

# CONTACT

## A Report from the Association of Unity Churches

January, 1969

We are all perfectly aware that a new beginning is a state of consciousness. There is one wonderful thing about the new year, it enables more of us at the same time to think in terms of a new beginning. May the infinite Christ quicken your life and your ministry in this new year. This is the abiding prayer of all of us in the AUC Office.

**PLACEMENT IN THE FIELD** We want to thank you for your consciousness of prayer that abides with us in the perfect outworking of the Father's perfect plan in our field. We have still not been able to make any final arrangements in regard to placement in Missoula, Montana; Portland, Maine; Bridgeport, Conn; and Memphis, Tenn.

Miami, Florida: Charles Neal has accepted an invitation to be responsible for our Unity ministry in Miami, Florida. He will accept leadership there early in the new year. We know that Charles will bring a very special and wonderful blessing to the Unity work in Miami.

St. Petersburg, Fla.: Negotiations are proceeding most harmoniously regarding succession of leadership in St. Petersburg. We know that the Infinite Spirit of intelligence is guiding all concerned toward the perfect fulfillment of the need there.

St. Joseph, Mo.: Zelpha Thompson has resigned from leadership of our Unity work in St. Joseph. Prayerful plans are underway for her further placement and for the fulfillment of our need in St. Joseph. At the present time, second year students from the School for Ministerial and Religious Studies are going to St. Joseph as guest speakers.

Little Rock/Pine Bluff, Ark.: Twelve years to the day after William Nevil started his Unity ministry in Little Rock, he has tendered his resignation that he might be free to retire from full time leadership. His resignation will be effective just as soon as arrangements have been made for succession of leadership. We know that your blessings and prayers will reach out to Bill and Eileen as he turns his attention toward creative writing and availability for substitute work. The deep and sincere dedication of both Bill and Eileen is a source of inspiration to all who know and love them.

Merced, Calif.: For several months our Unity work in Merced, Calif. has been without leadership. Unity ministers, teachers and workers, under the chairmanship of Phillip Pierson, have been conducting the activities there week by week. Betty Burgle has now accepted leadership of the ministry there and we bless her and rejoice in the assurance that the Father's perfect will is being made manifest.

Palm Springs, Calif.: As you will recall from our last CONTACT Viola Lukawiecki is returning to work full time in the Prayer Room in Silent Unity. Duane Fowler, recently in charge of the work in Bridgeport, Conn., has accepted leadership in Palm Springs.

Fresno, Calif.: Cecil Lake, who has been in charge of the Unity ministry in Fresno for just over two years, has requested a sabbatical leave of absence so that she might be free to spend more time with her family. She has tendered her resignation and it has been regretfully accepted by her board. Arrangements have been made for Pete Rhea to accept leadership as of January 15 and his first Sunday service will be January 19.

Naples, Florida: Many of you have inquired about Jack and Joan Kern. It is a joy to be able to pass along information to you regarding their work in Florida. Jack and Joan and the children are living on a beautiful houseboat called the Amazon Queen. Their Christmas card would make all of us want to accept their warm invitation to visit them in Naples. Regular services are now being conducted in this pioneer work. We know that Jack and Joan will be a very wonderful blessing to Unity friends and subscribers in the Naples area. A word of blessing and encouragement to P.O. Box 1861, Naples, Florida, 33940 would be deeply appreciated.

IN MEMORY On November 15, Lucile Rankin of Pensacola, Fla. passed on. Lucile was a licensed teacher and conducted our Unity Study Class in Mobile, Alabama. She has served with Dorothy Thomas for sometime.....Marie Fleming, a Minister Emeritus for several years, passed on November 25. Marie was in charge of the Unity work for many years in San Diego, Calif. Her years of consecration and dedication has richly blessed untold numbers of people.....Marie Harrison, a Licensed Minister from Chicago, passed on December 3. Marie's years of loving dedication to her Unity friends in North Chicago have been a source of tremendous blessing. All of us are privileged to call forth special spiritual blessings from our Father of eternal life upon each of these dedicated friends. We see them moving forward into the eternal light of Spirit sustained in our consciousness of love and abiding gratitude.

SPECIAL REQUEST From time to time both in handling your orders for Sunday  
SPECIAL REQUEST School material and in your orders to the Sales Department of Unity School, very small orders are received. The same amount of time and effort and technical skill is involved in handling an order for 25¢ as for \$20. It would be appreciated if all orders for Unity literature either from the Sales Department or the AUC could be for a total of \$5.00 or more. Perhaps the small orders could be held up a day or two and sent along with other needs. Your cooperation in this matter will be deeply appreciated by all who are concerned.

PILOT PROJECT Warren Kreml has been conducting classes in Sensitivity Training  
IN EVANSTON, at Unity On The North Shore, Evanston, Illinois. The six-week  
ILLINOIS course offers twelve hours of training in basic human relations. While the course does not try to present the specifically Unity teachings as such, the course focuses attention of the students on the basic skills of self-awareness and communication that make possible meditation, spiritual thinking and harmonious interpersonal relations.

The two-hour classes use an educational method based on participation of the students and reflection upon their experiences. The course involves the



whole person, his body, mind, emotions, and his spiritual nature. Warren has prepared a sixty-three page workbook which is issued to each participant.

The AUC Office has mailed announcements printed by Unity School of Christianity to the Daily Word subscribers on the Chicago North Shore. Classes are limited to thirty persons. Four classes are being conducted each week--Monday evening, Tuesday afternoon and evening, and Saturday morning. Many new people have been drawn to the Center by the classes. Both Ross and Joan Goodman are taking the course. Also Dorothea Fowler and Joan Back of Unity Northwest are participating.

The six-week Sensitivity Training will be followed by the formation of small groups for study, prayer, and personal growth. The small groups of five to eight persons will devote themselves to an eight-month period of achieving specific goals under the direction of Warren Kreml and Ross Goodman. Warren is on a fifteen-month sabbatical leave from Unity School, completing his Doctoral work at the University of Chicago. His work at the Evanston Center is an experimental project conducted under the supervision of the faculty of the Chicago Theological Seminary, and is a part of the field work requirement of the professional degree Warren is seeking.

**MID-YEAR COUNCIL OF COMMITTEES** If you are planning to attend the Mid-Year Council of Committees, which will be held during the week of January 20, we trust you will contact the AUC Office immediately and make your reservations. There will be adequate accommodations available but if you will let us know if you prefer to share a room, what type of accommodation you prefer, and the time of your arrival and departure, it would be helpful.

**CONFIDENTIAL FINANCIAL REPORT** Later on this month you will be receiving your semi-annual Confidential Financial Report form from the AUC. It will be deeply appreciated if you will please fill it out upon receipt and return it as soon as possible. Your cooperation in this area is deeply appreciated by all of us in the AUC.

**A WORD OF WARNING!** In applying for your membership in AUC the request was made that we have evidence of your having filed form 1023 with the Internal Revenue Service. It has been brought to our attention that some centers gave evidence of having filed form 1023 but never bothered to follow through to assure the receipt of the letter of determination from the IRS. If you do not have a letter of determination from the Internal Revenue Service indicating your tax exempt status your church can be subject to embarrassing and inconvenient investigation by the IRS. With the increased use of computers the scope of investigation is broadened. If you are in doubt as to your position let us be of assistance for it is our desire to do so. A photostatic copy of your letter of determination should be on file in your AUC Office.

**WOULD YOU LIKE A STUDENT-MINISTER-INTERNSHIP?** Following a valuable ministerial-training policy into its second year, eight ministerial students are to be placed in Unity centers and churches for a one-month internship. The dates are March 3, through March 30, 1969. If you are interested in having one of these students work with you during this period please contact the AUC Office immediately. Any center or church interested will be responsible for providing subsistence expenses for the student during this time. This means that the center or church involved will have to appropriate a sufficient amount to cover the student's room and

board expenses for this period. At the end of the month, the center or church will have the option of giving the student a personal love offering in gratitude for his services rendered. If you are interested write for details immediately. The assignments will be handled at the earliest possible date.

A REMINDER Keep in mind the intensive seminar to be held at Unity School during the week of January 6. It will be conducted by Catherine Ponder and Charles Roth on the topic: "HOW TO CONDUCT A SUCCESSFUL AND PROSPEROUS MINISTRY." It is open to ministerial students and student ministers. Send your applications and requests for accommodations to: Phil White, Registrar of our School for Ministerial and Religious Studies. It's time!

UNITY-RELIGIOUS SCIENCE SEMINAR In the Los Angeles Times, several weeks ago, there was an article by a staff writer regarding a proposed seminar to be conducted by Unity School of Christianity and Religious Science. At the time this appeared there was considerable concern because no communication had been forthcoming from Unity School.

At a recent brainstorming session of Religious Science leaders, representatives of AUC, Department of World Unity, and Education Department, a tentative plan was devised for such a seminar. Details have not yet been worked out. Once the plan is finalized by the Department of World Unity, we will pass the information along to you.

YOUTH EDUCATION POSTAGE AND MAILING INFORMATION Most lesson materials ordered by the centers have been sent through Third or Fourth Class mail. STRIDE and INVOLVEMENT have been mailed at Second Class rates since the saving for magazine type material is considerable. What this means to you who are receiving the shipments is that STRIDE and INVOLVEMENT will always arrive separately and usually later than most of your other materials. We mail them six weeks prior to the first Sunday they are to be used, so in most cases they will arrive at least two weeks before time to use them. It would be very helpful if you would not question whether such materials have been sent until after they have had adequate time to arrive. The mailings are all made at regular intervals. Therefore all orders arriving prior to that shipping date are held until the date all goods are mailed. Again, we would remind you that most materials are printed just prior to shipping so it is not possible to send them in advance of the quarter for which they are to be used.

UNITED PARCEL SERVICE NOW BEING USED In most of the Eastern states (Missouri and east) we are now using United Parcel Service rather than the Post Office. We have found that shipping time is greatly reduced. In many cases it only takes two or three days for delivery. At the longest it would be possibly six days. Also, we are saving money in handling charges since UPS is less expensive than the Post Office, and all parcels are insured. The most important thing is not only the speedy delivery, but the fact that the materials arrive in better condition through better handling. There are still some areas where UPS does not serve, but we are working on ways to improve services in these areas as well. For instance, we cannot ship to the West Coast by UPS. We could use other means perhaps, and we are looking into this. After March 1, 1969 we will be able to serve all areas east of Kansas City.