

Issue 32

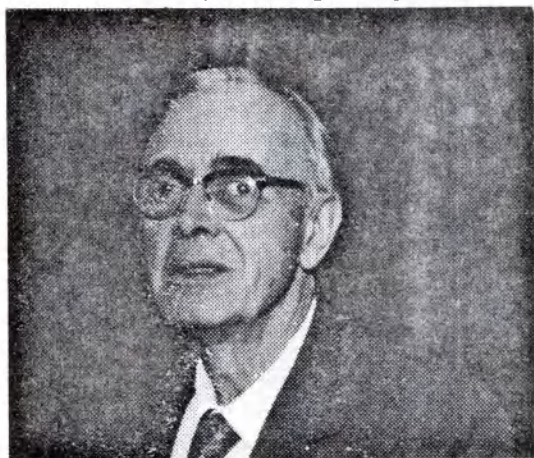
July/August, 1972

Settle back in a comfortable chair and earmark a little special quiet time for the reading of CONTACT. There is going to be a little bit more to this issue than normally because this is the July/August issue and it will include much of the Pre-Conference and Conference report from 1972. It is our hope that you will recapture something of the spirit of our Pre-Conference and Conference activities as you move through the information shared herein. For those who were not able to be with us it is our fervent prayer that you will feel very much a part of all that occurred.

PRE-CONFERENCE AND CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE FIGURES

The Pre-Conference program this year was a speech seminar that was overwhelmingly accepted as the finest and most meaningful program for ministers that we have presented in a long time. The attendance at Pre-Conference was very encouraging, there being 212 registered. Our Conference activities were held at the Holiday Inn in downtown Kansas City. The decision for the location was based upon the assumption that lay delegates would be encouraged to participate as they did last year. The response was not too encouraging. There were only 62 laymen, 220 ministers and spouses, 18 teachers and 13 student ministers, making a total of 313 participating in the Conference. A survey of our correspondence from ministers in the field indicated that the change of time from June to July was also a determining factor.

PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAM



The basic part of the Pre-Conference program was "Effective Speech Technique Seminar," conducted by Dr. Eugene Bahn, professor at Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan. Dr. Bahn very quickly won the hearts, enthusiasm and of course the attention of all who participated. His knowledge and skill in the field of speech made him an effective, tactfull, helpful instructor for the program. You will be interested to know that Dr. Bahn accepted the invitation to conduct the seminar, but would accept only payment of his expenses in return. The entire movement joined in an expression of grateful appreciation for his generosity and his warmhearted interest in our movement.

Dr. Kenneth McFarland, who is considered the "home run king of the speaking world," was our guest speaker at a public meeting on Friday evening of the Pre-Conference. We joined together in expressing grateful appreciation to Dr. McFarland for his stimulating message and for his expressed interest in our work.

We had an evening program in which Ida Bowles was the featured speaker. Her subject was "The Healing Consciousness." Ida's message of inspiration was a blessing to all who participated. Many requests were made for exact copies of the message. Efforts are being made to comply. Should you be interested in purchasing a cassette, we will appreciate hearing from you.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM The Conference program itself was extremely well-planned and diversified in structure. It began with the Charles King Concert on Sunday evening. The spirit that was generated in that time together followed throughout the entire Conference and brought inspiration and joy to all who participated. In addition to the regular business meetings of the Association, time was set aside for a Mini-Conference of the spouses of Unity ministers. The report presented to the Wednesday afternoon session of the Conference body and the feedback from the spouses was that this was a very constructive, very happy, very helpful activity. A tremendous highlight of the Conference program was Catherine Ponder's Prosperity Seminar. This was presented in three parts, and seating space was always difficult to find.



Phil Pierson did a presentation of a project of the Fillmore Foundation on a film-strip presentation of "The Phenomenon of Man." Donald Curtis presented a travelogue of India. Helpful information was shared by Ralph and Rosemary Rhea on the School's outreach through "The Word." Then James Dillet Freeman brought a peace and a power, a love and a beauty to all who participated in his "Time for Prayer."

Representatives from Unity School shared helpful information regarding the cassette program, the editorial policies and the many services rendered by the School to our ministries. Charles Fillmore presented a challenging message under the title "A Time for Unity." He evidenced again the tremendous spirit of unity that we have within our Unity movement.



LAYMEN COMMITTEE REPORT
AUC CONFERENCE
July, 1972

What, as laymen, do we expect from our ministries and the Association of Unity Churches?

1. It is suggested that all regions encourage the centers, through lay publicity chairmen, to develop free publicity by getting as many stories and pictures of activities as is possible in their local newspapers and other media.

With the inclusion, in the not-too-distant future, of a public relations person on the staff of the Association of Unity Churches, assistance will be given to our ministries, through their laymen, to fulfill this recommendation.

2. It is suggested that the AUC investigate the feasibility of leasing or owning outdoor boards which would carry regularly-changed positive Unity thoughts.

This recommendation of the laymen's group will be followed up on and responded to as a result of our public relations research in the Executive Office.

3. It is suggested that Unity School be approached to mention Unity centers in publications more frequently.

We shall explore this possibility and report at a later date in CONTACT.

4. We suggest exploring what the AUC can do communication-wise to support the field; i.e., a full-page ad in Life, getting on talk shows, or 30-second spots on T.V.

As in number two above, research will be done and a report back to the Board of Trustees will be made through the Executive Office.

5. We would like the AUC to explore outreach into military posts, college and community college campuses and through classes, and investigate chaplainships in the military and hospitals.

Extensive research has been done and will continue to be done in finding ways in which the Unity thrust can reach into military posts, college and community college campuses and through classes. Investigation in regard to chaplainship in the military and in hospitals continues.

6. We wonder why we weren't listed in the Time-Life yearbook this year? We would like the AUC to check into this.

An inquiry is being made into the possibility of inclusion in this yearbook.

7. We wish to establish a Laymen's Council in each region. We would like the AUC to go on record suggesting that each region establish a Laymen's Council under the guidelines of AUC, and appoint someone on the Executive Committee to represent laymen.

Consideration continues to be given in the regions to the possibility of the development of councils of laymen. The Board of Trustees continues to give prayerful consideration to the best ways for formulating this plan.

8. We would like to know what AUC is now ready to do for laymen and what they would like us to do for them. Specifically, could a page or paragraph of CONTACT be devoted to laymen's information.

This will unfold as the public relations department develops.

9. We desire that a program for laymen should be *planned* for Conference, with advance notice and adequate time set aside for its meetings.

The Professional Council will become involved in these preparations in the future, as this is recognized as a very valid recommendation.

What, as laymen, can we contribute to our ministries and the Association of Unity Churches?

1. We desire to help the AUC by sending lay delegates from each ministry to the AUC Conferences, and we will volunteer our efforts to communicate the importance of this to other ministries in our regions.

This will be a great contribution to the development of a meaningful laymen's organization.

2. We are going to establish a Convention Committee within each of our centers here represented and encourage other centers to do the same.

This is a tremendous idea, and the AUC would certainly join with the Laymen's Committee in their encouragement of having every ministry develop a Convention Committee to encourage participation by the members of that congregation to our Convention, 1973.

3. We as members of the lay committee are going to return to our centers and ask our prayer panels to specifically pray for the AUC.

We can already feel the outpouring blessing of these prayers.

4. We will take back to our centers and our ministers the proposition that we would like to help sponsor student ministers (\$900 a year) by sending funds to the AUC to be used at the discretion of its Executive Committee in the establishment of a continuing scholarship fund called the Unity Laymen's Scholarship Fund.



ABOVE: Catherine Ponder



TOP LEFT: Charles Lelly, James Decker and Roy Howard

LEFT: Ralph and Rosemary Rhea

BOTTOM LEFT: Bob Sikking

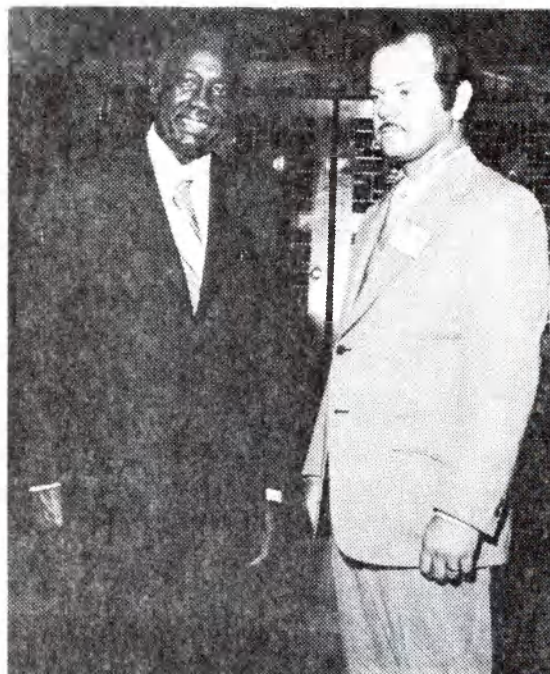
BELOW: Wes Wallin





Our ordination service was hosted by Ernest Wilson and the workers who prepared a beautiful reception at Unity on the Plaza. From left to right ordinands are: Robert T. Means; Ernest B. Milleur; David N. Monument; Elmer A. Schmidt, Jr.; Paul Stewart; Wesley V. Wallin; Barbara M. Williams; James D. Freeman; Robert E. Barth; Jack E. Boland; Donald H. Bould; Jack K. Dolen; June S. Dorrell; Jean B. Grover; William A. Kozy; and seated in wheelchair, Tracy de Kruif.

Richard Austin, Secretary of State of the state of Michigan, was a guest speaker and proved to be a beautiful, eloquent, sincere and dedicated man. His contribution of his time and services are deeply appreciated by all of the Unity movement. Those who attended his lecture came away quickened and strengthened with a firmer resolve for individual commitment not only to our God and to ourselves, but to our country as well.



Another delightful subject we discussed during the mini-conference of spouses was "How to Make a Sandwich." It was based on an article by the nationally syndicated newspaper columnist, Dr. Crane, and is reprinted below.

Our findings were that, although this was certainly an interesting method which could be used occasionally in any relationship, a recipient of frequent "sandwiches" would see through the guise.

The spouses felt that anyone can criticize the minister—his being in a vulnerable position. We need to remember that criticism is hard to take no matter who you are. And so-called constructive criticism from a spouse isn't easy to take either, particularly when it is not asked for. It strikes a very tender spot—our ego! Criticism builds barriers between people—it does not establish a close and loving relationship. Many times we criticize in another what is a shortcoming in ourselves. Perhaps we should remove the beam from our own eye and then we will be in a much better position to bless our mate.

Our conclusion was that we should concentrate on praise rather than criticism, always being sincere, constructive and lavish with our words of praise. As we teach in Unity, praise is like a magnet that draws all sorts of good into manifestation.

Thoughts? Comments? Why don't you send them to me at Unity Christ Church, 2690 Ocean Avenue, San Francisco, California 94132. We'll reprint your ideas in subsequent issues.

CASE S-508: Ruth Peale has written a fascinating new book that covers her 40-year marriage to talented Dr. Norman Vincent Peale.

Therein she mentions that in their early marriage, Dr. Peale would ask her for criticisms of his morning sermon. And if she made any, he seemed downcast and blue. So she learned that creative artists, such as orators, musicians, executives, writers, et al., require a heavy dose of compliments from their wives.

"But," you may inquire, "Sometimes a wife needs to correct her husband, for his own good. So how can she do so without deflating his ego or making him surly?"

The best psychological strategy for this delicate situation is to employ my psychological "Sandwich Method." Therein you start with a sincere bit of praise, which is the "bread" layer of the sandwich. Then casually, and with a smile, slide into the meaty (critical) middle layer of this sandwich.

Many people will ask for criticism, often blandly saying, "I always welcome criticism." But that is a fib! It is contrary to human nature!

"I WANT TO FEEL IMPORTANT" is thus the indelible tattoo that is branded on every chest at the moment of birth. And criticism, correction or reprimand obviously will NOT make us feel more important. But you can administer your criticism and still keep the recipient's ego up to par, by use of that sandwich method. For your opening praise will inflate his pride. Then your casual, smiling, "meaty" layer will possibly lower his ego below its original starting point. So fade out with another big dose of sincere praise, for then you will have restored his vanity to normal or even boosted it a few degrees.

Applied to Dr. Peale, here's a possible example that Mrs. Peale might have employed 40 years ago:

1st layer: "Norman, you are such an interesting speaker that I never see anybody dozing while you talk."

Meaty layer (with smile): "Do you know that when you reach a lofty emotional climax, you tend to mask your own feeling by speaking out of the left corner of your mouth in a harsher tone? So don't you think those who are a bit hard of hearing could follow your lips more easily if you spoke in your usual manner?"

Last layer: "For you have such a wonderful talent of inspiring all those who come to hear you by your 'parable' method of sermonizing that they always leave the church, uplifted in soul."

**A RECOMMENDATION
FROM YOUR
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

It was brought to the attention of the Executive Committee that some of our Unity ministries are presenting programs of study to their students based on astrology, psychic ability, tarot, etc. It has always been the strong conviction of AUC to maintain the greatest

possible freedom for our ministries in regard to techniques and teachings that have been meaningful to our people. It is the strong conviction of the AUC, however, that the center, at the heart, at the core of the Unity ministry should be the presentation of the Unity teaching. Other subjects should rightly remain on the periphery of our teaching program. Unity students who come to ministries that present themselves as being Unity ministries should be able to find a common denominator that is the basic principles of Truth as the subject of teaching within the ministry.

There is some concern on the part of the Executive Committee that many of these subjects can tend to mislead eager and sincere Truth students because they tend to cause him to rely on outer factors rather than rely on the consciousness of the indwelling Christ within himself. Historically, in our ministries where these peripheral subjects have been given emphasis, a need may very well have been fulfilled, but ultimately the ministry returns to a recognition of the importance and significance of our basic teachings as our greatest commodity in serving mankind. It has never been the intent of the totality of the field movement that is the AUC to be restrictive in its standard, but to ever be mindful of the great worth and value of the basic Unity teachers to our ministries.

**CREDIT UNION
ANNOUNCEMENT**

Justus Credit Union announces that AUC centers, ministers and board members have deposits outstanding of \$220,000.00 and loans outstanding to AUC centers, ministers and board members of \$425,000.00. Presently from AUC centers we have inquiries and requests for \$375,000.00 for the coming year for loans.

The Justus Credit Union will be mailing shortly to all centers a press release regarding their current operations, anticipated dividend for the coming year and services for AUC centers, ministers and board members. Watch for this information soon so that you may present it to your Board of Directors.

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CONVENTION '73

Everything is flowing along beautifully in our promotional efforts for Convention '73. The full-color brochures are now available, and we are sending quantities of them to each of the ministries. If you need additional "stickers," or brochures, or Registration Forms, *please use the pink Order Form* in your Convention Materials Packet to order more.

Remember that the promotional Slide Show is now available to each ministry for \$15.00. This includes 58 slides, a professionally recorded cassette tape, and a printed script. The slides are NOT in a slide tray, leaving you free to use your own projector equipment. This show may be used in many ways even after Convention, and the price is right, so we encourage you to put it in your "tool kit" soon. Please make ALL checks out to "AUC - Convention '73" which have to do with the Convention in any way.

We have mailed a quantity of Registration Forms to each ministry. If you find that you will not be using anywhere near the amount of Forms we sent you, we request that you return some of them to the AUC so they may be distributed to other ministries. These Forms were printed at quite an expense to the AUC, and we want them to fulfill their purpose effectively.

Don't forget to make contact with the people in your congregation who attended the last Convention in 1970. They will be an asset to you in drumming up enthusiasm for 1973. There is nothing more convincing than the personal testimony of someone who has "been there before."

CONGRATULATIONS

We have just received word from Florence Anderson, our minister in Asheville, North Carolina, of her forthcoming marriage on November 12. Louis E. Meyer will perform the ceremony of Florence and R. Morrison Allen. We know that you will want to join all of us here in extending our love and blessings to Morrison and Florence for all the success and happiness they desire.

IN MEMORIAM

We have just received word of the passing of Julia McKee on November 7, 1972. Julia was the founding minister of our ministry in Lemay, Missouri. She was ordained in 1949 and served in the ministry there until May, 1970. We know your blessings join ours as we extend our loving prayers to Julia's family and friends.

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

Six Months, 72/73 Bookyear

INCOME

Love Offerings - General	16,350.88	112,800.19
Ministerial Education Offerings	5.00	725.63
Youth Education Offerings	176.00	678.53
Gain from Operations:		
Curriculum and Material	215.37	4,199.78
Other Income	1,869.78	7,042.47
Total Income:	18,617.03	125,446.60

EXPENSES

General Office	18,278.14	91,536.19
Youth Education	*17,572.83	19,945.90
Ministerial Education	4,167.21	21,229.38
Total Expenses	40,018.18	132,711.47
Excess Income over Expenses	(21,401.15)	(7,264.87)

* The greater part of the Conference and Seminar expenses came during the month of September.



UNITY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION '73

REGISTRATIONS

We have now mailed quantities of stickers, brochures and registration forms to each ministry, and the response has been most enthusiastic. We are already beginning to receive registrations, which will pour in by the thousands from now on until July. The promotional program for Convention '73 has been very well received and we are now beginning to see the fruits of its effectiveness.

Don't forget to remind your people about the charter flights which will be available from all parts of the country. Be sure to contact the minister in your area who is in charge of making this information available, or contact Trans-Mark Travel, 11th and Wyandotte, Kansas City, Missouri 64105, for the details . . . Very attractive rates are available for group flights, charter buses and special trains.

Each person who registers for the Convention will receive a Hotel Accommodations Packet which contains special forms to be filled in and returned to Kansas City. It would be good to remind these persons that they will be able to take care of their housing and transportation requirements through the use of the materials in this packet.

All of us here at AUC headquarters have really been "bitten by the bug" called UNITY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION '73, and we know your excitement and enthusiasm is growing by leaps and bounds, too. Thanks for your enthusiastic support . . . Blessings from all of us to all of you.

WATCH FOR BULLETINS

We are currently in the process of having the special "Sunday Morning Bulletin" printed for you which may be used on Sunday, February 4th as part of "Convention Week." We will mail them to you, along with the special printed letter from Grover Thornsberry, sometime in early January.

Don't forget to order your copy of the promotional slide show which may be used in a variety of ways both prior to the Convention and afterward.

POST CONVENTION RETREAT AT UNITY VILLAGE JULY 23 to 29, 1973

An activity of special interest to ministers and laymen alike is the Post Convention Retreat at Unity Village which will follow immediately the 1973 International Convention. An exciting program is being planned. Many of our friends in the Caribbean have already registered for this Retreat. Any remaining space not allotted to "out of country" visitors will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis.