

# contact

*A Report of*

THE ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES

May, 1970

*"My goodness you are way ahead of schedule. If reservations continue at this rate, you will exceed your expectation for Convention."* This was the encouraging word by the Convention Bureau staff in Kansas City regarding our forthcoming Unity International Convention. There is no question but that this will be a tremendous successful experience for our Unity movement. It will be a turning point and our attention will be drawn again and again to its significance in the future.

In spite of this and our continuing consciousness of faith, we know that the tremendous spiritual potential that can be realized through this experience will only happen if you desire that it should. We need you, your support and your enthusiasm. There is a modern song that says, "Come on baby, light my fire". Sincere Unity friends around the world are in their heart of hearts expecting this of us. It is going to be up to us as ministers, teachers and coworkers to light a fire of enthusiasm in their hearts.

**PROGRAM SKETCH**      The program for Convention has been pretty well finalized now. The Convention will begin with a spiritual starter at Unity Temple on Wednesday evening, June 24. Transportation will be provided from the hotels to the Temple and return. Closed circuit television will be installed in the Fellowship Hall and the Charles Fillmore Chapel in addition to the sanctuary.

The Convention activities at the Convention Center have been planned with the thought that a change of pace and a change of face will assure continued and increasing interest and enthusiasm on the part of the delegates. Outstanding vocalists and instrumentalists from California, New York, Florida, Illinois, and Missouri will be interspersed between the speakers whose speaking time will be limited to fifteen minutes.

At the Thursday A.M. session orientation and fellowship in song will be shared by Bob Sikking and Charles King. Charles King has conducted the last two family retreats at Unity Village and has an outstanding genius for getting folks involved in a fellowship of song. Charles Fillmore will extend a word of welcome; James Dillet Freeman will share something of the history of Unity; Johnnie Colemon as our president and Phil Pierson as our vice-president will be our keynote speakers to be followed by a healing service conducted by May Rowland and her coworkers from Silent Unity en masse.

Prior to each segment on the program, Thursday, Friday and Saturday there will be a thirty minute prayer service. The organization of this is in the capable hands of Lassie Rosencrans. In the afternoon session the speakers will include Sue Sikking, Charles Roth, Grover Thornsberry, Dorothy Pierson, and a layman. Careful and prayerful consideration is being given to the selection of our lay speakers who will in their own right be successful applicers of the principles of Truth.

The evening program following the prayer service will consist of a presentation by the Martha Grahame Dance Troupe. Martha and her school are recognized to be the outstanding proponent of interpretative dance. This will be followed by a unique program conducted by Nat Simmons and Loretta Long from New York City entitled "Black Poetry".

Our Friday morning session will deal with success and prosperity. Our speakers will be Catherine Ponder, Robert Stevens, John Hinkle, Joel Boehr, and a layman. As in all of the other sessions this will be interspersed with fellowship in song and prayer and meditation.

Friday afternoon will be given to "An Afternoon With the Authors". There will be two simultaneous meetings, one in the Music Hall, the other in the Muehlebach Ballroom at 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. All Unity ministers who have written Truth books and all authors published by Unity will be invited to participate. The Friday evening program will be entitled, "Youth of Unity--Truth in Action". Young people the world over are clamoring to be heard. Our young people have something worthwhile to say to one another and to us and will have this evening to say it effectively.

Saturday, June 27, will have as its theme, Expansion and Peace. The speakers in the morning session will be Rosemary Rhea, Bill Fischer, Hal Rosencrans, Glenn Mosley, and a layman. Here again, of course, fellowship in song will play an important part in our change of pace and change of face. The afternoon session will include panel discussions and will involve Unity ministers, lay leaders and young people. The speakers in addition to the panel discussions are Douglas Morton and Dale Newsum. The Saturday evening program will include a unique presentation touching the hearts of all. It will include Charles King and the International Children's Choir. Eric Butterworth will be the featured speaker and Johnnie Colemon will present a unique candlelighting service for peace. The arena portion of the Convention will conclude with the Children's Choir singing "Let There Be Peace On Earth". An Open House is planned at Unity Village on Sunday, June 28. Transportation has been provided for enabling all delegates to pay a visit to Unity Village. As a part of the homecoming Unity School is planning a self-guided tour of the facilities here; a box lunch will be available, and two services will be held in the Amphitheater, those to be conducted by Jane and Sig Paulson. Constant transportation will be available for returning delegates either to their hotels in Kansas City, to the airport or other transportation.

By this time you should have received your supply of color brochures for the Convention. We need your cooperation in distributing as many of these as possible. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

## C O N V E N T I O N   N O T E S

NEW BROCHURES      A quantity of our newest brochure has been forwarded to every center during the last week of April. In nearly every case we were able to ship via Airmail, air freight, or United Parcel Service so that you would have them for an early May mailing. We hope that you will send them out to your mailing list as soon as you receive them so that they can become as excited as we are about the Convention. If you have not received your brochures by the time you receive this issue of CONTACT, or if you need more, drop us a card and we will airmail them to you.



## PARTICIPATION TICKETS

Please DO NOT return unsold tickets to us here at the AUC Office now. Some centers apparently believe that the sale of these tickets ends on May 15. This is not the case. Although there are now over 7,800 tickets out in the centers, we have plenty here at the AUC to handle reorders. We anticipate that many more of your students will decide to come to the Convention at the last minute, especially when they receive their copy of the brochure. So please hold your tickets right up to the day you leave for Convention. Just be sure that any you do sell are recorded here with the delegate's name. No one should feel that it is too late to attend the Convention as tickets will also be available at the door each day. We have also been promised enough hotel rooms for everyone and have had offers by families to have people stay with them if there is a need. So, if anyone wishes to come, bring them along--we'll do the rest.

## YOUTH PROGRAM

Details on the youth program are included in previous issues of CONTACT and in both NEWSLINES and NEWSNOTES. A poster for your bulletin board is included in this CONTACT issue. This should be an exciting program as two of the producers of SESAME STREET, the educational television sensation for youngsters, will be here to both entertain the children and the Convention itself. Reservations for this program ARE limited, so please ask your students who are interested in bringing their children to register now and advise us of the children's names and ages. A form is included in our new brochure.

## YOU/YAU ACTIVITIES

There are still about 60 spaces for high school and college-age students in our special youth accommodations in the Downtowner Motor Inn. One of the small "night clubs" of the Convention headquarters hotel, the Muehlebach, will be available to our young people as will special lounge areas in the Downtowner and the Convention Center itself. Please encourage your parents to either bring their teen-agers along to stay with them, or to join the others in our special youth facilities here. To register for the youth program, simply issue the student a \$12.50 student ticket and send in the standard accommodations form that indicates "Special Student Accommodations" in the remarks block. The only hotel choice indicated thereon should be the Downtowner Motor Inn. Then send the reservation form here, to the AUC.

## POST-CONVENTION RETREAT

The Retreat Department of World Unity advises that there are still about 100 spaces for the "We're Ready!" retreat immediately following the Convention. Registration forms have been forwarded to each center. However, if you do require more, please drop us a card.

## PLACEMENT

Lemay, Missouri: We are continuing to pray with the Board of Directors in Lemay in regard to succession of leadership. A number of candidates have spoken there and the decision is still pending. Your continued prayer consciousness will be appreciated.

Walnut Creek, Calif.: Through the good services of the staff of Christ Unity Church of Sacramento, we are continuing the activities in Walnut Creek. Plans are being developed for succession of leadership and information regarding this should be forthcoming soon.

Fairfax, Virginia: Here again, prayerful communication is being conducted with the Board of Directors. All of our candidates have spoken at Fairfax and we are expecting word soon.

Minneapolis, Minn.: Donald Gates has been invited and has accepted leadership of our Unity ministry in Minneapolis. We are grateful for his availability to accept interim responsibility. This has now been declared on a permanent basis. We bless Don and know the good work that he will do will be a blessing to many.

Vista, Calif.: Bill Hines, who for the past year has been an assistant minister in St. Petersburg, Florida, has accepted leadership of our work in Vista. With his family he has returned to California to be in charge of that work and will, we know, build a fine stable ministry. Your word of greeting and blessing would, we know, be a blessing to him.

Yucaipa, Calif.: Marion Brown, who has served so wonderfully well and as a roving interim minister, is in Yucaipa. The wonderful stabilizing consciousness that she radiates in her ministry to others will be a blessing to the Yucaipa work. We know that Spirit is guiding all concerned regarding succession of leadership.

Amarillo, Texas: Louise Bowman has served as our interim minister in Amarillo and we are deeply grateful to her for the rich blessing that she has brought to the work there. She has just transferred responsibility of that work to the new minister, Genavee Campbell, who has just graduated from SMRS and who will be ordained at Conference time in June. We know a special blessing would mean a great deal to Genavee as she steps out in faith in our ministry.

Fresno, Calif.: We have had word from Pete Rhea and from the Board of Fresno, California, of his resignation from his position of leadership there. We are in negotiation with the Board regarding succession of leadership and especially appreciate your consciousness of prayer with us as we move forward. It is not Pete's intention at this time to seek placement elsewhere.

Trinidad, W. I.: Sometime ago, Bert and Eva Coffey tendered their resignation in Trinidad. They have served faithfully there for over five years and have carried the ministry to heights of consciousness that have brought rich blessings to our many friends in the West Indies. All of us in the Unity movement should be deeply grateful for the services rendered by our overseas ministers. We are blessing Bert and Eva on their return to the States and we know Spirit will guide them to their rightful place of service when they return in June. Lee Norment has been invited and has accepted the invitation of succession of leadership in charge of our Unity ministry in Port-of-Spain in Trinidad. We know that as we extend our spirit of fellowship and friendship to Lee he will be sustained and strengthened to add to the great work that is there. Violet Assam, who is in San Fernando, will be working closely with Lee.

MEMBERSHIP  
APPLICATION  
CARD

IF YOU ARE A MINISTER OR TEACHER, YOU WILL FIND ENCLOSED YOUR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION CARD. IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT YOU FILL THIS OUT AND RETURN IT IMMEDIATELY. OUR ENTRIES IN THE AUC YEARBOOK ARE DRAWN FROM THE INFORMATION THAT YOU SUPPLY. PLEASE RETURN THIS IMMEDIATELY.





Front Row: William L. Fischer, May Rowland, Helen Dade, Edna Powers  
Robert Stevens. Back Row: Robert Marshall, Scott Sherman, Genavee  
Campbell, Harold Whaley.

**SMRS GRADUATION** Each year there are a number of ministerial students who have completed their qualifications by coming through Unity Institute for Continuing Education plus the eight months in residence program. The graduation of these students always occurs in April. This year we had six graduates. The graduation speaker this year was Robert Stevens, San Diego, California, who gave an outstanding message of challenge, commendation and encouragement. We are knowing that as Spirit guides each of our graduates in placement in the field, they will become the real blessing that the Father has created them to be. Our warmest, loving gratitude reaches out to each one. We know you will want to join in blessing them at their Ordination service on June 22.

**ISLAND VIEW HOUSE** A great deal in the way of prayer and creative endeavor has gone into the Island View House Project in West Palm Beach, Florida. This attempt on the part of the Unity movement to not only fulfill a need for retirement accommodations, but also to create a channel for the flow of substance to the Unity movement, has been cancelled. Due to the rapidly increasing building costs in Florida and the "tight money market", the Island View House board felt that they could not in good conscience continue with the project. The contract has been signed for the sale of the property and upon completion all costs and investments by the AUC, Unity School and other individuals will be repaid in full.

Had this project succeeded it would have been a valuable asset to our movement as well as to the people concerned. We all, therefore, would have rejoiced in the accomplishment of our movement. Let us take that same spirit of unity and look forward with faith to what other future steps Spirit might guide us in our service to mankind through our expanding Unity ministry. We want to express special grateful appreciation to Hal Rosencrans for his efforts and those of his coworkers in Palm Beach.



PRAYER TIME  
IN AUC

In lieu of a thumbnail sketch in this issue of CONTACT we would like to tell you a little about a way in which we maintain the consciousness of prayer with you in AUC. Every morning at eight o'clock, we gather together for our DAILY WORD prayer time. Not only do all of the members of the AUC staff, when available, participate but a number of Unity School employees from our end of the building join with us. This always includes Lowell and we are grateful for his consciousness of strength that abides with us. We tried to get a photo that would include us all but we were only able to do so by dividing our prayer partners in the two adjoining pictures. We are grateful for your consciousness of prayer with us.

A WEDDING IS  
ON THE HORIZON

*Paul Barrett, our minister in St. Petersburg, Florida, and Terri Zarley, who has been an associate minister in Grand Junction, Colorado, have announced their forthcoming marriage. They will be married at Unity Temple, K. C., on June*

*20. Terri will be joining Paul on the ministerial staff of our Unity work in St. Petersburg. We know that you join with us in extending special blessings and prayers for happiness and joy for both of these good friends.*

SCHOOL FOR MINISTERIAL  
AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

If you have anyone in your congregation, who you think is qualified, and who is seriously thinking about a future career of service in the Unity ministry, please remind him that now is the time to

make application for admission in September of this year. For information, a catalog, and/or an application for admission, please have any interested person write to: William L. Fischer, SCHOOL FOR MINISTERIAL AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES, Unity Village, Missouri 64063. Plans are now being made for an exciting and vital ministerial education program for new students this fall. Perhaps there is someone in your congregation who wants to serve mankind as a Unity minister. If so, have him write right away.



WEEKLY UNITY  
SUPPLEMENT

From a communication in the last issue of CONTACT we appear to have created some confusion in your minds. The Weekly Unity Supplement is eager to have news-worthy information regarding the ministries. It is not their plan to list the regular activities of ministries but rather to convey the special activities or worthy events that would add to the image of our field ministries to the world.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

March 1970

Balance - Mar. 1, 1970:

Cash on hand and in banks \$ 6,168.95

Receipts

Love Offerings	\$14,015.80	
Youth Education Material	3,665.71	
Refund of Expenses	765.79	
Other Receipts	<u>3,440.32</u>	
Total Receipts		21,887.62
Total Available		<u>\$28,056.57</u>

Disbursements

Operating Expenses	\$15,295.45	
Youth Education Material	3,219.18	
California Property	406.00	
Tithe	1,301.84	
Convention	370.76	
Other Disbursements	<u>3,197.33</u>	
Total Disbursements		23,790.56

Balance - Mar. 30, 1970:

Cash on hand and in bank	4,266.01
Total Disbursements & Balances	<u>\$28,056.57</u>

NOTE:

--This statement does not include note receivable from Island View House --  
\$18,020.00.

--Youth Education Material to date	\$27,162.36
Less: Payments Received to date	<u>21,776.01</u>
Unrecovered balance	<u>5,386.35</u>

--Paid to date - California Property	\$ 7,075.85
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