

CONTACT

A Report from the Association of Unity Churches

February, 1968

"The Infinite Spirit of Divine Wisdom expresses in and through our Association because of your consciousness of prayer. Because of opportunity within our movement, you see the promise of this vision." This is an affirmation of Truth, but manifestations of that affirmation are increasingly observable when we come together.

January 22-26 was the week of our midyear Council of Committees and it was a tremendous, spiritual experience. We hope in this issue of CONTACT to share the major steps that were taken during that week.

GOD FIRST CARDS

Some months ago we began sending God First cards from Unity School in order that our prayer consciousness in the field might join with that here at Unity School. These we shall continue to make available as a service of AUC. A single copy will go to every minister and teacher in our membership in addition, we will send three copies to each center unless more are required. If your center can use a larger number, please feel free to let us know.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

All of the Standing Committees were called upon for a report although not all committees met and conducted official business at this time. It will not be possible to include a detailed report, but we do want to hit the highlights of action taken, for your information.

FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

On behalf of the Finance and Budget Committee, Ken Tiffany, our accountant, presented a detailed and orderly report. He called to our attention that 62.5% of our total membership of centers are regularly supporting the AUC to some extent. His report showed that our activities are functioning well within our budget and that in the last two months (Dec.-Jan.) our income to the AUC actually surpassed our estimated projected income. This has been accomplished in spite of the fact that we have had heavy investment in the development of Sunday School material during the past year. Once we, as members within this Association are fully committed to the good that we can accept in a unified spirit, there will be nothing that we cannot attain together!

EDUCATION LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORT

One of the most active of our permanent committees is our Education Liaison Committee. The purpose of this committee is to function in liaison with the Education Department of Unity School in exploring ways in which we can assist the Education Department in the training of Unity ministers. Its

purpose is to be the voice of all of us in the AUC to this most important department. A remarkable link of communication has been established and there is a wonderful closeness that has been established. In the November issue of CONTACT we shared with you two or three clear cut proposals that the AUC had presented through this committee to the Education Department. 1. Extension Program; 2. Center Internship Program - both of which have been accepted. You may wish to refresh your memory by rereading the November CONTACT. At that time, a third recommendation was made regarding an AUC revolving chair here at Unity School. The concept was accepted but required AUC Board action before implementation. We are thrilled and happy to make the following report in this regard. The Board of Trustees approved a pilot program in which we would provide an active and successful field minister to be in residence at Unity School for one month at a time commencing with the February term. We have asked the center from which the leaders are selected to continue financial support of its minister during his or her participation here at Unity School. Unity School offered board and room and office facilities for the minister. Our Association has accepted responsibility for the round trip transportation of each minister, plus the supply minister where required.

Lillian Matthews of Buffalo, New York is our first minister to fill the revolving AUC chair for the month of February. Lillian has been very conscious of the responsibility of her position as our first visiting faculty member representing the AUC. The response has been most gratifying. All of the students have responded to Lillian and to her presentation of truth in a most constructive way. In the AUC we have had visits from several of the students and notes from several others, expressing their appreciation to AUC for making this possible. The staff in the Education Department have been most pleased with the tremendous contribution that Lillian has made and in this arrangement the fulfillment of a tremendous need in the training of our ministers.

In asking Lillian's response, she said, "I consider it one of the greatest privileges that I have ever had to serve in this way. I feel that we have a wonderful group of students in the college and I have found them most responsive and cooperative in every way."

Due to unavoidable circumstances in the ministry in Vancouver, Dale Newsum is unable to accept his commitment to be our visiting faculty member during the month of March. Because we have set a pattern and had such a positive response from students and faculty alike, we feel a serious response to continue making our contribution to the Education Department from AUC. During the month of March, Dan Perin will teach a class to the students covering the basic Unity doctrinal points; Ken Tiffany will teach Prayer Fundamentals; and Bob Sikking will teach Bible Interpretation. The students will miss the great opportunity of counselling with the visiting minister, but they will be able to resume that as Sue Sikking comes at the beginning of April.