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Update on the Black Church, Volume 5, 1977

William K. Fox

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Up-Date

VOL 5 1-2
Jan-Feb 77

ON THE
BLACK
CHURCH

NATIONAL CONVOCATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Office of the Administrative Secretary Indianapolis, Indiana

Don't Get Hung Up!



Sometimes people get hung up on words like the fish and bear in this picture. In some church discussions, such a word is "program."

For example, the National Convocation of the Christian Church plays an important role in program initiation and development within the Church. Lodgement in the General Office — a major so-called "non-program" unit — does not take away from the important role both the Convocation and the General Office play in developing "the work of the Church" — program.

Don't get stuck on a peg like the fish and the bear and ignore the strategic role the National Convocation of the Christian Church has played — and continues to play in program initiation and development.

General Assembly resolutions (and subsequent program) concerning new congregational establishment, increased support of Third World countries, minimum salary support for ministers, assessment of the status of the Church on racial minority employment, a CMF/CWF study of Black Disciples of Christ history, financial security for Jarvis Christian College,

assistance for college and seminary students, observance of Martin Luther King's birthday as a holiday and the continued strengthening of existing congregations — especially in the inner city — all have direct relationship to National Convocation Board of Trustee concern and effort.

Here is what the Provisional Design — the official guidelines for Disciples of Christ — says about program: "There are two basic emphases in the program or work of the church. The first identifies work for which a particular unit is responsible. The second identifies work which has as its primary purpose providing assistance to another manifestation, unit or institution of the Church to be used by it in the accomplishment of mission for which it is responsible." THE PROVISIONAL DESIGN — GENERAL RULES and POLICIES, June, 1972, p. 48.

The second aspect of "program" is the role the National Convocation of the Christian Church plays. When this is understood clearly by Convocation supporters the word "program" won't hang you up.

W.K. FOX

Disciples in Congress

Five members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be among persons making up the 95th Congress when it convenes in January 1977.

The five, all members of the House of Representatives, are Louis A. Bafalis (R) and Charles E. Bennett (D) of Florida; Billy Lee Evans (D) of Georgia; Ike Skelton (D) of Missouri; and Larry Winn Jr. (R) of Kansas.

Gov. Robert Ray of Iowa, also a member of the Christian Church, is listed among the 50 state governors who will be serving in 1977.

The religious lineup of the new Congress, according to Christianity Today magazine, will include 129 Roman Catholics, 80 United Methodists, 60 Presbyterians, 64 Episcopalians, 55 Baptists, and 144 from various other denominations and sects.

Christian Church News

Here's the Picture

On Members — Membership in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has dipped 1.4 per cent to 1,283,348 in the United States and Canada, according to the Disciples' 1977 Year Book and Directory.

The Disciples have not shown a membership gain in any year since 1964.

Nearly 20 per cent of the church's membership is in the two states of Texas and Missouri. Nearly 60 per cent is in the eight-state arc from Kentucky and Ohio through the Midwest and down into the Southwest.

On Preachers — Of nearly 7,000 ministers listed in the 1977 Year Book and Directory of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 13 per cent have other professions from which they earn their living.

A total of 43 per cent of the 6,928 are fulltime pastors or associates in congregations, ac-

ording to the ministers' directory.

The breakdown includes retired 20 per cent, higher education five per cent, students five per cent, denominational work at regional or general levels four per cent, in ecumenical work three per cent, chaplains three per cent, missionaries two per cent and counseling or other specialized ministries two per cent.

Victory in L.A.

United Christian Church of Los Angeles, Calif. under the leadership of Pastor James A. Lewis, celebrated the retirement of the debt on its Sanctuary with a mortgage burning service on January 30. Dr. Raymond Brown, Vice President of the Board of Church Extension, Indianapolis, Indiana was the keynote speaker. The celebration not only marked the retirement of their debt but also a renewal of their commitment to serve the Lord with joy and thanksgiving.

The Chancel and Youth Choirs of the Church sang at the service and the Senior Choir of Phillips Temple C.M.E. church brought special music. A fellowship dinner, prepared by the C.W.F. followed the morning worship, preceding the mortgage burning celebration.

Participating in the service were Councilman Gilbert Lindsey of the 9th Council District, William Graves, Minister of Phillips Temple, and Dr. Charles Malotte, Executive Pastor, Christian Church Regional Office. The history was prepared by Historian, Elder Carnella Barnes and presented by Vance Martin.

Pastor Lewis was called to serve as Senior Pastor of United 2 1/2 years ago and has recently received his Master of Divinity Degree from Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, IN. and he has the distinct honor of being in the 1975-76 edition of "Who's Who Among Black America."

VOL. V Nos. 1/2

JAN. FEB. 1977

NATIONAL CONVOCATION
OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 1986 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206

Study Task Force Meets

Irving Allen of Hawkins, Texas convened the first meeting of the National Convocation's Interim Steering Committee on Program Evaluation and Planning, February 14-15, 1977, in Indianapolis.

The Task Force proposed to the Board of Directors that the study "assess the effectiveness of current structures of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to deal with concerns and needs of black people in the U.S.A. and propose plans to the Church for improvement."

Convocation trustees were also asked to consider the following as objectives for the Study:

- (1) To examine where we have been, where we are, and where we are going
- (2) To emerge with a vehicle which will enable us to work toward unity and wholeness across the brotherhood.
- (3) To develop a multi-directional communication network to inform the local constituencies.
- (4) To involve more people in the institutional life and work of the Church.
- (5) To provide adequate data on purpose, work, funding, expectations and achievements of all committees and structural vehicles created to implement Black Disciples interest.
- (6) To make the Black Disciples of Christ more visible within church structures, in order to facilitate numerical growth and quality of witness.
- (7) To make a status report on the official commitments of the General Church to the Black constituency (i.e., 1971 Resolution 46, 47, etc.)
- (8) To establish program priorities from the black church perspective.
- (9) To be developed in relationship to 1975 General Assembly Resolution No. 60, concerning "Toward the Mutual Recognition of Members: An Affirmation."

Johnson to Jackson

Clarence L. Johnson Jr., has left his position as director of black ministries in the department of ministry, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), on January 31, 1977, to assume the pastorate of United Christian Church, Jackson, Miss., on February 1, 1977.

Johnson, who joined the staff of the Division of Homeland Ministries on July 1, 1973, was the first professional person to serve in the position created in response to Resolution 47, Concerning Church, Nation and Black Disciples, adopted at the 1971 Louisville General Assembly.

Drs. Kenneth Kuntz and Thomas Wood under whom Johnson served, praised his "outstanding contribution to the support of black ministers," pointing out his development of the Black Ministers' Retreat as an example.

"Johnson's coming was the fulfillment of a dream of the department of ministry," said Dr. Kuntz, "and he developed a significant program for undergirding the development of black ministers in the Christian Church."

Jackson to Indianapolis

Alvin Jackson, minister for the Loudon Avenue Church of Roanoke, Virginia for the past three years, has accepted a call to be the associate pastor of Second Church in Indianapolis, Indiana. He began the new ministry April 1, 1977.

In making the announcement, Dr. Thomas G. Benjamin, pastor, stated that as the "Associate Pastor" Jackson would be his "right arm in all of the pastoral duties of the Church."

Dr. Benjamin said Elder Jackson would coordinate the commissions and act as program director. In addition he will supervise the ministerial staff and assist the pastor in preaching.

Brother Jackson is married to Tina, a teacher in special education.

4. Eastern Seaboard Assemblies Meet -Inspire-Plan

* The 106th Annual Assembly of the Washington and Norfolk District Assembly, Disciples of Christ, met October 7 - 10, 1976 in the Headquarters building in Roper, North Carolina to consider "The Church's Responsibility for Human Needs." Elder W. W. R. Keys is Bishop.

* The 28th Annual and 7th General Session of The Union Assembly of the Churches of Christ, Disciples of Christ, met October 15 - 17, 1976 at Pleasant Grove Church of Christ, Freeman, Virginia with the theme: "Empowered To Be." Elder W. M. Hopson is Bishop.

* The 104th Annual Session of the Goldsboro-Raleigh District Assembly of the Church of Christ (Disciples of Christ) met in Goldsboro, North Carolina, October 20-24, 1976 to climax the annual emphasis on "The Sound from Heaven." Elder J. L. Melvin is Bishop.

* The 104th Annual Assembly of the Western Disciples of Christ convened November 3-7, 1976, in the Assembly Building at Four Oaks, North Carolina. Theme song was "We've Come This Far by Faith." Elder James L. Williams is Chief and Bishop.

* The 49th Annual Session of the Southern Assembly of the Disciples of Christ met November 12-14, 1976, at Sampson Chapel Church of Christ in Clinton, North Carolina. Elder Robert E. Williams is Bishop.

Common features in all assemblies included educational seminars, congregational reports on work done, and strong Biblical preaching.

First Black Associate

Anthony Carpenter, minister of Park Avenue Church, East Orange, New Jersey, accepted a call to become the associate regional minister for the Northeastern Area of the Christian

Church. He began work March 1, 1977 with his principal office located in New York City.

Pastor Carpenter is a minister of the United Church of Christ with dual affiliation with the Disciples of Christ. He had been minister of the Park Avenue Christian Church since October, 1973.

Carpenter is 31 years old and married to Delores Carpenter, an ordained Disciples minister. The Carpenters have two daughters, Jane and Susan.

Blacks and Hispanics

Hispanics from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Chile, Guatemala, Cuba and Argentina were among participants in the initial meeting of the Committee on Black and Hispanic Concerns of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) December 8-10. Seven of the eight Hispanics were born outside the U.S. and are ministers in Christian Church congregations in the U.S.

The three-day meeting was chaired by Dr. William K. Fox with Lucas Torres as the co-chairman. Purpose of the committee, according to Dr. Fox, is "to review the work of the Christian Church as related to Black and Hispanic constituencies," in effort to bring about "a more meaningful, significant and effective witness."

Membership on the committee is church-wide, and it is designed to function as a task force of the Administrative Committee of the General Board.

Among the specific goals to be pursued in 1977 are 1) increased communications in the regions between regional leadership and racial minority congregations, 2) increased evangelistic effort in communities with heavy Black and Hispanic concentrations, 3) improved materials and related tools for doing church work and greater concern for the curriculum needs of Hispanics in church-related institutions of higher education.

Dr. Kenneth L. Teegarden, general minister and president of the church, said that the meeting was "a point of new beginning in the life of the church."

City Hall Confronted



Charles Faulkner, minister of Clark Street Church, Greenville, Texas led a group of sixty Greenville residents in a ninety minute protest about neighborhood conditions to the City Council, January 24.

Streets in the area surrounding the Clark Street Church were almost impassable. Promises to repair had not been met.

Pastor Faulkner said the group wanted a time schedule for completion of work, disregarding weather conditions, and that the street construction be contracted to a private firm rather than using city workers.

Spokesman Faulkner also urged that more blacks be appointed to serve on city committees and study groups.

The Council agreed to make an official response by February 14, 1977.

Teegarden and Affirmative Action

Dr. Kenneth L. Teegarden, the Disciples' general minister and president, equates the church's employing of a Presbyterian to head its Latin America department with efforts to compensate for racism and sexism in church leadership.

In his regular column scheduled for publication February 6 in the church's semi-monthly *The Disciple*, the Christian Church executive asserts:

"Until the day comes when we are blind to a

Christian's denomination, just as we ought to be blind to race and sex, we need to go out of our way to examine non-Disciples for leadership posts."

Presbyterian Ann Douglas, former executive of the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization, became the Disciples' executive secretary for Latin America September 1.

The Disciples have other non-members in general staff positions including Dr. Telfer Mook, a United Church of Christ minister, who has administered Disciples work in India and Nepal for some 10 years. Dr. Mook serves his own denomination as well.

Minister's Wife A Coach



Most ministers' wives sing, teach Sunday School, answer the telephone and type, or perform the tedious, thankless tasks that nobody else wants to do.

Lee Clark, wife of the Rev. Lamar Clark, pastor of United Christian Church, Detroit, Michigan, sings and has a fine lead voice. But Mrs. Clark will soon add a new function for pastor's wives.

Lee is a basketball player. She played guard with her high school team in Parish, Alabama; coached a girl's community team while attending college; and also coached girl's basketball while teaching at Lafayette Senior High School in Lexington, Kentucky.

During the last two years at Lafayette, Mrs. Clark's team had 13-7 and 13-5 records.

Lee Clark is planning to start an athletic program at United Christian for the youth of the area. A major feature of the program will be basketball. And the coach will be Lee Clark.

FOR Whom the Bells Toll

Those who have crossed over

Irving Quay Hurdle, Sr., 59 departed this life on the morning of November 18, 1976 at the Providence Hospital.

He retired in June of 1973 after 32 years of military and civil service and was a part-time employee at the Washington Post from 1959 to present.

I.Q. completed his undergraduate work in Chemistry at Prairie A & M College at Prairie View, Texas and two years of graduate study at American University in Washington, D.C.

His greatest joy was to love his neighbor and help his fellowman. His favorite avocation was working in and for his church, Twelfth Street Christian Church where he has been a member since 1945.

Mr. Hurdle is survived by his wife, Thelma L., one son, Irving Quay, Jr. and wife Claudette; one daughter, Julia Zenobia and husband Hilliard J. Jones; one granddaughter, Iamandette; one sister, Mrs. Z. H. Turner; one brother, Mr. J. R. Hurdle; and many relatives; and many friends.

The eulogy was given November 23, 1976 by Elder George W. Jones, Pastor of the Twelfth Street Church.

Carrie Alice Hampton Bowie; born October 25, 1888 in Loudon County, Va., The first born of six children to the union of Aldolphus and Florence Thurston Hampton; departed this life Tuesday, February 22, 1977.

Her early education was received in the Loudon County schools, at the age of twelve (12) years, she moved to Washington, D.C. to live with her aunt for the purpose of continuing her education. She attended the "Old M Street" High School and Howard Sewing Academy located on the Campus of Howard University.

On February 4, 1914, she was joined in holy matrimony to William Clinton Bowie, of this union four children were born, Bernice, William, Volina and Alice.

She was a member of the Methodist Church, but in May 1917, she joined her husband and was Baptized as a Disciple. As a faithful member in 12th Street Christian Church for a period of sixty years, she served as a loyal member in various capacities.

During her youth she joined Little Gleaners Number 41, Juvenile Society of Queen Mary Household of Ruth Number 86 Grand United Order of Odd Fellows. For seventy-three (73) years of dedicated service she was honored at a Testimonial Banquet in December, 1976.

She is survived by three daughters and one son and host of relatives and friends.

New Life in Kansas City

"All who have contributed to the problem must contribute to the solution of the problem." Acting on this basic belief, Interim Pastor S. S. Myers of Central Church, Kansas City, Missouri — since July 1, 1976 — has led the membership in a drive to liquidate the building debt and revive the spiritual life of the congregation.

The membership has resolved to pay off its \$24,000 debt by October, 1977. Less than fifty pledges have amounted to \$13,500; \$6,000 has been paid in less than six months.

Soon a full-time minister will be called and the work of the congregation expanded.

92nd Burned Out

A report has come to UP-DATE that both the main structure and social hall of 92nd Street Christian Church in Los Angeles, California have been burned out.

The auditorium section burned February 15 and the social March 2. Both fires were of unexplained origin.

92nd Street recently was without a minister. Founding pastor C.W. Arnold and co-pastor Alpha P. Arnold have returned from New York City to provide the congregation interim services.

STAR SUPPORTER CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH NATIONAL CONVOCATION

September 1975 - September 1976
(Individual, Congregations and
Church Organizations)

CHURCHES

Louden Avenue Christian (Roanoke, VA)	103.17
Lakewood Christian (Lakewood, OH)	31.15
Mississippi Blvd. Christian Church (Memphis, TN)	100.00
First Christian (Saginaw, MI)	425.45
Jackson Blvd. Christian Church (Chicago, IL)	50.00
Memorial Blvd. Christian Church (St. Louis, MO)	230.00
Anonymous General Church Staff	20.00
First Christian Church (Winfield, KS)	1,093.00
Central Christian Church (Lexington, KY)	2,000.00
Anonymous-Central Christian Church (St. Louis)	14.00
Stuyvesant Heights Christian (Brooklyn NY)	200.00

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

Memorial Blvd. Christian-CWF (St. L., MO)	100.00
CWF-Stuyvesant Hts. Christian Church	25.00
Mt. Olive E. CMF (Martinsville, VA)	25.00
12th St. Christian Church (Flower Club)	25.00
Minister's Wives Fellowship (Conv.)	3,420.30
Wbster Groves Christian Church (CWF)	6225
Kentucky Christian, Miss. Convention	100.00
Texas Christian Missionary Fellowship	400.00
Alabama Christian Miss. Conv.	150.00
United Christian Church CMF (Cin. OH)	701.00
Gay Lea Christian Church CMF (Nash. TN)	115.00

INDIVIDUAL LISTINGS

Allegood, Michael	2.00	Cherry, Donald	10.00	Gladney, Lillian	1.00
Alphin, William, Mr. & Mrs.	10.00	Clark, Carl W.	2.00	Goings, Milton & Anna	50.00
Amos, Eula	5.00	Cleaver, Helen,	50.00	Graham, Ronald, Dr.	25.00
Anderson, Charles	10.00	Cody, Norma	15.00	Gray, Delbert	1.00
Arnold, Alpha P.	100.00	Coker, Florence	1.00	Green, Elsie, C.	10.00
Barnes, Jack L.	10.00	Cole, Lifford	10.00	Greene, Lorraine	1.00
Barnett, Evelyn	10.00	Coleman, Clidie B.	5.00	Griffin, Eddie, Mrs.	10.00
Bean, Gloria	5.00	Compton, John & Lucile	100.00	Griffin, Mildred	5.00
Berry, Woodville & Addie	10.00	Cromes, John	10.00	Hamlin, Mattie R.	10.00
Bingham, Walter, Dr.	10.00	Cross, Elwood	15.00	Hancock, Frances N.	10.00
Blayton, Olertra	25.00	Cunningham, Gerald	15.00	Harris, Charlotte D.	20.00
Booker, Riley	3.00	Daniels, Albert Mr. & Mrs.	10.00	Hart, Bobbie	5.00
Bradley, Clestine	15.00	Davis, Daniel	10.00	Hart, Elvin	5.00
Bradley, Frank, B.	50.00	Davis, Julia	50.00	Hart, George	10.00
Brent, Virginia	10.00	Demmy, Frank, Sr.	10.00	Hart, Glennie	2.00
Brown, David	25.00	Dickason, Booker T., Jr.	10.00	Hart, Hiram, Sr.	5.00
Brown, Jack	25.00	Dickerson, Johnny	10.00	Hart, Maddie	11.00
Brown, Rosa	5.00	Dickerson, L. L., Mrs.	10.00	Hawkins, Julia	10.00
Buck, Bessie	25.00	Dreese, Velva	10.00	Hicks, Gloria	5.00
Buck, Dule, Jr.	25.00	Eason, Allen, Jr.	10.00	Highbaugh, Delores	265.00
Butler, Matgie	3.00	Ellington, Norman (In honor)	15.00	Hill, Vera	5.00
Callis, Esther T.	10.00	Ellington, Nedra	5.00	Hociota, Margaret D.	15.00
Carpenter, John	10.00	Feiger, Selma M.	10.00	Howard, Ernestine & Jeanne	15.00
Carr, Annabelle	10.00	Fisher, Barry & Eugene	10.00	Howard, Ethel	10.00
Carter, Delores	3.00	Fleming, Charles	10.00	Hudson, DeElla	20.00
Carter, Vivian C.	10.00	Fleming, Willie	15.00	Hull, Ruth R.	10.00
Casey, Carol	1.00	Fletcher, E. Toy	15.00	Hunt, Kenneth	20.00
Cave, Julia	10.00	Foster, Ernestine, R.	10.00	Hunt, Sherman	10.00
Cawthon, Eula	15.00	Fox, William D., Dr. & Mrs.	35.00	Hunter, Elaine	5.00
Chandler, Bessie E., Dr.	15.00	Gallant, Shirley	10.00	Hunter, Laura	10.00
Chaney, William & Mildred	25.00	Gilbert, James L, Rev. & Mrs.	5.00	Hunter, Sara, R.	5.00

THE THOMAS J. GRIFFIN STORY

Every person has a story. The story of Thomas J. Griffin — Mississippi born Disciples of Christ minister — Christian activist — father — husband and singer — continues with excitement and Christian challenge. June 1, 1977, he will succeed Kring Allen as minister of the McCarty Memorial Church, Los Angeles, California. (See story in this UP-DATE issue.)

Pictures:

1. Speaking to Black Disciples of Christ fellowship meetings — Indianola, Miss. — 1976.
2. Conferring with pastors. Left, Frank Garner, Cincinnati, Ohio — 1974
3. Meeting State officials in Africa — Vice-President Tolbert of Liberia is greeted in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania during the Pan African Conference — 1974
4. Joining Geneva — his wife and daughter, Pella — to enrich worship with their singing — Faith Festival, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania — 1975
5. Fellowshiping with church leaders. Right, Michael Saenz — 1972

1.



2.



3.

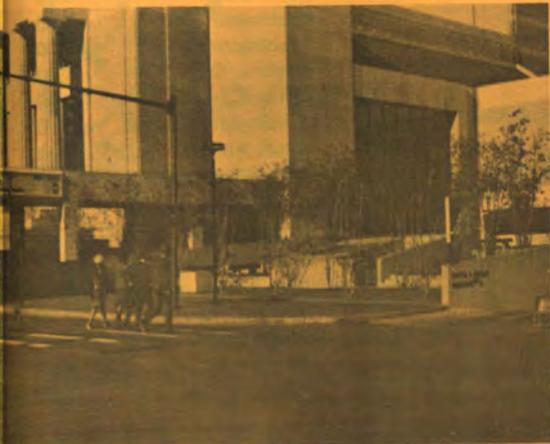
5.

4.



LITTLE ROCK in '78

Plans for the biggest, best and most beautiful National Convocation biennial assembly are now under way for a spiritual awakening in the Convention Center of Little Rock, Arkansas, August 2-6, 1978!



The Convention Center-Robinson Auditorium complex with an underground parking garage housing more than 550 cars, the adjoining Camelot Inn (along side the Arkansas River) with 303 guest rooms, 900 seat banquet hall and the Center Music Hall accommodating 2600 persons.



National Convocation President Oscar Haynes (Washington D.C.) standing (center) joins Program Chairwoman Jackie Bunch (Columbus, Ohio) sitting) in working on preliminary plans with leaders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Arkansas. Seated left to right: T.R. Moore, president of Black Disciples of Christ Arkansas Fellowship; Mrs. Bunch, vice-president of the Convocation; James Rainwater, regional minister; and John R. Compton, minister of Cross Street Church and a host pastor, Little Rock, Arkansas.



Key in coordinating all Little Rock commitments for services and facilities is Ms. Bernetta Hayes, a Center Convention Sales Representative for the Convention Bureau. Here she orients Convocation president, Oscar Haynes, left, and vice-president, Jackie Bunch, right.

10. From Pg. 7

Hylton, S. W. Sr.	10.00	Peters, Beatrice	20.00	Walker, Lucille	1.00
Hylton, III, Samuel & Karen	2.00	Porter, Marjorie	10.00	Warren, Earl	10.00
Hylton, Jr., Rev. and Mrs.	20.00	Powell, Arlena	2.00	Washington, Mary	15.00
Jackson, Alvin O., Rev.	10.00	Preston, Gale, Mr. & Mrs.	10.00	Washington, Mattie	10.00
Jackson, Charlie & Estella	10.00	Preston, Sylvia	10.00	Watkins, Gwendalyn	5.00
Jackson, Edna	10.00	Quinn, L. C.	2.00	Watkins, Mark	1.00
James, Peter	25.00	Range, Ozark, Sr., Mr. & Mrs.	40.00	Watson, Rochelle	5.00
Jenkins, R. L., Mr. & Mrs.	15.00	Ratliff, Ruthie	5.00	Webb, Amelia	15.00
Johnson, Annette	10.00	Redd, John R., Mr. & Mrs.	20.00	Webb, Charles, H.	25.00
Johnson, Gladys, M.	15.00	Reed, Christine	10.00	Webb, Lula Jean	25.00
Johnson, Harold R.	15.00	Reed, Oneida	10.00	Welch, Oneita	5.00
Johnson, Marjorie	10.00	Reid, Dora	10.00	Wesley, Katherine	10.00
Johnson, Richie, Mrs.	5.00	Reid, Frank	15.00	West, Elbert	5.00
Jones, Kenneth R. & Evelyn	5.00	Reid, George H.	10.00	Williams, Edward	10.00
Jordon, R. L., Rev. & Mrs.	10.00	Reid, Governor E., Sr., Mr. & Mrs.	15.00	Wingo, Mae	2.00
Kearse, George, Mr. & Mrs.	20.00	Reid, Governor E., Jr. Mr. & Mrs.	15.00	Winston, Mozella	5.00
Keith, Elizabeth	25.00	Reid, Sharon	10.00	Young, Ernest	10.00
Killan, Roy	10.00	Riggins, Doris	1.00		
Kimbrough, H. L.	10.00	Roberson, Keith J.	10.00	Booker T. Dickason	
King, Dorothy	1.00	Robinson, Gladys	10.00	Star Supporter Promoter	
Lambert, M.L.	15.00	Rodgers, Marian	10.00		
Lemon, Robert L., Mr. & Mrs.	15.00	Ross, Wilbur	15.00		
Lewis, Alice	5.00	Ryland, LaVern	5.00		
Lewis, Dan	10.00	Sakil, Jacob	5.00		
Lewis, J.C.	10.00	Sall, Irene	5.00		
Lewis, Ray & Flora	10.00	Sander, Allen	2.00		
Lockhart, Kathryn	15.00	Saunders, Richard, L.	10.00		
Love, Ethel	10.00	Schroeder, Beatrice	20.00		
Maxin, Tillie	5.00	Schweich, Anderson, Mr. & Mrs.	25.00		
McAlfee, Burt, Mr. & Mrs.	10.00	Selly, Thomas	10.00		
McConico, June	10.00	Simpson, Emma	1.00		
McDuffey, Raymond & Ethel	10.00	Shelton, Ethel R.	15.00		
McKnight, Linda	1.00	Smith, Leslie	10.00		
McPherran, Lewis	10.00	Smith, William Martin	25.00		
Miller, Mary	5.00	Smith, Mary E.	10.00		
Monegain, John	10.00	Smith, Sarah	5.00		
Moody, Johnny Mae	5.00	Smith, Willie & Grace	5.00		
Moore, James	10.00	South, Sarah	20.00		
Moore, Shirley	5.00	Spencer, Alberta	10.00		
More, Nabalía	10.00	Spotford, Lula	5.00		
Morgan, Gloria	100.00	Stanley, Arthur J.	5.00		
Moseley, Robert L., Jr.	65.00	Stevens, Frank	5.00		
Moses, Patricia	10.00	Stone, A. C.	50.00		
Murdough, Charles R.	10.00	Stott, Ruth	15.00		
Murry, Earl, Sr.	10.00	Summers, Emma	25.00		
Myrick, Phil, Mr. & Mrs.	20.00	Tatum, Annie	10.00		
O'Conner, Bessie	5.00	Teagarden, Lyrel	15.00		
Orr, Bessie	10.00	Terry, Fred W.	14.00		
Orr, John	10.00	Thomas, Thelma	10.00		
Overton, Cleo, B.	37.00	Thompson, Pearl	50.00		
Parris, John & Elizabeth	10.00	Thornhill, Florine	10.00		
Peoples, R. H. Rev. & Mrs.	25.00	Turner, Charles, Sr.	10.00		
Penn, L. W.	10.00	Turner, Nellie	5.00		
Penny, Orville	10.00	Vaughn, Granville	25.00		
Perkins, Blanche	10.00	Via, Ray	10.00		

**Send your 1977
contribution to
the National
Convocation of
the Christian
Church Office
NOW!**

Our Colleges



JARVIS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Hawkins, Texas - Ground-breaking on campus March 5, during Founder's Day and Homecoming for a new Physical Education and Health Center launched another spectacular period of facilities expansion projects at Jarvis College.

- During the week of observances, President Earl W. Rand presented:

- * Dr. C. C. Moseley of Jackson, Mississippi in the first series of J. N. ERVIN LECTURES.
- * Dr. T. Garrott Benjamin, noted pastor of Second Christian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana, as the Founder's Day Banquet speaker.
- * and announced Board of Trustee approval for the construction of a new (1) Presidents's Home, (2) Guest House, (3) Religious-Cultural Center for Church, Music and Fine Arts, and (4) additional faculty housing.

1.

- Other highlights of Founder's Day - Homecoming included chemistry lectures; choir concert and historical pageant and a \$15,000 fund-raising effort.

2.

- New Board of Trustee members elected during the December, 1976 meeting were: Michael Rutherford, Hawkins, Texas and Dr. Frank A. Rose, Director of University Associates, Washington, D.C.

3.

Carl T. Rowan, noted journalist, commentator and government diplomat, was the featured Black Heritage Week speaker, February 10.

TOUGALOO COLLEGE

Tougaloo, Mississippi - A variety of choral music presentations took place on the Tougaloo College campus between December, 1976 and March, 1977.

1.

- The annual college choir concert, December 5, in Woodworth Chapel, featured advanced voice and piano students with themes from the "Messiah," Mozart's "Alleluja" and Beethoven's "Sonata in E major, Op. 14, No. 1."

Under the direction of conductor Ariel M. Lovelace, the concert concluded with choruses from Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess" and Scott Joplin's "Treemonisha."

- A Gospel Song Fest constituted by community church choirs, February 13, 1977, brought a record audience to the campus for the high spiritual event.

2.

- The first annual Religious Emphasis Week Banquet took place February 23, with William K. Fox, Assistant to the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as principal speaker. Dr. Fox also met with classes and spoke in chapel.

3.

- Kermit Crauley, recently retired from the staff of Stephens College in Columbus, Missouri, became a volunteer short-term consultant to Tougaloo as of March 1, 1977.

Mr. Crauley has had extensive experience in teaching, personnel relations, administration and public relations.

The educator is a member of First Christian Church in Columbia; been a supply minister in town and country congregations, and for the past two years was moderator of the Christian Church in District Six.

4.

A Social Science Forum on China, February 23, in the Student Union, featured faculty and students from Millsaps College, the University of Mississippi Medical Center; Mississippi Family Health Center; the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, as well as Tougaloo College. The panel dealt with cultural conditions they experienced in the Peoples Republic of China last summer.

Black Writer Succeeds

By Joseph S. Saunders

Misconceptions led to a new life for **Lorenz Graham**, a member of the McCarty Memorial Christian Church, Los Angeles, Ca.

The Disciples of Christ layman had planned to be a teacher, but a trip to Africa changed the direction of his life. While filling a teaching position at Monrovia College in Liberia, Graham learned that "truths" he had heard about the Dark Continent and its people were untruths.

Graham's first book, published in 1946, was of stories from the Bible told in the folk speech of West Africa. The book was so successful that he later used West African folk speech for retelling five other Bible stories: "Every Man Heart Lay Down," "A Road Down in the Sea," "God Wash the World and Start Again," "David He No Fear," and "Hongry Catch the Follish Boy."

Published by Crowell of New York, all included picture illustrations.

This unique way of relating the Bible to area understanding and use of illustrations also has been used by Graham for youthful readers. He did the texts for several paperbacks, such as "The Story of Jesus" and "The Ten Commandments." The pictorial stories similar to comic books in format, gave young readers an image of Bible characters that they could relate to, and drew such comments as "why, Jesus was a real guy!"

Using a style of writing which he calls "true fiction" and in which he draws upon his own experience and those of his family, Graham authored a series of four books about blacks in the United States.

"South Town," published in 1958, told of an ordinary black family living in the south. Graham was born in New Orleans and spent his early life there.

"North Town," second book of the series (1965), finds the family moving north and to integrated schools. Graham's own son went through such an experience.

Continuing the semi-biographical series with historical background, Graham added "Whose Town" (1969). This book covers the period of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., black power and black pride. "Return to South Town," last of the series (1976), explores the crisis in the "new south."

That initial trip to Africa made by Lorenz Graham so far has led to more than 20 books, including five novels. Graham's writings range from stories for children to novelettes for use as junior high textbooks and all have been well received.

He also has used his writing skills to make Shakespeare more understandable, with some of his illustrated versions of the classic dramas being used by high school and college students in their studies.

"Shakespeare was not written to be read," says Graham, "but to be heard and seen."

Graham is an elder in his congregation and member of the General Church Reconciliation Committee.

Christian Church Services

BLACK CHURCH EDUCATORS EVENT

June 9 - 11, 1977

The Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ) headquarters
222 S. Downey Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46219

Your Passport to:
"Examine The Past"
"Experience The Present"
"Explore The Future"

To lift up the role of the Minister and other supportive leaders in the Church as we journey into the past, experience the present and explore possibilities for the future of Christian Education in the Black Church.

John 14:6, John 8:32
Scriptural Basis

Tools for the Job

* Last fall Congress passed Senate Bill 2212 extended the life of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration three years and authorized the agency to spend \$15 million a year on community anti-crime programs. Any congregation which desires to promote such programs and apply for help from the LEAA should secure the support of the local police department or political party and then apply directly to Washington. General Church staff, Gerald Cunningham, at P.O. Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN., can provide additional counsel, if necessary.

* A new curriculum called **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: SHARED APPROACHES** will be completed and available to congregations by March, 1978. The Disciples of Christ have worked with other Christian educators to produce this important tool. Emphasis is on "Knowing, Interpreting, Living, and Doing . . . the Word." Three one-day opportunities for getting to know the materials will be provided in 25 centers during March, April and May of 1978 under the sponsorship of the Christian Board of Publication and the Division of Homeland Ministries. **PLAN NOW TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY.** Check with your Regional Church office.

* **Aids for improved preaching is available** for ministers who attend the "Preaching Resources Seminar" June 5 - 10, 1977 at Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas.

Music directors and leaders of worship can polish their skills at the "Seminar on Worship" July 21 - 26, 1977 at Phillips University, Enid, Oklahoma. Write Thomas E. Wood, Department of Ministry, P.O. Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN., 46206 for information.

* **Black Disciples of Christ Christian educators** concerned about church school teachers and ways to improve Christian education

throughout the Church can get insight at a first national educators event in Indianapolis, June 9-11, 1977. Write Effie Blair, Department of Christian Education, P.O. Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN., 46206 for information.

Black Women Evaluate Work

The Department of Church Women initiated a meeting in Indianapolis last December with Black women from the regions who are in leadership positions in the Christian Women's Fellowship. The purpose of the ad hoc meeting was to discuss leadership needs and explore programming by the Department of Church Women to meet those needs. Black Disciple women were identified in various leadership positions in general, regional and congregational levels. General satisfaction was expressed concerning the visibility of Black Disciple women at the general level of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), but a feeling of powerlessness was expressed concerning participation at the congregational level.

Luz Bacerra, director for social involvement in the department of church women, coordinated the meeting.

The group also looked at needs of Black women in relation to present programming in the regions. Several suggestions were made to the Department of Church Women and to the regional leaders. These include working more closely with regional staff and CWF cabinets to develop programming with Black women; open/enable Black/white communication in regions with separate CWF structures; encourage representation of Black women on regional CWF cabinets and regional boards; participation of CWF Black presidents (in regions with separate structures) at the CWF Staff Fellowship and ICWF Commission meetings and planning of training events for women at the National Convocation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Participants in the meeting were Carnella Barnes, president of the International Christian Women's Fellowship (ICWF); Mary Harris,

chairperson of the CWF constituency, National Convocation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); Effie Blair, director of education, Minority Constituencies, Department of Christian Education; Grace Beale, president, Piedmont Tri-State CWF; Saramary Branham, CWF regional staff, South Carolina; Edna Brown, vice chairperson, CWF constituency, National Convocation; Effie Burford, secretary, CWF constituency, National Convocation; Eliza Cave, president, State CWF, South Carolina; Raye Feltner, CWF regional staff, North Carolina; Geraldine Fountain, president, State CWF, Alabama; Giley Griffin, president, CWF, Texas Christian Missionary Fellowship; Isabell Smith, State CWF, Mississippi; Callena Williams, CWF district president, North Carolina and all the staff of the Department of Church Women.

Gas Stations Provide Health

Gasoline pumps may run dry, but people in rural areas of India will soon have another reason for visiting gas stations.

Health services will be offered as well as automobile maintenance.

Drs. Raj and Mabelle Arole, a husband-and-wife medical team supported by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), believe gas stations may be a means of extending health care to rural villages of India where an estimated 85 percent of the people reside.

A prototype program developed by the Aroles and based on the use of rural gas stations for health purposes has been accepted by the Indian government and will be repeated on a large scale.

Work done by the Aroles at Jamkhed over a six-year period has been supported partially by the Disciples and has attracted world-wide attention. The World Health Organization termed the Aroles' project one of the top nine outstanding mass health programs presented and the government of India adopted it as a model.

Heath on Rockford TV

A television feature program on **Black History** was written and produced by First Christian Church Pastor Daniel W. Heath for showing in Rockford, Illinois, February 13 on WCEE-TV, Channel 23.

"Special" included biographical sketches of Patricia Harris, US Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. There was also an interview with Dr. Charles Washington, one of Rockford's youngest, black physicians. The Brail Chorus and the Choir of the First Christian Church furnished the music for the program.

Laity Sunday Observance on the prior Sunday resulted in "one of the biggest programs in the history of the congregation." Members and community friends were invited "to sing, eat and pray" throughout the day.

The speaker for the morning was Maurice Slay, a prominent church leader as well as an outstanding businessman here in the city.

The afternoon program was Mrs. Margie Sturgis, noted educator, social worker and an appointee to the Parole Board by Ex-Governor Dan Walker.

Griffin to L. A.

Thomas J. Griffin of Indianapolis, Ind., will become senior minister of McCarty Memorial Christian Church in Los Angeles, California May 1.

Griffin leaves a position with the Church Finance Council of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) where he served for seven and one-half years as secretary for Reconciliation, the Disciples' program with racial minorities, the poor and the powerless.

In announcing his return to the pastorate, Griffin said "there are many National Convocation congregations with potential but not leadership. I hope to provide it for one and hope to help the six or seven others in the Los Angeles area where I can."

Dr. Jean Woolfolk, president of the Church Finance Council, said "we are sorry to lose Tom Griffin, but understand his desire to re-

turn to the pastoral ministry.

"We will miss his good work, particularly in the areas of Reconciliation and stewardship. We are grateful for everything he has done through the years," she said.

Griffin has had two periods of service with general offices of the Disciples. His first was from 1957-61 when he was director of church and community service. His second began July 1, 1969, with the finance office.

He also was pastor of University Christian Church, Houston, Texas, from 1961-69, building the congregation from a membership of 30 to 350.

While in Houston, he served as field director for the Disciples' Change-Through-Involvement program, as a consultant for Head Start programs and was a faculty member of the Houston Police-Community Relations program. He also was vice-president of the Texas Disciples.

Griffin also served congregations in Chicago and Oklahoma City. He was a member of the Oklahoma City mayor's Commission on Human Relations.

The Colia, Miss., native is a graduate of Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas. He received the B.D. degree from Garrett Theological Seminary, Evanston, Ill., and did further study at the School of Social Work at Columbia University, New York City, and Bossey Ecumenical Institute, Switzerland.

He and Mrs. Griffin have four sons and one daughter. One son and the daughter will move to Los Angeles with them. Two sons will remain in Indianapolis and one in Washington, D.C., where they are employed.

Vignettes from The Field Among the Congregations

CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES. . . Carnella Barnes, president of the International Christian Womens Fellowship and elders board chairperson for United Christian Church, was recently appointed to the California State Advisory Committee for the United States Commission on Civil Rights.

OHIO, XENIA. . . Carmen Gibson, faculty member at Wilberforce University and former

overseas missionary for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has been speaking on Black Disciples of Christ history in Southern Ohio congregations. A campus student Gospel choir group which Carmen has organized sometimes accompanies her.

MISSOURI, JEFFERSON CITY. . . Ernest J. Newborn, Associate Regional Minister of the Christian Church in Missouri, was elected secretary of the Association of Christian Church Educators during its January 28-31 meeting in Denver, Colorado.

OHIO, CINCINNATI. . . John Compton, pastor of United Church was elected president of the Cincinnati branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He assumed office, January 1, 1977.

MISSOURI, HANNIBAL. . . James Smedley, recent graduate of Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University, was installed as pastor of the Willow Street Church March 13. Dr. Raymond Brown, vice-president of the Board of Church Extension and a former Willow Street pastor, gave the installation message. Brother Smedley was formerly a member of United Church, Detroit, Michigan.

OHIO, DAYTON. . . New and challenging steps were taken by Summit Church during its annual meeting. Two women were accepted as candidates for the eldership. The Christian Men's Fellowship announced the sponsorship of a "Valentine's Day Ball." The latter was promoted as a spirited Christian fellowship event.

NEW JERSEY, EAST ORANGE. . . Park Avenue celebrated its 75th Anniversary last October with a hotel banquet, program and recommitment to Christian mission. The congregation, once led by an L.M.D. Wells and a Sam F. Freeman and all-white, is now predominantly black. Anthony Carpenter has been the pastor.

NEW YORK, BROOKLYN. . . Pastor Richard L. Saunders of Stuyvesant Heights Church launched the congregation in a "Special Effort" February 27 to raise a final \$30,000 to complete the construction of the new Christian Education Center. The total project costs approximately \$300,000 and began in 1975. Because of the strategic location of Stuyvesant Heights, individuals in National Convocation churches have been asked to contribute.

Opportunity For Travel

You can go on a 16-day study trip to the Caribbean and South America, June 18, 1977, for \$1,000 — maybe less if you act now — by contacting Ann Douglas or Walter Cardwell at P.O. Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN.

The church in mission and service in the Caribbean will be studied by participants in a summer Caribbean study tour sponsored by the Division of Overseas Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Venezuela, Jamaica, Haiti and the Dominican Republic will be visited during the tour designed to acquaint Disciples with the cultures of the four countries, to view the Caribbean area through native eyes and to better understand their problems, and to offer an opportunity to worship with Christians in different settings.

The tour will be led by Ann Douglas, executive secretary of the department of Latin America and the Caribbean, and Dr. Walter D. Cardwell, executive secretary of the department of interpretation.

"Juan Marcos Rivera will serve as resource



person in helping tourists relate to people in the four countries and understand the existing economic and political ties with North America," said Miss Douglas.

Rivera, an ecumenical worker with the Provisional Committee for Latin American Evangelical Unity, formerly served on the Disciples' overseas staff in Paraguay and Venezuela.

The study group will leave Miami, Fla., June 18, with six days spent in Venezuela, three in Jamaica, two each in Haiti and the Dominican Republic with return to Miami July 2.

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Up-Date



ON THE
BLACK
CHURCH

NATIONAL CONVOCATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Office of the Administrative Secretary Indianapolis, Indiana



Get Into the Action!

It is impossible for all one million plus members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to attend the General Assembly, be on the General Board or actually go everywhere in North America and five other continents where Disciples of Christ should have a presence. But

there are ways to GET INTO THE ACTION.

For every concerned Black Disciple of Christ this is a must because the Church cannot be wholly Church without your presence and participation. God has given you gifts to share which only you can share.

Jesus commissioned you to "Go. . . and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that. . ." he has "commanded." He promised to be "with you always," (Matthew 28: 19-20) but as the membership has grown beyond the small band of his Disciples, ways had to be found to make the wider Christian witness and responsible presence—**TO GET INTO THE ACTION.**

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) operates on *the representative principle*. This enables you and all members of the Church to get involved for Christ's sake.

"As a member of the whole body of Christ, every person who is or shall become a member of a recognized congregation of the Christian Church thereby holds membership in the region in which that congregation is located and in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada." (See section II of the "Design for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)."

The General Assembly which normally meets "every second year" to "plan and conduct . . . programs for worship, for the education of its members and for the transaction of business . . ." provides for duly elected or appointed representatives of the Church to act on policies, programs, reports and resolutions. (Note section III of the "Design.")

GET INTO the ACTION *continued*

Through the preface of the "DESIGN" our Church officially testifies that "in the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit we are joined to one another in brotherhood and obedience to Christ . . . Transcending all barriers within the human family such as race and culture, the church manifests itself in ordered communities of disciples bound together for worship, for fellowship and for service. . ."

Black Disciples have a particular responsibility for reminding the Church of this commitment under God in Christ. But beyond that to put their bodies, their talents and their influences on the line for Christ's sake and His Church by GETTING INTO THE ACTION.

Make a personal witness. Help meet mission needs. Accept opportunities to serve. Make your individual presence for Jesus Christ felt wherever you are.

For example, here are some ways you can GET INTO THE ACTION *without* being a delegate to the Assembly or a member of a committee, commission, or board:

- Send human and/or financial resources where you can't go. Lay leaders, mission workers and pastors need this support.
- Give constructive advice and ideas to those persons who represent you on committees, commissions and boards.
- Encourage such representatives to report in person and have dialogue with your congregation or concerned church groups.
- Engage your church group and/or official board in a study of recommendations to be presented to a regional or general church assembly.
- Support the sending of delegates from your congregation to regional and general assemblies with the instruction to express the mind of the congregation on selected business matters.
- Be open and willing to be an *active member* of a committee, commission or board whenever appointed or elected. Black Disciple and other racial minority in-put and inter-action is needed in the Church. Every Church leader should not rest until this condition becomes reality.
- Encourage the congregation to which you

belong to put "flesh and bone" on official policies and programs proposed by the Church—both regional and general.

The local congregation is the first place for acting out Christian faith and work.

GET INTO THE ACTION-W.K.F.

Disciples and The Principalities

The Apostle Paul reminds us in Ephesians 6:12 that "we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness . . ."

Multi-national corporations (i.e. General Motors; Ford; General Electric; Goodyear; Standard Oil of California, Caltex, etc.) who operate in places like the Republic of South Africa are often times aligned with such "principalities" and "powers."

Thus, according to General Counsel of the Christian Church, Wade D. Rubick, during the last five years Disciples of Christ have sponsored or co-sponsored, "shareholder resolutions" with eight multi-national corporations which have contributed to improved socio-economic conditions among poor and exploited peoples throughout the world.

Attorney Rubick, who represents Disciples of Christ in this prophetic work, states that these resolutions "have been as diversified as requesting Texaco to terminate its operations in South Africa to asking information on any political involvement, and contributions, if any, by International Telegraph and Telephone in Chile."

Withdrawal of operations in the Republic

UP-DATE VOL.3/4 March/April, 1977

NATIONAL CONVOCATION
OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 1986 Indianapolis, IN 46206

of South Africa has also been requested of Ford and Standard Oil of California "unless and until the South African government has committed itself to ending the legally enforced form of racism called apartheid."

The shareholder resolutions call for the South African government to take "meaningful steps toward the achievement of full political, legal and social rights for the majority population (African, Asian, Coloured).

In March, 1977, the Disciples of Christ, in concert with eight Protestant and Catholic stockholders, moved the General Motors Corporation to cease its expansion in South Africa until "the country finds a solution to its social problems that is 'just and equitable' to all racial groups." Thus GM became the first multi-national corporation, according to Timothy Smith, director of the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility, to link "its business future in South Africa with social and political conditions there. . ."

Black Chaplains Caucus

A task group of 25 Black Chaplains was recently convened by the Chief of Chaplains, U.S. Air Force, at Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C. This group worked through a series of statements identified by a planning committee of Black Chaplains as needing clarification. Assisting them in this process was Dr. Lawrence N. Jones, Dean of the School of Religion, Howard University, Washington, D.C. who served as a resource leader for the group. The following statements were addressed by the group after an introductory presentation by Dr. Jones.

1. The Role of the Minority Chaplains as perceived by self, peers.
2. The Institutional Expectations of the Minority Chaplains.
3. The Role of Worship in Meeting the Needs of a Pluristic Community.

Some of the conclusions reached by the group were: Black Chaplains are willing and capable to assist all persons in meeting their "meetable" needs insofar as they will allow them to do so. They acknowledge their Black cultural heritage and felt a responsibility to the Black community, but that their ministry

is to people of all faith backgrounds.

Among the several needs identified within the multi-racial, multi-cultural, multi-denominational society in which they serve were: Acceptance, Affirmation, Variety of worship experiences, Ethnic participation in the total worship experience, Personal involvement on part of all, and A total religious educational opportunity for children/youth/adults.

One of the highlights of the week was the tour of the Pentagon and an informal dialogue with General David C. Jones, Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force.

Staff Wanted

The Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization has announced the position of Staff Associate for Education and Training. This position is described below. If you are aware of persons who might qualify, please have them send a resume to Mr. Ellsworth G. Stanton, Assistant General Secretary for Personnel and Services (OPS), Room 520, 475 Riverside Dr., New York, New York 10027.

Staff Associate for Education and Training, Division of Church & Society.

Salary Range: \$14,100 - \$16,900

The incumbent identifies sources which impede people's development and fulfillment, and creates training and action programs with churches and communities committed to changing present oppressive systems. Sensitive to the class, racial/cultural and sexual differences within the churches and the wider society, he/she develops resources and networks of communication, including necessary research, experimentation and testing with churches and communities of various change-producing and learning opportunities. As a member of the Division collegial staff, the incumbent exchanges program reports and counsels with other staff members, and participates in overall Division planning, program development, budget building and control.



The two most important women in the life of newly installed pastor Clarence Johnson, United Church, Jackson, Mississippi, smile proudly at the conclusion of the event. At the left is Pastor Johnson with his mother from Greenwood, Mississippi. On the right Mrs. Reubena Fox presents the pastor's wife, Pamela, a token in behalf of the National Convocation Ministers Wives group in Indianapolis.



Principals in the Willie Sims installation service at Fifth Church, Cleveland, Ohio gather around the new pastor and his wife, Lovenia. Left to right, Earl Lawson, Arthur Lewis, James Moak, William Fox, the Sims, Anita Pettigrew, George A. Frazier and Carlizo Cardwell.

New Pastors Installed

Willie J. Sims

March 13, 1977, Willie J. Sims of Louisville, KY was installed as the pastor of Fifth Christian Church in Cleveland, OH. Dr. James A. Moak, moderator of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) brought the installation message and Dr. William K. Fox, Assistant to the General Minister and President, of the Christian Church, conducted the installation ritual. Mrs. Reubena Fox presented Mrs. Sims a special citation and gift in behalf of the Ministers Wives Fellowship of the National Convocation.

James W. Smedley

March 13, 1977, James W. Smedley of Detroit, MI was installed as the pastor of Willow Street Christian Church in Hannibal, MO. Dr. Raymond E. Brown, vice-president of the Board of Church Extension, brought the morning message. Ernest J. Newborn, Associate Regional Minister for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Missouri, conducted the installation ceremony.

Clarence L. Johnson

March 27, 1977, Clarence L. Johnson, Jr. was installed as pastor of the United Christian Church in Jackson, MS. Aaron Johnson, a brother of the new minister and pastor of Disciple congregations in Greenwood and West Point,

MS. brought the message. Dr. William K. Fox, Assistant to the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) addressed the afternoon installation service. William McKnight, Regional Minister for the Mississippi Christian Churches, and Thomas N. Walker, former associate regional minister, gave charges to the new minister and lay leaders, respectively.

Dr. William C. Howland Jr.

The historic "national church" in Washington, D.C. of the 1.3 million member Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) installed a new pastor May 14 and 15 with top denominational executives and government officials taking part.

The National City Christian Church where President Lyndon B. Johnson was honorary elder and where his memorial services were held, was built in 1930 in fulfillment of a dream of one of the founders of the Disciples of Christ, Alexander Campbell.

Dr. William C. Howland Jr., former deputy general minister of the Disciples was installed as senior minister of the church on Thomas Circle, six blocks from the White House.

Howland installation processional assembles at National City Church. Left to right: K.L. Teegarden, General Minister and President; E.L.R. Elson, Chaplain for U.S. Senate; W.C. Howland Jr., Minister installed; W.K. Fox, Assistant to the General Minister and President; J.F. Hotchkin, U.S. Bishops Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs. ▼



Vignettes from The Field



Among the
Congregations

New Jersey, East Orange. . . Momentum given the Park Avenue Church by the Diamond Jubilee Celebration held last Fall, continues to move the church ahead, even as the search goes on for a new minister.

Missouri, Kansas City. . . West Paseo Church sponsored "A Recognition Service and Reception" honoring Dr. M.M. Queen, retiring Minister of Music, March 20, 1977. Dr. Queen had held this position in the congregation from 1932 to 1977. Brother King David Cole is the minister.

Illinois, Chicago. . . Highlights of the current year thus far at the Parkway Garden Church have included sponsoring a third Johnson Publishing Company subscription project and "A Tribute to Earlie P. Byrd" recognition service "For faithful service as a choir director and deacon." Brother John R. Fowlkes is the minister.

Missouri, Kansas City. . . First Christian Church held a mini-pre-Easter revival April 1 and 2 with AREA associate minister James Blair as the preacher. Reports indicate a spiritually enriching meeting. Don and Carol Albright are co-pastors of First Church.

Ohio, Cincinnati. . . H. Marcetta Smith of Fifth Christian Church reports sending copies of the "Black Disciples of Christ Legacy Series" to Chicago where church leaders, belonging to the congregation led by National Baptist Convention, Inc. President Joseph Jackson, used them in Sunday School. The youth of Fifth Church used the series during Black History week and, according to Mrs. Smith, Raymond Walters College, a branch of the University of Cincinnati, will be using the series in their study courses.

Black Church Educators

The first national Black Church Educators' Event emphasizing the "role of the minister and other supportive leaders in the church" will be held June 9 - 11, 1977 in Missions Building, Indianapolis, IN.

Discussions and workshop will revolve around presentations made by Dr. C.T. Vivian, founder and president of the Seminary Without Walls, Shaw Divinity School, Shaw University, Raleigh N.C.

Workshops will also focus on curriculum and Black Church, Christian Education: Shared Approaches (CE:SA), Black Church History/Black Disciples History.



Some time this August when you call somebody in Missions Building, Indianapolis, Indiana, you will find communication vastly improved.

The board of Christian Church Services, Inc. has authorized the installation of an electronic system, which will enable Missions Building residents to:

- Touch-tone dial
- Dial long distance calls direct without operator assistance and have billing information recorded automatically, saving money.
- Receive telephone calls at night on any instrument in the building.
- Transfer a call within the building—or even to another place—without the help of the in-house operator.
- Add a third party to a telephone conversation (set up a three-way conference)—again, without operator assistance.
- Have calls forwarded to another station automatically.
- Answer a phone ringing in the next office simply by punching a pair of code numbers on their touch-tone instrument.
- Know when there is another person trying to get through to them while talking on the telephone.

And so on and on. You all call—you hear?



Leaders Honored

During the 1977 Spring commencement season, Black Disciples of Christ church leaders who have given outstanding service to church and community were recognized with honorary doctorate degrees and citations by Brotherhood colleges. They were:

Robert Hayes Peoples of Indianapolis, IN by Eureka College, Eureka, IL, May 8, 1977. Dr. Peoples, "Dean of Black Disciples of Christ ministers," born in Hollywood, MS, 74 years ago, climbed out of a poor Mississippi one-room school house and into Southern Christian Institute—the former mission school operated by the United Christian Missionary Society—Battling poverty but with a relentless drive to succeed, he worked his way to a B.A. degree in 1927 from Eureka with a major in Religious Education and later (1928—34 summers) a Masters degree from the Divinity School of the University of Chicago. He became head of the department of religious education at Jarvis Christian Institute (1927-1935); national secretary of Negro work under the auspices of the United Christian Missionary Society (1935-1943); and pastor of Second Christian Church in Indianapolis, IN (1943-1969).

Dr. Peoples also received an honorary degree from Jarvis, May 15, 1977.

Raymond Brown of Indianapolis, IN by Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, TX May 15, 1977. Dr. Brown is the first Black professional to be employed by the Board of Church Extension of the Disciples of Christ. Born in Little Rock, AR, educated at Jarvis College and Drake University, Ray has served the church as a pastor (Hannibal, MO), field worker (Piedmont District of Virginia, North Carolina and W. Virginia) and in key offices in the national organizational structure of Black Disciples of Christ. As a staff member of the Board of Church Extension he has enabled predominantly Black and Hispanic congregations to develop their physical plants and program outlook in a phenomenal way during the seven years he has worked for the Board.

P.C. Washington honored - During the May 15, 1977 commencement exercises at Jarvis Christian College, Dr. Peter C. Washington, of Los Angeles, CA, former president of Jarvis, had new Dormitory E building named for him in honor of services he rendered the school. Dr. Washington's liberal art work was done at Eureka College; graduate education at the University of Illinois, Urbana; and seminary preparation at the Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, California.

Since retirement from the pastorate in Berkeley, where he organized the Second Christian Church, which later became Grove Street, he has had three interim ministries in metropolitan Los Angeles.

Dr. Washington has been married to Rosea Washington for 51 years. They are the parents of three children—Marcella Elaine Hill, Rowena Constance Washington and Peter C. Washington, Jr.

Preachers in Institute & Retreat

The Annual Institute for Disciples of Christ Ministers on the Eastern Seaboard was held March 2-4, at the Goldsboro - Raleigh Institute in Goldsboro, North Carolina with mainline lecturer, Dr. Kenneth Earl Henry of the Interdenominational Theological Center of Atlanta, leading more than 125 Black ministers for the second consecutive year. The Theme was "Out of Darkness Into Light"—Acts 26:18.

The Third Annual Black Ministers Retreat, under the cooperative sponsorship of the National Convocation, Department of Ministry, and the National Black Ministers Fellowship, was held April 12-14, at the National City Christian Church in Washington, D.C. Professors in the School of Religion at Howard University and Congressman—minister Walter Fauntroy of Washington, were among the featured speakers. A program presided over by Fellowship President Daniel Heath and coordinated by Dr. William W. Hannah, executive secretary of the department of evangelism and membership for the general church, emphasized "Let our Preaching resound.....the challenge and the promise." More than 115 Black Disciples of Christ ministers from 11 states were in attendance.

New Directions for IFCO

The Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization (IFCO) is for the most part going out of the "grant" business, and will instead emphasize "technical aid" for community groups.

This decision was made by the directors of the organization, founded in 1967 as an independent corporation with interdenominational support, and since last November a program agency of the National Council of Churches.

In its early years, some IFCO grants to African liberation groups generated a good deal of controversy. Its board includes members of community groups as well as funding denominations.

Last year's total budget of nearly \$498,000 came from agencies of six denominations, the YWCA, World Council of Churches, and ten other organizations. Of that amount, \$156,000 was for administration, \$340,000 for designated grants, and the remainder for special programs.

Dr. Lucius Walker, the American Baptist clergyman who heads the NCC Division of Church and Society, said IFCO will send volunteer lawyers, accountants and other professionals to help community groups manage money, apply for tax-exempt status, write foundation proposals, or otherwise carry out their projects.

Mr. Walker said a major reason for the change of emphasis is that "national church agencies that were once reluctant to give money directly to controversial community projects are now willing to do so. They don't feel the need to channel funds through IFCO as they did in the 1960's. We see this as a sign of IFCO's success."

He added that "repression of the Nixon era had a chilling effect on community organizing. Many programs went out of business, and many of those existing have learned how to survive without grants."

Among the 39 groups slated for IFCO technical assistance are a non-profit coal mine in Appalachia, a Hawaiian community association opposing eviction of poor farmers by commercial developers, a black owned cooperative farm, an anti-strip-mining group in Appalachia, and an organization trying to have the sovereignty of the Choctaw Tribe recognized by Mississippi.

Six Crime Fighters Meet

A judge, a lawyer, several ministers and social workers all agreed that many of the failures in the U.S. criminal justice system are caused by lack of community interest and involvement.

"We know the answer to the crime problem," said George W. Crockett Jr., a Detroit Records Court judge. "We know what needs to be done to stem increasing crime. But the power structure is not interested in halting it."

Judge Crockett and eight other resource persons addressed representatives of 17 projects organized under church action for safe and just communities, a program of the department of church in society, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). They were in Detroit for a three-day project development meeting recently.

The projects deal with various phases of crime ranging from school dropouts and juvenile delinquency to drug abuse, prison ministry and the use of ex-offenders as youth counselors. All are attempting to get their communities involved.

Gerald Cunningham, Disciples' director of human rights and criminal justice who in 1976 assisted in the development of the projects, chaired the meeting. Lamar Clark, minister of United Church, was host.

Program participants visited the Wayne County Jail, Records Court and the Equal Justice Council. They also heard presentations by Volunteers in Probation, an agency seeking to develop a one-on-one relationship with offenders and delinquents, and by LaCasa, an agency dealing with Latino Adolescents and their families in the Detroit area.

Correction - Please

Star Supporter Donor List - The report given in the Jan/Feb 1977 issue omitted the following:

Woodland Ave.Church, Columbus,OH,\$220.00
Grove Park Church, Goldsboro, NC, \$25.00

Let Our Preaching Resound

.....Flash Backs
to the
Minister's
Retreat.....

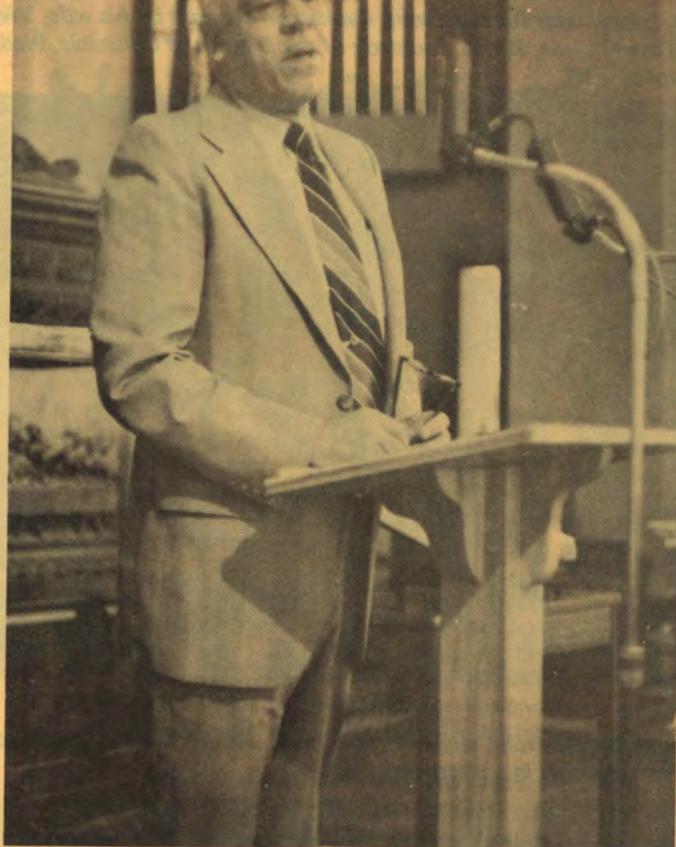
9.
William Hannah, coordinator for the Event, flanked on his right by his wife, Vivian, and on his left, Congressman, Walter Fauntroy of the District of Columbia, Wednesday evening Keynote. ▼



A team of five young people from Jarvis College, drove all the way to Washington to attend. Below two take part in a discussion. ▼



Photos
By
Lillian
Moir



Let Our Preaching Resound

◀ Lawrence N. Jones, dean of the School of Religion at Howard University, was one of five major presenters to the more than 125 Black Disciples of Christ ministers. Jones said "a good preacher knows about the world, where the people live and the language they speak, wrestles with the Bible, recovers the history of Black people and holds a revised view of Revelation."

A study group convened by Emmett J. Dickson and Thomas J. Griffin are held in rapt attention by principal lecturer John B. Eubanks, (with arm raised) professor of the history of religion in the School of Religion, Howard University. ▼



h Backs
he
ister's
reat.....



▲ *The melodius voice of Mrs. Samuel Pleasant of Dallas, TX, was an example of the several worship and devotional features sprinkled throughout the Retreat.*

▼ *Everyone could have a say in the "pow-wow" groups. Above Ted Dickason of Saginaw, MI gets his time as R.L. Saunders of Brooklyn, N.Y. (to Dickason's left) and others listen.*



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Our Colleges



Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas

Jarvis Christian College granted degrees to 93 students during spring commencement Sunday, May 15 at 5:00 P.M. on the campus lawn. Dr. A.R. Lewis, Academic Dean at Jarvis, assisted President Earl W. Rand in the conferring ritual.

Charles H. Webb, Sr., minister of the Park Manor Christian Church, Chicago, Illinois, and former staff member of the United Christian Missionary Society, delivered the Baccalaureate Sermon. Pastor Webb also received an honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree. Dr. Webb served as a pastor in Winston Salem, N.C., and Tulsa, OK, prior to becoming the National Director of Evangelism and Membership Development for the former National Christian Missionary Convention and the United Christian Missionary Society. He has been minister at Park Manor Church for nearly 20 years.

Dr. Frank Rose, member of the Trustee Board of Jarvis and President of University Associates of Washington, D.C. was the commencement speaker.

Dr. Rose, one of the newly elected members of the Jarvis Trustee Board, is the past president of the University of Alabama during the time that Governor Wallace blocked the doors to prevent desegregation.

He is an ordained minister in the Disciples of Christ and served as a minister, a college administrator, a professor of Religion and on numerous Boards of Directors. He was elected to the Hall of Fame for Great Americans and has served as an Army advisor for ROTC Affairs. He was Chairman of the Board for the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Other Black Disciple Church leaders honored during the Commencement Exercises by having new buildings named in their honor were, the

late Rev. William Alphin, Sr., and his wife, the late Mary Alphin of St. Louis, MO. Elder Alphin was one of the pioneer leaders who aided in the organization of the National Christian Missionary Convention in 1917. He served that organization during its formative years. Pastor Alphin was one of the early State Evangelists in the midwest and served as minister of congregations in Kansas City and St. Louis.

Mrs. Alphin was instrumental in organizing the Black Disciple women of Texas to raise the first money for the purchase of land which eventually became the campus of Jarvis Christian College.

Elbie C. Titus of Dallas, Texas also had a new building named in her honor. Mrs. Titus, an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for more than 40 years, has been a leader in the regional life of the church and a constant supporter of national work among both black Disciples of Christ and the whole church. In spite of the fact that she has reached the promised "three score years and ten," she attends all major regional, national and international gatherings of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). She is a member of the Romine Christian Church in Dallas—a congregation founded by her brother, the late Elder L.H. Crawford.

Cont. Pg. 13



Dr. T. Garrett Benjamin, Jr. (Left), Senior Minister at Second Christian Church recently presented a check for \$1000 to Dr. E.W. Rand (Center), President of Jarvis Christian College. Mr. J.T. Fowler (Right), Chairman of the Elder Board at Second Christian and a former alumni of Jarvis was also on hand.

Jarvis Christian College from page 12

The Advanced Summer Enrichment Program for the first year college bound freshman has been scheduled for June 12th through August 5th at Jarvis.

ASEP is an eight week intensive work-study program designed to provide compensatory and enrichment experiences to help students overcome difficulties which might interfere with their academic performance and adjustment to the college environment during their freshman year.

Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Mississippi

● Carl Stokes, news commentator for New York City's WNBC-TV and former mayor of Cleveland, Ohio spoke for Tougaloo College Commencement services held on the campus Sunday, May 8, at 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Stokes addressed 150 seniors, their families and friends on the campus lawn in front of the Mansion, the Administration Building.

Carl Burton Stokes, the great grandson of a slave, for four years was a leader of the activist, big city mayors around the country who were attempting to secure the massive national commitment required to meet the urban crisis.

The 49-year-old Democrat served two, two-year terms as Mayor of Cleveland, having been re-elected on November 4, 1969 by a margin that more than doubled his edge at the polls two years earlier.

On April 17, 1972, after lecturing and doing political organizing at the community level in 12 states and 23 cities, Mr. Stokes joined New York City's WNBC-TV News as a news commentator.

Mr. Stokes produces an Urban Journal for the news-feature segment of WNBC's new two-hour news show. The Urban Journal is a mini-documentary analyzing urban problems in metropolitan New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. He also does a daily commentary about urban and political subjects on NBC network radio.

While Mayor of Cleveland, Mr. Stokes received attention and generally high praise from international, national and local news media for the development and implementation of the Cleveland NOW! program which envisioned a \$1.5 billion, 10 to 12-year effort to revitalize and improve the city and showed how all elements in the community could work together to meet urban needs.

Mr. Stokes was first elected Mayor of Cleveland on November 7, 1967, the first black to be elected chief executive of a major and predominantly white American city. He pledged himself to be mayor of all the people.

● Mrs. Beulah Patton Durr, a member of the 1954 Tougaloo Prep graduating class and 1958 Tougaloo College Class, has been the subject lately of several newspaper and magazine articles and TV reports.

She has received this extensive attention because she was selected as New York State's 1977 Teacher of the Year by the State Education Department.

She was the teacher who exemplified the best teaching in New York State. She was additionally named a "Woman of achievement in Education" by the Syracuse Post-Standard and was honored for this by the Syracuse Federation of Women's Clubs.

Mrs. Durr is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Patton of Clinton. She is a teacher of biology, chemistry, and biochemistry at William Nottingham High School in Syracuse. Before receiving this honor, she had to compete with more than 100 outstanding teachers from across the state.

● Tougaloo College announces that over \$800,000 will be available for students during the 1977/78 academic year.

According to Halbert E. Dockins, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, the amount of financial aid a student may receive is determined by the student's need. To determine the need, Tougaloo College uses the Parent's Confidential Statement of College Scholarship Service or the ACT Family Finance Statement of American College Testing Program. The student is advised to have his parents complete one or the other and mail it to the appropriate office and list Tougaloo College to receive a copy of the needs analysis. These forms may be secured by writing or calling Tougaloo College, Office of Admissions and Financial Aid.

Tougaloo College offers a variety of scholarships and grants: academic, music, athletic, Pre-Engineering, Pre-Health and other named scholarships.

For Whom the Bells Toll



Julia Best Moore, 77, of Princeton, N.C., the widow of the late Chief Roger A. Moore of the Western Disciples of Christ, died March 26, 1977, when fire destroyed her home. A son and brother-in-law also perished in the flames.

Mrs. Moore was known for willingness to help others. The brother-in-law who was living with her had been taken in when he became aged and disabled. Beside being a mother of three, she provided parental care for the three small children of a sister who had an untimely death.

She was an employee in the local public school system; a community worker; past president of Women's Home Mission; and member of the choir in the Cedar Grove Church of Christ, (Disciples of Christ.)

Bishop W.L. Williams of Four Oaks, N.C. delivered the eulogy for each of the deceased.

Arthur Cross of Remus, MI., was deceased April 27, 1977. Elder Cross was the pastor of the Wheatland Church of Christ — a congregation established 100 years ago by his grandfather, Thomas Cross.

The congregation, which was the first one organized in the community, is at West River Road and M66 just two miles north of Remus.

Elder Arthur Cross had been its minister for more than 40 years.

Pastor Cross is survived by his widow who lives on West Remus Road, Remus, MI 49340.

Rufus Charles Maloy of Nashville, TN, died March 18, 1977. He was born November 24, 1893, in Nashville as the fourteenth child of Hattie and Henry Maloy. His sight began to fail when he was fifteen. Eventually blindness came. However, this did not prevent him from full living.

He graduated from the Tennessee School for the Blind in 1916 and began his ministry in 1917 with the Christian Church in Huckleberry Springs, TN. He was ordained the same year in the State Convention, which met in Knoxville with Preston Taylor as president. Elder Maloy became minister of the Gay Street Church in 1923 — then in Nashville on Capitol Hill—

In 1926 he was joined in holy matrimony to

Robbie Ezell, who preceded him in death June 7, 1973.

In 1940 he became the pastor of Alameda Street Christian Church where he served until retirement in 1974 and, eventually, the completion of 55 years of ministry in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

He served as chaplain of the NAACP; was a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge and the Knights of Pythias; a past president of the Bible School Department of the former Tennessee State Convention (for Black Disciples); and was serving as chaplain of the Parkview Community Club.

Survivors include a devoted niece, Annette Jackson; cousins, Levi Cole, Mamie Cole, Blanche Bills, Magalone Herbert and Mae Charles Brown.

W.A. Dansby, minister for the Gay-Lea Church of Nashville, TN., brought the eulogy.

Lawrence Eugene Black of Wichita, KS., was eulogized by C. Ellison Lakes, minister of North Heights Christian Church, March 8, 1977. Mr Black was born May 23, 1921, to Charles Lee and Anna Marie Black in Baynesville, KS. The family moved to Wichita in 1929 where he received his formal education.

He was inducted into the United States Army on October 10, 1942, and discharged with the rank of sergeant on November 17, 1944. A Week later he started his 26 year career with the Wichita Fire Department, retiring May 23, 1971 as a captain.

Brother Black was united in holy matrimony to Sara M. Savage, November 20, 1945.

Active in many civic groups, chairman of the board for the North Branch YMCA, he was also a faithful churchman in North Heights Christian Church. He was serving as chairman of the official Board and President of the congregation.

Survivors include a wife, two brothers, three sisters and a host of relatives and friends.

C.B. and Betty Hutchinson of St. Louis, were deceased on January 22 and April 26, 1977 respectively. Both were in their 89th year and

were nearing their 53rd year of marriage.

Ruth Hutchinson was a native of Higby, MO., and her husband was born in DeSoto, IA. Mr. Hutchinson was a graduate of the University of Iowa at Ames and Drake University. He taught mathematics in the public schools of St. Louis for 30 years and then spent 18 additional years as treasurer of the teacher's Credit Union.

The Hutchinsons were active members of Centennial Christian Church, holding responsible positions throughout their affiliation.

Among the survivors are a daughter, Ruth Dickson of Indianapolis; grandsons, Delbert and Douglas; a granddaughter, Carla; and a host of friends.

Dr. Samuel W. Hylton, Jr., minister at Centennial Church, delivered both eulogies.

Records Systems Tested

A new ministerial records system is being tested by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Missouri, Pennsylvania and the Upper Midwest.

A three-part record will be kept on each of 650 ministers in the three regions, according to Dr. Thomas E. Wood, executive secretary of the department of ministry, in Indianapolis, which is testing the system.

Initially, the ministers will fill out a two-page permanent form, with a one-page update form to be sent out in two or three years. When a minister wishes to change locations, a one-page form will be completed.

Miss Lambrini Stergiopol, director of personnel services for the department, will operate the ministerial relocation program.

"The new program is a frank acknowledgment that in the Christian Church ministers are not 'placed' as our old system implied, but rather the system operates to assist them in relocating," said Dr. Wood.

The new system reduces the number of pages of information on each minister but will be more comprehensive, according to Dr. Wood. "We expect the new system to cut down on errors over the years and to be easier to maintain with up-to-date information," he added.

Just About People

Frank B. Bradley of Washington, D.C., is a trustee of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Capitol Area.

Dr. William L. Miller, Jr., of St Louis, Missouri, president of the Board of Higher Education of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has announced his resignation, effective July 1, 1977.

Willie K. Crum, Jr., of South Carolina, former evangelist for the South Carolina State Convention, graduated from Claflin University in Orangeburg, May 16, 1977.

Larry E. Taylor, of Los Angeles, CA, former pastor of 30th Street and 92nd Street congregations in L.A., has announced the establishment of a new congregation called Faith Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

L.H. Haywood of Dayton, OH, resigned as pastor of the United Christian Church of Xenia, OH, in April, 1977. He has resumed a special higher education program.

Effie Blair, Director of Education for Minority Constituencies - for the general church is author of a feature article in the March, 1977 issue of the *Bethany Guide* on RECOVERING OUR STORY AS BLACK DISCIPLES.

V. James Edner, former Christian Methodist Episcopal minister, now pastor of the First Christian Church of Lynwood, California was recently elected to one of two full four year terms on the board of education. The five member board later elected him clerk. Racial minorities now control the board for the first time in its history.

Lawrence E. Johnson, a lecturer at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis and pastor of predominantly black Scott United Methodist Church, is completing a term of acting director of the Office of Field Education. Office Director Vinton B. Bradshaw was on research leave.

Middleton Coordinator

William J.D. Middleton, formerly of Danville, Illinois, has just completed his first six months in the Indianapolis Missions Building Office of Central Services as personnel services coordinator.

He and his family are members of Second Christian Church, Indianapolis.

Brother Middleton has professional personnel experience with the Hyster Company and Vermillion Education Center in Danville, IL. Since moving to Indianapolis he has been an equal opportunity specialist with HUD. Previously he served as a personnel specialist and recruiter with the U.S. Army.

Business Deadline

June 23, 1977, is the deadline for submitting business items for the fall General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

All items of business must be submitted through the office of the general minister and president to the General Board at least 120 days prior to the General Assembly.

The General Assembly will consider resolutions, reports, definitions of policy and study documents during business sessions Oct. 21-26.

Resolutions may be presented by any congregation, region, recognized institution or administrative unit or may originate with the General Board.

The General Board may recommend approval, disapproval or referral for further study when it considers the business items July 23-26 in Chicago.

Eighteen of the 55 resolutions considered at the General Assembly were proposed by congregations. Ten were approved, seven disapproved and one referred.

Resolutions are expressions of moral, ethical or religious matters and are used as guides for the church in its program operation and as Christian witness to the world.

Rebirth Program

Dr. A.F. Harris of Hyattsville, Maryland has guided Second Washington Chapel, Church of

Christ, (Disciples of Christ) into a character development program for "young males" who have encountered the prison system.

Mrs. Gwendolyn Harris reports that within the past three months "several persons . . . have been released without records."

Another effective program at Second is the year old "Training for Witness" project which began with ten workers and now has 50.

Past Convocation President Nominated

Dr. Samuel W. Hylton Jr., of St. Louis, Missouri, immediate past-president of the National Convocation of the Christian Church and pastor of the Centennial Church for the past sixteen years, has been nominated to be the first vice-moderator of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

The election will take place during the General Assembly of the Church which meets in Kansas City, Missouri, October 21-26, 1977.

Moderators serve two-year terms. Though nominations can be made from the floor, the Disciples have no history of contests for the post.

The moderator presides over a number of church bodies, including the assembly, the General Board and its Administrative Committee.

The first vice-moderator is responsible for program for the 1979 assembly and the second vice-moderator handles business for the assembly, including reports of units, resolutions and study documents.

Judge James A. Noe, Mercer Island, Wash., King County Superior Court judge, is the choice of the church's general nominating committee for moderator of the 1.3 million-member Christian Church.

If elected at the October 21-26 assembly, he would be the first layman to hold the post in 20 years. A laywoman was moderator in 1973-75.

Dr. Joy L. Greer, Little Rock Ark., vice-president of First National Bank, will be nominated as second vice-moderator.



Fires of Unknown Origin



In February and March, 1977, fires of unknown origin destroyed the 92nd Street Christian Church of Los Angeles, CA. All contents were lost and the church was without a permanent place of worship and activity. Temporary quarters were eventually secured in an apartment house for the continuation of the pre-school children's program, and in a community center, for worship.

Elder C.W. Arnold, minister at 92nd., is in process of leading the congregation in a rebuilding program. (Ministerial leadership difficulties caused the C.W. Arnolds to come out of retirement and return from the East to the congregation they had established 34 years ago.)

The congregation needs the help of interested friends and associates. Elder and Mrs. Arnold are alumni of Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, MS. and have been supporters of Black Disciples of Christ work through the nation. —W.K.F.

Pastor Arnold points to the fire damage at 92nd Street Christian Church, 92nd and Fifth, Los Angeles, California. ▶



Correction - Please

In the last issue of UP-DATE, on pg. 6 the article entitled "92nd Burned Out", the sentence - "92nd Street recently was without a minister", should read: "Former minister, Larry Taylor's (services) ended Jan. 23 and C.W. Arnold was recalled from retirement to become "senior minister."

Range Succeeds Johnson

Ozark Range Sr., pastor of Woodland Christian Church, Columbus, Ohio, will become director of black ministries for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) July 1, 1977.

Under the position, established in 1973, Range will be responsible for implementing programs of assistance and support of black Disciples ministers and congregations.

Thomas E. Wood, executive secretary of the department of ministry, in making the announcement said, "Range will fill the vacancy created by the February 1, 1977, resignation of Clarence L. Johnson."

"The department," Wood added, "is pleased that a person of the stature of Ozark Range has elected to fulfill this ministry to ministers. He brings to the position a wealth of experience in both administration and the pastorate that will serve the church well."

Range has served as a member of the General Board of the Christian Church and of its administrative and executive committees. He was treasurer of the National Convocation of the Christian Church for a ten-year period.

Licensed in 1952 and ordained in 1954, Ozark Range during his 25 years as a minister has pastored congregations in Texas, Mississippi and Ohio. His community activities included serving as chairman of the mayor's advisory board on police-community relations at Columbus.

Range has done undergraduate study at Southern Christian Institute and Texas Christian University; and graduate study at Christian Theological Seminary. He is currently enrolled in the Methodist Theological School in Ohio.

Range is a native of Mississippi. His wife, Lydan Smith Range, is a Columbus, Ohio, public school teacher. They have four children.

Men & Women?



During the 1973 General Assembly in Cincinnati, Ohio the Church recommended "that congregations affirm the right of both men and women to serve in equal ways in the duties of the diaconate and, to that end, recommends to congregations that they eliminate separate boards of deacons and deaconesses, and reaffirm the order of the diaconate....."

The departments of Church Men and Church Women are urging Disciples of Christ congregations to study this suggestion in the light of Scripture, tradition and present day social development.

A study resource titled "*One Diaconate: Women and Men Building a Community of Ministry and Service*" will soon be available through Christian Board of Publication.

A leadership cassette should also be secured. Order study guide number 93A1580.

QUESTIONS for CONGREGATIONS

1. Is there an emphasis and program for proclaiming the Gospel and winning new members?
2. Are you a part of a plan to help people who are hurting?
3. Has money given for missions been sent to Church Finance Council, Box 1986, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206?
4. Do women, youth and older people have a part of the action for Christ in your Church?
5. Do people enjoy witnessing to their faith in the congregation? Is spiritual enthusiasm contagious?
6. Does worship strengthen individual devotional life and lift up Christian hope?

Women Elders?

Should women serve as elders in congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)?

Black Disciples, accustomed to thinking of women in roles as choir members, Sunday school teachers and ushers, are wrestling with the question mightily.

Concerned over the apparent resistance to change although the Christian Church had gone on record in support of a single diaconate, Robert H. Peoples, a retired minister and pioneer church leader, conducted a limited survey of major Black Disciples congregations.

"I was more concerned," said Rev. Peoples, "with geographical location and metropolitan status than with numbers. I wanted to gauge the feeling and reaction of big city pastors to the question." He selected 12 congregations based on area and leadership potential for the sample survey.

A Michigan minister offered as reason for his opposition, the definition of elder as "husband of one wife." His source was Paul's letter to Titus which included "men who are blameless, married only once."

Another reluctant minister found refuge in stating that all of those chosen as disciples by Jesus Christ were men.

Ministers of two congregations, one in Missouri and one in New York and each with memberships in excess of 500, indicated that they "were not opposed to women elders" and would like to see them in their churches; but they had not as yet been able to find women to serve in the position.

"The justifications," Peoples stated, "were reminiscent of past usage of isolated Bible passages to support the practice of slavery.

"The parallel is not too far different," Peoples continued, "when you consider that the freedom of women to participate to their fullest extent in religious life is at stake."

There was a 66 percent response to the sample survey, with an equal division between congregations with and without women elders.

Number of women elders ranged from one out of 11 for an Illinois congregation; to four out of 15 for a congregation in California. The four congregations answering in the af-

firmative had an average of 2.5 women on their board of elders.

Ministers of two of the four congregations not having women elders, indicated that they were not opposed to the idea although they evidently were not actively attempting to bring about change.

Major opposition, they claimed, came from the men on their boards.

Black pastors who had successfully made the transition, also experienced initial opposition. They deplored the lack of specific scriptural references, claiming, "such would have been helpful."

In Christ there is "neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female," was the major Bible justification used in support of women elders.

Ministers in addition to quoting from the third chapter of Galatians, stressed the role of women in the church and world today.

"Where would our church be today without women," asked an Ohio minister in selling his congregation.

Another Ohio pastor whose board of elders included three women, expressed himself "well pleased with all of our women elders," adding, "I can't say the same about all the men."

YOU HAVE a STAKE *continued*

speak at the Peace Fellowship Breakfast. Itofo Bokeleale, president of the Church of Christ in Zaire, will speak at the Division of Overseas Ministries dinner.

You have a stake in Kansas City.

Dr. Samuel W. Hylton, pastor of Centennial Christian Church, St. Louis, Mo., has been nominated as first vice-moderator and if elected at Kansas City, will be responsible for the General Assembly program in 1979.

Among the resolutions to be considered are ones on human rights, national health care and welfare reform. All three should be of special interest to Black Disciples.

Included among the 40 interest groups offering guidance and instruction to congregations, will be one on "church development in the inner city." Assembly worship leaders will be Tom and Geneva Griffin whom most of you know.

Undoubtedly, you have a stake in Kansas City! Make every effort to attend!

—Joe Saunders

20.

You Have a Stake in Kansas City!

Black Disciples have a stake in Kansas City, Missouri.

The 1977 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be held there, October 21-26, and it is important that we be present.

Some 10,000 Disciples from throughout the United States and Canada are expected to attend the General Assembly. Blacks compose only a small percentage of the 1,300,000-member Christian Church, but at least five or six hundred of us should be among the 10,000.

You have a stake in Kansas City.

The General Assembly is your opportunity to present your concerns before the church as a whole and to take part in making decisions that may effect your survival and growth within the predominantly white religious body.

Come and discuss and vote. Come and make visible and viable your interest in your church's

future, its witness to the world, and your own Christian faith. Come learn and share your learning.

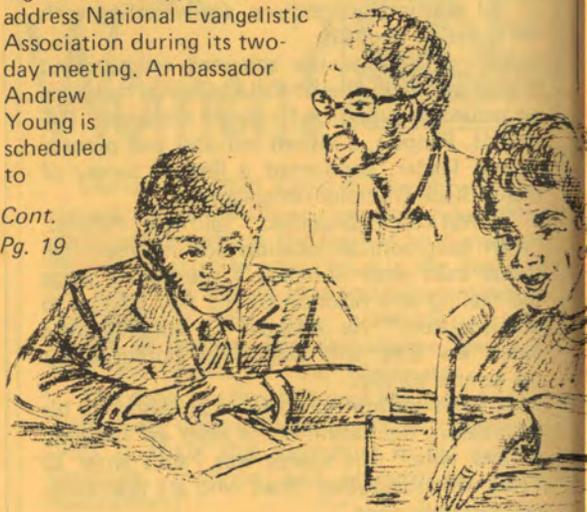
You have a stake in Kansas City!

The business sessions are to be presided over by Dolores Highbaugh, second vice-moderator of the church. Principal speakers will include Benjamin Hooks, successor to Roy Wilkins as executive secretary of the NAACP.

Dr. David R. Shannon, dean of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, will twice address National Evangelistic Association during its two-day meeting. Ambassador

Andrew Young is scheduled to

Cont.
Pg. 19



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ON THE
BLACK
CHURCH

NATIONAL CONVOCATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Office of the Administrative Secretary Indianapolis, Indiana

[5]:
Vol. 5-6
Jul/Aug. 7

“... ON THIS ROCK...”

Several years ago in St. Louis, Missouri the city housing inspection agency condemned the Centennial Christian Church building as being unsafe for use. Laminated arches in the sanctuary had begun to sag. A nine year old boy member, with tears in eyes, knocked frantically on our parsonage door and blurted: “WHAT’S HAPPENED TO MY CHURCH?” Gregory had passed by the building and seen the inspector’s condemnation sign on the front door.



The youngster’s profound question has stayed with me until this day. It reflected ownership. The church building was “his” because some of his most fruitful hours had been spent there. Young Gregory expressed a concern for whatever it was that was disturbing the normal operation of “his” church.

But for me — at least — the lad’s question requires more serious inquiry. For example: What is the Church? and Where is the Church? Questions like these were hidden in Gregory’s tear-splashed face. And they are questions which concerned Christians must ask and answer again and again today.

Surely the Church is people — all of the people — like the people in this picture. People striving in spite of their own human frailty to live the life set before them in Jesus, the Christ. Thus the Church is one parent families; widowed, separated and divorced persons; married couples and single persons; children, youth and older people, receiving; sharing and seeking God’s love through Jesus Christ.

The man from Galilee once put it like this to one of his followers who was much like you and me: “. . .ON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH . . .” (Matthew 16:18 - Amer. Trans.) Peter had just admitted that Jesus was “. . .the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

When a person makes that confession that person becomes a part of the foundation which Jesus Christ uses to continue the life and work of this Church.

Cont. Page 2

"...On This Rock..." from Page 1

Sometimes the followers of Christ feel alone in their struggle against so many forces indifferent or hostile to God's purposes as found in the Church. But we have the assurance that we are never alone.

Wherever a small number or many thousands are gathered in God's Name, there is Christ and his Church. The Bible is the basis for all that we think and do. Much of our understanding of Biblical principles are found in THE DESIGN for the CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ).

We are never alone, THE DESIGN interprets passages like Matthew 16:20 in this way:

"Within the whole family of God on earth, the Church appears wherever believers in Jesus Christ are gathered in his name. Transcending all barriers within the human family such as race and culture, the church manifests itself in ordered communities of disciples bound together for worship, for fellowship and for service, and in varied structures for mission, witness and mutual discipline, and for the nurture and renewal of its members. The nature of the Church, given by Christ, remains constant through the generations. . . All dominion in the Church belongs to Jesus Christ, its Lord and head, and any exercise of authority in the Church on earth stands under his judgement."

It is this Church on the corner of Main and Broad Streets in your town—or the association or assembly of congregations in your state or region—or the general assembly of congregations throughout the U.S.A. and Canada—to which you and I belong. It is this Church through which we strive to achieve personal deliverance and become Disciples of Christ.

YOU AND I NEED TO KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING TO AND IN THIS CHURCH AND HOW WE—WITH GOD'S HELP—CAN HELP IT BECOME MORE EFFECTIVE.

UP-DATE VOL. 5/6 July/Aug. 1977

**NATIONAL CONVOCATION
OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

P.O. Box 1986 Indianapolis, IN 46206

Supports Black Rule in Rhodesia

Dr. R.S. Garfield Todd, a one-time missionary who became prime minister of Rhodesia, said recently in Indianapolis, Ind. that he feels massive economic intervention by the United States and Britain is needed to bring black rule in the African country.

The outspoken Todd, who has spent years under house arrest in Rhodesia, told leaders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) black Africans strongly support President Carter's human rights emphasis and United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young.

Todd went to Rhodesia in 1934 as a missionary of the Disciples of Christ from his native New Zealand. He later became a rancher and member of Parliament, serving as prime minister from 1953 to 1958.

He long has identified with Rhodesian blacks and late last year was an advisor to black nationalists at the Geneva conference on Rhodesia's future.

Dr. Todd said here he feared that if peaceful steps were not taken to assure majority rule in Rhodesia within the next two years that blacks would win their rights in bloody armed struggle.

The visitor, having discussed Rhodesia's situation with Ambassador Young, Vice-President Walter Mondale and other government leaders since his arrival May 30, claimed the U.S. supports his position.

— Christian Church News

Torres to Puerto Rico

The director of program services to Hispanic and bilingual congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has resigned to return to Puerto Rico.

Lucas Torres, Indianapolis, became pastor of Primera Iglesia de Discipulos de Cristo de Candelaria in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, July 15. He had been on the staff of the Department of Evangelism, Division of Homeland Ministries since February, 1973.

Torres was also vice-chairman of the newly formed Church-wide Committee on Black and Hispanic Concerns.

The Department of Evangelism and Membership and the Hispanic Junta of Metropolitan New York City sponsored farewell celebrations for the Torres family.

Torres represented the Disciples of Christ at the International Consultation on Migrant People in Paris, France, in 1972 and at the Consultation on Minority Issues in Kyoto, Japan, in 1974.

He was pastor of Second Christian Church (Spanish) in the Bronx, New York, from 1969-73. Prior to that he pastored congregations in Guaynabo, Vega Alta, Corozal, Rio Piedras, Bayamon and Toa Baja, Puerto Rico.

He was ordained in 1954 at Espinosa, Vega Alta, by the administrative board of the churches in Puerto Rico.

Torres was graduated with the Bachelor of Arts degree in Hispanic studies from the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico and received the Bachelor of Theology degree from Evangelical Seminary, both in 1969. He also attended the University of Puerto Rico at San Juan.

He and his wife, Manuela, have a son, Lucas Torres, III.

Hispanics Receive Property Deeds

With voices raised in song, prayers of thanksgiving and expressions of hope for the future, five Hispanic Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregations celebrated the transfer of the church properties to them in New York City, June 5.

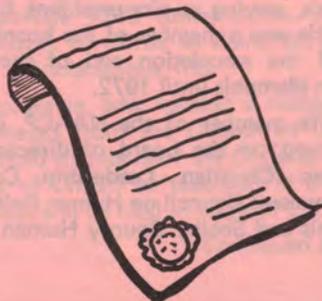
Deeds and titles were presented by Dr. Kenneth A. Kuntz, Indianapolis, Ind., on behalf of the American Christian Missionary Society of New York which has held the titles. Lucas Torres, then of Indianapolis, Ind., presided.

Receiving the documents were ministers and board chairmen from La Hermosa Christian Church, Third Christian Church, Monte Hermon Christian Church, First Spanish Christian Church of Brooklyn and Evangelical Christian Church of the Bronx.

More than 400 members of the congregations participated in the service held at La Hermosa Christian Church.

"The transfer of property represents a joining with the congregations in the fuller life of the whole church, recognizing that the Puerto Rican population in the U.S. is an integral part of the American society," said Dr. Kuntz, president of the Division of Homeland Ministries.

— *Christian Church News*



Hooks to Keynote Assembly

The incoming executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will be among major speakers for the fourth biennial General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) when it meets in Kansas City, MO October 21-26.

Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks of Washington, D.C., an ordained Baptist minister and currently a member of the Federal Communications Commission, will speak on "Empowered by Love to Reconcile," October 23.

Dr. Hooks, 52, became the first black to serve as a member of the Federal Communications Commission, taking office July 5, 1972. He was a lawyer in Memphis, Tenn., where he was born, for almost 20 years.

A former assistant public defender and former criminal court judge in Memphis, Dr. Hooks was ordained by the Baptist Church in 1956. He pastored Middle Baptist Church in Memphis in 1956 and Greater Moriah Baptist Church in Detroit, Mich., in 1964.

Dr. Hooks also was co-founder of the Mutual Federal Savings and Loan Association of Memphis, serving as vice-president from 1955-1969. He was a member of the board of directors of the association and of the Tri-State Bank in Memphis until 1972.

A life member of the NAACP, Dr. Hooks has served on the board of directors of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Tennessee Council on Human Relations, the Memphis and Shelby County Human Relations

Committees and other community organizations.

A graduate of LeMoyne College in Memphis, he received the doctor of jurisprudence degree from DePaul University College of Law in Chicago in 1948. He holds honorary doctorates from three universities.

EMPOWERED
BY
LOVE



GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
KANSAS CITY
OCT. 21-26
77

Stone & Evans Lead Confabs

Leadership conferences for black Disciples of Christ lay persons in several southern states are being led by A.C. Stone of Cincinnati, Ohio and Dr. Lorenzo Evans of Indianapolis, Indiana. The Division of Homeland Ministries' Department of Church Men is sponsoring the events in cooperation with black Disciples state organizations and congregations.

Leader events have been held in South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee. The Alabama

event in April was typical of the kind of state program conducted.

Lay persons considered the theme *The Church Should Be Out There* through the following seminars: (1) Wholesome recreation (2) Care of the whole man (3) Involvement in politics (4) Setting standards for the world (5) Reaching out to the spiritually lost, and (6) Feeding people through hunger coalitions.

Henry Installs Fiddmont

With more than 200 persons in attendance June 26, at Central Church in Kansas City, MO., Dr. Enoch W. Henry, Jr., of Indianapolis, Ind., director of congregational services, installed Norman S. Fiddmont as minister of the congregation.

Dr. Harold Stine, interim area minister-president for the Christian Church of Greater Kansas City, participated.

Dr. S.S. Myers of Kansas City had served as interim pastor following the resignation of the former minister, Claude Walker, a year ago.

Central Church has been termed a "second growth" congregation by the Division of Homeland Ministries. The original congregation was all white and sold the property to black people in 1965 when the neighborhood became 95 per cent black.

The Department of Evangelism and Membership in DHM is making a \$17,000 grant to the congregation over a three-year period. Matching funds will come to Central Church from the Christian Church of Greater Kansas City and the Christian Church in Missouri.

Vote "Yes" on Union Talks

The 1.8 million-member United Church of Christ, meeting in Washington, D.C., July 4 overwhelmingly endorsed two years of preliminary union talks with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

The General Synod of the church acted without debate, then granted the Disciples' chief executive, who was an invited guest, the platform and gave him a standing ovation.

Dr. Kenneth L. Teegarden, Indianapolis, Ind., responded briefly, telling the 703 delegates and more than a thousand other persons that Disciples historically have maintained that the church is "essentially, intentionally and constitutionally" one.

The Disciples' general minister and president said that his own church probably would vote on the same resolution at its General Assembly in Kansas City October 21-26.

The action called for two years of exploratory talks at all levels of church life before a decision whether formally to open union talks between the two denominations.

In Zaire: Celebration— Human Needs

Plans for celebrating the 100th anniversary of the first missionaries to land in Zaire, formerly the Belgian Congo, were revealed by Bishop Bokeleale Itofo Bokambanza, president of the Church of Christ in Zaire, during a recent visit in Indianapolis, Ind.

Dr. Bokeleale, who headed a delegation of seven officials from the Church of Christ in Zaire, invited members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to take part in the observance which will be held in Zaire in 1978.

Continued on Page 6

Zaire from Page 5

"It will be a unique historical event for the church and our country," the Zaire church leader stated, "and a time to express thanks to God."

"The observance will also pay tribute to those missionaries who gave their lives in helping to develop our church and country," he added.

As part of the 100th anniversary, the Church of Christ in Zaire plans to construct a religious temple in Kinshasa, capital city where the church has over a half million members. Dr. Bokeleale expressed the hope that churches throughout the world would help in its construction.

Another development revealed by Bishop Bokeleale, was returning operation of schools to the church by the government of Zaire.

Schools first established by missionaries had been controlled by the government through personnel and materials for several years. Low morale and faulty administration had made the experiment unsuccessful, although the educational budget had been larger than that of the military, he noted.

Dr. Bokeleale asked for the assistance of Disciples and other church leaders in reestablishing a good school system. He cited the need for both materials and personnel.

"There is still a need and desire for missionaries to come to Zaire," Dr. Bokeleale told members of the Christian Church. "Although teachers and skilled personnel are wanted, we also need pastors to work in our local churches."

When asked of the major needs of Zaire, Dr. Bokeleale replied, "help to stand on our own feet." He cited training in all areas as a major priority — university, seminary, technical and craft training, mostly "teaching people to work with their hands."

"We want the church in Zaire," said the Disciple-trained African church leader, "to become the instrument for spiritual, educational, moral and material development."

—*Christian Church News*

Pentecostal Power in Thailand

Remember the sick man by the Pool of Bethesda in the Bible whom Jesus told to pick up his sick bed and walk? Disciples of Christ staff members — Allan and Joan Eubank — serving on the faculty of Thailand Theological Seminary in Chiang Mai, are witnessing Pentecostal power happenings in Thailand everyday.

This June Allan Eubank took a group of Seminary students on a week's evangelistic trip into Northeast Thailand. The following is Allan's account of the miracles God and the Holy Spirit are performing in that part of His Vineyard.

"At Udorn we joined teachers and students of a Bible school and went first to visit a refugee camp in Nongkai on the Mae Kong River across from Laos, where 16,000 people (and more coming all the time) are packed into 9 ft. X 12 ft. bamboo stalls. Even large families must fit into such a small space. Of this 16,000 some 1400 are Christian—about 900 Protestants and 500 Catholics. Many told us they had been there for as long as two years, existing because of the mercy of the Thai Government and the continued help of world relief organizations, including the World Council of Churches. We saw a YMCA sewing school, a Church of Christ in Thailand water tower, and a chapel built by private Thai contributions. Many said they were still hopeful of getting to join relatives in America. We can only turn to God in prayer for the solution to the gigantic task of relocating these people.

The next day as we prepared to visit a village, one of the girls from the Udorn Bible school was taken ill and the doctor diagnosed her problem as a slight kidney infection. It didn't seem serious until suddenly she cried out and fell down with shakes and chattering teeth. They covered her with blankets while someone

Continued on Page 7

Pentecostal Power in Thailand *from Page 6*

called an elder, a teacher, and myself in to pray. We prayed binding evil powers and evil disease, and releasing her from this attack, as we have learned to do from long experience here. In not more than three minutes her body heat had returned and she pushed off the blankets, shook herself and got up to pack her things to go. Every time I saw her during the next four days, smiling, laughing, and witnessing for Christ to the villagers, all I could do was thank God for his power. There are many things in this world that we don't understand; but as we learn to trust in Christ more and more in every situation, we see the power that faith in him has.

The first house we visited when we arrived in the village, was the home of a man who had

Continued on Page 15

Vignettes from The Field



Among the
Congregations

Kentucky, North Middletown—The 110th Anniversary of Second Church was held July 10, 1977, with an all day service. Persons attending were both from in-state and outside, including former members and friends.

Alabama, Birmingham—During the 21st Anniversary Observance of the ministry of Elder

Earl Murray April 24, 1977, as pastor of the Macedonia Church, the following milestones of progress by the congregation were noted: (1) Four acres of property purchased and new building constructed—all debt-free; (2) free lunch service for the community; and (3) a regular morning radio program.

Pastor and Mrs. Murray were commended for their meaningful involvement in both church and community.

Maryland, Hyattsville—A banquet held at the International Inn in Washington, D.C. June 26, 1977, featured the fourteenth anniversary of Pastor/Founder A.F. Harris of the Second Washington Chapel, Church of Christ. Dr. Harris is also the General Evangelist of the Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ General Assembly and treasurer of the Black Ministers and Wives Fellowship of the Capital Area.

Ohio, Cleveland—Under the leadership of Elder Willie J. Sims, recently installed pastor of Fifth Christian, the 496 membership is being nurtured by a "Shepherd Plan." Elders and deacons are guiding the operation of the Plan.

New York, Hempstead—A fifth Anniversary featured event for the Salem Church of Christ Disciples of Christ, Inc. will be a "Mortgage Count-down." An \$18,400 indebtedness on a building loan is all that remains before a joyous mortgage burning. Elder Titus Haynes, CSW, is the pastor.

Michigan, Saginaw—Pastor Booker T. Dickason, Jr. of First Church, recently announced a RENEWED PROGRAM initiated this summer. The renewal emphasis includes: a two week revival; a RE-AD Tutorial Services; a "Pathfinder" program for 4 to 6 year old children; monthly Community-Information Seminars and a Golden Ages Friendship Club.

Indiana, Indianapolis—United Theological College of the West Indies students Winston Worrell and Livingston Malcolm of Barbados are doing field work at Second Church while taking classes at Christian Theological Seminary. Worrell and Malcolm are the house guests of the J.D. Montgomery's during the summer's experience. Dr. T. Garrott Benjamin is minister at Second Church.

Poor Preachers— Poorer Churches

by W.K. Fox

A congregation can really be no more enriched and empowered by God than the respect and financial undergirding it gives to the preacher and the work of the Church. **Poor preachers - poorer churches; poor churches - poorer preachers.**

Sponsoring a "Pastor's Anniversary" program once a year — or once every ten years — won't bring down "showers of blessings" on the minister or the congregation. Don't be mistaken. Every minister appreciates a sincere anniversary observance—especially when an over-and-above love offering is included. But too many black Disciples of Christ congregations have been expecting a "Pentecostal Happening" to result from part-time giving, part-time preaching; a silver offering for benevolences and missions and token financial support of the preacher.

Both preacher and people are at fault if they claim to belong to God but yet allow this to occur. Effort to correct this is both Christian and urgent! Poor preachers — poorer churches!

Jesus states a principle for ministerial support in Matthew 10:10 which needs careful attention. He implies that people who give their lives to church work should not have to "moonlight" in order to have life's necessities. They are not to carry any money in their pockets or extra clothes in a suitcase because the people who receive their services are to provide them with such life-sustaining needs.

One of the saddest letters I receive on my desk is one from the Pension Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) asking for any information I have about the financial needs of a deceased Black minister's wife and family. **None of the congregations served by this minister have ever placed him in the Pension Plan. Those left behind are forced to apply for "ministerial relief."**

In a few days the Pension Fund Committee is able to supply a \$20 or \$30 per month gift

as a token expression of concern — just enough for the water bill and a start on the monthly fuel costs. **Poor churches — poorer preachers — embarrassed families!**

Black Disciples of Christ pastors and congregations need to work harder NOW to develop cooperative plans to sustain the Christian ministry — and thus the life and vitality of the church.

One way is to become a member of the church's Pension Plan. You belong to one where you work. Why not assist your minister to join the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Pension Plan.

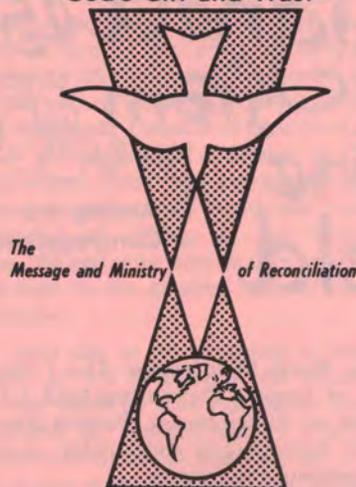
Maybe that message isn't for you. Your congregation and minister already belong. But don't forget the widow of that deceased *minister who never belonged!* She will need — however small — that token gift from the Ministerial Relief and Assistance Fund of the Pension Fund.

It is against the law to use Pension Fund dues to provide such gifts. **This money must come from the giving of the congregations to basic church work needs plus your and my individual designated gifts.**

Twenty-five cents of every ministerial relief and assistance dollar in 1977 must come this

Continued on Page 15

God's Gift and Trust—



Week of the Ministry

Oct. 9-16

Vivian Challenges Black Educators

"Black Church leaders must move from independence to inter-dependence in order to have power at the table." Thus spoke Dr. C.T. Vivian, dean of Shaw Divinity School's "Seminary Without Walls" to 156 black Disciples of Christ educators assembled in Indianapolis from 17 states.

Dr. Vivian declared that "Integration as a vehicle to reach the ultimate has failed because it has been pursued as the end and not the means." The North Carolina churchman urged that guidelines for achieving "power at the table" include "(1) Dealing with basic issues....., (2) Being radical....., (3) Dealing in massive approaches — not token....., (4) Going from imitation (of white life-styles) to initiative..... and (5) from survival to arrival.....(Can we ever arrive if the level is always survival?"

Mrs. Effie Long Blair, director of education for minority constituencies of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) directed the event.

The program, in addition to three Bible lectures by Dr. Vivian, included a series of six workshops covering Black Church history, Christian education, new methods of worship, understanding the Bible, ways of witnessing and conduct of church business meetings.

Workshop leaders for the Black Church Educators Event included Dr. Lorenzo J. Evans, Indianapolis retired church educator; Dr. Per-

cel Alston, secretary of Black Life and Mission, United Church of Christ, New York, N.Y.; Joseph V. Nash, director of the Multi-Ethnic Resource Center, New York.

Yvone V. Delk, secretary for Urban Ministries and Black Church Education, United Church of Christ, New York; Karey E.L. Gee, associate regional minister, the Christian Church in North Carolina; James L. Blair, associate ministers, Christian Church in Greater Kansas City, MO.

Charles H. Webb Sr., pastor of Park Manor Christian Church, Chicago, Ill.; Charles H. Webb Jr., pastor of Pine Street Christian Church, Tulsa, Okla.; and Dr. William W. Hannah, executive secretary of the department of evangelism and membership, Indianapolis.

Black Church Educators Event

ONE TO ONE EXCHANGES, like this one between Willie Watkins-left, of Detroit MI and Robert L. Mathis of Concord, NC brought mutual support and enlightenment.



BLACK CHURCH EDUCATOR

JUNE 9-11, 1977

1. Christian educators came for serious study and interaction. Gladys Robinson of Mobile, AL - right - listens intently to a featured lecture.

2. The Black Disciples of Christ Educator's Event enabled people to be at Missions Building for the first time and meet key church executives. On the right, Junior Green of Fielddale, VA - center - talks with President Robert A. Thomas - left - of the Overseas Division and Effie Blair - right - director of the Educator Event.

3. Every Black Church is inspiring choral music. Heretian Church in Warren, Ga. educators during a meal.

4. Left to right, Dalla W. B. Garner of Lexington, President Kenneth L. T.

Photos by Robert L. Schafer, Jr.

2.



EVENT

is climaxed by spiritually in-
men's chorus of Third Chris-
ts the souls of Christian edu-

of Mt. Sterling KY and Bessie
alk with General Minister and
en during a coffee break.



4.

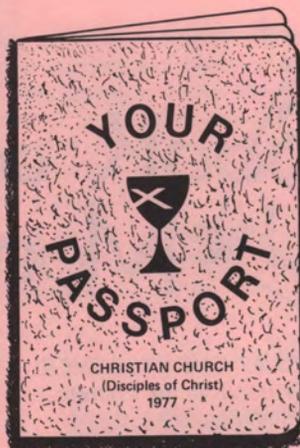


Photos by Robert L. Schafer, Jr.

Black Church events are incomplete without soul searching singing. Here a soloist and the "New Directions" choir of Second Church, Indianapolis, IN perform.

Young adult leaders attending gave every assurance of an improved and effective future educational program in the church. Here - left to right - Dereta Brown and Ella and Albert Pringle of Ridgeville, SC have conversation with Irving Allen of Hawkins, TX.





to
examine
the

PAST

experience
the

PRESENT

explore
the

FUTURE!

John 8:32, 14-6

Tried and proven Christian educators never fade away. Left to right - like Lorenzo Evans of Indianapolis, IN and Charles Webb, Sr. of Chicago, IL, listening with associates to a tape - they continue to GLOW and help others to GROW.





Book of the Month

POT-SHOTS AT THE PREACHER

Handling Criticism in the Church

by James Allen Sparks,

reviewed by Sherman R. Hanson

Often we have passed by a group of persons standing in front of a church building after Sunday services and overheard conversational remarks like: "The altos were off key;" "The flowers were sloppily arranged;" "The sermon was too long." Critics, like the poor, we have always with us. However, criticism does not have to be carping and destructive.

In one congregation we know a few people who had been distracted by one of their pastor's mannerisms just chatted with him about it one evening. He smiled and said: "That would tend to prevent people from concentrating on my message, wouldn't it?" Thereafter he corrected that habit. Criticism can be loving and corrective.

James Allen Sparks, who works as a consultant to churches and their leaders, has conducted many seminars on handling criticism. His contact with church people has given him clear insight into the whats and whys of criticism within congregations. Out of his reflection and analysis he has described, illustrated, and defined a number of techniques for handling criticism in a church. These techniques are reported in Sparks' book, *POT-SHOTS AT THE PREACHER*. That is a catchy title, and it describes part of the book's content. More broadly, though, this book is about the pot-shots church people take at one another.

Contents of this book are divided into two basic sections. Seven chapters in Part One discuss facets of the theme: "Coping With Criticism." In Part Two the author devotes four chapters to "Letting Criticism Work for You." The book closes on a positive and hopeful note, as Sparks writes: ". . .criticism and conflict

in the church is here to stay. The issue for ministers and lay persons is not how to suppress it or avoid it, but how to get comfortable with it, use it, and help others to use it."

POT-SHOTS AT THE PREACHER, Handling Criticism in the Church by James Allen Sparks. 1977. Abingdon. \$4.95. Available from Christian Board of Publication, Bethany Bookstores in St. Louis and Indianapolis, and Catalogue Ordering Center in Kansas City.

Brown Directs New Services

Julia Marie Brown of Cleveland, Ohio, a Mississippian and former public school teacher, became Director of Voluntary Service in the Division of Homeland Ministries, Department of Church in Society, July 1.

Part of Ms. Brown's work will be the mobilization and matching of volunteer's interests and capabilities with concerns of the Church for meeting human need and developing Christian community.

Ms. Brown was a member of Fifth Church in Cleveland, Ohio

**Poor Preachers —
Poorer Churches from Page 8**

way. Contact the Pension Fund today and share your gift as an individual as well as a congregation. Many of the recipients may be related to ministers who once served you. They are leaders you may have known.

Send a contribution to the Pension Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 700 Test Building, 54 Monument Circle, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

*But let the power of the Lord come down and
MAKE ENRICHED PREACHERS—
EMPOWERED CHURCHES!*

Black Elected Officials Subject of Study

Recent elections show an increase in the number of black elected officials in small towns.

A group of faculty and students at Tougaloo College are conducting a survey this summer to identify distinctive characteristics of the new black leaders in small towns, and to identify the characteristics of the newly franchised electorates in these towns. This effort is made possible through a grant from the National Science Foundation of Washington, D.C.

The project will be directed by K.C. Morrison, assistant professor of political science at Tougaloo College. Other Tougaloo faculty involved are Dr. Steve Rozman, chairman of the political science department at Tougaloo, and Dr. Gordon Henderson, professor of political science and director of the computer center at Tougaloo.

Five political science students are assisting. They are Steven Gipson, Ocean Springs; Delores Wedlaw, Yazoo City; Burna Dean Thomas, Bolton; Thaddeus Mayfield, Greenwood; and Henry Osborne, Greenwood.

Focusing initially in Bolton, Mississippi and spreading to Natchez and other small towns in the south, the group seeks to find out, among other things, if there are significant policy implications and if there are significant improvements which the local towns may make on the basis of the group's analysis.

According to Mr. Morrison, it is expected that the results of this project will lead to a major publication depicting the small town.



Pentecostal Power in Thailand from Page 7

been paralyzed for three years. Although he believed in Christ, he was very discouraged because the Christians hadn't visited him in his illness as he felt they should. So he had called in a spirit doctor again. We asked him if he wanted to turn again to God and trust him completely and whether he could forgive the Christians for not visiting him. He said yes. The spirit strings were cut from around his wrists and from his wife's wrists as they rededicated their lives. After reading the third chapter of Acts about Peter and John helping the cripple, we told him. "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk," and he did. The next day he and his wife walked to the side of the lake to join twenty-two others for baptism. I am not able to explain the power of Christ, but I am able to testify to what I saw and heard....."

FOR Whom the Bells Toll



Mrs. Alva S. Brown, who served for almost four years as an associate minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Southwest, died May 28 following a long illness.

Memorial services were held at Denley Drive Christian Church of Dallas, of which she was a charter member. At the time of her death, she was active in University Christian Church of Fort Worth.

Prior to joining the regional staff, Mrs. Brown was with the Tejas Girl Scout Council of Dallas for 18 years. After graduation from Jarvis Christian College, she had taught school and served for three years as director of mis-

sionary organization-education for United Christian Missionary Society.

She also attended Brite Divinity School of Texas Christian University.

Mrs. Brown was president of the Church Women's Staff Fellowship of the Christian Church, nominating committee chairman for Church Women United of Texas and a trustee of Jarvis Christian College.

She had been active in all phases of local congregational life and women's work on all levels (including being regional Christian Women's Fellowship President) and had conducted workshops and camps for women and youth throughout the region. Last summer, she joined 18 other Disciples leaders on a fraternal visit to Africa.

The widow of a Disciples minister, Leonard Brown Sr., Mrs. Brown is survived by two sons, Leonard Jr. of Fort Worth and Barnard of Dallas; two daughters, Belva Jordan of Nolanville and Alva, a Jarvis student; her mother, Mrs. Minnie Shackelford of Dallas; and two brothers, O.B. Shackelford and Emmet Shackelford, both of Dallas.

Friends are making memorial contributions in her name to the Christian Church Foundation of the Christian Church in the Southwest.
from *The Christian Courier*, June, 1977

Summer Happenings...



- College students Robert K. Banks (Pre-med at University of Connecticut) and Marcella Monk (Child Development and Education at Connecticut College) co-directed this summer's youth activity program at Thomas Chapel Church of Christ, (Disciples of Christ) in New Haven.

More than 275 children and youth in one of New Haven's most deprived areas were engaged in a cultural enrichment and character-building program guided by these two young members of The Thomas Chapel congregation.

- The Blue Gargoyle of Chicago sponsored a program of recreation and learning this summer for forty boys and girls trapped in ghetto living. Coach-tutors worked with small groups in the morning on specially designed curriculum materials. Afternoons were free.

Participants returned to a local ground at 5:30 for basketball and academic competition.

The teams were formed as learning and sports teams. Competition encouraged excellence in reading, arithmetic and basketball skills.

Robinson Administers New NBA Facility

Erma Robinson, a registered nurse and wife of a minister, is supervisor of the new intermediate care facility wing of the Bethany Convalescent Hospital in San Jose, California.

Mrs. Robinson is typical of a growing number of racial minority persons being employed by social service and health care institutions related to the National Benevolent Association.

By expanding its services to include an intermediate Care Facility, Bethany is now able to provide nursing services both to those who need full-time care, and to those who need only minimum nursing care.



Supervisor Robinson received her basic training at the San Joaquin County Hospital.

Whitfield Honored



The Reverend J.F. Whitfield was honored by the Twelfth Street church on the occasion of his 83rd birthday on Sunday, March 27. A period set aside in the morning worship as "A Moment with" turned out to be a surprise acclamation of Whitfield, pastor emeritus of Twelfth Street who served the congregation from 1930 to 1960. Expressions of appreciation were given by Sylvia Rousseau for the congregation, Oscar Haynes for the official board, and George Jones, present pastor of the church who spoke for the ministers.

A native of North Carolina and the son of a Disciple minister, Whitfield attended Kingston College, Va., Union University, and Howard University. He taught in the public schools in North Carolina and served as principal of Goldsboro Christian Institute at Goldsboro, N.C.

Whitfield did not limit his efforts to the local church. His influence was felt in civic and interdenominational organizations of the city. He was active during the 30's in sit-ins at restaurants and the bus station. Recently the Committee of 100 Ministers presented Whitfield with a plaque in recognition of his achievements. In the stringent years of the 30's and 40's he took a job at the City Post Office. His civic duties however, never limited his ministering to his parishioners. He was always available for comfort and counsel.

from *The Capital Area Christian*, May 1977

Our Colleges



JARVIS COLLEGE

Upward Bound at Jarvis

Dr. E.W. Rand, President of Jarvis Christian College has announced that the Upward Bound Program sponsored by the United States Office of Health, Education and Welfare (DHEW) will start operation on Jarvis Christian College Campus, August 27, 1977 and will run through May 13, 1978, with 60 students from Hawkins, Mineola, Gladewater, Big Sandy, Winona, Kilgore, Gilmer, Union Hill, Quitman, Winnsboro, Pittsburg, Daingerfield, and Mt. Pleasant.

Upward Bound is a pre-college preparatory program, designed to generate the skills and motivation necessary for success in education beyond high school.

The HEW program offers the student a chance to study contemporary problems, as well as Mathematics, Reading, English, and Science. It offers to students of above average potential and below average opportunity, the motivation and added academic preparation necessary for college.

Students receive a \$5.00 stipend for the four hour long session each Saturday during the thirty-two week program.

Clark Street Gives \$1500

A special "JARVIS DAY OBSERVANCE" program May 15, in the Clark Street Church of Greenville, Texas was highlighted with a gift to Jarvis of \$1500 from the congregation.

Pastor Charles L. Faulkner presented the

check to Jarvis President Earl W. Rand, stating the money was a contribution to the proposed Church and Religious Center project at Jarvis.

Clark Street's CWF/CMF sponsored the observance at which Mac D. Johnson, director of recruitment and admissions at Jarvis, spoke and the Jarvis Choir, directed by Frank Perry Jr., sang.

Some thirty former Jarvisites living in the Greenville area were in attendance.

TOUGALOO COLLEGE

A Report from the Division of Natural Sciences at Tougaloo College reveals that graduates from the class of 1977 have been admitted to graduate schools to pursue degrees in health related fields. They have also received word that a 1975 graduate has been admitted to medical school.

Students accepting offers to medical school have been Lloyd Booker of Tutwiler, University of Iowa; James Coleman of Cleveland, University of Mississippi; 1975 graduate Will Kent Gee, Meharry Medical College; Michael Gibson, Tufts; Obie Michael McNair, Jackson, Tufts; and Issac Perkins, Greenwood, Harvard Univ.

Miss Patricia Wade of Jackson has been admitted to the MD/PH.D program in biochemistry at Yale University.

Dental school acceptances include Gloria Johnson, Shaw, University of Iowa; Joseph Johnson Jr., Hollandale, Tufts; Randy Love, Itta Bena, University of Mississippi; Teresa Mixon Perkins, Jackson, Harvard University; and Dellwyn Turnipseed, Greenville, University of Mississippi.

Three graduates will attend the School of Medical Technology at the University of Mississippi. They are Deborah Clarke, Yazoo City; Fannie Collier, Jackson; and Deborah Luckett. De'Andra Johnson of Natchez will concentrate in medical technology at Meharry Medical College in Nashville.

Graduate school admissions include Michelle Byrd, Shaw, University of Iowa in Microbiology; and Catherine Thompson Ayewoh, Jackson, Miami University, Ohio.

Miss Freddie Gehazi Williams of Madison, a music/psychology major has fellowships to both Ohio University and Washington University in St. Louis.

Stewart Scott has been awarded an engineering scholarship by the Engineering Scholarship Program for Minority Community College Graduates of the College Entrance Examination Board. He will enter Georgia Institute of Technology's Engineering School in the fall.

Mobil Oil has employed Mary Sellers '77, in sales. Joe Helen Minor has accepted employment from E.I. DuPont De Nemours & Company, Pigments Department, Edge Moor, Delaware. She is Group Supervisor-Control Lab-in-training.

Three '77 graduates have full time employment with Monsanto and Textiles Company. They are Kennedy C. Coleman, Gloria Johnson and Irma Thompson.

1977-78 Corning Scholar

Miss Cassandra Green, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glendell Green, of Moss Point, has been named 1977-78 Corning Scholar of the year by Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Mississippi.

Cassandra, a prospective computer science, mathematics major, was awarded the scholarship on the basis of her academic excellence at Moss Point High School, and her outstanding civic and community involvement.

The Corning Scholarship Program at Tougaloo is in the amount of \$2,800. This covers the cost of tuition, fees, books, room and board and a personal allowance. The scholarship, supported by Corning Glass of New York is designed to produce highly qualified persons to serve the scientific and technical needs of our society.

CBS Scholars Named

Three Tougaloo College students have been selected to receive endowed CBS Scholarships for the 1977-78 academic year. The scholarships will cover the complete costs of educating each of these students for the full academic year.

Scholars named were Carl Reddix, a chemistry major, who will be a sophomore next year, Melvin Burton a 1977-78 junior chemistry/bi-

ology major, and Ruth E. Williams Patterson, a 1977-78 senior chemistry major.

These scholarships were made possible by a \$200,000 grant awarded Tougaloo by the CBS Foundation of New York during the 1975-76 academic year.

Selection for the scholarships is based on faculty evaluation, academic work, demonstrated leadership on campus, and potential for making a substantial contribution to society.

Carl Reddix is a native of Biloxi, Mississippi. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Reddix, he is a president's scholar and was named most likely to succeed in the freshman class. He is a member of the pre-engineering and physical sciences club (PEPS), the pre-health club and was freshman club treasurer.

A graduate of Biloxi Senior High School, Mr. Reddix was president of his high school student body and was a member of the marching and symphony bands for three years.

Melvin D. Burton, son of Mrs. Virginia D. Burton of Shaw, Mississippi, is a president's list and dean's list scholar. He has been a recipient of the freshman chemistry award, the CRC Chemistry award and biology achievement award. He is a member of the pre-health club, pre-engineering club and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.

Mrs. Ruth E. Williams Patterson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Williams, Sr. of Jackson, Mississippi. Her leadership roles have included serving as president of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society, participating as a recruiter to high school students interested in pre-med careers, and serving as a tutor to students in the Health Science summer program '75.

She has participated in the sophomore orientation week at Mobil Oil, in a summer research program at Yale University and in the Brookhaven Semester Program at Brookhaven National Labs.

She is a member of the pre-health club, the ivy leaf social club, of the Black Student Expo Committee and served as a student leader of freshman orientation week.

Retreat for Minister's Wives

Lucile A. Compton of Cincinnati, Ohio, president of the National Ministers' Wives Fellowship — affiliated with the National Convocation of the Christian Church — is calling for the wives to meet in Retreat September 9 - 11, 1977, at Mercy Center in Cincinnati.

The retreat will include program, two night's lodging in a beautiful facility and five meals for only \$35.00.

Pre-registration of \$15.00 should be sent to Mrs. Compton NOW.

The Retreat program will include consideration of: (1) A Profile of a Minister's Wife; (2) Discussion of Scholarship Fund promotion; (3) Presentations on the role of the minister's wife by a lay woman and a pastor's wife; and (4) National Convocation concerns.

The fellowship begins with 6:00 o'clock dinner on Friday, Sept. 9 and closes Sunday, Sept. 11, at 10:30 a.m.

President Lucile Compton — extreme left — conversing with ministers' wives who will be present at the first national retreat. L. to R. — Mesdames Zellie Peoples, Reubena Fox, Mammie Garner and Shirley Miller.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)
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Up-Date

Vol 5: 7-8
Fall-1977
water

ON THE
BLACK
CHURCH

NATIONAL CONVOCATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Office of the Administrative Secretary Indianapolis, Indiana

"Prime The Pump"

Persons who are forty years of age and older may remember what it was to prime a pump. In order to get some water out of it you had to put some water in.

There is an inexhaustible quantity of water several feet below the water table. But the pump needed a little water poured in from the top so enough suction could be created to pull it up.

The report in this issue of National Convocation congregations who lead in giving to outreach causes is designed to serve the same purpose for the Church. (A complete report on all churches is available in the National Convocation Office.)

"You can't beat God in giving." So goes one of our favorite gospel songs. Truly He is blessing the members in our congregations every day. When we look at the needy in the Third World nations today, our poor must be seen as "affluent poor." Few of us have to miss any meals. Most of us-if we desire-own something, have a change of clothes, have some money to spend on a few things we want.

This report is designed to **prime the pump** of financial resources among the members of your congregation—to **get under the water-table where the inexhaustible riches of God's blessing reside.**

You can help prime the pump for God in your congregation by encouraging: **Giving as much for others** (i.e. John 3:16 - mission causes of higher education, church development and evangelism, leader development etc.), **as is given for yourselves—as a congregation** (i.e. building construction and maintenance, equipment, bus trips, salaries etc.)

Regular contributions for church-wide support in behalf of your congregation to the Church Finance Council of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Box 1986 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206. (This used to be Unified Promotion.) Giving to Basic Mission Finance helps us carry out the Great Commission -Matt. 28: 18-20.

Continued Page 2



An Increase But....

The Church Finance Council of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in its report for the year ending June 30, 1977, listed basic mission finance giving as \$12,710,710.57 including interest on short term investments, compared with \$12,147,432.08 for the 1975-76 year.

The report indicated an overall 4.64 per cent increase in 1976-77 over the previous year.

"Although we are grateful for the increase," said Arthur M. Detamore, vice president of CFC, "it is a painful fact that the giving did not keep pace with the increased cost of

doing the Lord's work."

A study conducted by the Commission on Private Philanthropy and Public Needs indicates that "charities must achieve an 11 per cent annual growth if they are to maintain their levels of operations."

Christian Church News

"PRIME THE PUMP" from Page 1

People to enjoy Christian living by following Jesus Christ in a life of sharing and helpfulness to others. Every congregation should have as challenging outreach giving goals as it has challenges to construct buildings or go on week-end excursion trips.

LET'S PRIME THE PUMP!

Heading the Pack

The NATIONAL CONVOCATION'S \$1000 Outreach Dollar Club - 1976 - 1977

■ Group I

1. Second-Indianapolis	\$13,090.75
2. United-Cincinnati	\$ 5,765.00
3. Park Manor-Chicago	\$ 5,835.00
4. United-Los Angeles	\$ 2,600.00
5. Third-Louisville	\$ 2,594.93
6. Summit-Dayton	\$ 2,232.00

■ Group II

7. Fifth-Cleveland	\$ 1,960.00
8. W. Paseo-Kansas City	\$ 1,918.25
9. Central-Kansas City	\$ 1,493.08
10. Fayette St.-Martinsville	\$ 1,464.47
11. Stuyvesant Hts. Brooklyn	\$ 1,354.92

■ Group III

12. Grove Park, Kinston, NC	\$ 1,251.46
13. Fifth, Cinn.	\$ 1,050.00
14. Warren Ave.-Dallas	\$ 1,015.77
15. Parkway Garden-Chicago	\$ 1,000.00
16. Loudon Ave.-Roanoke	\$ 1,000.00
17. Mills Grove, Oakland	\$ 1,000.00

These are the total amounts of money given for Basic Mission Finance, Black Church Support, Capital, Reconciliation, Week of Compassion.

Church and World's Poor

An Ecuadorean missionary of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), ousted from Paraguay for his organizing work among peasants and Indians, believes that the world's rural poor may be the key to solving Third World problems.

But speaking from experience, Victor Vaca, himself part Indian, concludes that work among the poor is some of the church's most dangerous involvement.

"When people want to change a situation, the government wants to crush," observes Vaca, a sociologist. "In Mexico recently two priests were killed. Countries all over Latin America, it is the same."

Vaca is now on the staff of the World Council of Churches, in Geneva Switzerland, attempting to coordinate rural work in all of Latin America and Africa. He recently also became the volunteer executive of an international, interfaith group on human development.

"In the New Testament, Jesus identified with the poor and rural people," he says. "He sought love and justice. Building a community, economic as well as religious, is the task."

Seminary Study Begins

A church-wide group has begun an evaluation of seminary education within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Study group members, appointed by moderator Dr. James A. Moak of Lexington, Ky., are:

Dr. Oliver C. Schroeder, Cleveland Ohio, law professor at Case Western Reserve University and head of the law-medicine department, study group chairman.

Dr. Harry Baker Adams, New Haven, Conn., assistant dean of Yale Divinity School.

Dr. Eugene W. Brice, Tulsa, Okla., pastor of First Christian Church.

Dr. Kenneth E. Henry, Atlanta, Ga., associate professor of church history at Interdenominational Theological Center.

Mrs. Margaret B. Wilkes, North Hollywood, Calif., member of the General Board and former first vice-moderator of the church.

The group also will consult with members of the Disciples' department of ministry, the Board of Higher Education, seminary presidents and deans, a seminary student and regional ministers to be selected by the study group.

The study, authorized by the Administrative Committee of the church, will take into account basic and continuing education for professional ministry only. Also to be considered are the responsibility of the institutions to the church, the church's responsibility to the institutions and financial questions, according to John O. Humbert, Indianapolis, deputy general minister and president.

The study group expects to make a report during the 1978 General Board meeting.

Christian Church News

UP-DATE

VOL.V-Nos. 7/8

Fall-Winter Issue

NATIONAL CONVOCATION
OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 1986 Indianapolis, IN 46206

Blessed and Happy Holidays



THANKSGIVING time has afforded us opportunity to count our blessings "one by one" and to renew our efforts to live in community with a fuller awareness of helping others to secure the necessities of life.



CHRISTMAS will enable us to become refreshingly alive to God's mercy and abundance of love for all people through the gift of Jesus, the Christ.

NEW YEAR'S observances will round out this period of festivity and happiness. But New Years also will bring us to confront again the harsh realities of life in a modern world where followers of Christ must meet new and rigid testing every day.

UP-DATE staff extends every good wish to you for a meaningful Advent period in 1977 and a deepened and enriched religious life in 1978.

STAFF

Michael A. Dominguez, Thelma Pyatt, Karen Denker - Art and Graphic Design

Joseph Saunders - Contributing Columnist

Lillian Moir and Robert Schafer Jr. - Contributing Photographers

William K. Fox - EDITOR



Convocation Shows Appreciation

The National Convocation of the Christian Church Board of Trustees sponsored a Leader Appreciation Breakfast at the Continental Hotel Monday, October 24, during the Kansas City General Assembly. More than 100 persons were in attendance.

Convocation President Oscar Haynes of Washington, D.C. presided over a recognition period which highlighted the contributions of Black Disciples of Christ to the 1977 General Assembly, as well as previous general gatherings of the church.

Among those awarded certificates of appreciation were: **Members of the Administrative Committee of the General Board** - Bert Chatham, CA.; Frederick Crawford, PA.; Mary Harris, KA.; Oscar Haynes, D.C.; Delores Highbaugh, IL.; Samuel W. Hylton, Jr., MO.; Lee E. Koonce, TN. **Chaplains for the 1977 Assembly** - Geneva and Thomas Griffin, CA. **Communications Staff member with special pre-assembly assignments** - Joseph Saunders, IN. **Local clergy with special assignments** - James Blair, K. David Cole and Norman S. Fiddmont, all of Kansas City, MO. **Members of the 1977 General Assembly Program Committee** - Claudia Highbaugh, CA.; Ozark Range, IN.; Claude Walker, MO. **Former elected officers for general church assemblies and/or conventions** - Carnella J. Barnes, CA.; Walter Bingham, KY.; Cleo Blackburn, IN.; Raymond Brown, IN.; John S. Compton, OH.; Ann Dickerson (Deceased) TN.; Sere S. Myers, MO.; Zellie Peoples, IN.; Sybel Thomas, IL.

Special breakfast guests included General Minister and president Kenneth Teegarden; Moderator James Moak; President of the Disciples of Christ of Jamaica Richmond Nelson; Executive Secretary of the Disciples of Christ in Puerto Rico, Jose Fidel Martinez; Bishop of the Eglise du Christ au Zaire, Itofo Bokambanaza Bokeleale and lay leader Keith Goldson, immediate past president of the Disciples of Christ in Jamaica.



McHenry Retires

Charlyne McHenry of Nashville, Tennessee, secretary-bookkeeper for the Greenwood Cemetery for more than 12 years has retired.

Manager Joseph McClure praised her for faithfulness to the work and a cooperative spirit.

When the Board of Directors for the newly formed subsidiary corporation known as the Greenwood Cemetery Company voted to have a special event in her honor, she refused to accept the recognition.

Said Mrs. McHenry, "I only did what I was responsible for doing and I enjoyed my work."

Hylton First Vice-Moderator



Dr. Samuel W. Hylton, Jr., minister of Centennial Christian Church in St. Louis, Missouri, member of the General Board, and former president of the National Convocation, was elected First Vice Moderator of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) convened in Kansas City October 21-26, 1977.

Twenty-four members of the Centennial Church journeyed to the Kansas City Assembly to show their support of Pastor Hylton and to participate in the Assembly.

This was the fifth biennial General Assembly of this one and a quarter million member church since it began operating on an organizational plan known as **The Provisional Design**.

Among Dr. Hylton's responsibilities to the General Assembly and General Board will be the organization of business items for consideration, assisting the moderator in presiding at sessions, and visitation of congregations and regional gatherings in the field to interpret and promote the work of the church. This will be a two year term.

Brother Hylton has been the pastor at Centennial Church for seventeen years. Elected with Hylton for leadership roles in the General

Assembly were: Judge James A. Noe of Mercer Island, Washington, Moderator; Joy L. Greer of Little Rock, Arkansas, Second Vice Moderator; and Robert E. Kirkman of Louisville, Kentucky, Parliamentarian. Kenneth L. Teegarden of Indianapolis, Indiana continues as General Minister and President.

Lambert Honored

Moses L. Lambert, veteran Disciples of Christ minister of Riedsville, N.C., was given a program of celebration recently upon his completion of 43 years of service as pastor of First Christian Church.

His retirement on June 12, 1977 climaxed a professional career which included preparation at Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, MS; a B.S. degree from Alabama State College in Montgomery AL; and a M.Ed. degree from A and T College in Greensboro, N.C.

Pastor Lambert has been a vigorous leader in the Piedmont Tri-State District Convention (i.e. Virginia, North Carolina, West Virginia). He has served as its president, representative to national church bodies, commissioner of management for the district worker, and one of the original leaders promoting the purchase and operation of the District Campsite.

Brother Lambert also taught in the Roosevelt Elementary School of Riedsville for several years and made a constructive impact on sports in the total community.

Elder Lambert has been married to Eunice Walker for 41 years. They are the parents of Marcellus, Roland and Lucinda Lambert and have two grandchildren.

Griffin Installed



The new minister of McCarty Christian Church, Los Angeles, CA was installed on Sunday afternoon, October 16th, 1977.

The Reverend Thomas J. Griffin comes to the west coast from the national headquarters of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Indianapolis. He served on the staff of the Church Finance Council for ten years. His duties took him all over the United States and into foreign countries. He has also pastored churches in Texas, Oklahoma, and Illinois.

Pastor Griffin is a graduate of Jarvis Christian College and of Garrett Theological Seminary. Further study was done at Columbia University's School of Social Work, and Bosse Ecumenical Institute in Geneva Switzerland.

Coming to Los Angeles with Rev. Griffin are his wife, Geneva, a son who is being enrolled in college, and a daughter who has just started in public school.

McCarty Memorial Church is named for the late Dr. Isaac McCarty who paid the entire cost of the cathedral like building at 4101 W. Adams Blvd. He presented it to the congregation free of any debt. The donor was a practi-



cing physician in the community. At the point of his retirement he wanted to express his appreciation for God's gifts by setting up a beautiful place of worship. The building was dedicated in 1932.

Dr. Kring Allen, who pastored the church for twenty-two years, shared in the formal ceremonies of installation. When Dr. Allen came to the church the West Adams community was populated almost entirely by white people. The congregation reflected the same racial identity. Gradually black people moved into the area. Some of them joined the church and became active in all its functions. Many of the older members have moved away. Some have died. White membership is now the minority in the congregation.

Dr. Charles A. Malotte, regional pastor of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), was the installing officer for the program. Other church leaders participated. Special music was prepared by Robert Lenheiser, choir director and chairman of the program committee.

Church women under leadership of Mrs. Martha Lackey and Mrs. Arwilda Woods prepared a reception in Fellowship Hall which followed the ceremonial installation.



Williams Succeeds Brown

James Odell Williams, Sr. began as minister of the Cleveland Avenue Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) on Sunday, October 2, 1977.

Elder Williams has been in the active pastorate for 18 years. He has served churches in Vanceboro, Kinston and Goldsboro, where he organized the New Greenleaf Disciples Church of Goldsboro. For the past 6 years, Williams was the pastor of Pleasant Grove Christian Church in Fayetteville, N.C. He was their first full time minister. Pastor Williams has been active since 1973 in CONTACT, a volunteer telephone ministry program in Fayetteville.

Williams is a graduate of Adkin High School in Kinston, N.C. While serving in the U.S. Air Force, he completed two Aircraft Mechanics schools. He studied at the United Christian College in Goldsboro and is presently enrolled as a Theology major at Shaw Divinity School, Shaw University, Raleigh, N.C. As a part of his personal growth and development program, Williams has attended the southern Academy sponsored by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He is well known throughout the region and is active in regional organizations, particularly the Task Force on Camps and Conferences. On the general level of the Christian Church, he is a member of the **Church Action for Safe and Just Communities**

(CASJC) committee. Williams and his wife attended the Marriage Communication Training Lab in Indianapolis, Indiana, which provided him with the expertise to conduct marriage communication activities in the church as well as in the community.

The Rev. James O. Williams, a native of Kinston, N.C. is married to Josie Jones Williams of Trenton, N.C. They have five children and five grand-children. Williams holds membership in his home lodge, King David Masonic Lodge No. 24 of Kinston, N.C.

The Rev. and Mrs. James O. Williams will reside at the church parsonage located at 104 E. 28th Street.



Brown to Jeffries

Robert L. Brown is the new minister of the Jeffries Memorial Christian Church of Birmingham, Alabama. The church had been without full-time leadership for several years and Brown began his duties July 1, 1977. The attendance and offerings have increased as the congregation looks toward a bright future.

A successful Men's Day was observed in August and Deaconess Board Anniversary in September.

Toward Affirmative Action Plan



Leon J. Calhoun, Sr., Churchman and Personnel Specialist, Albany, New York

Following up on a General Board action of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in 1976 suggested by the General Reconciliation Committee, approximately 80 persons attended a special session of the annual Council of Ministers in St. Louis November 28 to consider improvement of **Racial Minority Employment in the Church.**

Welcoming the group constituted primarily by general and regional ministers in the Disciples of Christ Church, General Minister and President, Kenneth L. Teegarden stated: "Our Church has had a long-standing commitment to being an equal opportunity employer. However, we have given little practical help to the units and organizations in the Church on how this might best be done. This consultation is a first step."

Among the professional consultants present to assist the general and regional ministers in this significant first conference was Dr. Leon J. Calhoun, Sr. of Washingtonville, N.Y. who directs and administers personnel activities and programs involving persons employed by the State University of New York at Albany.

Mr. Calhoun helped establish the office of Equal Employment Opportunity for the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

Jones to Phase Out



Beginning October 1 Cardy Jones, Regional Staff Associate, reduced her work time to 1/3 and limited her responsibilities to the youth program and managing editor of the *Indiana Christian*.

The decision to reduce to 1/3 was due to her resignation, effective September 30. She resigned to finish graduate work in Student Personnel and College Administration on the Ball State Campus.

However, because of the lag time between her resignation and the firing of another staff person, she agreed to carry those two responsibilities until December 31, or until someone is secured for that Regional Staff position.

Cardy has been with the Regional Staff since June 1, 1976. In addition to Youth Work and managing the *Indiana Christian*, she has had some responsibility with women's work, Area 7, Commission on Publications, Indiana Inter-religious Commission on Human Equality.

A Call from the Nominating Committee

A Nominating Committee to function for the 1978 Little Rock, AR Convocation Assembly has been empowered to act by the Board of Trustees.

The Committee membership consists of Richard L. Saunders representing the Northeastern Area; Cynthia Hale, Piedmont Area; Alvin O. Jackson, Midwest; Irving Allen, Southwest; Eliza Cave, South; and Mrs. James Melvin, the Assemblies along the Eastern Seaboard.

The Committee needs names of potential Convocation officers and information on the background of each. These suggestions can be sent to the National Convocation at the Christian Church Office at Box 1986, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206.

The Committee and all Convocation-related congregations are requested to make such nominations and suggest business items for consideration at the Fifth Assembly in Little Rock in accordance with the **Provisional Operating Guidelines** adopted for tentative use during the Fourth Assembly in Nashville, Tennessee.

The following is a statement of these Guidelines:

Basic Premise

The National Convocation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and its Board of Trustees shall conduct their work in keeping with the National Convocation's **Articles of Operation** and the **Provisional Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**.

The Nominating Process

1. That, among other committees, the National Convocation shall have a nominating committee composed of not more than seven (7) members.

2. The nominating committee shall be nominated by the Convocation's Board of Trustees and elected by the Convocation.
3. The nominating committee shall be representative of the geographical spread of the Convocation.
4. The nominating committee, upon its election, shall meet not less than six months after its election and be open to receiving nominations for officers and Board of Trustee membership. Any individual member of a congregation recognized by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and related to the Convocation shall be eligible to make nominations to the nominating committee.
5. The nominating committee shall report for information to the Board of Trustees at the spring meeting prior to the Convocation biennial assembly.
6. All nominations shall include the name, address, and title of the nominee, including specific rationale for the nomination and the specific office for which the nomination is made.
7. The nominating committee shall communicate by letter with each nominee to determine the readiness of the nominee to serve, if elected; and where necessary, further information concerning the nominee will be secured.
8. Nominations may be made from the floor of the Assembly. Such nominations shall follow the guidelines of the nominating committee, including the placing of the nominee against a specific person presented by the nominating committee.

Term of Office

That all elected officers and Board of Trustee members' terms of office shall begin at the adjournment of the Convocation's Assembly following the Assembly at which their election took place.

Handling of Business Items

1. Business items to be considered by the National Convocation shall be presented by the Board of any recognized congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and related to the Convocation or over the signature of not less than ten persons, each person being from a different

Continued on Page 18



Students from the Caribbean

This past summer Second Christian Church of Indianapolis, Indiana had as a part of its staff two seminary students from the Caribbean. The students, Livingston Malcom of the Bahamas and Winston Warrell of Barbados are last year students in seminary at Kingston, Jamaica. While at Second, Winston and Livingston helped to lead the Summer Community Program offered by Second for children in the immediate community. They also assisted in the Sunday morning worship service. They were great assets to the program.

Two scholarships were awarded to the two students by Second at the conclusion of the summer. They are pictured along with the Rev. Dr. Garrott Benjamin, Jr., Pastor of Second Christian Church and Rev. Alvin O. Jackson, Associate Pastor.

United Christian Church in Detroit, Michigan recently completed the most successful summer program in its history. A total of 84 young people ages 6-14 were enrolled for a variety of sessions over a seven week period.

The program was again directed by the pastor, Lamar Clark. Success included 24 baptisms and several rededications. Among those coming into the United family was James Wallace Ribbron an honor student who will enter Jarvis this fall to begin training towards the ministry.

A record number of persons volunteered time and resources to make this program work. Lee Clark and students from the Resource Center, Clara Reaves, Etta Council, Mary Ann Hutson, and Sylvia Kellough, were among the volunteers. Appreciation was extended to the Reconciliation Fund for its support as well as the Michigan Region of the Christian Church.

Progress in United of Detroit

Local Committee for Arkansas Assembly

Dr. James Rainwater, regional minister for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Arkansas, recently announced that the Local Arrangements Committee making plans to host the Fifth Assembly of the National Convocation was hard at work.

The cabinet heading the sub-committees is made up of the following: Miss Mary Moore of Mt. Sinai Church, General Chairperson; Mr. E.H. Bember of Cross Street Church, II Vice Chairperson; Mr. Wardell Dean of Cross Street Church, Secretary-Treasurer; Reverend S. John Compton of Cross Street Church, Member-at-Large; Reverend T.R. Moore of Mt. Sinai Church, Member-at-Large; and Dr. Jim Rainwater, Regional Minister.

Sub-committees charged with carrying out specific duties are as follows: Mr. Emmitt Johnson of Cephas Chapel in Wrightsville, Communion; Mrs. Lottie Brock of Cross St. Church in Little Rock, Ushers; Reverend Jim Farmer of Park Hill Church in North Little Rock, Pulpit Supply; Reverend Lester Bickford of Park Hill Church, Housing; Mr. John Brown of Cross St. Church, Public Relations; Mrs. Lena Moore of Mt. Sinai Church in North Little Rock, Decorations and Exhibits; Mr. and Mrs. John (Louise) Kirvey of Pulaski Heights Church in Little Rock, Personal Services.

Mrs. Dorothy Geater and Mrs. Barbara Berry of Mt. Beulah Church in Pine Bluff, Children's Activities; and Reverend Edd Spencer of First Church in Little Rock, Music.

Regional Church staff has been assigned to resource the Cabinet. Dr. John Compton of Cincinnati, OH will represent the National Convocation of the Christian Church Office in relation to the Local Arrangements Committee.



Leaders at first National Ministers Wives Fellowship Retreat in Cincinnati OH. Seated left to right: Alpha Arnold, Los Angeles; Lucile Compton, Cincinnati; Lydan Range, Columbus OH; Standing, left to right: Lynnette Jackson, Cleveland, OH; Virginia Hubbard, Cleveland, OH; Sybel Dixon, Cincinnati, OH; Bertha Evans, Memphis, TN; Philandria Dickerson, Nashville, TN; Sherley Miller, Columbus, OH; Mayme Garner, Cincinnati, OH; Della January, Springfield, OH and Reubena Fox, Indianapolis, IN.

Minister's Wives Launch Drive

An historic first National Ministers' Wives Fellowship Retreat held in Cincinnati, OH September 9-11 at Mercy Center brought together key ministers' wives leaders to reevaluate the Fellowship's purposes, examine the present role of the minister's wife, and plan for the promotion of the Ministers' Wives Scholarship Fund.

Lucile A. Compton, president of the Fellowship, announced that the wives of ministers in National Convocation—related congregations will be urged to meet a minimum goal of \$5000 by the time of the Convocation Assembly in Little Rock, AR, August 2, 1978.

The wives attending the Retreat launched the drive with a love offering.

President Compton will be contacting the wives in the National Convocation—related congregations on the details of the effort.

Henry Calls for Justice

Kenneth Henry, an associate of church history at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, recently joined a group of Black clergymen in a "Call for Justice in Southern Africa."

The "Call" states that "Our brothers and sisters in Southern Africa are engaged in a life and death struggle to wrest their freedom from the hands of their oppressors. . .

The signers of the "Call" referred to the common experience of the dehumanization of racism and for Blacks in the United States and Southern Africa. Black religious leaders in America are urged to

". . .develop programs to provide assistance to the families of soldiers killed in action, to prisoners and to those forced into exile or who are engaged in conflict."

Dr. Henry stated that the signers of the Call known as the **Ad Hoc Committee of the National Conference of Black Churchmen Concerned About Southern Churchmen** have suggested a national "Liberation Day" when special services and observances would be held and commitments made "to support the liberation struggle in Africa."

Lakes Family Recognition

The Membership Development Department and Usher Board of the North Heights Christian Church of Wichita hosted a special service June 12 honoring Pastor G. Ellison Lakes and wife for 40 years of Christian service. They were also honored for their 40

years of marriage.

The guest speaker was Alice Frey of Kansas City, Kansas. She has known and worked with Pastor Lakes and family for 37 of his 40 years of ministerial service. Other guests were the Parkan Harmonizers and members from the Morgan Ave. Christian Church of Parson, Kansas where Pastor and Mrs. Lakes labored for 25 years.

The Lakes were honored with the presence of one of their five children, daughter Jean, her husband Otis, and their children Pam and Otis Jr. from Kansas City, Mo. There were representatives and correspondents from all manifestations of the church.

After the services a money tree and special gifts were presented to Pastor and Mrs. Lakes. A beautiful reception followed in the Fellowship Hall.

Ethnic Minority Women

A Consultation of Ethnic Minority Women in Ministry will be held April 20-23, 1978 at the National 4-H Center in Washington, D.C. and is expected to draw 500 participants.

Sponsorship is by the Commission on Women in Ministry of the National Council of the Churches of Christ.

The announced purpose of the Consultation is "to gather Asian, Black, Hispanic and Native American women in church leadership to celebrate ethically, theologically and supportively and to identify, evaluate and assess the leadership positions held by minority women in the church or a church agency."

Luz Baccerra, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) staff person in the Department of Church Women, is co-chairperson for the Consultation.

Participants are to be selected. Any "ethnic minority" woman interested should contact Luz Baccerra at Box 1986, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206.

From Birmingham to Mbandaka

It's a long way from Birmingham, Alabama to Mbandaka, Zaire - Africa. And the distance between the physical conditions in the two school systems is even further.

In Mbandaka children bring their own benches, the school building has openings but no doors or windows, and classes can only be conducted daytime since there are no lights.

Storms disrupt studies because teachers can't be heard. Classes are delayed during rainy and cloudy weather. Mosquitoes present an ever present worrisome problem.

Yet Daniel and Sandra Gourdet enjoy their work as teachers at Mbandaka in the equator region of Zaire and would not change places with their American counterparts.

Sandra, a native of Birmingham and member of Macedonia Christian Church, teaches at the Lycee Protestante (girls' high school). She interrupted preparation for a professional career three years ago in order to accept this service opportunity. The Division of Overseas Ministries of the Christian Church has cooperated in her support.

Daniel, her husband and a native of Haiti, is employed by the Zairian government and teaches boys at Zaire Christian Institute. They have a three-year-old son, Nicholas Patrice, born in Zaire.

Both schools have in excess of 600 students with classes in two shifts, the first beginning at 6:30 a.m. All studies are in French, official language of the government.

Established and formerly operated by

missionaries, schools in Zaire were taken over by the government. Poor administration during the period all but ruined the system and the schools were recently returned to church operation.

"Gradually," said Mrs. Gourdet, "schools are being built up again although equipment is urgently needed." She describes the students as "being deprived so long that they are eager to learn."

Mrs. Gourdet, a native of Birmingham, Alabama, found learning the Lingala language a major key to enjoying her work in Zaire. Before, she had difficulty communicating and relating.

"People of the country," she stated, "always fall back to their native tongue. And the women of Zaire prefer Lingala when they want to talk freely."

Christian Church News



Sandra Gourdet

Our Colleges



JARVIS COLLEGE

Registration:

According to Venita C. Waddleton, College Registrar at Jarvis Christian College, a record number of 659 students completed registration for the fall semester 1977.

Included in this total were more than 200 freshman and transfer students who have arrived at Jarvis Christian College from 17 states and four foreign countries to begin the fall semester.

Registration at Jarvis Christian College surpassed its enrollments of recent years.

Jarvis Christian College is a fully-accredited, private co-educational, church-related college, affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and has developed into a first-class, four-year college of Arts and Sciences with an autonomous board, and is a member of five college consortia among which is the Texas Association of Developing Colleges.

Institutional Research

Cecil W. Clift, Director of Institutional Research, reports the visit to Jarvis by Dr. Amos P. Kennedy, head of the Chemistry Department at Grambling State University, and director of the Brookhaven Semester Program. There are 18 predominantly black colleges - including Jarvis Christian College - participating in this Program. Students spend one semester at the Brookhaven National Laboratories (BNL), Upton, Long Island, N.Y. They are enrolled in two or three courses and research. Jar-

vis students earn from 12 to 15 semester hours of credits which are credited toward graduation.

Student Elections

In a capacity-filled Charles A. Meyer Auditorium on the Jarvis Christian College campus Tuesday, October 4, Mr. Clarence Hodrick, Jr., Jarvis Senior, challenged the Jarvis student body with an address on "Who Is In Charge?"

Hodrick was installed as president of the Student Government Association of Jarvis, along with Adrienne Sykes, vice-president, and Helen Gaines, business manager; Helen Atkins, recording secretary; Miss Renitia Tyler, corresponding secretary; Jean Hinchon, treasurer; and Miss Vickie Warren, parliamentarian.

Federal Funds

During the current fiscal year Jarvis College will be the recipient of more than \$500,000 from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare's Title III program.

Federal funds under the Title III program have allowed for development in programs that could not otherwise have been accomplished. According to Jarvis' president, Dr. E.W. Rand, the Title III Programs for strengthening developing institutions was authorized by the Higher Education Act of 1965, the much-needed flexibility for institutions like Jarvis Christian College.

United Gives \$2300 to Jarvis College

A dynamic message to the United Church of Detroit, October 30 by Dr. Earl W. Rand, president at Jarvis Christian College on the church's annual "Men's Day" was climaxed by a \$2300 offering to the college by members of the congregation.

An additional feature was the singing of the Jarvis College Choir. The Young Adult Fellowship and the Alumni of Jarvis in the Detroit Area had presented the musical group in concert on Saturday, October 29.

Lamar Clark, who is pastor of United Church, was the principal leader at the weekend events.

COLLEGE CHOIR PLANS TOURS

THE JARVIS
COLLEGE
CHOIR



Plans were made for the Fall and Winter tours of the Jarvis College Choir. The first began Friday, October 21st when the choir left Jarvis campus en route to Detroit, Mich., via Lawrence, Kan., Kansas City, Kan., Kansas City, Mo., Des Moines, Iowa and Indianapolis, Ind.

After concerts in Detroit, the choir traveled back to the Jarvis campus by way of Dayton, Ohio, Nashville, Tenn., and Little Rock, Ark.

The second choir tour will begin February

4, 1978 in San Angelo, Texas and on to El Paso, Texas and Tucson, Arizona. After concerts in Los Angeles, California, the choir will journey back to Jarvis after stops in Sante Fe, New Mexico and Lubbock, Texas.

Mr. Frank Perry and his staff, Mr. Clifford DeShun Boyd and Mr. Arthur Botley worked hard preparing the choir's musical arrangements and itinerary for both trips.

Ms. Winifred Perpener Sherman, Director of Women's Affairs is accompanying the choir.

OUR COLLEGES continued

TOUGALOO COLLEGE

Record Alumni Giving

Tougaloo College has received \$58,308 from the Bush Foundation of St. Paul, Minn. as a result of increased support by alumni in 1976/77. In addition, the Foundation has challenged the alumni to earn \$60,000 for the 1977/78 school year.

The challenge grants are designed to increase alumni gift support to Tougaloo and the reward is dependent upon two factors: first, increased total dollars contributed in the 1977/78 academic year compared with 1976/77 (with Bush to match the increased dollar-for-dollar, up to a predetermined level); and second, a net increase over the preceding year in the number of unrestricted, individual gifts from alumni,

Tougaloo College alumni gave a total of \$70,000 last year to the College. Of this, \$61,280 was unrestricted and qualified for Bush matching, representing a total of 769 persons who contributed.

This achievement is an increase in unrestricted dollars of 6% over the 1975/76 unrestricted giving record of \$32,972 and a 122% increase in donors—346 gave in 1975/76. The total amount of money raised exceeded by far the results of any prior annual alumni giving fund campaign in Tougaloo's history in unrestricted funds.

Total participation of the Tougaloo Alumni in giving to the institution has increased from 13.6% to 26.5% of reachable alumni. The average participation of alumni in all colleges and universities in the nation is only 17.9%.

1978 Summer Workshop Event

The National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C. has granted \$32,898 to Tougaloo College for support of a "Summer Pre-College Development Project in Social Science."

This project, under the direction of Dr. Lambert N. Wenner, associate professor and chairman of Tougaloo's Department of sociology/anthropology, is a three-week workshop designed for social studies teachers of grades 7 through 12. It will commence in June, 1978.

Within the last two decades, massive changes have occurred in the culture and social structure of the United States. To keep up with these changes, the project leaders adopted the theme "Coping With Change" and have developed a program which will help teachers to increase their capability for using new teaching strategies and incorporating issues relating to social and cultural change in the United States into secondary school curricular.

"The workshop's long-range objective is to improve secondary school students' skills, awareness, and knowledge in the social sciences", observes director Wenner.

All secondary teachers interested in attending should write Dr. Lambert Wenner, Department of Sociology, Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Mississippi 39174.

Rand on "Hatching Chickens"

"You can't set buzzard eggs and get chickens," Dr. Earl W. Rand, president of Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas, told alumni and friends of the school during a luncheon recently during the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Dr. Rand used the phrase to disclose plans for expansion of physical facilities at the East Texas college established by the Disciples' in 1912.

Jarvis will begin its building program with a physical education building and a church music department structure at an estimated cost of \$3.5 million. The Disciples' Board of Church Extension already has approved financing for

Continued on Page 18

A CALL from NOMINATING COMM. Cont. from Page 10

congregation recognized by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and related to the Convocation.

2. All items of business shall be in the National Convocation Administrative Secretary's office ninety (90) days prior to the Convocation's Assembly.
3. All items of business shall be transmitted to the Convocation's Assembly upon action of the Board of Trustees which shall transmit the business item as received, together with the Board of Trustees' recommended action, including possible amendments.
4. All business items acted upon by the Convocation's Assembly shall be referred to the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) through the Convocation's Board of Trustees and the Administrative Committee of the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for information and, where appropriate, for action.

Emergency Items

Emergency business items shall be handled by the Board of Trustees, the Board having the power to determine whether or not the business item is an emergency, including questions of timeliness, issues emerging from church, national or world situations not apparent ninety (90 days) prior to the Convocation's Assembly. Such emergency items shall be signed by not less than ten persons who are members of ten different congregations recognized by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and related to the National Convocation.

(Approved in 1976 by Fourth Biennial Assembly as "Provisional" until finalized acceptance in the 1978 Assembly.)

"HATCHING CHICKENS" Cont. from Page 17

the buildings, Dr. Rand said.

Jarvis College, with an enrollment of 653, is making plans for a student body of 1,000 to 1,200. "To do this, we must disprove the theory that black colleges are not qualitative and build a distinguished institution equal to any," he said.

"Our graduates are the only product we have

to prove that we are worthy of being there," said Dr. Rand as he singled out Jarvis graduates who had become ministers and church leaders."

Christian Church News

Texas Hispanics Elect

Eliseo Rodriguez, minister of Bella Vista Christian Church of Brownsville, will serve as president of the Spanish-Speaking Convention of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Southwest for 1977-78.

Other officers elected at the recent annual meeting in San Benito are Rafael Lima of Corpus Christi, vice president; Miss Raquel Garcia of San Benito, secretary; Samuel Leal of Robstown, treasurer; and Elias Vasquez of Robstown, parliamentarian.

Leading the Confraternidad de Varones (Christian Men's Fellowship) are Jesus Aguinaga of Brownsville, president; Elias Vasquez of Robstown, secretary; Tito P. Trevino of Corpus Christi, treasurer; and Rafael Lima of Corpus Christi, counselor.

Mrs. Leonor Leal of Robstown is president of the Confraternidad de Damas (Christian Women's Fellowship).

Other officers are Miss Raquel Garcia of San Benito, vice president; Mrs. Beckie Barrera of Corpus Christi, secretary; Mrs. Simona Roca of Brownsville, treasurer; Mrs. Abby Martinez of San Antonio, counselor; and Mrs. Garcia, representative to the regional CWF administrative committee.

Officers of the Confraternidad de Jovenes (Christian Youth Fellowship) are Jose Luis Ayala of Brownsville, president; Norma Benavidez of San Benito, vice president; Edna Olivo of Harlingen, secretary; Bernice Saucedo of Corpus Christi, treasurer; and F. Feliberto Pereira of San Benito, counselor.

Rodriguez will serve as representative to the regional board, and Omar Daniel Rios of Amarillo and Roman Barrera of Corpus Christi will be representatives to the Texas Conference of Churches.

from the Christian Courier - Oct. 1977

For Whom the Bells Toll



● **E. Ellis Nichols** of Fort Worth, Texas, assistant pastor at Community Christian Church, was inflicted with a fatal bullet wound by a neighbor July 24, 1977. Final rites were conducted in Community Church July 27 with Paul Sims of Hawkins, Texas officiating.

● **Maggie Bradley**, of Rogersville, Tennessee was born December 4, 1887 to the late Mr. and Mrs. Will Cain and departed this life Monday, October 3, 1977 at Hawkins County Memorial Hospital.

She became a member of the Hasson Street Christian Church at an early age. Superintendent of Sunday School and president of

Christian Women's Fellowship until failing health confined her to her home.

Preceding her in death, a loving husband, Elder D.W. Bradley, former pastor of Hasson Street Christian Church.

She leaves a devoted daughter, Mrs. Emaline Watterson, a grand-daughter, Emily E. Watterson and a very devoted son-in-law, Richard Watterson. Two nieces, Mrs. Naomi Odom of Buffalo, N.Y. and Mrs. Sadie Armstrong of Tuskegee, Alabama. Three nephews, Oscar Haynes, Washington, D.C., Orville D. Bradley, Percy Point, Maryland and Joseph Cope of Boston Massachusetts, and other relatives and friends.

Ghanian Challenges

"The image of God is not limited to a certain, selected, cultural or racial group," Kofi Appiah-Kubi recently told a group from the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) during a meeting in Indianapolis.

"Jesus to me," said the African church leader from Ghana, "is raceless."

Mr. Appiah-Kubi was in the United States to muster support for the Pan-African Conference of Third World Theologians to be held at the University of Ghana, Legon, Accra, December 17-24, 1977.

Theme for the conference will be "The Christian Commitment in Africa Today: Concerns of Emerging Christian Theologies." The estimated 150 participants will include Africans, Asians, Latin Americans, Caribbeans and blacks from North America.

Among topics the theologians will discuss, according to Mr. Appiah-Kubi who is serving as organizer for the conference, will be economic, political, social and religious aspects of the African situation.

Also the presence of the Church in Africa including history of evangelism, self-reliance, independent churches and the church and political powers; and emerging theologies in Africa.

In discussing his personal idea of theology, Mr. Appiah-Kubi stated "It is the normal thinking of some Christians that our duty as a church Christian community is to sing, pray and praise God.

"This is an important duty. But if this is all the church stands for, with all due respect, count me out.

"I am not the type of theologian who would go about counting how many steps Moses took from the Red Sea to the Promised Land. This may be an important exercise, but it does not answer to the needs of my people."

"Theology," he continued, "is not talk and talk of God, but what God would have me do in any given situation where His word must be heard. It could be in the parliament, in the kitchen, in the market place, in the hotel or on the road side."

Continued on Page 20

Vignettes from The Field



Among the
Congregations

Virginia, Chatham - The Joseph Galloway ministerial family is providing a variety of services to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Virginia. Elder Galloway is the pastor of Fayette Street Church in Martinsville and president of District IV of the Region. Mrs. Rebecca Galloway is president of District IV's Christian Women's Fellowship. Gaylon, the daughter, is co-leader for the Christian Youth Fellowship of District IV. Both Joseph and Rebecca are employees of the Chatham public school system. District IV consists of 32 congregations.

Ohio, Cleveland - The Crawford Road Church sponsors an every Sunday afternoon Light of Life radio program on Station WSUM. Elder Robert L. Hubbard is the pastor.

Maryland, Baltimore - Seven women from the Mount Olivet Church Christian Women's Fellowship were among the 28 participating in the Capital Area "Work Day" at First Church this summer. Twenty-six migrant farmworkers kits were made. Two families residing in the Mount Olivet area who had been burned out were provided with clothing. Cecelia Dayle associated with the St. Ambrose Community Correctional Residence for Women brought an address to the group. Elder Donald A. Gibbs is pastor at the Mount Olivet Church.

California, Los Angeles - Foster and Alberta Craggett are a part of the thirteen member faculty for the Ecumenical Center for Black Church studies. The Center is known as "The Wall-less Seminary" and has offices in Claremont and Los Angeles. Henry H. Mitchell is the

director. Elder Foster Craggett is also a member of the Board of Directors. Brother Craggett belongs to the United Church in Los Angeles and has served congregations in Southern California and Ohio.

North Carolina, Plymouth - William Barber, evangelist for the General Assembly at the Church of Christ, (Disciples of Christ), was recently elected to membership of the Board of Trustees of the Washington-Norfolk Assembly.

Ohio, Dayton - Homecoming observances in September marking the 65th Anniversary at Summit Church's service to the community featured the recognition of the five ministers who were principal pastors at the congregation during this period. The clergymen acknowledged were: Eli Wilbert (1935-1969), Robert A. Peoples (1969-1970), William K. Fox (1970-1972), Joseph B. West (1973-1974) and J. Thomas Johnson (1975 to the present). Elders Peoples and Fox joined in bringing the morning message September 11.

Ohio, Cincinnati - Bond Hill Church celebrated its seventh church anniversary by recognizing the leadership of founding pastor Frank Garner and his wife, Mamie with a series of weekly services in October 1977. The event was climaxed by a community-wide dinner with Dr. John R. Compton of United Church as speaker.

GHANIAN CHALLENGES *Cont. from Page 19*

The church leader from Ghana asked Disciples to "help the people develop but do not develop the people."

"If ever there is any time in the history of Africa that we need missionaries," he said, "it is this time.

"Not the type that will say 'are you saved, brother?' We ask this type to stay home and not waste their time and money coming over.

"We need co-workers in the vineyard of the Lord."
Christian Church News

IN LITTLE ROCK, AR *Cont. from Page 22*

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Arkansas and regional staff, under the direction of Dr. James Rainwater, assigned to support the volunteer chairpersons and committees. Mary Moore is general chairwoman.

Among the additional personnel resources provided Administrative Secretary William K. Fox, is John R. Compton of Cincinnati, OH. Dr. Compton is performing a labor of love "as" Assistant to the Administrative Secretary with primary responsibility as staff resource to the

Local Arrangements Committee. He will also assist Dr. Fox during the Assembly in deciding with special services and needs for facilities. General Minister and President Kenneth Teegarden has pledged increased support to preparation for the 1978 meeting.

Registration for the Fifth Biennial Assembly is \$15.00 for adults, \$12.00 for "senior citizens" 62 years old and over, \$10.00 for "youths" 12 to 16 years old and \$1.50 for school age children under 12.

Ms. Jackie C. Bunch of Columbus, OH, chairwoman for the Convocation Program Planning Steering Committee and Vice-President of the National Convocation, addressing Little Rock Disciples of Christ leaders on the purposes and role of the Convocation in the life and work of the church.



1.

In Local Arrangement's Committee meeting. Left to right, Francis Wood, Little Rock; Kenneth L. Teegarden and Phyllis Tranbarger, Indianapolis.



2.

Addressing the Local Arrangements Committee in Little Rock - Standing at left: Convocation President, Oscar Haynes, Washington, D.C.; Marg. Moore, General Chairwoman of Local Committee, Little Rock; William K. Fox, Administrative Secretary of the Convocation, Indianapolis; John R. Compton, Assistant to the Convocation Administrative Secretary, Cincinnati, Oh.

3.



4.



In Little Rock, Ark.

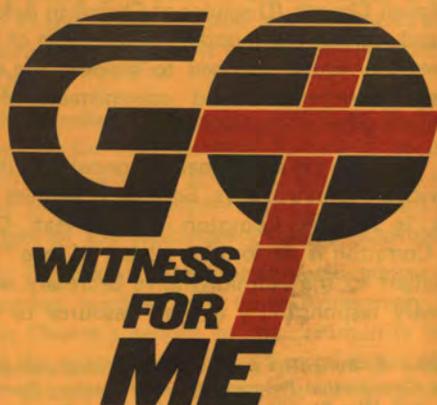
Fresh from an historic General Assembly of the Christian Church in Kansas City, Black Disciples of Christ and National Convocation supporters look toward the 5th Biennial meeting of the National Convocation in Little Rock, AR August 2-6, 1978.

Key leaders of the Christian Church in the Greater Little Rock Area have been oriented to the purposes and expectations of this unique event.

The Convocation Board of Trustees and 5th Assembly Program Committee have met in Little Rock to experience the community and make an on-site visitation of the magnificent meeting facilities in the Little Rock Convention Center. The Camelot Inn - immediately next to the Convention Center - will be the headquarters hotel. The Sam Peck Convention Center Holiday Inn and at least five other downtown motels will be easily accessible to persons attending.

The Local Arrangements Committee has been organized through the initiative of the

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National Convocation
of the Christian Church

5th Biennial Assembly

AUGUST 2 - 6, 1978

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