

UNITED CHURCH BULLETIN

Official Publication of The Baltimore Federation, United Church of Christ

Volume 1, No. 3

Baltimore, Md.

February, 1962

SECOND ANNUAL CONVOCATION

The second annual Convocation of the congregations of the United Church of Christ in the Baltimore-Washington area will be held at Immanuel Church, Edmondson Avenue and Rolling Road, on Sunday, March 4. Dr. Ben Herbster, newly elected President of the United Church of Christ, will be the featured speaker. He will address the assembled members of the congregations on the theme "Creating and Renewing the Church."

The Rev. Richard Batzler, Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, announced that the group will be the guests of the various Women's Guilds of the Baltimore Area at a buffet supper to be served at 6:00 P.M. in the church dining hall. Leaders of the various areas of concern common to both Evangelical and Reformed and Congregational-Christian churches will be introduced at that time. Dr. Herbster will speak at the evening service to follow. Special music will be presented by a joint choir recruited from U.C.C. churches in the Catonsville area.

This series of Convocations was instituted in 1961 for the purpose of affording the people of our various Communions the opportunity to learn to know each other by personal contact. Approximately 350 people were present at the first gathering, and it is anticipated that an even larger group will participate this year. The Convocation is sponsored jointly by the Baltimore Federation, United Church of Christ, and the Washington Association of Congregational-Christian Churches.

50th ANNIVERSARY

Bethel Church, E. Baltimore St. and Ellwood Ave., will celebrate its 50th Anniversary on Sunday, February 18 and Wednesday, February 21. Begun as the Highland Mission of the German Classis of the Reformed Church in 1911, it received its charter in February, 1912. The Rev. Mr. W. R. Strietelmeier, the congregation's first pastor, is now Pastor Emeritus and will take part in the celebration. The Rev. Dr. Arthur W. Newell will be the guest speaker at the Morning Worship on the 18th. There will be a Congregational Banquet on the 21st. Former members and friends are invited to participate in these observances.

SUNDAY EVENING FORUMS

The January Forum, held at St. Matthew's Church, was well attended by over 100 persons. Rabbi Jacob B. Agus, of Beth El Congregation on Park Heights Avenue, gave a brilliant interpretation of some contemporary trends in the world Jewish community. Plans for future Forum meetings are as follows:

February: The Rev. Richard Batzler, Ph.D., pastor of St. Paul's Church, will be the guest speaker at the Forum to be held on February 11 at St. Luke's Church, Fayette and Carey Streets, at 8:00 P.M. Dr. Batzler's topic will be "Christianity in Russia: Past, Present and Future." Formerly with the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency, he has specialized in Russian history and speaks the language.

March: Instead of the regular Forum in March, The Federation will sponsor the United Church of Christ Convocation at Immanuel Church. See elsewhere in this issue of the BULLETIN for details.

April: The Rev. Dr. Robert V. Moss, Jr., President of Lancaster Theological Seminary, will be the guest speaker at the April 8 meeting of the Forum to be held at Grace Church, 1404 S. Charles Street. Dr. Moss has recently returned from New Delhi, India where he was a delegate from the United Church of Christ to the Third Assembly of the World Council of Churches. His address will center on his observations during the Assembly.

UNITED SEMINARY APPEAL

Invest in the future of your church.
Meet the U.S.A. challenge!

JAPANESE STUDENTS IN BALTIMORE AREA

Synodical Council has advised that students, graduates, and faculty members of the Japan International Christian University are in the Baltimore area for study. It is requested that churches in the Baltimore Federation get in touch with these people, inviting them as speakers, entertaining them on weekends with families, or extending fellowship to them in any way so that the bond between our countries is strengthened through a better understanding of Christian America. Contact the Rev. Albert E. Shenberger, pastor of Immanuel Church, for names and addresses.

WORLD SERVICE CLOTHING DEPOT AT ST. MATTHEW'S

It has become evident that a number of U.C.C. churches in the Baltimore area are not aware of a convenient way to participate more fully in the World Service Clothing Project. Consequently, it is announced that a sub-station for New Windsor has been maintained at St. Matthew's Church for several years.

All congregations, particularly those who have found it a problem to get their used clothing to New Windsor, are urged to consider bringing their contributions to St. Matthew's Church, Mayfield, Norman, and Lake Avenues, Baltimore 13, Md. When a truck-load has been accumulated, the office at New Windsor will be requested to send a vehicle to pick up the clothing donations. In order that each congregation receive due credit, the cartons and bags containing the clothing should be marked as coming from (for example) "Messiah Church, 5615 The Alameda, Baltimore, Maryland."

Used clothing is always acceptable, but it should be wearable and clean. And it should be clothing that is substantial — no flimsy, low-necked dresses or high-heeled shoes. People in need are not interested in the latest styles, but in good, warm clothing to cover their naked and cold bodies. Let's clean out those over-filled closets and give what we no longer need or want to the World Service Clothing Project.

HI-LITES OF THE JANUARY FEDERATION MEETING

The January meeting of the Baltimore Federation was held at United Evangelical Church, East Avenue and Dillon Street, on Thursday evening, January 18. The following items received attention:

- A proposed amendment to the Order of Procedure was presented and acted upon. This amendment will authorize the Executive Council to prepare and present an annual Federation budget. The final adopted budget will then be pro-rated among the member congregations. Final action will be taken at future meetings.
- Reports were heard regarding the 1962 Convocation, Sunday evening Forums, the block newspaper ad, the BULLETIN, and the Baltimore-Washington Home for Aged.
- The Rev. Clayton Wallace, director of church extension, reported progress concerning the new congregation in the Glen Burnie, Maryland area.
- The Rev. Charles Ellet, Director of Research and Planning for the National Capitol Council of Churches, addressed the group on facts and problems encountered in planning for church extension.

A MIRACLE IN WOODLAWN

Last spring, Bethany congregation in Woodlawn purchased the run-down house next to the church parking lot on Gwynn Oak Avenue. This property, needed for expanding activities in the church school and youth department, was bought "in faith" without borrowing money. The cost, low as it was, was taken from a meager treasury.

Then the miracle took place. The men of the church, armed with the tools of all trades (and with just plain "guts") tackled the job. It was not a highly organized project; no blueprints were prepared. One man made decisions and suggested jobs. The men came on Saturdays and during vacations and *worked*. New heating system, new plumbing, new paint, re-plastering, re-worked windows were all done, and the result . . . a fine looking house and additional space for church activities. Renovation costs to date have been less than \$500. The paint was donated; one of the young people painted a picture of our Lord for over the mantle; the ladies put up curtains. No one *pushed*; the Lord just *inspired*. The needs of one church were met for less than \$6,000. This is impossible in a growing suburban area? Of course not . . . Bethany learned that "nothing is impossible with God."

ITEMS OF INTEREST

. . . The Mid-Winter Retreat of the Baltimore Federation of Churchmen's Fellowships was held at Park Community Church, Mohawk Avenue, on Tuesday, January 30. The Rev. George K. Bowers, featured speaker at the Camp Michaux Retreat in September, 1961, addressed the group.

. . . Various Women's Guilds of the Baltimore area will be cooperating in World Day of Prayer services on Friday, March 9. These services are held on an interdenominational basis in several areas of the city, in keeping with a world-wide call to prayer by the Council of Church Women.

. . . The Potomac Synodical meeting of the Women's Guild will be held in Woodstock, Virginia on April 25.

. . . The Baltimore Ministerium is holding a series of special conference meetings centered around the understanding of the basic foundations of our denominational approach to Christian Education.

UNITED CHURCH BULLETIN

Editors for 1961/1962 Season

ROBERT E. BIGGS

HARRY C. CAROLUS

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

UNITED CHURCH BULLETIN

Official Publication of The Baltimore Federation, United Church of Christ

VOLUME 2, No. 3

BALTIMORE, MD.

MAY, 1963

FESTIVAL OF FAITH

The Rev. Dr. Frederick S. Buschmeyer, secretary of the United Church of Christ, will preach the sermon at the Festival of Faith to be held this evening at 8:00 p.m. in the Scottish Rite Temple, at Charles and 39th Streets. General Chairman of the Festival, the Rev. Louis F. Seudmeyer states that a capacity congregation is expected, representing all of the United Church of Christ congregations in the city.

The service will start with a colorful procession led by a choir formed from the combined choirs of our various churches, followed by some 150 boys and girls who are members of the 1963 confirmation groups, the active and retired ministers of the area and officials of the local congregations and their auxiliary organizations. Mr. Marcus Crumm, member of Park Community church, will be the director of the procession, and will be assisted by Miss Florence Hoericks, Mrs. John Royer, Mr. William Trahan and the Rev. Harry C. Carolus.

The Choir, under the direction of Mr. John Grimm, chorister of Immanuel Church, will sing two anthems of rejoicing and praise as a part of the service. Mr. Grimm has chosen "Send Out Thy Light," by Charles Gounod and "Break Forth Into Joy" by Caleb Simper. The various choirs have been rehearsing individually, and have met for joint rehearsal twice within the last two weeks.

Young people of our various churches will be serving as the ushers for the service, under the direction of the Rev. Jan Ports. A general invitation has been extended to the public, and preparations are being made for full participation by all who attend, even if the congregation overflows the Temple auditorium. It is anticipated that this will be a deeply meaningful and significant witness to the community on the part of our United Church congregations.

MAY DINNER MEETING

... Annual Dinner meeting of the Federation was held at Huber Memorial Church on Thursday, May 16, at 6:30. Dr. Ray Frankenfeld, pastor of St. Matthews, opened the meeting with prayer.

... Dr. Archie Hargraves, Secretary of the Department of Urban Church, Division of Church Extension, Board of Homeland Ministries, was introduced by the Rev. Albert Shenberger, and spoke on the minister for metropolitan mission program now operating in a number of cities, and proposed for the Baltimore-Washington metropolitan area.

... Mrs. Catherine Alton was nominated as co-chairman, and Mr. George Klein as vice-chairman. Election was by acclamation. Retiring co-chairman, Carl Gerhold, was accorded a richly deserved rising vote of appreciation.

... Treasurer's annual report indicates a present balance of \$856.60 with all bills paid. Only two churches failed to meet the 1962 assessment, and many have already fulfilled their obligation for 1963.

... Proposed Budget for 1964 was presented for referral to the various church boards. Totalling \$4,000, as did last year's budget, it includes \$100 for a School of Religion, \$750 for newspaper advertising, \$2500 for the church extension office, \$450 for publication of the

United Church Bulletin, \$100 for postage and \$100 for contingencies.

... The Rev. Henry Korinth, pastor of Grace church, will serve as chairman of the Forum Committee in 1964, and the Rev. Richard Bayard, pastor of newly named Church of the Good Shepherd, will edit the United Church Bulletin. ... At Mr. Bayard's request the Federation indicated willingness to help explore possibilities for a lay advisory council which would aid in developing a program for a United Church Center in Harundale Mall.

CURRICULUM WORKSHOPS

On May 27, at St. Matthew's Church, Mayfield and Kentucky Avenues, a curriculum workshop will be held for the teachers of the church school in the Baltimore area. Christian Education Associates from the Synod will lead the study and demonstration, with the group meeting together for the early part of the conference, and dividing off into departmental areas for the remainder of the evening. The Workshop will begin at 7:30 and will continue until approximately two o'clock, and will include sessions for teachers in all age group departments. It will deal exclusively with "new curriculum" materials.

Church School of the area are recruiting representation presently for the Cur-

riculum Workshop to be held at Hood College, on August 4 through 9. Featured will be demonstration classes involving actual teaching situations, under the leadership of national staff members assisted by local teachers. Registration cost is \$36.00, which includes all meals and dormitory facilities. Further information is available from the Rev. Robert Meissner, 1731 E. 35th St., Baltimore 18. Preview orders of the materials will be forthcoming within the next few weeks.

MINISTERIUM NOTES

. . . An action taken at this month's meeting of the United Church of Christ Ministerium, held in Messiah church on May 6, makes it mandatory that all requests for united action on the part of our Baltimore churches be processed through the Federation. Members have noted an increasing tendency on the part of institutions and causes to come into the area and set up meetings and programs according to their own particular desires. The Ministerium has instructed its members to refer all requests for particular emphases to the Federation for approval and scheduling so that fullest possible participation may be enjoyed, and to avoid conflicts of schedule.

. . . Baltimore area pastors and their families will hold their annual picnic meeting on Monday, June 10, at St. John's church at Wilkins Ave. and Rolling Road. Arrangements for the picnic are in the charge of the Minister's Wives and Daughters group, and the pastors and families of the Washington area will be guests of the Ministerium. A number of late afternoon activities are planned, with supper being served at six.

. . . A letter from the Bishop's Players of Chicago, asking for a play date in the Baltimore area in March of 1964, has been referred to the Federation for inclusion on the agenda at the May meeting.

. . . Under the leadership of the pastors who are engaging in the discussions with members of the Roman and Eastern clergy, the Ministerium visited St. Mary's Roman Catholic Seminary, at Belvedere and Roland Aves., toured the institution, had dinner with the student body and enjoyed an hour of relaxed conversation with members of the faculty and administration.

CAMP DATES

The Rev. George Shultz, Jr., Director of Camping at Camp Michaux, has announced the following schedule for this year's camps.

Senior Hi Camp (Grades 11 and 12)

August 11-17, directed by the Rev. Robert D. Myers.

Middle Hi Camps (Grades 9 and 10)

July 7 to 13, directed by the Rev. Mr. Schultz.

July 28 to August 3, directed by the Rev. Robert D. Myers.

Junior Hi Camps (Grades 7 and 8)

July 14 through 20

July 21 through 27, directed by the Rev. William Derstine.

August 4 through 10, directed by the Rev. Henry V. Harman.

Junior Camps (Grades 4 through 6)

July 14 through 20, directed by the Rev. Robert N. Paden.

July 21 through 27, directed by the Revs. James W. Bright, Jr., and Daniel Kasten.

July 28 through August 3, directed by Mr. Carl Henry.

August 11 through 17, directed by Mr. Carl Henry and the Rev. Donald Moul.

Family Camp, August 30 through September 2, directed by the Revs. Albert C. Robinson and Kenneth B. Wentzel.

Post Hi Camp, August 31 through September 2, directed by the Rev. Mr. Shultz.

Cost for the week long camps is \$22.00, this including all fees plus insurance coverage. Cost for the Post Hi Camp is \$12.50, and for the Family Camp a registration fee of \$7.50 per family is set, with \$8.00 additional for adults and children 9 or over, and \$4.00 for children under nine. Folders with registration blank included are available at all churches in the area.

PASTORAL ANNIVERSARIES

Faith and St. Mark's congregation marked the tenth anniversary of the pastorate of the Rev. E. Kenneth Snyder at a special service held on Sunday morning, May 12. Coming as a complete surprise to Mr. Snyder, members of the congregation came forward at the conclusion of the regular service of worship, distributed a flyer listing the details of their pastor's service to them, and presented significant anniversary tokens to him. The service was fittingly closed with a unison praying of the Mizpah Benediction.

Park Community congregation will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the ordination of their pastor, the Rev. Addison H. Groff, with special recognition services on Sunday, June 23, and Tuesday, June 25. Dr. Groff's son, the Rev. Addison K. Groff, who is rector of St. Agnes Episcopal church of East Orange, N.J., will preach at the Sunday morning service, and Dr. Roy Snyder, president of the Potomac Acting Conference, will speak on Tuesday evening. Other organizations, including the Federation, will bring greetings through their representatives. The service on June 25 begins at 8:00 p.m., and will be followed by a reception.