

Soundings

The Newsletter of
Chesapeake Association
United Church of Christ

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Volume II, Number 1

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January 1, 1971

Youth Steering Committee Proposes Open Session

After hearing some response to the "Open Letter to the Churches" at the last meeting of the Youth Steering Committee, the group decided that their next meeting had to be open to all those who had an interest in speaking on this matter. This meeting is to be held on Sunday, January 10th at 2:30 P.M. at St. Matthew's United Church of Christ. Every interested person is invited.

At the December meeting, when the response to the letter began to come in, there were several young people in the group who noted their disapproval of the wording and the intent of the letter. Their position was a decidedly minority position, as most of the young people present voted to back the intent and direction that the letter was taking.

It was obvious to all that a better vehicle for communication was needed than the sending of letters. Thus the idea for an open meeting was born. The purpose of this open meeting is largely instructional, both to allow young people more input as to the role of the Church from the church at large, and to allow those interested pastors and members of the church to understand the thinking and feeling of the youth who make up the Youth Steering Committee.

It is to be hoped that a good number of interested youth and adults will be able to be at St. Matthews on January 10th.

Association to Act as Benevolent Collectors

Because of the demise of the Maryland Council of Churches, and the new structure of the Interfaith Council which is to supercede it, there are a variety of ecumenical organizations which have been temporarily left with no pipeline to the churches for their support.

These organizations, Migrant Ministry, Ecumedia Inc., Project Equality, etc., under the overview of the Interfaith Council, are to receive their funds directly from the supporting churches. The Chesapeake Association will attempt to be the clearing house for those funds formerly sent to the Maryland Council of Churches. This benevolent money ought to be designated to the actual organization responsible for the work the benevolent money is to support.

Hear this. This refers only to Non-OCWM benevolent money. These funds should be sent to the Chesapeake Association treasurer, Mr. George Ulrich, 6714 Sherwood Road, Baltimore, Maryland, 21212.

St. John's Holds Open Meeting

by Chiles Bowersock

In response to a call from the St. John's Council to presidents of all Central Atlantic Conference congregations, about 75 representatives of some 25 to 30 churches gathered at St. John's on Saturday, Dec. 5, to discuss the leadership, programs, and directions of the Conference, and of the denomination in general.

Although there had been some negative feeling generated by the St. John's letter announcing the meeting, and only about 15 per cent of the CAC churches were represented, even those not necessarily in sympathy with the meeting's sponsors in many cases felt it was a good thing to hold such an all-day session so that certain concerns might receive an open airing.

Certainly the meeting revealed that there are some within the CAC who have deeply felt misgivings about some of our conference and denominational programs, leaders, and emphases. These feelings are honestly felt and have every right to be expressed and listened to. To that extent the purpose of the meeting was positive and proper -- to air these feelings and develop the means to express them to the annual meeting of the CAC next June.

Some of the specific concerns that surfaced were: (1) denominational publications, such as the Herald, Colloquy, Youth, and Focus; (2) the question of whether the UCC and the CAC are emphasizing programs for the community (e.g., in the areas of racism and poverty) to the neglect of programs for the churches themselves (such as providing "models" for rural, urban, and suburban congregations); (3) the question of whether it is morally defensible in a democratically-governed denomination for individual congregations to deliberately withhold OCWM funds because they disagree with certain programs (the possible parallel with a U.S. citizen withholding a portion of his taxes was suggested); (4) the Commission on Racial Justice and its programs (especially the recent caucus in Washington and what happened there); (5) whether the voices of individual congregations are still heard within the CAC; (6) the relationship of the UCC to the National Welfare Rights Organization.

(cont'd page 4)

Historic Event - The Ratifying of the Interfaith Council



From the left, His Eminence Lawrence Cardinal Sheehan, Archbishop of Baltimore, Rabbi Israel Goldman, President of the Baltimore Board of Rabbis, and the Rev. Fred Webber, Associate Synod Executive of the Synod of the Chesapeake United Presbyterian Church. These three Co-Chairmen declared the ICMB to be in force October 30th (photo by Baltimore News American)

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Consistorial Dinner

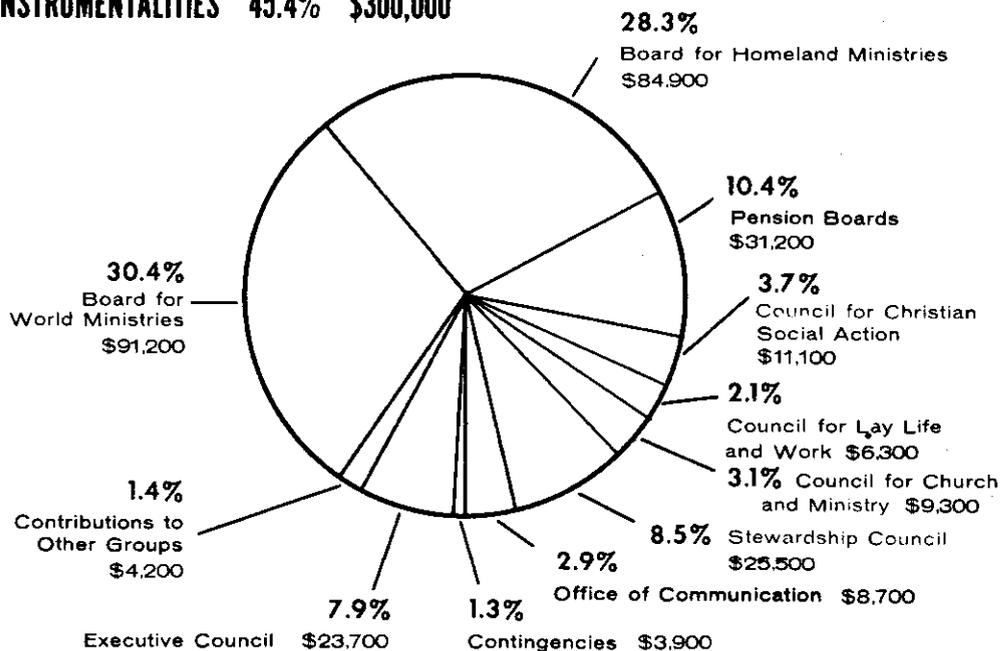
The annual Consistorial Dinner will be held at United Evan. Church, East Ave. & Dillon St., Mon. Feb. 1 at 6:30 P.M. The program will center on the newly formed Interfaith Council with guests: Fr. E. Melville Taylor, Chmn./Commission for Christian Unity the Archdiocese of Balto.; Mr. Robt. Hiller, Exec. Vice-Pres./Assoc. Jewish Charities; & the Rev. Fred Webber, Assoc. Synod Exec./United Presbyterian Synod of the Chesapeake.

The United Church of Christ Where O.C.W.M. Goes

The December issue of Soundings included a chart listing the disbursement of the OCWM funds sent to the Conference. The largest cut of those funds (45.4%) are forwarded to the National Instrumentalities. The chart below indicates where these funds go.

Included as well is a glossary of terms used to define our Benevolence giving.

NATIONAL INSTRUMENTALITIES 45.4% \$300,000



DEFINITIONS RELATING TO THE PATTERN OF GIVING

OUR CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSION (OCWM) is the whole work of the United Church of Christ which the local churches do through the General Synod, the Boards and Instrumentalities and the Conference.

Basic support is what the churches give to that part of OCWM which is budgeted by the Conference and/or the General Synod.

DIRECTED GIFT is a designated gift, within OCWM, usually for work over and above, but related to, the budget of the General Synod, and Instrumentality or Conference. It must be marked "Directed Gift."

OTHER SUPPORT includes all-church offerings (One Great Hour of Sharing - Share Our Substance in the Spring and Neighbors-in-Need in the fall), Special Offerings (Ministerial Relief or Special Emergencies), and Directed Gifts.

SECOND MILE GIFT is a contribution to OCWM made after a church has given to basic support a sum equal to 25% or more of local expense.

Again the offer is made to make use of these pages in Soundings to discuss, to inform, to communicate about the whole area of benevolent giving. Not to do so is to indicate non-interest.

Hilfiker to Begin Three Month Sabbatical

The Rev. Warren Hilfiker, Associate Conference Minister of the CAC, with responsibility for Chesapeake Association, will be taking advantage of the Conference's policy on Sabbatical leaves, beginning February 2nd.

Rev. Hilfiker will be spending his Sabbatical at Eden Theological Seminary in Webster Groves, Missouri, a suburb of St. Louis. His time will be spent in a period of guided reading under the direction of several of the teaching staff at Eden and other professionals in the St. Louis area. The thrust of these three months will be directed toward study in the area of pastoral counseling as it applies to the totality of the urban situation.

Rev. Hilfiker will be returning to his duties in the Association some time in May. We wish him well in this adventure.

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The Chesapeake Ministerium Evaluates Retreat

The Chesapeake Ministerium, having held a successful Conference at Chesapeake Center on October 30th and 31st has been re-evaluating that program and making decisions on the followup. Twenty-five Ministerium members and many wives were present during the 24 hour session.

The basic feeling about the retreat was that it was very helpful to the relationships within the ministerium, and that it should continue. There were many suggestions as to how the program could be more efficient.

Tentative plans call for another event shortly after Easter.

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St. John's Meeting (cont'd)

Certainly these concerns, among others, deserved to be dealt with, and it is commendable they were publicly raised. The difficulty arose in getting the all-day session organized, and the reaction of many participants afterwards was that there had been a serious lack of positive leadership, resulting in a meeting that drifted and wandered almost aimlessly from subject to subject and accordingly accomplished little. Even in the after-lunch session, when a number of specific concerns were pinned down, the gathering continued to stumble along in a disorganized manner, and many felt the day had been no more than an extended "bull session".

It need not have turned out this way. The group, with strong leadership, might have zeroed in on several specific concerns and produced a resolution or two for the annual meeting. But it did not, and the question that remains would seem to be whether or not legitimately held views which yearned for concrete expression (as in resolutions for annual meeting) were not lost in the shuffle, so that a strong dissenting voice which might have been heard within the CAC will now go unheard.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR should be sent to:
155 Orville Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21221

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Soundings, the official journal of the Chesapeake Assoc., Central Atlantic Conference, U.C.C. is published ten times a year with an average issue of 4500 copies.

Editor

Rev. Ralph G. Cook

Assistant

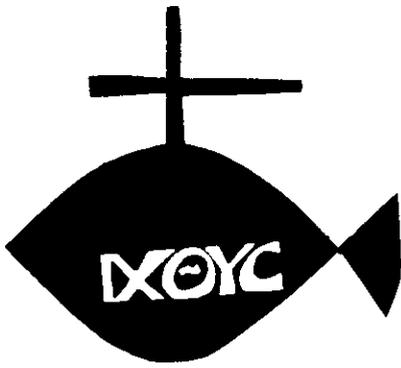
Mrs. Nancy Canapp

Editorial Board

Rev. Charles Wentling

Rev. Roy Joellenbeck

Rev. Chiles Bowersock



Soundings

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Volume II, Number 4

May 1, 1971

It's Meeting Time Again

Within the next month or so, delegates from the Chesapeake Association churches will be meeting together as an Association and as part of a Conference to make decisions concerning the direction of these regional church bodies.

The Chesapeake Association will be meeting at 3 P.M. on May 2nd at Immanuel U.C.C. in Catonsville. Excerpts from the Annual Report to that meeting appear on the back page of this issue. (Hopefully, this May issue of Soundings will be ready for distribution then.)

We find ourselves the focal point of our Conference Meeting, in addition to our own Association. For, the Central Atlantic Conference will be holding its seventh annual meeting at Baltimore's Loyola College on the 11th, 12th and 13th of June. Materials are in the hands of local church officers concerning this meeting.

The theme of the meeting will be "The Exodus Courage" with the base being laid by Dr. Robert V. Moss, President of the United Church, who will lead a Biblical exploration of the theme.

The Rev. Otis Young, General Secretary for Church Extension, will be delivering a major address.

The Baltimore churches have a unique opportunity to involve many active laymen in the workings of the Conference. Please consider this as a way to provide local church leadership with understanding about the direction of the Conference.

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"Chesapeake Ventures"

Summer is coming. That idea means a great deal to many inner-city children, who might have the opportunity to go to Chesapeake Center, the camp used by our U.C.C. camping program, if only the money were available.

45 children were sent in 1970, with \$2,270.26 being supplied by local churches. We are fortunate this summer to be able to begin with a carry-over from last year of \$639.40.

Each campership will cost \$37.50 for the one week program. It is important to, at the very least, pledge this money early. We then can let our inner-city groups know how many campers can go. They can find as many kids as we have money for. The money is the controlling factor.

We are hoping that churches and individuals will be able to find a place in their giving for this program which has been so obviously successful. Please make out checks to "Chesapeake Ventures" and send them to Miss D. Jean Kelbaugh, St. Matthews U.C.C., 3400 Norman Avenue, Baltimore, Md., 21213.

When the summer rolls around, we will be looking for persons able to act as drivers, transporting children to and from the Camp at Chesapeake Center. Please keep this possibility of stewardship in mind as well.

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Open House at Springvale Terrace

April 19, 1971

Dear Friends,

For some years now, Springvale Terrace has been rendering a much needed service for the aging of our society. Guests at the Terrace have been most profuse in telling of their happy experiences as a part of the Springvale family, while a very lengthy list of applications for admission attests to the reputation it has established.

Happily, through an expansion program recently completed, we shall now be able to accomodate an additional thirty-one residents! And it's about the dedication of this new unit that we are writing to all pastors and congregations of the Potomac and Chesapeake Associations of our United Church of Christ.

We are indeed happy that Springvale Terrace is under the Sponsorship of the United Church of Christ. We are anxious that the membership of our U.C.C. Associations become more aware of the splendid service the home is rendering. Hence, we invite the members of your congregation(s) to be with us on Sunday, May 16th from 2 P.M. to 5 P.M., when the new wing of the home will be dedicated, and an Open House for the entire home will be held. At the same time your members will be able to visit the headquarters of our Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ which are located on the Springvale Terrace grounds. Our Conference Minister, Francis Pirazzini, and members of his staff will be present to greet you.

May we ask then, that as pastor or lay leader in your congregation(s), you give this Open House and Dedication at Springvale Terrace, Pershing Drive & Springvale Road, Silver Springs, Maryland prompt and adequate publicity, and that you strive to have many of your members present for the occasion on May 16th. Let's make it a great day for the Church and the Home.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPRINGVALE TERRACE

Homewood Home Facts and Figures

At the time of the writing of this Report (March 1, 1971), there were 250 residents in the three Units of Homewood, divided as follows: Penn West Conference - Juniata Association, 13; Penn Central Conference - Mercersburg, Gettysburg and York Associations, 111; Central Atlantic Conference - Catocin, Shenandoah, Potomac and Chesapeake Associations, 100; Southern Conference, 2; At-Large, 21.

Sixty-four (64) residents joined the Homewood Family in 1970. On February 8 the 800th resident was admitted. During the past year all three Units have been filled to capacity, and currently there is a sizeable waiting list of applicants who require nursing care. This is brought about because Homewood is primarily a Home for ambulatory folks. When these become infirm, they are moved to the Infirmary; the sickness that arises within the Homes practically keeps our Infirmaries filled to capacity. It is only when there is a surplus of beds in the Infirmary area that the Committee on Admissions is privileged to admit infirm people from the outside.

The contributions from the churches last year totaled \$31,419.06, which is a slight increase of \$110.73 over the previous year. One hundred seventeen (117) of the 250 residents have insufficient funds to financially maintain themselves, and their monthly income needs to be supplemented in the amount of \$169,093.22. This large charity load is paid from church contributions and endowment income.

Homewood enjoyed another financially satisfactory year. Total assets of the Homewood Corporation total \$5,058,732.55, which includes \$3,074,893.33 in the Endowment Fund. Without the income from the Endowment Fund it would be impossible for the Home to care for those 117 residents who are unable to maintain themselves. Buildings and equipment (furnishings) of our three properties (less depreciation reserve) are valued at \$1,359,078.00.

In the operational fund, receipts and balance totaled \$1,089,607.96 as of December 31, 1970. Expenses amounted to \$1,083,815.88 (an average of \$2,664 per

(cont'd on page 3)

Homewood Home (cont'd)

resident), leaving a balance on January 1, 1971 of \$5,792.08.

The monthly allowances paid to the residents in 1970 amounted to \$25,965.43, and the 1% endowment allowance payments were \$6,549.37, for a total of \$32,514.80 paid to residents in personal spending allowances.

The total enrollment of the Women's Auxiliary is now 8,587 members, representing 215 congregations, with a total contribution from membership dues and donations of \$9,202.00. This is \$121.00 and 164 members more than the previous year.

The Annual Visitation Day observances will feature as the speaker at each service the recently elected Executive Director, the Rev. Roderick J. Wagner, currently the Executive Secretary of the Council of Churches of Greater Harrisburg. The dates for these services are Pearson Home on September 12, Sadler Home on September 26, and the McDowell Home on October 10, each service beginning at 3 P.M. The installation of Mr. Wagner as the new Executive Director of the Homewood Corporation will take place at the Pearson Home on September 12.



LEADERSHIP XXI

THE ALFORD CARLETON FUND

The Rev. Dr. Alford Carleton retired as the Executive Vice President of the United Church Board for World Ministries in November of 1970. His leadership of the world-wide mission of the church has gained him honor throughout the world.

The United Church Board for World Ministries with its historic commitment to education, recognizes the signal contribution to the discovery, development and encouragement, of new leadership for church and society made by Alford Carleton. It believes that indigenous leadership--skilled, committed to social justice, sensitive to moral issues, vigorous of mind, and touched by the spirit of Jesus--is a crucial need of all societies. A goal of \$300,000 has been set for the LEADERSHIP XXI: Alford Carleton Fund. The UCBWM has granted \$100,000 and asks persons concerned for world leadership in the 21st century to join in honoring Alford Carleton by contributing to this fund.

Through the LEADERSHIP XXI Alford Carleton Fund, the United Church Board for World Ministries seeks the development of skilled, creative and vigorous leadership in this Third World. This fund will be used to stimulate and assist high potential persons and programs that foster:

1. attitudes compatible with Christian values such as justice, human dignity, love, and faith in God and man;
2. the development of basic skills;
3. international and inter-cultural life without loss of cultural uniqueness;
4. pioneers and decision makers;
5. experimentation in new forms of leadership training.

Your gifts should be sent to the UCBWM noted, LEADERSHIP XXI, at 475 Riverside Drive, New York, N.Y. 10027.

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Warren Hilfiker Recovering

As many persons in our Association know, our Association Conference Minister, Warren Hilfiker, suffered a serious heart attack on March 27th, as he was consulting with a group of church laymen in the St. Louis area. A physician in the group administered first aid and Warren was rushed to St. John's Mercy Hospital in suburban St. Louis.

The Association ministers have received word that Warren was released from the hospital on April 19th and will be spending some time at the home of a friend, the Rev. Carlton Norton, Olive St., Rt. 2, Box 106, Chesterfield, Mo. 63107. At this point the word is that he will be there until the middle of May.

Warren reports that he is still very weak, with some dizzy spells and on occasion, some pain. The doctors report that on the basis of these and other facts, they feel that he had suffered an extremely serious attack.

He has received many cards and letters from clergy and laymen in the areas of his charge. He reports that all of these notes are most appreciated.

Given time we hope that Warren will be back in our midst, providing a ministry with his special concern and competence. Along with the cards and letters, we know that many prayers have been and will be offered for his safe recovery.

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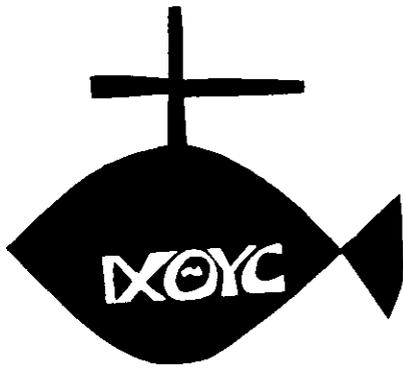
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Assistant: Mrs. Nancy Canapp
Ed. Board: Rev. Roy Joellenbeck
Rev. Chiles Bowersock

Excerpts - The Annual Report

- + A most important activity of our Association is the Strategy Committee, a group made up of many clergy and laymen representing virtually every church in the Association - Their goal points them toward binding our association together, recognizing the differences within our midst.
- + Lay Life and Work reports the upcoming Communion Fellowship on Ascension Day, May 20th.
- + The Special Committee on Structures reports two recommendations for implementation.
 1. A provision for the interlocking of the Boards of Directors of the Association and the Conference, to help communication.
 2. That the Association eliminate elected committees and replace them with task-force oriented groups, organized around a definite task. The life of the group would be over when the task is completed. Several other proposals are to be offered for discussion but with no special recommendation. They focus on the relation of Association and Conference.
- + The Evangelism and Extension Committee reported on the money expended for various mission projects within the Association, such as Huber Memorial and Heritage U.C.C.
- + Christian Education announces a Church and Education Resource Fair in Baltimore on October 5, 6, 7. This will be an ecumenical venture offering creative and practical help to those involved in education.
- + The Treasurer reports a total of \$3,080.12 spent during 1970, with \$1,783.51 spent in the first third of 1971.

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Soundings

The Newsletter of
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Volume II, Number 2

March 1, 1971

Money and the Church

The giving of cold hard cash to further the work of an institution which is directed toward spiritual aims seems to be a paradox indeed. Although some might entertain the thought momentarily, it must soon dissolve under the pressure of reality. For the fact is, the cold hard cash is as spiritual as the institution we call church. Both can be used and misused. It is not what they are, but what they do that counts in the long run.

By and large the churches have found themselves in a financial squeeze for some time. The causes are too numerous to mention. One attempt to answer this "time of trouble" have taken various forms, some productive, some not so. But one ongoing aspect of the church's life which is the ultimate answer to this problem is its concern towards educating people and churches with the values caught up in the term stewardship. There can be no greater effort made to change people, to bring home the message of Christ and His saving grace than in the area that deals with our wealth and what we do with it.

We aim as Christians to be whole people, with integrity of purpose. Part of that integrity is the direction we give to our money. To be a Christian (noun) one must be christian (adjective). The adjectival form is infinitely harder than the noun. As pastors and lay people we must be reminding ourselves and others of our commitment in giving of ourselves to the glory of God.

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In Memoriam

CHARLES L. WENTLING

We remember the Rev. Charles L. Wentling, chairman of the Editorial Board of this newsletter, and the one person who was responsible for guiding our first ground breaking decisions on how to come into existence. The Rev. Mr. Wentling died February 19th, on the date of his birth. He was 46.

Charles came to us out of a Baptist heritage, and came into the United Church through a call to the Zion U.C.C. in Marietta, Pa. He served four parishes in the Baltimore area as pastor--First United, Christ, St. Paul's and, at the time of his death, Bethel Church. He served as a pastor and a brother to everyone who knew him. Even in the midst of his own turmoil, he was able to lead others to an appreciation of life and its value.

His life can be remembered in no better way than through one small item. Charles was chairman of the Stewardship Committee. His life had as its ideal the model of giving. And indeed he gave a great deal to many persons.

He leaves his wife Mary Ellen, two daughters Margaret and Carolyn and a son, David. He will be missed, by them and by all.

Charles will be remembered as an eloquent and forceful preacher, an understanding and compassionate pastor, a loyal and loving friend, a faithful steward of the Lord in the service of His Church, and to this editor, a most helpful co-worker.

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New Pastor



The Rev. John T. Peace was elected as senior pastor of Peoples U.C.C. in Dover, Delaware at a service on January 24, 1971. The Rev. Mr. Peace comes out of a Lutheran background having been graduated from Thiel College and the Lutheran Seminary in 1955.

Mr. Peace served the First Lutheran Church, Tyrone, Pa., 1958 thru 1961, after which he became affiliated with United Church of Christ and moved with his family to Worcester, Mass. There he served Park Congregational Church until 1964, then moved to a position as Senior Minister at East Congregational Church, Milton, Mass. (Greater Boston).

Mr. Peace then accepted a professorship at the Mercersburg (Pa.) Academy of the United Church of Christ, which he joined in 1966. After serving four years at the academy, and presently its Master of the English Department, Mr. Peace is now answering the challenge of the parish ministry once more.

We welcome John and his family to the fellowship of the Chesapeake Association. He will be assuming his duties in mid-June following the school year at Mercersburg Academy.

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U.C.B.W.M. Program Helps

Do you need a resource person???

Mr. Liberty Mhlanga is an attractive young Rhodesian who is presently in this country attending Columbia University where he is a candidate for his PhD in the teaching sciences. Mr. Mhlanga was educated in the schools of Mt. Silinda and received his A.B. and M.A. at Clark University in Massachusetts. Between 1961 and 1963 he was a leader at summer camps in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Wyoming and Colorado. He returned to Rhodesia after his graduation from Clark University and taught in the Mt. Silinda School.

It is not often that we get the opportunity to sit down and discuss the needs of a country with so knowledgeable a person. Perhaps you would like to take this opportunity by engaging this young man to participate in your program. He is young enough to relate effectively with your young people; as Organizing Secretary of the Gazaland Secondary School he has shown his administrative ability and would relate to your boards; he is also an accomplished speaker having spoken rather widely in New England during his college years.

Because Mr. Mhlanga must give priority to the preparation of his thesis and is not available at all times, we would suggest that you write him in care of Mrs. William Slater, U.C.B.W.M., 475 Riverside Drive, New York, N.Y. 10027. We would also ask that you plan to cover his travel expenses and give a modest gratuity to compensate for his time.

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Choir Robes

Messiah Church has informed Soundings that they have in their possession 18 white choir robes with accompanying red stoles that are not in use. They are looking for a church which might be able to use these items to best advantage. Please call the Rev. Harry Carolus at 435-5556 if you have any interest.

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Let's Play A Game

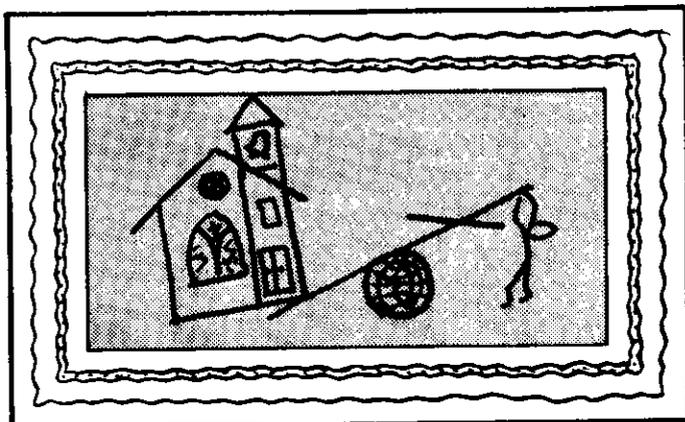
By RICHARD R. RODES

Let's play "What's Wrong in These Pictures". They will be word pictures of the laity and clergy of the congregations of Christ's Church. Let's play for real and in the playing perhaps we can learn to draw the pictures better. Is that not in the best tradition of the Lord of new life and the sons and daughters of the continuing Reformation? (Note: Said a Church leader, "We have come to a real crisis in the ministry.")

1. SEE THE MINISTER. HE IS HAPPY. He is confiding success to several fellow pastors. He says, "I feel so exhilarated. Last Sunday in worship I called for volunteers and ten women came today to shorten the drapes!" (Note: "Let's play house.")

2. SEE THE MINISTER. HE IS SAD. He is confiding failure to several fellow pastors. He says, "I just can't take the time to study or even to be with my own family. I have to run up and down these streets to get some new members to keep my struggling little church alive and to pay the bills!" (Note: average size of Protestant congregations is about 200 members.)

3. SEE THE MINISTER. HE IS POUTING. He stands at the Church kitchen serving window with the guest banquet preacher. He says apologetically, "One lady is missing from the kitchen crew tonight. She's down at a school board meeting they're holding on racial balance. She ought to be here serving her church!" (Note: told by Dr. John Casteel.)



4. SEE THE MINISTER. HE IS A KEPT WOMAN. They give her a house; pay her bills; say nice things about her if only she renounces a life of her own, especially in public, and if she is available at all times for her limited specialty.

5. SEE THE MINISTER. HE IS AN ENLISTED, COMMISSIONED FRONT-LINE OFFICER IN THE LORD'S ARMY. He is set apart within and for the army, the called-out people, the Laos. He is professionally trained, his sacred oath taken by ordination to equip and build up and maintain the unity of and to lead the battalion in costly, worldly engagement. But see his army. It is made up of patients in the field hospital, women's auxiliaries of veterans of former wars and a large company of persons who, having made no significant commitment, are not soldiers at all but really uninvolved civilians. (Note: Some ministers are only too glad to do it for the Church; others do it only for Christ and leave the parish ministry. Some leave and others endure to help clarify roles of Christian mission and ministry.)

*reprinted from INTERACT, a monthly journal of opinions and actions of the Columbia Cooperative Ministry.

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Springvale Terrace

Springvale Terrace, a home of the United Church of Christ in Silver Spring, Md. has announced the completion of a new thirty-one apartment annex. As of this writing, the new wing is fully occupied bringing to 173 the number of residents in the home.

The home is built on the same site as the Conference offices for the Central Atlantic Conference at 620 Pershing Dr. Anyone dropping in is surely welcome to contact Mr. Theodore Dorman, the administrator of Springvale Terrace to look thru the new facility. The Chesapeake Assoc. ministerium was given such a tour at their last meeting.

The dedication of the new apartment annex will be scheduled for early in May.

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Rev. Chiles Bowersock

St. John's Youth

By CHERYL TODD & DEBORAH PIERCE

Recently, St. John's Youth Fellowship led both of the Sunday worship services. The meditation was presented by a young Catholic seminarian, James O'Brien, who is currently attending St. Mary's Theological Seminary. His topic was "Jesus Is Lord", which was based on actual experiences in which a thirty young man finally found fulfillment in Christ after being totally unsatisfied by drugs and the emptiness they created in his life.

All the youth of the church participated in some manner. There were youth liturgists and ushers serving at each service. A special youth choir sang two anthems, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "Thou Who Touchest Earth With Beauty". Both selections were specially arranged by some of the young people, and they created a meaningful message.

Again, the Youth Service was a great success with the largest attendance of the month. Many people, young and old, expressed their feelings that the worship service was extremely relevant. Others also voiced their desire for more of this type of worship.

Between services, the youth held a discussion with Seminarian O'Brien. It was centered on the young people's involvement and understanding of Jesus.

Our youth have been involved in many functions this year. Some major activities have included fund-raising activities with much of the profit contributed to city youth summer camps and some special church projects. We have entertained the Jefferson Youth Fellowship for a weekend. Other social activities have included trips to ice hockey games and Bay Ridge.

Equally important, we are active in church functions such as: assisting in entertaining the younger children, serving at dinners, and active participation as youth elders and deacons. Some of our young people serve regularly as liturgists and participating elders and more often as acolytes.

Our advisors and other interested church members have helped tremendously in the increasing role of the youth at St. John's.

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Christian Education For the Future?

Values for Tomorrow's Children: An Alternative Future for Education In the Church, by John H. Westerhoff III
Pilgrim Press, Copyright 1970. \$4.95

Although reviews of books are not standard fare in this newsletter, this particular publication deserves not only mention, but it deserves to be heralded as a part of the required reading of every person who has anything to do with Church Education in its widest sense. No review on these pages could do justice to the effect that reading the book will have. Meaty questions about both theory and practice are raised again and again. They are questions designed for specific answers in specific situations. The reader is given enough homework to write a book of his own (which is precisely what the author suggests).

John Westerhoff takes very seriously the question raised by the old proverb; do as I say, not as I do. To quote his words, "If we want a person to be able to accept or reject the Christian faith, we have to turn our attention and emphasis from teaching about Christianity to offering within the church experiences which demonstrate our faith." That is a tall order, and one which might give many pastors and teachers second thoughts. But Westerhoff's thesis is that, with work, and insight and a real investment in Church education, much can be accomplished.

There is much specific help in these pages for those wanting to do an effective job as a teacher or administrator. There is a great deal that needs to be done.

As a sidelight to this review, it might be mentioned that the Christian Education Committee of our Association is struggling to break some ideas loose from these pages which might be of aid in their search for meaningful service. Any suggestions thrown their way would be very helpful.

Buy it and read it and work on it!

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