

CONTACT

A Report from the Association of Unity Churches

February, 1969

MID-YEAR COUNCIL OF COMMITTEES Our Mid-Year Council of Committees was held at Unity Village the week of January 20. It was a tremendous success. It is going to be important for us to get a little better organized in our committee structure so that there will be less overlapping of committee members. The biggest problem we run into at our January meeting is having folks eager to work, come back and just sit. The rest proves beneficial but it seems a kind of waste of time. The board meetings were the most orderly and effective held to date.

SPANISH UNITY EXTENSION COMMITTEE A great step forward has been taken by the creation of an extension committee made up of Spanish-speaking ordained Unity ministers. Our Board of Trustees has approved the proposal to authorize the training of Unity workers, teachers, and ultimately ministers in the Spanish language. In Puerto Rico, Ponchita Mendez, Conchita Melendez, and Luis Molinary comprise the working committee working directly with all authorized personnel.

PLACEMENT Our Board of Trustees gave tremendous helpful support to the Executive Office and the Placement Committee in an endeavor to define guidelines for placement. Rules and regulations are helpful, committees are indispensable, but the only thing that is going to solve our problem regarding placement is your consciousness of prayer. Our work in Missoula, Montana has had to be dissolved because of lack of leadership. We are still prayerfully concerned with Portland, Maine and Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Memphis, Tenn.: For nearly three years, Eleanor Marshall has served the AUC in a very wonderful and deeply appreciated way. She has acted as interim minister in a number of locations, the last of which was Memphis, Tennessee. As the result of her loving consciousness and that of our ministry in Memphis, Eleanor has been led to accept permanent leadership there. We rejoice especially and give thanks joyously, for the fine, loving, stable work that Eleanor will conduct.

St. Petersburg, Fla.: The Board and congregation of St. Petersburg, Florida has extended an invitation to Paul Barrett to be their new minister. We all join in a special consciousness of prayer to enfold Paul as he moves into this mighty ministry.

Philadelphia, Pa.: To succeed Paul Barrett in Philadelphia, we have already had three candidates speak there. We are now negotiating with the Board and your consciousness of prayer will be deeply appreciated. The potential in Philadelphia offers an exciting challenge.

Vista, Calif.: Gilberta Sommer has requested a leave of absence and has resigned as minister in Vista. Vic Zarley has accepted leadership in Vista.

LICENSING AND ORDINATION Your Licensing and Ordination Committee, certainly one of our hardest working committees, met with all of the student ministers and all field situated applicants for licensing or ordination. The following were recommended to receive Licensed Teacher recognition: Betty Axsom, Helen Chapman, and Robert Winterhalter. An invitation is being extended to the following to receive ordination in June 1969: Bonnie Armstrong, Florence Anderson, Freddie Brown, Pat Filiault, Violet Goetchius, Arthur Hammons, Ann Monson, Ella Peterson, Ernest Ramsey, Ruby Rawlins, and Sallye Wannamaker. There are still one or two others who are being considered.

Honorary ordination has been established, with the recommendation of the Licensing and Ordination committee, for those who have served faithfully in Unity service but who do not meet the requirements of serving in a full-time ministry. Steps were taken to encourage recognition by ordination of non-English speaking Unity teachers and ministers. Special ordination will be extended in due course to Elvira Caceras of the Dominican Republic, Goodison Orr of Jamaica, West Indies, and Marianne Tobler of Basel, Switzerland.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE Your Board approved the recommendation of the Standards Committee, upon completion of certain requirements, the approval of two ministries to join Association of Unity Churches. These are: a Unity ministry in Davenport, Iowa whose minister is Evelyn Diederich and that in Cedar Rapids, Iowa where the minister is Mabel Swanson. Upon complying with certain legal requirements, these ministries will become a part of AUC and their ministers of long-standing will be ordained in Unity.

OUTSTANDING WOMAN'S AWARD You will want to rejoice with us and extend special blessings to Montee Falls, our minister in Memphis, Tennessee, who is being honored by the Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Incorporated on February 16. She is receiving the Outstanding Woman's Award for her dedication and service to her community. We bless you, Montee, and rejoice in this wonderful recognition.

CONFIDENTIAL FINANCIAL REPORT On January 31 our Confidential Financial Report form was mailed to you. We will appreciate your filling this out and returning it to the AUC immediately, if you have not already done so.

This report, and the application card for continued membership in AUC, which will be mailed in the near future, should be returned as quickly as possible. We are aiming at having your yearbook for 1969-70 complete by Conference time.

SERVICE PAMPHLETS You will, by this time, have received copies of our two pamphlets, "Guidelines for Unity Board Members," and "Unity, A Ministry of Service." We trust that you will have shared the board member pamphlet with your board members. We will be interested to know of their response. We had 20,000 copies of "Unity, A Ministry of Service" printed. These have all been sent out upon your request and the 2nd printing is now being run. Let us know how many copies you require and we will be happy to send them to you with our love and blessings.

YOUTH EDUCATION CURRICULUM By the time you read this you will have already received YOUTH EDUCATION NEWSLINES which included a statement regarding the production of the balance of our new curriculum for Grades One through Six. We hope you have read it, but if not, take a moment to go back to it now.

In essence we announced the publishing date as approximately October 15, 1969. This means it will be ready for use on the first Sunday in December.

You will also find in NEWSLINES a number of important items relating to what has been occurring in this area of our work.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
January 1969

Jan. 1 - Balance - Checking Account	2,504.59	
Balance - Savings Account	10,634.98	
Balance - Island View House	<u>17,000.00</u>	
Total Balances		30,139.57
January 1969		
Cash Receipts	16,576.35	
Interest earned on Savings	<u>239.27</u>	
	16,815.62	
Disbursements	<u>17,309.33</u>	
Disbursements over Receipts		(493.71)
Balance		<u><u>29,645.86</u></u>
Jan. 31 - Balances		
Checking Account	1,771.61	
Savings Account	10,874.25	
Island View House	<u>17,000.00</u>	
Total Balances		<u><u>29,645.86</u></u>
Accounts Payable	1,873.42	
Accrued Taxes	687.98	
Accrued Tithe	<u>11,842.87</u>	
Total Obligations 1/31/69		<u><u>14,404.27</u></u>