

UNITED CHURCH BULLETIN

Official Publication of The Baltimore Federation, United Church of Christ

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HELP NEEDED

Early in 1961, the Baltimore Federation established a budget for the purpose of carrying through a meaningful and united witness in our Metropolitan area. To under-write that budget, each church is request to contribute an amount based on \$.42 per member. Of the twenty-one churches who belong to the Federation, ten congregations had failed at the end of 1962 to pay their portion in full. This has resulted in a deficit of approximately \$800, and has made it impossible for the Federation to fulfill its responsibility to Mr. Clayton Wallace, our field worker for church extension, in that we have not been able to send him our last quarterly salary payment of \$625.

The Federation operates on a very "hard" budget; and if we are to remain solvent, each congregation must meet its full responsibility. Consequently, we hope that these ten congregations will make serious effort to meet their 1962 responsibility, and make payment for 1963, as well. Our new budget of \$4,000 will be used to support a School of Religion, church advertising, extension work, and the publication of the United Church Bulletin. Individuals are encouraged to help finance the work of the Federation, and can do so by sending contributions to the treasurer, Miss Margaret Greb at 1404 S. Charles St., Baltimore 30.

SUPPORT THE UNITED CHURCH HOME DRIVE

HOOD CHOIR COMING

The Concert Choir of Hood College will present a program of sacred music on Sunday evening, February 10, as a part of the Federation Forum series. Dr. Ray Frankenfeld, chairman of the Forum Committee, announced that the Choir will appear at United Evangelical Church, East and Dillon Streets, the service to begin at 8:00 p.m. He also expressed the Committee's concern that a maximum congregation be present to hear the Choir, both because of the excellence of their performance, and to meet this group of young people who represent one of our finest educational institutions. An offering will be received to help defray travel expenses for the group.

EXTENSION NEWS

A new congregation of the United Church of Christ came into existence in the Baltimore area on Sunday, January 13, at a service held in St. Luke's church, Fayette and Carey Streets. To be known as the Northwest United Church of Christ, the congregation will hold services in Fellowship House, located at 3200 N. Hilton St., through February 3; the service hour to be 3:00 p.m.

At the inaugurating service, Dr. Ted Ledbetter of Plymouth Congregational church in Washington preached the sermon, and special music was presented by the Plymouth church choir. About twenty families made known their desire there to participate, and the congregation has been placed under the supervision of a sponsoring committee appointed by the Committee on Church Extension. Pastors from the Baltimore-Washington area will be recruited for supply service.

Plans for the pioneering store-front church at Glen Burnie are moving forward steadily. Pastor Richard Bayard reports that architect drawings are being prepared, and the North Arundel congregation is busy planning for the time when they will be converting the room located in the Harundale Shopping Center for use as a full-time center of Christian worship and service.

Pastor Bernie Zerkel, of the Annapolis congregation, reports that his people are anticipating moving into a new chapel, to be erected next to the parsonage in the very near future. The development is located at Wilelinor Estates, Route 2, at the western limits of the capitol city. The congregation is enjoying a steady growth, and Pastor Zerkel has urged that names of families moving into the Annapolis area be forwarded to him at Route 2, Box 113E9, Edgewater, Maryland.

Our embryo congregation at Eldersburg continues to hold services in their recently redecorated "church in the house" with the help of various supply pastors.

CHAPLAINCY CHALLENGE

One of the truly persistent and important needs in our community is that of visiting the hospitalized who have no Christian orientation or church relatedness. This need is particularly severe at Baltimore City Hospitals where over

2,000 patients overflow its four main units. Pastors, organizations and individuals of the United Church of Christ in Baltimore are asked to consider visiting patients at City Hospitals as a part of their ministry to troubled persons. If you wish to bear witness in this way, and desire more information, please contact the Rev. Richard Batzler, pastor of St. Paul's, who is presently serving as Chairman of the Visiting Clergy Staff at City Hospitals.

UNITED CHURCH HOME

At a dinner held at St. Luke's church, Fayette and Carey Streets, on Thursday evening, January 17, officials of the proposed United Church Home for Baltimore and Washington presented the need for financial support during the months preceding the building of the Homes to a group of approximately 60 members of our Baltimore church. The Rev. Lawrence Upton, Secretary for the Aging of the United Church, gave the principle address, paying tribute to the thoroughness of preparation which has gone into the planning of the Home. Also present and responding to their introduction by the Rev. Robert Olewiler were John W. Cable, III, president of the Home Board, and Theodore T. Dorman, Administrator of the Home.

Continual emphasis was laid on the importance of enough funds being made available through local church giving to carry the Home through these months of administrative planning to the time when actual construction gets under way. Mr. Cable reported that it was anticipated that the government would approve the loan application filed by the Board within a short time. And since all zoning problems have been met, and funds have been secured for the completion of the purchase of property through an interest-free loan from the Congregation Home of DC, it is anticipated that ground breaking on the plot near Silver Spring will take place near July 1. Meanwhile, efforts continue to locate suitable property in the Baltimore area for erection of a second unit as soon as possible.

A goal of \$50,000 has been set for operating funds up to the middle of 1964. \$25,000 of this has been allocated to the Washington area, and \$25,000 to the Baltimore area; the churches in the Baltimore area having apportioned their part of the fund to local congregations on a percapita basis. Officers of the Federation urge our churches to accept the quota assigned them, and to make every effort to meet it as soon as possible. Funds should be mailed to the Rev. Robert W. Olewiler, Treasurer, 1405 15th St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

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c/o Messiah U.C.C. Church
5615 The Alameda
Baltimore 12, Md.

INTER-FAITH CONVERSATIONS

A group of pastors representing the United Church of Christ have responded to an invitation of the Archdiocesan Commission for the Promotion of Christian Unity, and are participating in a series of informal discussions with clergy of the Roman Catholic church, and representatives of other Protestant bodies on various phases of Christian doctrine and practice. Two lecture meetings were held at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, and these have been supplemented by the setting up of small discussion groups, designed to carry forward effective dialogue between clergy on the parish level. Representing the United Church are pastors James Rinne, Paul Snead, Bernie Zerfel, John Royer and Richard Batzler.

FEDERATION NOTES

•The Federation meeting followed the United Church Home dinner, and was necessarily limited in time by the lateness of the hour. While this did not seem to discourage discussion, it would seem wise, since this is our second consecutive incident of this sort, to ask outside groups to schedule their promotions on other than Federation meeting evenings.

•A plea was made for broader support of the U.S.O. program on the part of our member congregations. It was pointed out that the Federation of Brotherhoods has been doing an excellent job in this area, but it would be helpful if our congregations offered to assume additional obligations.

•At the request of the editors, the value of the United Church Bulletin was discussed at some length. It was decided that the Bulletin fulfills an important function in the area of communication, and the Federation voted to continue publishing it on the same schedule as was followed previously.

•Attendance at Federation Forums has been decreasing, the most recent one having attracted a regrettably small congregation. It was agreed that the quality of these programs has been outstanding; and that our people need to be encouraged to fuller participation.

•Our recently formed Northwest congregation will be included in the Sun Paper church advertisement. The congregation was represented at the meeting by Mr. and Mrs. Vallen Emery.

MISSION ON RENEWAL AND
EVANGELISM