

THE ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES

Issue 39

May/June 1973

At the very moment you read this, we would like for you to begin to pray for divine order. Now is the time we need you to do your prayer work for the declaration of divine order in regard to the Committee Meetings, Conference and Convention '73. A declaration of divine order is an exercise in which we can all participate. As we pray and all do our part we can be assured that the good we envision will become manifest. Thank You, God and thank you, friends, for divine order.

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR APPLICATION FOR RESERVATIONS FOR CONVENTION '73? IF NOT, PLEASE DO SO IMMEDIATELY!

There is current information in this issue of Contact regarding the celebrities that will be on the Convention Program - you will want to pass this word along.

NEW "TEACHER TRAINING CURRICULUM COMMITTEE"

When the Executive Committee met here at Unity Village on April 23-27, a proposal was presented to them by Unity School that a new committee be appointed to serve as a joint "Teacher

Training Curriculum Committee," This committee will work with the staff of UICE in continuing to strengthen our teacher/training program. One of its purposes will be the development of a postgraduate program to commence this fall.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Though it is far in advance, please make note that the dates have been set for the Midyear Council of Committee Meetings. They

will be held here at Unity Village the week of January 20, 1974.

Plans have also been made for a "1974 Healing Rally" to be held in conjunction with the spring Executive Committee meetings during the week April 29 through May 3, 1974. This will be held in San Francisco, California and will be sponsored by the Northern California Unity Ministers Conference. The actual rally will commence on Thursday, May 1 through Friday, May 2 for public participation.

YOUR RESPONSE NEEDED FOR BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD

We need to have a response from you—all ministers—senior ministers, associate ministers, assistant ministers, inactive or retired ministers. We need to have a response from each

one of you in order for those who wish to join the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Health care program to be able to do so. Please return the card which we sent to you previously, as to whether or not you wish to join. If you already have insurance, please send in the card anyway, indicating that you already have coverage.

We are nearing the 75% of eligible members who wish to join and your response one way or the other will help to initiate the program. We'll expect your card soon.

TIME WILL BE SET ASIDE FOR REGIONAL MEETINGS **DURING CONFERENCE**

For the Regions who wish to meet together during Conference this year, there will be free time to do so on Monday and Tuesday afternoons—July 16 and 17. Rooms for these meetings will be provided at your request and information will be announced at Conference time.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR Y.O.U. COORDINATOR

"At this time I would like to express my thanks to all of the ministries who have supported their YOUers in various ways to sponsor and attend the Official Regional Rallies. I have learned much from my visits about how I can better help the YOU locally

and regionally, as well as gained new insights into my role as Coordinator. There is a desire on my part to see more in-depth work put into making rallies more meaningful from the aspect of workshops. In this regard I look forward to your ideas and suggestions which can be implemented for the good of all concerned. Perhaps some of your ideas which have been used successfully in retreats may be helpful to us. Thank you for your prayers and loving thoughts—the YOU International is grateful."

THE SONG SHEET IS A GIFT OF LOVE

A copy of the song, "I Am a Wonderful Child of God," is being sent to each ministry. This beautiful song comes as a gift from Unity Church on the North Shore, in Evanston, Illinois, where

Bob Means is the minister. The song was written by Chris Pusateri for their Sunday School, Bob said, "This song has caught on not only in the Sunday School but throughout our congregation. It is a 'Unity Song.' Chris would like to share it as a gift of love to all the ministries in the spirit of Truth and Unity." Thank you, Chris, for sharing your beautiful creation with us.

LICENSED TEACHER RECOGNITION

Special Licensed Teacher recognition has been given to Barbara Natta of San Fernando, Trinidad. We know that Barbara's loving consciousness lends added strength to the great work

in Trinidad. Thank you and bless you, Barbara.

IN MEMORIAM

Chase Willet, our Unity minister in Flushing, New York, passed away May 1, 1973. Chase has been the minister in Flushing since 1965. He was ordained in 1962 and first served in Rockford, Illinois. His love for people has been a real blessing to all unto whom he has ministered. We bless Chase in his eternal ongoing.

THE "SERVICE OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION" HAS BEEN PRINTED

In the April 1973 issue of CONTACT we enclosed, for each ministry, a copy of "Service of Spiritual Communion," by Charles Neal, Unity minister in Miami, Florida. Your

response has indicated that you would like for us to print the service and make it available for your use. It may now be ordered from the AUC on a love offering basis. Please specify, when ordering, that you want the "Service of Spiritual Communion."

TWO MORE BOOKLETS FOR YOUR USE

Unity School has added two more booklets which we may share with you through S-70 distribution. They are entitled, "Ideas to Live By" and "Begin Life Anew." Both have colorful nature

scenes on the cover with 65 pages of inspirational, Truth messages. These may be ordered through the AUC on a love offering basis.

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA Ernest Milleur, Associate Minister in Seattle, Washington, has been invited to accept leadership in Fresno. He will accept his new responsibilities on July 1, 1973.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON With the resignation of Ernest Milleur as Associate Minister an invitation has been extended to Max Lafser of Mesa, Arizona, to join the staff as Associate Minister as of July 1, 1973.

Your Placement Committee is continuing to work with the Boards involved in the following ministries requiring succession of leadership. New Port Richey, Florida; Flushing, New York; Unity Christ Church, St. Louis, Missouri; Mesa, Arizona and Reno, Nevada. We are assured of continuity of leadership and succession through the fine class of graduating candidates for ordination to become available for placement in the field.

UNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM
ACCEPTED BY A.S.O.R.
On May 3, 1973 the trustees of the American Schools of Oriental Research voted to accept Unity School and the School of Ministerial and Religious Studies into its membership. This action culminated a process which was begun last fall by Nicholas Griffin, PhD., Curriculum Advisor.

The American Schools of Oriental Research is the premiere archaeological organization in the United States. It is headed by the well-known scholar G. Ernest Wright, who has made his life's work the development of authentic archaeological research in the Mideast. Thomas D. Newman, Unity minister in Brookline, Massachusetts, has been serving the ASOR for several years as the Administrative Director in Boston.

Our acceptance by ASOR means that: (1) Unity will receive up-to-date published reports about the most recent discoveries in Biblical archaeology. This information will be helpful to students and will be kept for further research in Unity's Library. (2) ASOR provides inexpensive accommodations at its school locations in the Middle East for students of its membership organizations who have the opportunity to travel to the various sites for study. It is conceivable that in the future, and with proper funding, the students of SMRS may be able to participate in a research project of this kind.

Unity is grateful for the honor of having been accepted by ASOR and is looking forward to greater participation in the future in the important field of archaeology. Phil White, newly appointed Director of Education for Unity School, will serve as the Corporate Director on the councils of ASOR.

LIMOUSINE SERVICE TO UNITY VILLAGE

A Unity School staff member, Carl Jenkins, in the Computer Room, has gone into business on the side offering limousine service. The rates and the service are very favorable and com-

petitive. Make a note of the following information as you may wish to avail yourself of this service. If so, it will be necessary to contact Jetway Limousine Service, Inc. (Carl Jenkins) 6812 Holmes, Kansas City, MO 64131 - 816-444-6360.

UNITY SCHOOL (to or from) KANSAS CITY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

\$15.00 First passenger

8.00 Second passenger

6.00 Third passenger

6.00 Fourth passenger

6.00 Fifth passenger

1 Full Load of 5 or more for \$41.00 - Limousine can seat up to 7 passengers

From UNION STATION or BUS DEPOTS

\$ 9.00 Single

16.00 Double

5.00 Each Additional

Five or more \$30.00

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES

Statement of Operation

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First Month of Bookyear 73 / 74 INCOME: 22,253.57 Love Offerings General Love Offerings Education Department 1,436.59 GAIN FROM OPERATIONS: 248.39 Curriculum and Material 1,175.28 Other Income: 25,113.83 TOTAL INCOME **EXPENSES:** 14,660.15 General Office 5,323.69 **Education Department** 19,983.84 TOTAL EXPENSES 5,129.99 Excess Income over Expenses



Coffee, Tea or . . . ?

(Entertaining church and board members)

Helen Hampson, the gracious wife of our Unity minister in Hawaii, led a group discussion on this subject at the mini-conference of ministers' spouses in July, 1972. Here are some of this group's findings.

In reading the many books written for and about ministers' spouses, it is interesting to note the continual references to manse and rectory. Most Unity ministers and their families live in a dwelling which they buy or rent on their housing allowances rather than a home which is part of the church property. This puts us in the delightful position of entertaining because we want to and not because we have to as is expected in many other religious denominations.

How good this is, because true entertaining should be an honest and gracious extension of one's hospitality toward another, rather than obligatory or a social repayment. While the "Open House" idea and other forms of group gatherings can be joyous occasions, they should not be used to recoup social obligations in blanket form.

"It is a wonderful thing for a family to set aside its home for itself and its friends," writes Amy Vanderbilt in her "New Complete Book of Etiquette." "When guests are invited to break bread for other than purely friendly reasons, the entertainment is too often a failure. A good rule to follow is: don't try to do business over your own dinner table. Entertaining at home should have no strings attached."

Wallace Denton in his classic study, "The Role of the Ministers' Wife," writes "Wives of public figures are 'on display' and are expected to be gracious hostesses. The wife of a businessman, educator or minister frequently entertains various dignitaries and emphasis is placed upon her ability to fulfill this aspect of her role and otherwise put guests at ease. In all that the minister's wife does she is expected to set the example in gracious living."

In "The Pastor's Wife and the Church" by Dorothy Pentecost, we read "It never works to entertain individuals, couples, or families in the manse. It is impossible to get to entertain all who belong to the church. Even if you succeeded in reaching everyone carefully, you would be criticized because of the order in which you invited them. No matter what you do, you cannot win. We entertain in groups, such as Sunday school classes, the board members and their wives, prayer groups, morning coffee for the women of the church, Sunday school board, young people, and — once a year — Open House for the entire church. In this way, everyone who wishes to can come to the manse on invitation, at least once a year, and the active members usually come several times because they are members of the groups that are invited."

Then we have these ideas from Helen Shoemaker in "How to be a Minister's Wife and Love It," "No sooner do the new minister and his wife settle into their new parish than the invitations for dinner will start flowing. A frantic thought may come to the preacher's wife, 'How can I ever repay all these people?' The obvious answer is, of course, that they do not expect to be repaid. They consider this an opportunity to become better acquainted with their clergy family and this in no way puts an obligation on her. She who entertains twenty-four or so guests from the parish — 'a few of our close friends'— is treading upon dangerous soil. Twice that many will say to themselves, 'I thought we were their close friends.' The solution to this is the Open House, given from time to time in the rectory. This automatically includes everyone in the parish and when the sensitive touchy soul says, 'They never ask me to their parties,' the preacher's wife can always fall back on, 'So sorry you weren't able to come to our Open House—perhaps next time you can make it.'"

Whichever of these suggestions you feel comfortable with, Amy Vanderbilt's further suggestion on entertaining is important. "If host and hostess themselves can, through the careful selection of their guests and through sufficient advance preparation, look forward with pleasure to an evening, then the party is virtually assured of success. Whether trained servants present platters of peacocks' tongues or the hostess herself dishes up a good spaghetti dinner is quite immaterial. If the house looks as if it expected and welcomed guests, if the host and hostess are relaxed and smiling, the guests will feel at home and at ease, no matter what superficial accounterments of entertaining may be missing through necessity or design."

THE SPICE CABINET (Continued)

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I thought you would enjoy more excerpts from recent columns by Amy Vanderbilt regarding etiquette for clergymen and their spouse.

MINISTER'S WIFE

My husband is a pastor, and we are frequently invited to the homes of parishoners for dinner. What is expected of a minister's wife and family in regard to reciprocation?

Nobody expects a minister's family to reciprocate invitations in kind. In some cases they don't expect any reciprocation at all. Occasionally a minister has outside financial resources, but most of those who depend upon their salaries certainly cannot do much entertaining. The husband and wife give so much of themselves that few people would expect social entertaining from them as well.

WEDDING INVITATIONS TO MINISTER

Do the minister and his wife receive an invitation to a wedding ceremony the minister performs?

The minister and his wife should receive a wedding invitation if it is to include the reception. If there is a reception they are always invited.

CLERGYMAN AT THE RECEPTION

My husband is a clergyman, and we wonder when we should accept invitations to wedding receptions. So often we know only one set of parents. Should we send a gift? Since we do not drink, may we toast with water? Are we supposed to stay until the cake is cut?

Most people do invite the clergyman and his wife to the reception. It is not necessary for you to accept, since clergymen have so many obligations. You are not expected to send a gift, although clergymen sometimes do when they are close to either or both of the bridal partners. If you do accept, don't be embarrassed about not drinking. You may certainly toast with water. Just don't make a fuss about it. (Some people think toasting with water brings bad luck, but you can tell anyone who protests that this has always been the custom of King Gustav of Sweden.) People do stay through the cake cutting, but if it does not follow at a convenient time, you may certainly excuse yourself. Make your departure quietly after speaking to at least the bride's parents.

TEA PARTY

Is it better to invite the minister and his wife to tea alone or with others?

Many people feel a little restrained when it comes to entertaining the clergy. But clergymen and their wives are like everybody else; they enjoy the company of other people. I would suggest that you have others in for tea.

COMMITTEE 3, Committee on Literature

The value of printed pieces specifically designed to fulfill needs within our ministries was stressed by the survey and the recommendations from the survey. The Executive Office of the AUC increasingly produces and provides as a service to its ministries such pieces of literature as "Unity, a Ministry of Service," "Twenty Questions," "Guidelines for Unity Board Members," "Information Regarding Money Purchase Pension Plan," "Something Special," and a new pamphlet in the works defining procedures, policies and guidance for ministers and board members regarding change of leadership and placement.

This obviously must be a continuing committee in the fulfillment of needs as they arise for printed matter that will assist in our field activity.

COMMITTEE 4, Interpretation and Expansion – External

We still are limited in our effectiveness in interpretation of what Unity is, what the Association of Unity Churches is and what Unity ministries are externally. Continuing efforts are being made to provide skilled services collectively by which we can communicate to the world at large who and what we are and the service that we stand ready to render.

BARTON ASSOCIATES QUESTIONNAIRE REGARDING AUC CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

In November, 1972, a questionnaire was sent out from the Association of Unity Churches to be returned to Barton Associates regarding "Why I Did Not Attend the AUC July Conference." This went to all ministers who did not attend the July, 1972, Conference. Of 94 ministers to whom the questionnaire was sent, 63 responded. This indicated a 67.02 percent return, which is phenomenally high and evidently means that our ministers have an especially great interest in this subject, as well as a desire to be cooperative. We rejoice and give thanks for a ministry that is cooperative and has a quickening and active interest in the ongoing activities of our field movement.

The 94 ministers that did not attend Conference in 1972 represent 37.14 percent of the entire established field of the Association of Unity Churches. It is important for us to recognize that this is a significant portion of our membership, and therefore there is considerable significance to the results of the survey.

The overriding reason stated for non-attendance was "Prefer Conference at Unity Village." with 44.44 percent of those responding giving this as their reason. Closely tied in with that was a second reason, "Don't like shows, circuses, spectaculars," 12.69 percent. The two above reasons combine to total 57.13 percent. A third reason was "Don't get enough out of it," 12.69 percent. The other articulated reasons for non-attendance were health reasons, other commitments, want no laymen at Conference, wrong time of the year, and financial. Respondents specifically stated repeatedly that the atmosphere of Unity Village is more serene, uplifting and conducive to replenishment of the spirit. The survey obviously evidenced the search on our part for a "reveal and heal" atmosphere.

Immediate Responses to Latest Barton Associates Survey

The Board of Trustees of AUC at the Midyear Council of Committee meetings were presented with the above survey results and immediately determined to make every effort to return AUC Conferences to Unity Village, exclusively for ministers, teachers and their spouses. Decisions have been made by the Board of Trustees, which must be ratified by the membership in July at the Conference, regarding the reversal of the Conference body decision to hold the 1974 Conference in San Francisco and reversal of the Conference decision to increase the involvement of laymen in Conference activities.

Continuing efforts will be made to render the service that is needed to our lay people, but this will be done separate from our Conference activities, subject to the approval of the Conference body.

WE REJOICE AND GIVE THANKS TO BARTON ASSOCIATES FOR SKILLED SERVICES RENDERED AND FOR BLESSINGS RECEIVED

Both the Board of Trustees of the Association of Unity Churches and its entire membership wishes to express its appreciation to Barton Associates of Akron, Ohio, for its gift of services to AUC in making it possible for our membership to express its wishes and its desires so clearly and concisely. We rejoice in the maturity within our movement to respond to this communication and add strength and stability to our movement as a whole.

PRODUCTIVE RESULTS FROM BARTON ASSOCIATE SURVEYS of the ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES

During the first week in October of 1971, 387 questionnaires were mailed to members of the Association of Unity Churches. By December 22, 1971, 202 responses had been received. This is a 52.2 percent return. In the realm of studies and surveys, this is considered a most excellent response. Even the most carefully structured audience ordinarily produces from 25 percent to 33 1/3 percent return. We as a movement can be proud of our response, but we can be even more proud of the progress that has been made in increasing the effectiveness of our service to our ministries through the Executive Office of AUC in response to the questionnaire.

Barton Associates made a number of recommendations to the AUC as the result of the findings of the attitude survey. Those recommendations fell into four categories, which were designated as Committee 1, Internal Communications and Public Relations; Committee 2, Committee on Personal Representation, Lectures, Speakers, Field Representatives; Committee 3, Committee on Literature; Committee 4, Interpretation and Expansion External.

COMMITTEE 1, Internal Communications and Public Relations

The voice from the field through the survey was loud and clear. Increased effectiveness in internal communications and public relations was a mandate from our membership. Increased regularity and content of CONTACT has been made number one priority. As our internal communications continue to unfold, CONTACT is increasing its scope of material covered with the inclusion of information of interest to the field, from and about Unity School, from and about regional activities, from and about special groups such as the ministers' spouses, laymen, etc.

Increasing the effectiveness of our day to day correspondence with ministers, ministries and teachers in the field has continuing attention within the normal procedures of our office. Since AUC is primarily organized and conducted through the Executive Office as a service organization to our ministers and ministries, this person to person communication continues to be of vital importance.

Pension Health Plans for the Field

In spite of continuing communication regarding both our Banker's Life Annuity program for ministers and our Money Purchase Pension Plan for ministers, teachers and workers, the surprising proportion of our membership was unclear as to what was available in the way of pension planning. Increasing communication on a person to person, regional and national level regarding our pension plans has been entered into. A detailed brochure is available for consideration by ministers and ministry board members in this regard.

A surprising proportion of respondents sought assistance in the development of a group health insurance plan. Research steps were taken immediately, and such a plan was communicated to the membership at Conference and subsequently in printed form. The very small proportion of our membership that has responded to the plan indicates that decisive action in this matter cannot as yet be taken.

COMMITTEE 2, Committee on Personal Representation, Lectures, Speakers, Field Representatives.

This committee is concerned with person to person representation in the field. Extensive steps have been taken in the development of procedures that enable us to provide lecturers and speakers to all of our ministries upon request. This involves cooperation with Unity School staff personnel, by the channeling of all requests through the Executive of AUC. Since this plan has been instituted, we have not failed to supply a speaker for every requested special occasion. From time to time it has been necessary to provide alternate choices of speakers or lecturers, but the need has been filled.

Since the recommendations regarding Committee 2 were first received, AUC Board of Trustees representatives have increasingly been involved in attendance at regional meetings, in addition to the presence of the Executive Director. Person to person communication has been increased by the inclusion of executives of the AUC in attendance at Board/Minister meetings within the regions. Continuing research is involved in ways to increasingly provide for the field personnel for those special activities in every ministry which adds to the growth and development of the ministry.

CONFERENCE & CONVENTION Friday - July 13-20

SCHOOL FOR MINISTERIAL AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES SUMMER TRIMESTER - APR. 30 - AUG. 10, 1973

HOLIDAYS: Mon. May 28th
Wed. July 4th

11:50	11:00	10	10:		9:50	9:00	00		T
	00	10:50	10:00 to		50	0 0	8:50	8:00	
2 PSYCHO-CYBERNETICS (Mauritz Erhard)	1 SPEECH (William Fischer)	(Harold Whaley)	WORLD	1 & 2 TR	2 CREDO C-2 (Phil White)	1 C-3 UNIT APPROACH TO COUNSELING (Various Instructors)	SERVICE	STUDENT CHAPEL	MONDAY
STUDENT PRAYER TIME	1 & 2 SILENT UNITY HEALING MEETING	2 SPEECH (William Fischer)	STORY OF UNITY (James D. Freeman)	1 C-2	2 CREDO C-2 (Phil White)	1 SPEECH (William Fischer)	2 SYNOPTIC STUDY (William Fischer)	1 BIBLE HISTORY (Phil White)	TUESDAY
	- INTEGRATIVE	SEMINAR -			2 CREDO C-2 (Phil White)	1 C-3 UNIT APPROACH TO COUNSELING (Various Instructors)	2 BIBLE INTERPRETATION (Ed Rabel)	1 BIBLE HISTORY (Phil White)	WEDNESDAY
STUDENT PRAYER TIME	1 & 2 SILENT UNITY HEALING MEETING	2 SPEECH (William Fischer)	STORY OF UNITY (James D. Freeman)	1 C-2	(Harold Whaley)	1 & 2 TR WORLD RELIGIONS	2 SYNOPTIC STUDY (William Fischer)	1 BIBLE HISTORY (Phil White)	THURSDAY
2 BIBLE C-4 INTERPRETTION (Ed R. 1)	1 SPEECH (William Fischer)	2 SPEECH (William Fischer)	STORY OF UNITY (James D. Freeman)	1 C-2	(William Fischer)	1 & 2 TR CREATIVE PROGRAMMING	2 SYNOPTIC STUDY (William Fischer)	1 BIBLE HISTORY (Phil White)	FRIDAY

SCHOOL FOR MINISTERIAL AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

STUDENT MINISTRY AT CONVALESCENT HOME

For the past two years the ministerial students have been conducting services at the Holmesdale Convalescent Home in Kansas City. These services are held on the second Sunday of each month. Mrs. Rodgers,

the occupational therapist in charge of the patients, tells us that the patients look forward with great anticipation to the Sundays that UNITY holds the service. She added that the "patients are so greatly helped."

A second-year student is given the responsibility for assignments for these meetings. During this year Roy Fox, of the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania ministry, has been in charge. George Reiger, of the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania ministry, will take over for Roy.

Anywhere from twenty to forty ambulatory patients attend each service, participating as best they can. They love to sing. Additional ministerial students attend to lead in the singing, and to provide special musical programs.

STUDENTS CONDUCT MINISTRY AT JACKSON COUNTY JAIL

The Jackson County Jail in Kansas City, Missouri, has been going through some big changes lately. S.M.R.S. students have been involved in these constructive changes. Chris Morgan, a first-year student from Toronto, Ontario, Canada, who does volunteer pastoral

work under the direction of the jail chaplain, has informed us that Unity was invited to conduct its first Sunday service in March of this year. John Sherman, from the Seattle, Washington ministry, presented the message. Chris Morgan did the meditation and Conrad Stahl, originally from the ministry in Wichita, Kansas, provided the music. The Jackson County Jail houses 384 men at the present time, and some of them are now requesting Unity literature. Silent Unity also recently received a request from an inmate there for a visit from a Unity minister.

There is another activity in the continuing effort to involve the ministerial students in an experiential type of program relating to their future ministries.

FACULTY MEMBERS JOIN THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

At the invitation of Phil White, Bible instructor in S.M.R.S., Bill Fischer and Nick Griffin recently joined the Kansas City Society for Theological Studies. Phil has been a member for

several years. The Society is made up of faculty members of the various seminaries and religious colleges and universities in the greater Kansas City area. Bill and Nick were the only two new members inducted in the semi-annual dinner meeting held in March. Following dinner and a business meeting, those attending had a choice of attending three different seminars. Bill and Phil chose to attend a Bible seminar, while Nick went to one on religious philosophy. We know that not only will Bill and Nick be blessed by this association but they will bring the blessing of Unity to their new found friends.