-October 30
October 19		October 30-November 13
November 2		November 13-November 27
November 16		November 27-December 4
November 30		December 4-December 18
December 7		December 18-January 1, 1993
December 21		January 1-January 15, 1993

PLEASE CUT OUT AND SAVE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE!!!!!!!

United Methodist Happenings

WASHINGTON—The United Methodist Committee on Relief and the American Red Cross have updated a framework for continued cooperation when disasters strike in the U.S.

Elizabeth Dole, president of the Red Cross, and the Rev. R. Bruce Weaver, interim staff executive of UMCOR, signed the "statement of understanding" which replaces an agreement in effect since 1977.

Ms. Dole, an active member of Foundry United Methodist Church in Washington, said that she was especially interested, as a United Methodist, in strengthening the relationship between the Red Cross and UMCOR.

Don Jones, general manager of disaster services for the Red Cross, said the updated agreement provides for "a coordinated effort to make sure we can provide the best service" to persons who need help. He called UMCOR a "strong partner" in providing emergency assistance.

UMCOR's role will include training in long-term care for children suffering from disasters. Local churches will be encouraged to provide physical facilities and equipment for shelters, feeding stations and emergency distribution centers.

NASHVILLE—George Graham, formerly a copy editor for "The Interpreter" magazine, United Methodism's official program journal, was recently named editor of "alive now!"

The bi-monthly devotional magazine is published by The Upper Room.

NEW YORK (UMNS)—Delegates to the 1992 United Methodist General Conference from the Troy and Wyoming annual conferences in New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont have challenged other delegates to join in a 20-hour fast during the May 5-15 meeting in Louisville, Ky.

Delegates are further encouraged to do-

nate money saved to efforts against hunger.

ADRIAN, Mich.—C. David Lundquist, chief executive of the United Methodist General Council on Ministries in Dayton, Ohio, received an honorary doctor of laws degree during commencement ceremonies at United Methodist-related Adrian College this month.

Dr. Lundquist left a law practice in Michigan to assume direction of the church's general coordinating agency in the mid-1980s.

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—United Methodists from around the world are gathering May 5-15 to explore new opportunities for ministry and mission, address theological and social issues and care for organizational concerns.

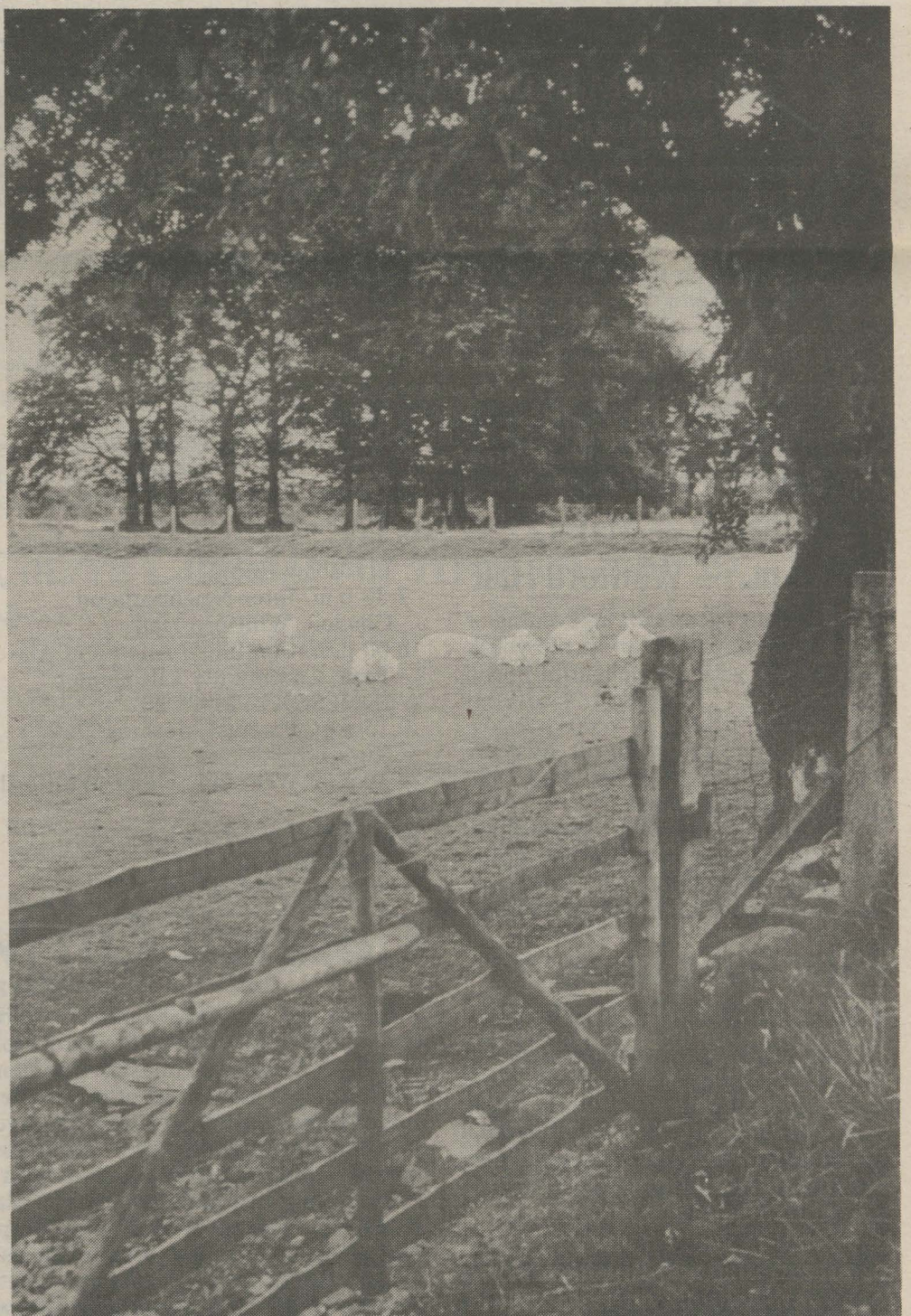
The church's quadrennial General Conference, with 998 lay and clergy delegates, is the only body that can speak officially for the denomination that counts almost 10 million members in the United States, Puerto Rico, Africa, Europe and the Philippines.

In two recent surveys, delegates ranked homosexuality, ordering of ministry, finances, a study of baptism and questions of church structure and organization as top issues before the conference.

The last previous General Conference met in 1988 in St. Louis. The next, in 1996, will be in Denver.

NASHVILLE (UMNS)—With prayer, songs and folk parables indigenous to 25 tribes, the first United Methodist hymn and worship book from the Native American tradition has been released.

Marilyn M. Hofstra of Arcata, Calif., who is of Choctaw and Chickasaw heritage, directed the work.



Peace in God's kingdom

"I will lie down and sleep in peace for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety." Psalm 4:8
 SKJOLD PHOTO

Sunday, May 17, 1992

8:30 a.m.	Teacher Coffee	Library
9:00 a.m.	"Going on to Salvation"	Prayer Room
9:30 a.m.	Celebration Singers	Choir Room
9:45 a.m.	Confirmation	Whitford Hall
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages	
10:30 a.m.	Ringling of the Tower Bells	
10:55 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary
12:30 p.m.	Show 'n Tell (Discover God's Call)	Whitford Hall
3:30 p.m.	Sunday Study Group	Prayer Room
6:00 p.m.	Dinner and "Friends . . . Forever" Performance	Whitford Hall
8:00 p.m.	12 Step Al-Anon	Community Life Center
SERMON: By Rev. Eric Carson		
ANTHEMS: "This Joyful Eastertide" Sanctuary Choir arr. Shaw/Parker		
"Precious Lord" Celebration Singers Spiritual		
USHERS: Wil Drake, Captain		
ACOLYTES: To be announced.		
GREETERS: Charlotte Corbin		
Beulah Latta		
NURSERY: Janet Leone		
Robin Langford		
Susan McFall		
JR. CHURCH: Amy Kellum		
ALTAIR GUILD: Holly Eggleston		
Tamela Davis		
MESSENGERS: Sissy Shore		
Carolyn Shipp		



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Do you feel God's call to teach or be a helper with His children? This summer we need lots of special help with our little ones.

- Help Needed:**
 2 yr. old Bible story leader — summer*
 3 yr. old teacher — part of summer*
 3 yr. old helper — part of summer*
 4 yr. old teacher — summer*
 4 yr. old helper — summer*
 5 yr. old helper — summer*
 First grade helper — summer*
 Second grade teacher — part of summer*
 Second grade helper for June, August
- Teacher —** Jeanne Robbins
 Ann McCary
 Mary Lee Bailey
 Teacher — ??????
 Teacher — Marlene Allen
 Teacher — Adele Bland
 Teacher — Joan Gray

*You can just take one month if that's better for you, but younger children need the security of familiar faces.

- Also Needed:**
 Nursery Coordinator (Starting in September)
 Jr. Church Coordinator (Starting now)
 Children's Coordinator — Sunday School (Starting now)
 Children's Coordinator — Special Events (Starting now)
 Please call Ann Stallings at 683-3467 if you wish to ask about or volunteer for any of these.

Summer Events For Children

- Day of Discovery**
 Preschool children ages 4-6
 Tuesday, June 9th
 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
 Fun in the Park (Oval Drive Park)
 Hamburger Kid's Meal from Burger King for lunch (Cost — \$1.50)
Trip to Coke plant and to the Herald-Sun Office
 Elementary and older children and youth, third grade and up
 Thursday, June 18
 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- Vacation Bible School**
 Ages 2-rising 6th grade
 June 29-July 2
 9 a.m.-12 noon
- Day Camp**
 Camp Chestnut Ridge
 Rising 2nd to rising 7th graders
 Monday, July 20-Friday, July 24
 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Music and Drama Camp**
 Whitford Hall
 Rising 3rd to rising 7th graders
 Monday, August 17-Friday, August 21
 9:00 a.m.-12 noon



Flea Market And Silent Auction Update

The Sanctuary Choir needs your donations of FURNITURE, HOUSEWARES, BOOKS, AND ANYTHING else we might be able to sell for our huge flea market and silent auction, August 28 and 29 in Whitford Hall. Storage space is available. Items may be delivered to the church during regular office hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., M-F). If you need the items to be picked-up, please call Jim Crawford at 493-1954 to arrange a suitable time.

We have not yet received too many donations. Below is a list of some suggestions for the silent auction. As you can see, everyone can lend a helping hand.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! MAKE A DONATION FOR THE CHOIR TODAY!

- Silent Auction ideas:**
 antique items
 quilts and handmade goods
 a dinner party
 a free weekend at your beach house!
 an oil change
 collectibles
 services (accountants, caterers, musicians, dentists, doctors, lawyers, etc.)
 Duke memorabilia
 Other ideas welcomed!!



Wesley Women — May 20

Nancy Stark and Amy Kellum will present a short summary of "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People." The meeting will be held in the Bradshaw Room on May 20, 7:30 p.m. Hope to see you there.

Church Calendar For The Week Of May 17

- MONDAY, MAY 18**
 9:15 a.m. Parents' Morning Out, Nursery
 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting, Bradshaw Room
 8:00 p.m. Al-Anon and Ala-Preteen, Community Life Center
- TUESDAY, MAY 19**
 10:00 a.m. Circle, Mary Whanger's Home 1712 Woodburn Rd.
 12:15 p.m. Tuesday Study Group, Room 241
 7:30 p.m. Administrative Board, Bradshaw Room
 7:30 p.m. Inter-Neighborhood Council, Whitford Hall
 8:00 p.m. Central Al-Anon and Ala-Teen, Community Life Center
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 20**
 9:15 a.m. Parents' Morning Out, Nursery
 9:30 a.m. Weekday School, Whitford Hall
 10:00 a.m. Craft/Lunch Bunch, Whitford Hall
 7:30 p.m. Cerebral Palsy
- THURSDAY, MAY 21**
 Foundation, Library
 7:30 p.m. Bethany Bells, Handbell Room
 7:30 p.m. Wesley Women, Bradshaw Room
 Group 3 — Host: Lee Ann Gelinne
- FRIDAY, MAY 22**
 7:30 a.m. "The Man in the Mirror", Parlor
 12:00 p.m. Thursday Study Group, Prayer Room
 12:30 p.m. Lillie Duke Class Luncheon, Whitford Hall
 6:15 p.m. Faith Sharing Group, Room 241
 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir, Choir Room
- SATURDAY, MAY 23**
 8-12/1-5 p.m. Habitat for Humanity, Hill Street

Council On Ministries — Para Drake

At our last meeting, Council on Ministries decided to put our major planning for the fall in the area of Stewardship. Stewardship is what we hope we do with God's gift of money, time, environments, children, spirit and many other parts of our lives. It is not contributions to the church once a year. Stewardship is the result of learning what gifts God has given us and prayerfully considering their use. It is not consumption of our resources — it is taking care of the gifts, using them how God intended. It is a walk in faith to discern God's intention in our lives.

In the fall, two major events are planned: the annual giving campaign (sometimes known as the Stewardship Campaign) and "Weekend of Discovery." These two events concern two areas of stewardship: our spiritual gifts such as administrative, faith, teaching, compassion, etc. and our money. Although the discovery and use of our personal spiritual gifts will be one of the most powerful tools in our lives and although in our church and the annual giving campaign is essential to our church, they are PART of Stewardship, not the whole. We promise to uphold our church with our prayer, presence, gifts and service. You will be given the opportunity to discover your gifts and talent. Please pray and consider your role in planning and implementing these events.

Coffee For Teachers

Sunday, May 17th at 8:30 a.m.
 Church Library

All Sunday School Teachers — of children, youth, and adults — are invited to coffee and refreshments and to browse with new educational materials, sponsored by Para Drake, Council on Ministries.

'Friends . . . Forever' Performance — May 17 6:00 p.m. — Whitford Hall

Invite your friends for an evening of food, fellowship and fun as the youth entertain us with the delightful music of "Friends . . . Forever." A covered dish dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. in Whitford Hall. Great for all ages! "A friend's a friend forever when the Lord's the Lord of them."

"Friends . . . Forever" performers please mark your calendar for Saturday, May 16, at 10:00 a.m. There will be a dress rehearsal in Whitford Hall.

Lillie Duke Class Luncheon — May 21

The Lillie Duke Class Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, May 21, at 12:30 p.m. in Whitford Hall. Please bring your favorite covered dish casserole and a friend. John Semingson will provide us with special music. We do hope to see you there!

More Duke Memorial News On Pages 2L & 3L