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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1970
Pastor of Visitation

Dear Members of United Church:

There are many dimensions to pastoral work, and one dimension which one hopes will be enhanced is that of depth. I believe that there has been a deepening that has occurred in connection with the work of the Pastor of Visitation which has been a source of gratification this year. Calling of the type that I undertake should be something more than a social visit, of course. And as sufficient time of service in the congregation passes and understanding and trust develop there is more of a possibility that helpful conversations-in-depth can take place about the concerns of the individuals and families as well as the specific concerns of the Church.

There has also been an expansion of the visitation work in the dimension of breadth. While there have been many calls made on persons whom we wish to become more active in church attendance etc.; there have also been more calls on new people, such as families of new Church School pupils, on newly married couples, on families where baptisms have taken place, and on a considerable number of prospective members, a number of whom have become affiliated this year. Frequently, when in their neighborhood, I call on families who are actively involved in the life of the church. This all takes place in cooperation with Pastor Rasche and the Membership Committee and with the assistance of the Church Secretary.

In the area of adult work, it can be noted that I led a study group on Church Doctrine, called "Confirmation Refresher," which met on eight Sunday mornings. We held a fall retreat at New Windsor, mostly for Church School Workers, attended by 25 persons. I am an ex officio member of the Spiritual Committee, assisting there with the planning of Fellowship nights, etc., and I also function on the Executive Committee of the United Men's Fellowship.

It is a pleasure to receive the encouraging support of Pastor Rasche and to be able to work at his side, supplementing and assisting, so to speak. I am also deeply appreciative of the supportiveness of the other members of the staff, of the Church Council and of many others of the congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph E. Weisser