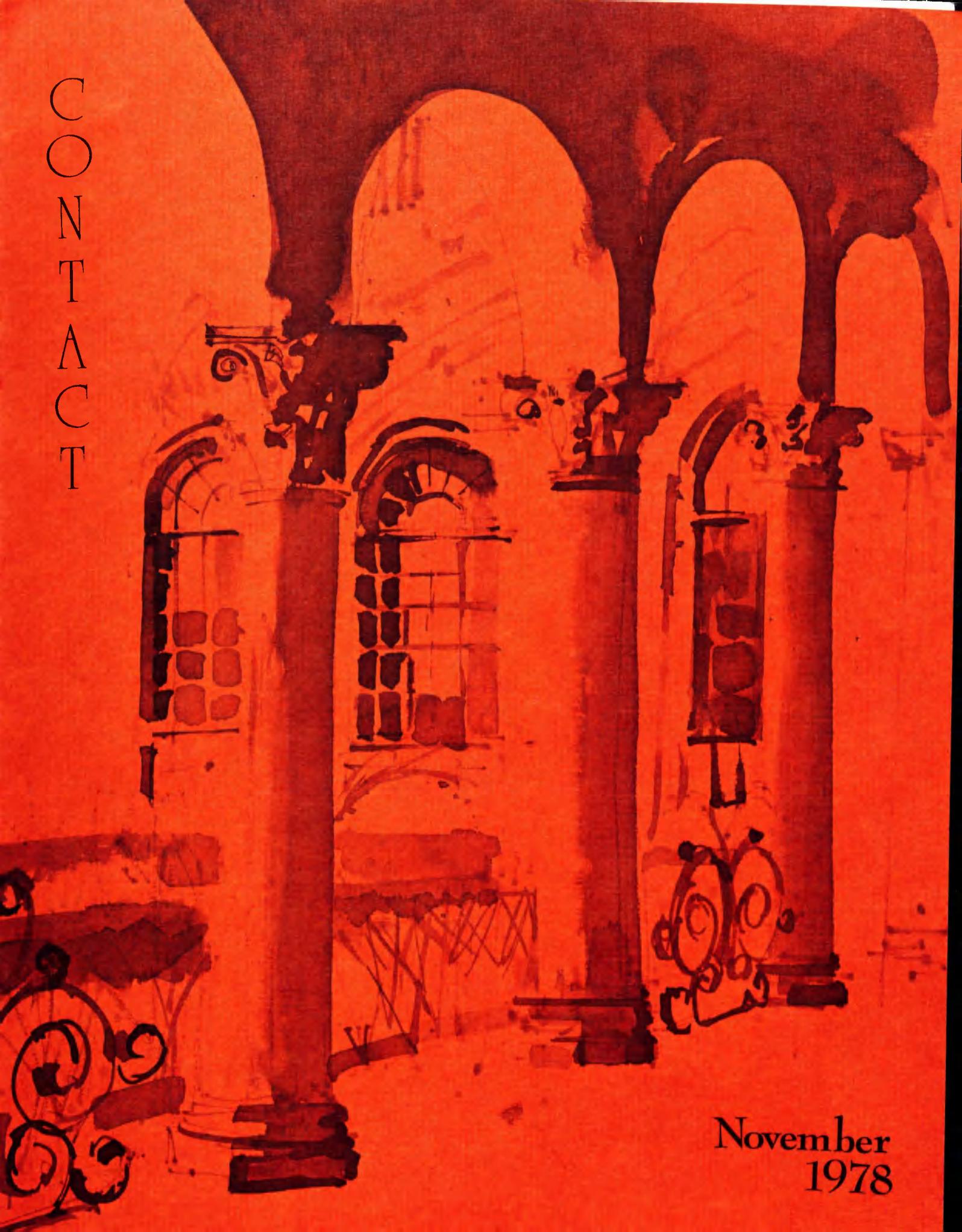


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November
1978

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NOVEMBER

ISSUE 93

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CONTACT STAFF

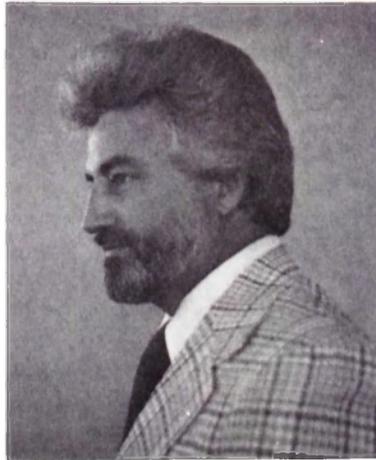
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AUC President's Letter

Dear Friend,

Almost every time the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee meet, the members are faced with agonizing decisions regarding the eligibility of active ministers for further placement and/or the reinstatement of ministers whose conduct has been questionable. The difficulties come pressing in when we try to balance our desire to express fairness, understanding, compassion, and forgiveness for the soul we love with the commitment we have made to do that which is right, fair, wise, wholesome, and strengthening for our member churches. Our hearts go out to those ministers whose future in Unity may be in jeopardy. Too many times in the past the Board and the Executive Committee have let sentimentality and the desire to rescue the "good guys" lead us to take the easy way out. The easy way has been to let these ministers off the hook and to place them again. All too often the churches later suffer because the ministers revert to the patterns that caused their problems in their previous ministries.

We have, at last, faced the fact that the easy way for the Executive Committee and the Board is not necessarily the easy way either for the churches or for the ministers in question. Coddling cannot produce the breakthrough that the minister must make to reach self-understanding and a sense of responsibility. We



R. Bernard Dozier

are now realizing that our churches are not rehabilitation centers for delinquent ministers. Our churches are too precious, too valuable, and too hard to build for them to be entrusted to persons whose performance patterns do not justify continued placement in Unity churches.

A number of times in the past, we Board members have been snowed, but we are becoming increasingly less susceptible to "human-talk." We are no longer willing to let ourselves be manipulated into placing or reinstating ministers out of pity. Feeling sorry for someone is a poor excuse for placing him at the helm of a church. It takes strength to be a minister and a leader. We must have strong ministers in order to have strong churches. Once a min-

ister has caused grave concern by his instability, or through unethical conduct such as dishonesty, devisiveness, starting an independent ministry in the same locality in competition with a former ministry, misrepresentation of such independent ministry as being affiliated with Unity, his possibility of further placement or reinstatement is virtually nil.

If such a minister desires, he may, after a meeting with the Placement Committee, request an interview with the Executive Committee and the Board to consider his application for placement or for reinstatement. The filing of such request is far from being tantamount to rubber-stamp approval or acceptance. Applicants requesting these interviews should be prepared for the most penetrating, soul-searching questioning, for the purpose of arriving at an unvarnished, honest appraisal of both the applicant's stability and ability to contribute to the Unity movement. If the applicant is found wanting, we are determined to have the courage to say no, and to lovingly, prayerfully release him to find his growth elsewhere.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bernard".

NOTICE!

CONFERENCE 1978 CASSETTE TAPES AVAILABLE

The Healing Mind
By Dr. Irving Oyle

and

Paul and His World
by Dr. Bruce D. Rahtjen

All orders from centers will be fulfilled as of November 15, 1978.

The costs are: Oyle (one cassette) \$3.00 (regular price \$5.00); Rahtjen (four cassettes) \$9.60 (regular price \$16.00).

(The standard 40% discount was used to arrive at the costs of \$3.00 and \$9.60.)

MEET THE STAFF

In the October issue of CONTACT, Editor-in-Chief **Stan Hampson** introduced to you the most recent additions to your AUC staff. In his article, "A Dream Come True," Stan gave you a thumb-nail sketch of some of these new hands. Now CONTACT is pleased to show you their smiling faces...and to introduce to you three who have been added since last we went to press.

SUNNY FISH

AUC Office Manager

There is no way in which we could say enough nice things about Sunny. Do yourself a favor and meet her in person when you come to the office. You'll be glad you did.



TIA PRICE

*Assistant Manager
AUC-MIT Gift Shop*

Tia brings to this position a beautiful smile, a ready and infectious laugh, a warmly-Southern personal charm and an enormous amount of expertise. Former owner of a metaphysical bookstore, she is knowledgeable about the Shop's stock and will

be so happy to help you when you drop in. Put Tia high on your "must-meet" list!

CHARLES MURPHY

Assistant, AUC Print Shop

If you want to meet a real walkin'-talkin' answer-to-prayer, go down to the Print Shop and see Charlie. When we needed someone willing to pitch in and do anything that needed to be done, and to do it with neatness and dispatch, we found him. He's great...and we're grateful.



LINDA JARRETT

Secretary

Lovely Linda does dictation transcriptions, and fills in with extra secretarial duties when and where she is needed. Working only half-days, she certainly brightens up her share of the day.



DEBI MARTIN

Secretary

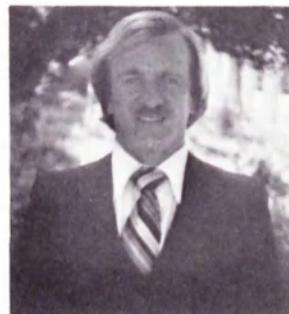
We previously announced that Debi, too, was a part-time employee, but now we're happy to say that she's agreed to work full time. We're lucky to have her.



JOANN LANDRETH

Administrative Assistant

Joann handles a multitude of details for Stan and Scott, lightening the workload for both these busy men. Before she came to AUC, Joann was secretary for the Unity Village Chapel, for **Sig** and **Jane Paulson** and then for **Frank** and **Martha Giudici**. She's terrific!



CHARLES HANCOCK

"CHUCK"

Photographer

When the nice young man with the Polaroid says "smile, please," you will. You won't be able to keep from it. Chuck's been kind enough to volunteer his services as CONTACT's official staff photographer, so if you like the pictures that appear in

your magazine, he's the man to thank. We thank him. Early and often.

(Note: Tia Price, Charles Murphy, and Chuck Hancock are all first-year Ministers-in-Training.)

MARY RHOADES

Receptionist

That pleasant voice you hear on the telephone will probably be our Mary's. And the first smiling face to greet you when you the office is hers. She'll make you feel as welcome as you really are.



NEW ARRIVAL

All of us join in greeting **Samara Anne Hubbard**, newborn daughter of **Don** and **Nancy Hubbard**, into the Unity family. Samara made her entrance into this life expression on September 12, 1978, weighing in at 7 lbs., 1½ oz.

We rejoice with Don and Nancy, who is minister in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and know that the Hubbard family is being especially blessed.



CAN A
MINISTER STAY
TOO LONG?

by Stan Hampson



At a recent Regional Conference, a sincere and dedicated minister asked: "Can a minister stay too long in one place?" She continued, "Is it possible that I could have shared everything of which I am capable and that the time may have come when it would be best for the people if I were to move on?" My carefully considered answer was an emphatic "No!" A minister does not serve a congregation for a certain period of time and then serve it better by moving on. The only exception might be made for a minister who has begun to feel "elderly," and unable to function as capably as he or she might wish. But a minister who has merely begun to feel dry and depleted may be just on the brink of a great discovery. At this point the minister may choose to do one--or several--of the following: go away for a brief period; read a new book or two; take a few classes at a Regional Retreat. Any or all of these can serve as a catalyst to draw new strength, new insights from within.

We all have moments of discouragement. Ministers tend to be extremely self-critical. It is an interesting paradox that those of us who are drawn to nurture and to serve people in a loving and supportive way are much more harsh toward ourselves than we would ever consider being toward someone else. This harshness manifests in discouragement when we aren't demonstrating the kind of results we think are appropriate. Then emerges the feeling that "...perhaps the congregation would be better off if I were to move on." However, no congregation is a static body. The people now there are not the same people, collectively, who were there when you first arrived. Ministries are not likely to be hurt by having the minister stay on; they are hurt by ministers who stay only briefly and then leave.

We are all, I think, familiar with the famous *Acres of Diamonds* lecture. The lesson of learning that the best is right where we are--right now--is something we all need to learn, both as ministers and as congregations. The "diamond mine" is within us, right now, right where we are. Our goal in life is truly to bloom where we're planted. It is our obligation to brighten *this* corner, not some other. Congregations which continually strive to find a new minister, as well as ministers who keep seeking new fields to harvest, are lost in illusions that manifest nothing but greater frustration.

Success is a multi-phasic experience. Obviously we are teaching inner qualities and values; therefore, outer symbols of success are not totally appropriate. To think only in terms of attendance numbers, dollar figures and the "edifice complex" simply is not enough. We are dealing with the consciousness of that mystical relationship of teacher or minister with another

individual, with all the joy and love involved in that leadership relationship. When people are helped they become both proud and excited. That brings in more people, more money, and the need to create new edifices. While we cannot go wholly on the outer symbols of success, we can't deny them either.

Such success is long-term. Oh, certainly, there are people who have stayed in the same place for a long time and have failed to achieve success. Sometimes the area isn't right, or perhaps the commitment of the people isn't enough. Sometimes the minister just doesn't have sufficient skills--but those skills are not going to be improved by moving. This is important for a minister to know. The risk is that change may or may not benefit the congregation. While there may be some unsuccessful experiences in constancy, we know there is no success without it. Success and permanency go hand in hand.

There are undoubtedly many reasons for this phenomenon. I feel that it's largely because of the trust relationship that is necessary to make a ministry work. It takes time for people to open their souls in the creative way which is really what a ministry is all about. Also, for ministers to reach their stride in a given situation takes time. The ministry is a relationship between teacher and student. There is a need for each to know the other. Just as we can't solve all the problems of the world with one sermon, neither can the problems in the lives of our congregations be solved in one lesson or in one year. We need to think in terms of five years, ten years, twenty years. To succeed takes commitment. It takes long-term experience. It takes the repetition of principles. To succeed takes time.

One minister said to me recently, "I've been in six ministries in over twenty-five years. With an average of four years each, each one of my ministries was just at the point of producing something great when I turned it over to someone else. This time I'm going to stay where I am now for twenty years, and reap the harvest of my own planting." Something incredibly exciting is going to unfold in that ministry, you may be sure.

Our President has recently challenged all of us in the field to think in terms of a five-year goal for our Association. Such long range planning is vital for our movement and for each of us in our individual ministries. Already several ministers have replied that they have felt a strong, positive response to Bernard's article, and are experiencing an even greater commitment to serve where they are. One minister recently shared this with me: he had been in his ministry for a number of years, and he finally decided to make a commitment that he simply hadn't been able to make before. He was determined that he was really going to accomplish something right where he was, and to serve in a way that he had not been able, up to this time, to serve. Within three weeks of the time when he told me of this new commitment, he received a significant raise from his Board, and he began to notice an aliveness in the church that he had never felt before. It was he who pointed out that nothing had really changed except his own level of commitment, and then suddenly everything changed for the better.

Another minister, attending a Regional Conference, shared with me that six months before he had felt that he had run dry, that he had nothing more to say. His family wasn't particularly happy and he was really discouraged with his current ministry; in fact, his health was beginning to suffer

(Continued on page 5)

CAN A MINISTER STAY TOO LONG?

(Continued from page 3)

under the strain. He then created the opportunity for himself to go alone to a special retreat. During this time of renewal, he developed insights which recharged him to do his work. He came back with a renewed dedication. It seemed that, almost overnight, his congregation began to comment on the improvement in the quality of his lessons. Soon his family began to be happier, and he noticed that everything was getting better and better. In fact, he told me that, after six months, attendance was up 50% and offerings were up 75% over the same time the previous year.

Success goes hand in hand with time and commitment. We cannot measure our success only in dollars, cents, numbers and excitement, but all of these are factors which certainly need to be considered. What you, as a minister, seek in your ministry--or what you, as a person, seek in your minister, is probably there already. Your "acres of diamonds" are within you. How can you possibly stay too long when you've only just begun?

Y. E. S.!

*An affirmation of AUC commitment
to your Youth Ministry*

by Lani Jones
Youth Services Coordinator

YES! Y. E. S. stands for Youth Education Services, and the AUC does provide a variety of services for Sunday School, High School students and Young Adults. The Unity commit-



ment to a Youth Education ministry is affirmed by the request made by the Conference body last June, and by the Executive Committee response to that request, that a staff position be created to coordinate the flow of Youth Education Services.

It is possible that during the last three years, with the high level of concentration of curriculum development for Sunday School, the many other youth services provided by the Association have lost visibility to the center ministries. In this new position of Youth Services Coordinator, I plan to let you know regularly what Youth Education Services are available, what plans are being made for additional services, and what services you in the field have to

share with one another.

I hope you will communicate with me regularly by sharing what is happening in your church in the area of Youth Activities. Share my articles in CONTACT with your Youth Education Staff, and encourage them also to be in touch with me. Each time I visit a ministry or chat with Youth Educations workers, I discover exciting and creative Youth Education ideas that I would like to share with other ministries. This column in CONTACT can be an affirmation of AUC's commitment of service to the youth ministry; and, with your sharing, it can be an affirmation of your service to one another.

U.I.C.E. Credit for Youth Education Seminar

The first major project I have to report to you is a 10-credit U.I.C.E. course in Youth Education, offered for the first time during session VI, October 28–November 10. **Helen Nairn**, licensed teacher from Fort Worth, Texas, and I have developed the course and will be team teaching. You may not have been aware of this course, and so you may not have been able to have your Youth Education Staff take advantage of it, but I am happy to report that the course will be scheduled at least once a year during regular U.I.C.E. sessions. A person who completes the course will be issued a certificate in Youth Education Leadership.

A Youth Education section is also

"UNTRUTHS CAN GET YOU INTO TROUBLE"

Our mail brings us interesting items, and usually we don't use them without being able to credit the source. This one, however, makes a point that just seemed too good to pass up: "UNTRUTHS CAN GET YOU INTO TROUBLE." Even acting a lie can get you into trouble as this story illustrates.

"Joe the butcher was just about to close his store on Saturday night, when his best customer, Mrs. Brown, came in and asked for a nice roasting chicken. Joe had only one chicken left, so he got it out of the refrigerator, put it on the scale and said, 'There! Two pounds four ounces; that'll be \$1.35.'

'That's a bit small,' said Mrs. Brown, 'Haven't you got one a bit heavier?' He returned to the refrigerator with the chicken and emerged again—with the same chicken. He put it on the scale and said, 'Just three pounds. That will be \$1.80.'

"After a moment's thought, Mrs. Brown said, 'I think I'll take 'em both.'"

planned for the U.I.C.E. Skills Development Seminar, which is required for everyone applying for licensing as a Unity teacher. In both these programs, the goal is to help licensed Unity teachers feel comfortable with the scope of a Youth Education ministry, so that while they may not be actually involved in teaching or Youth Education Department administration, they will be able to assist the minister in areas such as recruiting, training, and support of volunteer Youth Education leaders.

Local Training Program

I hope you are also aware of the Youth Education training programs available to you on the regional level. A trained Youth Education Facilitator is working in every region to conduct Youth Education seminars and to help you with Youth Education questions. Please ask your AUC regional representative to help you get in touch with your Facilitator, or write to me.

I am currently serving as Youth Education Facilitator for South Central Region, along with **Joy Powell** from Unity Truth Center in Denver. I have conducted nine seminars for over twenty-five churches, and have received good reports of enthusiasm and new recruits as a result of the seminar. If you haven't participated in a seminar this year, do look into the new spark of energy it
(Continued on page 7)

PLACEMENT PROCEDURE

Did you know that you can apply for any open ministry and your resume will be sent there? Your Placement Committee and your Director of Ministry Services do not, in any way, screen candidates. An opening is advertised field-wide, and any minister interested in more information may get in touch with the Ministry Services office. Upon receipt, the minister's resume is automatically forwarded to the specified ministry. The responsibility for screening applicants lies with the ministry; the decision to accept or reject an offer is up to the minister himself or herself.

This policy was established initially when the position of Field Services Coordinator, primarily responsible for placement, was created some years ago in Philadelphia. Even though the title has been changed, that same responsibility is carried out by Stan Hampson today. Obviously, some ministers are more experienced and more skilled than others; however, we are all equal in potential and in opportunity. The Office of Placement is designated to facilitate the placement procedure. Open churches can advertise their available ministries, and ministers can then request as much information as is available about the open ministries. We seek constantly to improve our placement procedures so that more useful information can be relayed in order to inform the churches of available ministers and the ministers of available churches.

As a member of a church and as a minister, you need to know of this commitment to non-selectivity in the placement procedures at your National Headquarters. None of us wants too much power vested in a placement person. We have created a democratic government, matching our teaching that the Christ within each individual is the Supreme Authority. Jesus Christ is the head of all Unity ministries. It is His high consciousness that draws perfect leadership to each congregation. It is through individual prayer work and individual selectivity that placement then occurs.

PLACEMENT

Placement occurs through the activity of Spirit. Your Director of Ministry Services notifies all active Unity ministers of churches seeking leadership through his placement report published separately. Ministers interested in placement report to the Director of Ministry Services who forwards their resumes to churches requesting leadership. Your Director of Ministry Services is directly responsible to the Board of Trustees of the Association of Unity Churches and utilizes the resources of the Placement Committee, Regional Representatives, and the Executive Committee in facilitating placements. Since the last issue of CONTACT, the following activity of Spirit has been accomplished in placement:

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON—Robert E. (Bob I) Barth has been selected as the new associate minister to serve with Grover Thornsberry in Seattle. "Bob I" has been minister at Bremerton Unity Center, Washington, since his ordination in 1972. Actively assisting him is his wife, Vesta, a licensed Unity teacher. The Senior Barths, upon their departure for Seattle, will be followed into the Bremerton Unity Center by "Bob II" and his wife, Aleta. Spirit truly moves us all. . .but with the entire Barth family the movement of Spirit is marvelously, wonderfully apparent.

BREMERTON, WASHINGTON—Robert R. (Bob II) Barth has served Unity of the Valley, McAllen/Harlingen, Texas, since August, 1976. Prior to his arrival in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, these two groups had been without formal

leadership. Under Bob's direction these groups have grown from a nucleus of some thirty people to a church with a membership of nearly 200, and an average Sunday attendance of 150–175. Bob and Aleta are now "goin' home" to the beautiful Northwest where they will be warmly welcomed.

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA—Unity—San Diego has as its new minister John Michael Cahall, from Yorktown/Anderson, Indiana. When Mike first took over this center, it was a small satellite of Unity Truth Center of Indianapolis. With Mike at the helm, it grew and expanded from a once-a-week group (Sunday evening) to a moving, developing ministry having Sunday morning services and regular classes on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Mike also instituted a radio program, "Unity Viewpoint," which is estimated to reach between two and three thousand listeners in the Anderson/Yorktown/Muncie area. He brings to his new work in San Diego a greatness of vision and an enthusiasm which is both dynamic and contagious.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA (Metairie)—Mary Hinkle, former minister of Unity on the Gulf, Venice, Florida, has taken over the direction of this growing new center. Affectionately dubbed "Brother Mary" by the members of the Venice Ministerial Association when she became the first woman to join, she gracefully accepted this appellation. Her professional background, prior to her entry into the Unity ministry, provided many fields for her to conquer in what was once thought of as a "man's world." Mary has been a banker, a methods engineer with Remington Rand, a sales engineer with the Bell Telephone Company, a director of public relations, a sales director in advertising. She also has

(Continued on page 8)

**INWARD,
OUTWARD,
UPWARD!**

by R. Scott Sherman



OUTREACH ACTIVITIES:

Baton Rouge, Louisiana: **Marge Kass** has accepted leadership of this newly developing group. A "literature starter kit" in the amount of \$500 has been granted from Association tithe funds.

Knoxville, Tennessee: This developing group has reorganized and is now planning to request a full-time minister in early 1979. **Gene Connors** has been assisting them. A Unity School mailing of about 800 is planned for early December to announce their presence in the Knoxville area.

Port Charlotte and Boca Raton, Florida: **Ralph** and **Rosemary Rhea** will be the featured lecturers at these two newly-developing groups in November. A Unity School mailing will announce these events.

Lincoln City, Oregon: **Carlton Buboltz** has recently accepted leadership of the new "Miracle Coast Unity Church." **Jim Freeman** presented a public lecture at nearby Salishan

Lodge to announce the formation of the new group to Unity readers in the area.

Muskegon, Michigan: This Outreach group recently elected to purchase 2-plus acres of property on the Southeast side of Muskegon. Over half the \$40,000 purchase price was donated within four weeks of the announcement. The group is being led by visiting ministers from the Great Lakes Unity Regional Conference.

Abilene, Texas and *LaCrosse, Wisconsin:* I recently held organizational meetings with these newly developing groups. **Donald Curtis** will speak in Abilene in December. A Unity School mailing is being requested.

Cape Cod, Massachusetts: A "literature starter kit" of \$500 has been granted **Bob Preston's** new group here. I will speak during their first anniversary celebration in November. A Unity School mailing will announce the event.

LIAISON ACTIVITIES:

Training programs have been scheduled for AUC Regional Liaison representatives. The first training course will be held in Atlanta for Eastern, Southeastern and some Great Lakes representatives on November 30—December 1. Subsequent courses will be held at Unity Village in January for Great Lakes and South Central and in San Francisco or Seattle for Southwest, Northern California, and Northwest regions in late February or early March.

Regional Liaison representatives will provide services of advice and support for churches at times of great opportunity or of challenge. Five liaison representatives from each region have been nominated by each region's elected Board of Trustees representative.

Y.E.S. REPORT

(Continued from page 5)

might give your group, especially during that "dead" time of year in January and February, when Christmas is gone and everyone in Sunday School is waiting for Easter to get excited again.

YOU News

I am working with **Greg Barrette**, YOU Coordinator, to develop a similar sponsor training program and support system for Youth of Unity sponsors and teachers. You will be receiving a letter shortly regarding this project. If you have ideas in the area of YOU teacher/sponsor training, please let me hear from you as soon as possible.

Greg is also in the process of publishing a quarterly YOU-Sponsors' newsletter. We believe that a strong support system that promotes local communication between YOU sponsors and local training

programs will help to meet some of the difficulties in YOU sponsorship which now cause a high turnover in YOU sponsors and leaders.

Also in the scope of YOU activities, I will be researching the development of YOU teaching aids. Do let me know if your sponsors and teachers are having good results with any particular program or concept.

Thanksgiving Ideas

Finally, I'd like to refer you to an excellent article in the September, 1978 issue of Church Teachers Magazine entitled, "How to Have a Good Thanksgiving Workshop." Also, be alert to the excellent ideas for celebration of the four weeks of Advent in the November/December issue.

The Thanksgiving article describes a workshop designed for family participation in the Thanksgiving holiday. It

is based on 13 activity-centers to help families consider thanksgiving ideas and attitudes together. I will share the 13 ideas for the activity centers with you briefly, and if you do not have a copy of the magazine, these ideas may spark your own ideas for promoting an inter-generational Thanksgiving worship in your church. The 13 activity centers are:

1. Write a Thank-You Note to someone you would like to thank for being a part of your life.
 2. Say a fingerplay or tell a story as a family. (A cute "Turkey Fingerplay" is included for use with young children, and a Thanksgiving Bible story is included for other family activity.)
 3. Sing a Thanksgiving song from curriculum or hymnal.
 4. Show Thanksgiving films or filmstrips.
 5. Make Turkey Handprints. Trace hand
- (Continued on page 15)*

NEWS & VIEWS ON SMRS

by Paul C. Barrett

What's in a name? That is a question we of the SMRS faculty have been asking ourselves of late. We are of the opinion that our present name, "School for Ministerial and Religious Studies," is not wholly appropriate or correct.



It is my understanding that the SMRS name was chosen in pre-AUC times when Unity School was considering developing a school with national accreditation standards. It was to be not only a school for training ministers, but one that would accept students interested in pursuing religious studies with no thought of becoming a Unity minister.

Since taking over the responsibilities of Director of SMRS, I have received several letters from individuals showing interest in enrolling in our school without any desire whatsoever to become a Unity

minister. The name of our training institution has been misleading to them. The truth is that we exist for the training of ministers for our Unity field movement, and that only. Therefore, the SMRS faculty believes a name change to be in order.

Our Ministers in Training support the idea of a name change, too. Recently, the Executive Committee and the Education Review Committee related favorably to changing the name of SMRS. How about you who are ministers in the field?

If you support the idea of a name change, what is your suggestion as to what it should be? (WRITE & LET ME KNOW.) I share with you a couple of names that both the SMRS faculty and Education Review Committee have looked with favor upon:

UNITY MINISTERIAL SCHOOL UNITY SCHOOL FOR MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

Do either of these names appeal to you? I will share your responses to these questions with our AUC Board of Trustees for further action, or lack of it.

I bless you. And keep praying for the greatness of our school to become greater as we move ever onward and upward in our ministerial training pursuits.

PLACEMENT

(Continued from page 6)

had extensive theatrical experience. She founded Unity on the Gulf in 1969, with \$19 of her own money and a substantial bank loan. The center now owns five acres and a building valued at over \$150,000. Under Mary's leadership, the new Metairie center should surely find that "...with God (and Brother Mary), all things are possible."

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS—Rod Tally, formerly serving the Unity Church of Richmond, California, has assumed the leadership of Unity of San Angelo. Rod's stated objectives for his new ministry embrace the teaching of Truth Principles for healthy, happy, triumphant and successful living—here and now. He plans a dynamic center in which prayer, meditation, Spiritual learning, Spiritual fellowship and Spiritual worship will be made available throughout the week. The continued growth and unfoldment of this center are certainly assured under such a dedicated goalsetter as this!

TOPEKA, KANSAS—Bill Williams is the new minister of the Unity Church of Christianity, Topeka, Kansas, where he (Continued on page 10)

PULL

UP

A

CHAIR



... and let's get acquainted, shall we? It is my special joy to sit in the chair marked "Editor" and I want you to know how pleased I am to belong to you. Some of you, having read the inside-front-cover, may be speculating as to the duties of a Managing Editor, so it might be in order for me to define them.

Mine is the Pick-and-Shovel Department. By this I mean that the actual construction--the makeup of the magazine--is my special responsibility. Also, I must set the deadlines and winnow the contributions, determining what goes in-

to the current issue and what gets put on the back burner to simmer until composition begins on the next one. (Speaking of deadlines: ours is the 10th of the month. Anything reaching my desk later than that will have to be held for subsequent publication.)

Another of my duties is to cut and fit all material sent to me so that it will occupy the space with which we have to work. For this reason I want to caution you about contributions; if you send me a long, long report (and I hope you will!) only to find it considerably abbreviated when it appears in print, please don't think I don't appreciate all your efforts. I do...believe me, I do. But we're apt to find ourselves, on occasion, trying to pour a gallon of material into a quart of space. You do see the problem?

The final decision, the Last Word, on policy for CONTACT, remains in the hands of our Editor-in-Chief, Stan Hampson. The layout, all the artwork and

graphics, are Cheryl Vestal's special contribution. What a blessing she is!

Please let me know what you want your magazine to be. I am, first and foremost, in the business of pleasing you. Right now I feel like the small boy who was having great difficulty leading a very large dog. A bystander, noting with amusement the youngster's struggles, asked, "Where are you taking that big dog?" "I'm not sure," replied the lad, "but when he decides where he wants to go, I'll take him there."

Where do you want CONTACT to go? I'll take it there.

Love and blessings—

Marianne

THREE POINT PROPOSAL FOR THE YOUTH OF UNITY

During the YOU Conference, at the suggestion of Dorothy Pierson, a meeting was held with key YOU sponsors, most with an extensive background in education. We discussed their curriculum needs and found them unanimous in desiring three things:

1. A SPONSOR'S NEWSLETTER: 'ReSponse,' written by the sponsors and edited by the YOU Coordinator, to come out twice or more a year. It would serve as a clearinghouse for ideas on:
 - a. teaching
 - b. counseling
 - c. rally planning
 - d. social activities
 - e. fund raising
 - f. problem solving

This newsletter would be a forum for sponsor participation, dialogue and self-help.

Material has already been solicited from sponsors and such a newsletter is ready to publish.

2. WRITTEN LESSON IDEAS: The sponsors do not want a highly structured format. Rather, they need several short lesson ideas on how to teach basic Truth concepts or Bible messages in a digestable form.

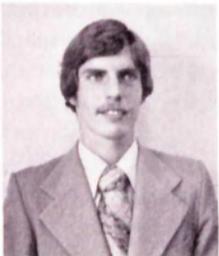
For example, under the heading "Personality and Individuality," there could be a list of many one-paragraph means of teaching this concept. These would include workshop, dialogue, lecture, discussion group, crafts and visual-aid ideas. The sponsor could then pick out what seems best and stretch the topic out for as long as is necessary to cover it. This would allow for flexibility, yet would give concrete ideas to inexperienced teachers.

3. IN-FIELD SPONSOR SEMINARS: This was considered to be the most important suggestion. The new Youth Coordinator would give, and train regional trainees to give, workshops on how to be a sponsor: how to teach, use the lesson material, plan rallies, start a chapter, run a chapter, and social and fund-raising ideas.

In the one year that Joan Goodman, Southeast Regional Coordinator, has been giving similar seminars, the YOU region has grown substantially and has lost only one sponsor.

Most YOU sponsors are inexperienced in teaching, Unity fundamentals, or both. They often feel insecure in their role because of this. This results in a high sponsor turnover, inadequate sponsorship and small YOU chapters.

These three suggestions, coupled with the excellent YOU Resource Manual that already exists, would give sponsors a sense of involvement and would provide practical, usable help in sponsoring and teaching. Turnover would be reduced and YOU would grow. The printing cost would be nominal when compared to Sunday school-type lessons, and the sponsor's needs will be met in the field.



YOUTH OF UNITY
AND
YOUNG ADULTS OF UNITY
REPORTS
by
Greg Barrette

a Y.O.U. curriculum.

Service Projects:

The Y.O.U. has, since 1979, served the needs of the community through the Leo Beerman Service Projects. Each year, the Y.O.U.'ers have chosen, on chapter, regional, and international levels, ways to put into practice the Truth principles they have learned.

These projects have included holding Summer Camps, raising money for worthy organizations and needy individuals, singing carols at Christmas for convalescent home patients, and painting the homes of the elderly.

The emphasis of these projects is on physical service,
(Continued on page 10)

Youth of Unity Report—This is going to be a year of great change in Y.O.U. We welcome Lani Jones as Youth Coordinator, and we are thankful for her commitment to developing

YOU/YAU REPORTS

(Continued from page 9)

rather than just donations of money. In this way, the Y.O.U.'ers experience what it means to touch the lives of others, to directly help other persons.

Please encourage your Y.O.U.'ers to serve their community through the Leo Beuerman Service Projects. This year's award winners for the best project were: **Milwaukee, Wisconsin**, for writing letters to prisoners; to the **Southwest Region**, for raising money for and hosting a summer camp.

International Officers' Travel Fund:

Since there are no funds budgeted for the three international officers, the only way they can travel to the regional rallies is through their own earnings or through love offerings. The Y.O.U.'ers contribute to this fund, and we welcome your participation as well. Please make your checks payable to A.U.C., and mark them "Y.O.U. International Officers' Travel Fund." We thank you and bless you.

Young Adults of Unity Report—What is a "young adult?"

This is as specific as we can get: a young adult is someone who, when given a choice between a comfortable chair and the floor, chooses the floor. A young adult is someone who would rather participate in activities than be talked at.

This summer the Y.A.U. retreatants discussed their definition of Y.A.U. They agreed on one thing: no age restrictions, not even approximate ones.

They differed widely in their view of Y.A.U. as an organization, however. Fewer than half the delegates had a Y.A.U. group at their home centers. Of those who did not have a group, many did not feel the need for one. Among those who did have groups, there was little common ground. Some were singles groups, some catered to married couples, some did service work, some taught themselves, some had outside teachers, some meditated, some studied various books, some were socially-oriented.

Such a broad base makes it impossible for us to provide a single pattern for starting a Y.A.U. group. Indeed, no major denomination in the country has a national young adults' organization, except for those designed exclusively for college-age. Each church provides its own local program.

But this office can and will provide retreats and serve as a clearing-house for local ideas...plus a few of our own. How we propose to do this will be discussed next month.

ECUMENICITY? A Unity minister attending a social gathering was introduced to a local Rabbi. When the Rabbi learned that the minister was from Unity, he laughed and said, "Oh, my goodness...we have so many of our people going to your church that we kiddingly call it 'JEWnity'!"

PLACEMENT

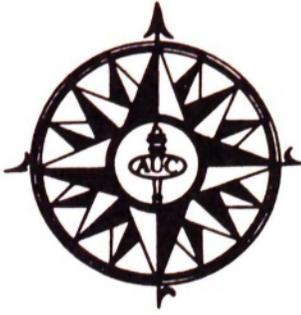
(Continued from page 8)

has already assumed leadership of this group. Bill is a graduate of Louisiana State University, and had a varied and interesting career background prior to his entry into the ministry. He has been the owner of a retail business, served as a social worker, as probation and parole officer, founder and editor of a regional monthly magazine, and is experienced in the fields of electronics, sound and theatrical staging. Additionally, he has been involved in many civic, social, and fraternal organizations.

PORTLAND, MAINE—Unity Church of Truth, Portland, welcomes as interim, **Mike Matoin**. Mike completed his first year as Minister-in-Training at Unity's SMRS in August, and will return to complete his studies in the fall of 1979. Meanwhile, he will serve this group with skill and devotion. Mike is no stranger to the New England area, having lived and worked there for more than ten years before moving to the Midwest.

NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA—**Sheila Banta**, Ordinand, is soon to begin her ministry in the Unity Church of North Hollywood and Burbank. For her this is a joyous homecoming. Although Sheila was born and educated in England, she came to America some twenty years ago and lived in Southern California until Spirit led her to enroll in SMRS in 1976. While a Minister-in-Training, she was active in the Chaplaincy program at two Kansas City hospitals, taught adult classes at the hospitals and at Unity Village, served as a counselor in the Unity Counseling and Resource Center, and recorded Truth messages for use in the "Voice of Inspiration" program for Unity Village Chapel. She also acted as Wedding Coordinator for one year for Unity School. Sheila is a warm, understanding, loving person, totally dedicated to the Unity teachings. As a result of having experienced a healing of an "incurable disease" through the Unity healing ministry, she is particularly well qualified to serve the healing needs of her new congregation in addition to ministering to all other spiritual needs. Sheila's husband, **Roger**, is an engineer. The Banta's have two children and two grandchildren. Sheila will begin in this ministry November 1.

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES, Unity Village, Missouri—The Association is pleased to announce the selection of **Lani Jones** to fill the position of Youth Services Coordinator. Lani brings to this post a wealth of experience and loving dedication. For the past ten years she has been closely associated with the education work of the Unity movement, having spent the last three years as Curriculum Coordinator for the Association. In this capacity she did research, development, writing, and production of youth education curricula for Nursery through Junior High School students; she was responsible for the development and administration of nationally used teacher-training programs; she served as consultant to Unity field ministries and to SMRS Ministers-in-Training. Lani is also a free-lance writer and an experienced editor, having edited manuscripts for the youth education curriculum and edited a national newsletter for young adults. The Association rejoices in the willingness of Lani to devote her energies and talents to this very important task.



REGIONAL NEWS

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL NEWS with Robert Wasner:

Using the theme, "Decatur is Great in '78," the **Unity Church of Decatur, Illinois**, hosted the Great Lakes Regional Conference in late September. More than 100 delegates and spouses were in attendance, double the number who were present when Decatur Unity hosted the 1960 conclave. The following officers were elected: **Richard (Dick) Ammons, Unity of Greater Lansing, Michigan, President; Ruth Mosley, West Side Unity Church, Detroit, Michigan, Vice-President; David Monument, Unity Church of Peoria, Illinois, Secretary; Robert Wasner, Unity Church of the North Shore, Evanston, Illinois, Regional Representative; Mauritz Erhard, Unity Christ Church, St. Louis, Missouri, Regional Alternate Representative.** GLURC ministers and licensed teachers chose Unity Truth Center of Indianapolis as the 1979 site. The 1979 conference will be held September 16-19.

Highlights of the program included: **Dr. Rocco Errico**, speaking on "Middle-Eastern Mysticism" and "Jesus and the Prophets;" a Post-Graduate seminar on "The Metaphysics of the Fillmores," conducted by **Kathryn Rowbotham**, Roanoke, Virginia, and **Richard Billings**, Oak Park, Illinois; addresses by **Stan Hampson**, **Scott Sherman**, and AUC President **Bernard Dozier**.

Unity Church of Decatur has begun planning for a sub-regional conference for the spring of '79 which will focus on improving the relationships and understanding among ministers, licensed teachers and boards of directors of local centers and churches. For further details, write **Ross Tucker, 317 West Decatur Street, Decatur, Illinois 62522**.

On Saturday, September 30th, Unity

of Livonia, under the leadership of the **Reverend Gene Sorensen**, presented a Super Prosperity Seminar with the theme, "The Specifics of Prosperity." Members of the church representing various professional and career fields were invited to participate in workshops and share their knowledge of specific ways in which to make money, save money and invest money. The day began with an hour-long period of music and meditation which included the basic Unity principles of Prosperity. Following a talk on "Getting Something for Nothing," the various groups assembled to discuss such topics as "Cooperative Buying," "How to Save Hundreds of Dollars on Funerals," "How to Make the Internal Revenue Service Your Friend," "Total Financial Planning Involving Investments, Stocks and Bonds," "Home Buying and Selling," and "How to Avoid Legal Entanglements." Gene writes: "When we got to the end of the day, people were happier with this particular seminar than with any we have ever done, for it was spiritually-centered and yet dealt on a very practical level with prosperity in terms of money." Any group interested in learning more details may write to Gene (Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile Road, Livonia, Michigan 48154) and request the outline and study guide.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL NEWS with Miki Bowen:

The **Unity Church of San Mateo** had a picnic dinner in August to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the church and to honor **Alma Redfern Berry** for her 13 years of dedicated and devoted service as minister. Before coming to San Mateo, Alma was associated with **L.E. Meyer** at Unity Temple on the Plaza, Kansas City, Missouri. **Cleo Lee**, who organized the church, had served as minister of Unity, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, prior to coming to California. She is now retired and living in Escondido, California.

NORTHWEST REGIONAL NEWS with David McClure:

The following item was sent out over the wires of the Associated Press: "Spokane, Wash.—**Jerry Hakala and Shirley**

Crouse decided to get married where they met—in an elevator. They'll tie the knot Saturday in elevator number one at the Washington Trust Financial Center... Elevator operators don't have the authority to perform marriages, so the Rev. Marilyn Witherspoon of the Unity Church will unite the upward-bound couple in a double-ring ceremony. . . ."

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL NEWS with William Clark:

UNITY CRUISE 1979—the TSS Carnivale—May 6-13! Departing from the Palm Beaches, Florida, ports-of-call will be Samara, Dominican Republic; San Juan, Puerto Rico; San Croix, Virgin Islands. Guest teachers will be **Jack and Karen Boland, Charles and Helen King, Hal and Lassie Rosencrans, Jim and Faye Heinecamp**. Prices for this week-long cruise range from \$550 to \$1100 per person, depending upon your cabin selection. Start planning NOW! Get a Special Piggy Bank—make a Treasure Map—and remember what **Jim Freeman** says, "DO NOT SETTLE FOR LITTLE DREAMS!" A \$100 deposit made before November 15th will make you eligible for the free cruise drawing which will take place aboard ship. For more details write or call **Rhonda St. Clair, Aquarius Travel Service, 2640 Forest Hill Blvd., West Palm Beach, Florida 33406. Phone (305) 964-6800.** (Any minister who can get a group of 15 people to go will get his own passage FREE!)

Unity of Pompano Beach and the Science of Mind Center, Winter Park, Florida, are planning a trip to the Holy Land. The ten-day trip will depart April 16, 1979. For details, write to **Bill Clark, Unity Church of Pompano Beach, 261 SE 13th Avenue, Pompano Beach, Florida 33060**.

Southeast Unity Regional Retreat is scheduled for August 6-10, 1979, at the Boca Raton Club and Hotel. Boca Raton is situated halfway between Delray and Pompano Beach, Florida. . . a wonderful time and place for your vacation!

Southeastern Regional Ministers' and
(Continued on page 12)

REGIONAL NEWS

(Continued from page 11)

Teachers' Conference is now scheduled for October 14-16, 1979. The location will be announced later.

Unity of New Port Richey, Florida, recently dedicated a new 10,000 square foot building with a month-long celebration. **Carolyn Mohn**, founding minister of the center, was the speaker on Dedication Sunday. Guest speakers for the next three Sundays were all former ministers of the center—**Jim Sherman, Stan Hampson**, and **Paul Funk**. The last Sunday of the month a "Shower" was held in order that the people might give items needed for the new facility. The structure includes a sanctuary seating 400-500, a fellowship room with a stone fireplace, a covered drive-through entrance, and an outdoor fountain. The new center is located on a five-acre, heavily wooded area in the middle of the metropolitan community. **Phil Smedstad**, minister, writes, "...we are really excited about what this new building will mean to our growth. If anyone is thinking of building. I'd be happy to share our experience with him."

Unity of Vero Beach would like for you to make a correction of the street address in your Unity Yearbook; the correct address is **49 Royal Palm Blvd., Vero Beach, Florida 32960**.

Unity Church of Pompano Beach has instituted a special series of lessons, based on "Lessons in Truth" as a required course for members of its Youth Education Staff. Staff members and all Y.E.D. teachers are required to have completed the course by December 1, 1978. Grades depend upon attendance in class and obvious understanding of Truth as indicated by written papers and class participation. Upon completion of the course, a signed certificate will be issued by the minister and the Board of Directors.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL NEWS
with **George Rieger**:

Unity Church Southeast is conducting a month-long celebration of the move into their new quarters. Taking part in this joy-filled experience will be the November 1978

following speakers: on Sunday, November 5, **James Dillet Freeman**; on Wednesday evening, November 8, **Jack Boland**; on Sunday, November 12, **Ruth Mosley**; on Sunday, November 19, **Stan Hampson**; on Sunday, November 26, **David Williamson**. Anyone either living in or visiting the Kansas City area is cordially invited to come and be a part of any or all of these inspiring programs.

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL NEWS with
Arthur Hammons:

The **Southwest Regional Conference** will be held from January 28—January 31, 1979. Watch for location and additional details.

AUSTRALIAN WALKABOUT

From the Dreamtime we have the legend of the Bora Ring... the sacred circle "where the dance is secret with the dancers" ... around Australia there is a circle of dynamic Unity Centres, and it is no secret that Unity is growing and unfolding in a wonderful way.

Perth, as usual, is pulsating with enthusiasm; the new meeting place at the Universal Wisdoms Bookshop, Wellington Street, provides a perfect atmosphere for learning and growing together. Everyone is looking forward to the next Teaching Seminar when the **Reverend Midge Berkman** will be in Perth from the 25th to 29th of October. The phone number to ring for more information is 361-4323.

Great rejoicing in Melbourne as the well-loved Director, **Hugh Wilson**, coordinates his work with Lifeline and, with the help of **Jess**, brings new activity to the Unity Centre in Camberwell Road, Camberwell. The final session of "HOW I USED TRUTH" (for credit) will take place on 2nd and 3rd of December. **Frank Bucknell** will be attending sessions of U.I.C.E. at Unity Village during October.

Sydney Centre enjoyed a wonderful welcome home for the **Reverend Ngaire Thomson** in September. Be sure to take details of the new classes and activities that Elva and Ngaire are planning for October; Ngaire's first class will be "DISCOVER THE POWER WITHIN YOU" and Sydney is acting in accord-

ance with the theme "we are moving into a new and exciting stage of maturity and unfoldment."

Adelaide Truth Students enjoyed a one-day Seminar with the **Reverend Elva Holcombe** during September, entitled "Looking Upward, Rise." **Anne Van Kekem** is the wonderful organizer for this Group who are enthusiastically supporting their beloved leader, **Beth Whitters**—a Minister-in-Training at Unity School.

In Brisbane the response to the audio visual presentation of "LESSONS IN TRUTH" is enthusiastic. The Outreach Groups in Nambour, Bundaberg, Southport and Toowoomba are growing steadily. The Retreat, "Look To Your Imagine Nation" has given fresh enthusiasm and new stimulus to make every day an adventure in Truth. The lovely **Joan Cave** will be attending sessions of U.I.C.E. at Unity School during October.



Clearinghouse

Request—Viola Williamson, minister of Unity Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico, would like a copy of "Effectual Prayer" and has been unable to obtain one since the book is now out of print. If you have an extra copy, please let Viola know at: **Unity Center, 1219 Tijeras Ave., NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102; phone, (505) 242-5441**.

Request—Louise Earle, associate minister of Unity of Delray Beach, Florida, is seeking twelve copies of "The Thirteen Commandments," by Sig Paulson. Since the book is now out of print, she will very much appreciate your assistance. Please write to her at **101 NW 22nd St., Delray Beach, Florida 33444**, and let her know how many copies you can supply.

UNITY SOUTHEAST IS A "SHIP OF FAITH"...
 TRAVELING ON THE RIVER OF LIFE...
 GUIDED BY THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH...
 BUILT WITH HANDS OF LOVE...



Just to bring you up to date on the progress of Unity Southeast since our last communication to the field when we were in the flood that hit Kansas City. There was a tremendous response from the field supporting us financially and prayerfully in restoring our physical plant. As a result of that, we gathered our own forces and found need to

move to more adequate quarters. As Spirit would have it (knowing this or something better) we found just the right place--a Christian Science Church which was dissolving its ministry. To meet the down payment for the new building, we have undertaken a Faith Bond Program and the response has been favorable in that our financial obligations are being met.



The move that we are making may be viewed as a near miracle, considering the size of this congregation and the dollar and cents figures involved. In Truth we know that, in working the law, our demonstrations will appear as miracles.

The structure from which we have moved is what was formerly an old theatre building, consisting of approximately six hundred seats and one very small classroom in addition to the office. Conducting Sunday School and an expanded teaching program made it difficult to function adequately. Our new facility has a seating capacity of about two hundred with a large fellowship area to be used for Sunday School. This can be divided into classrooms for teaching. No longer are we on the busy thorough fare of businesses, congested with traffic and with limited parking. We are now on a tree-lined boulevard in an area which is primarily residential and within a block's distance from the entrance to a beautiful park. Truly, this move is a godsend in everyway.

Unity Southeast is a ministry that is built with the loving hands, hearts, prayers and substance of many people from many locations, all realizing the tremendous impact that this particular work will have for Unity as well as for humanity. We are grateful to you for sharing with us in its growth and development.

Blessings,
 Rowland Jenkins
 Minister, Unity Southeast

SMRS FACULTY MEMBER Introducing . . . Hypatia Hasbrouck

"Most of my life has been spent preparing for this assignment," says Hypatia Hasbrouck who, this trimester, is training the first-year class at SMRS in basic communication skills. She explains, "I've been involved with Unity and speech arts since early childhood. My first public recitation was of a poem from Wee Wisdom. I think I was four."



Currently in her fourth year as minister of Unity Church of Living Truth in Overland Park, Kansas, Hypatia was ordained in August, 1974. She then served Unity of Jefferson City, Missouri, for 10 months.

Prior to entering SMRS, she was involved with education and drama. A graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, she remained there four more years as member of the speech faculty and dramatic reader for the University speakers bureau. After earning an M.A. in education and drama, she spent the next 18 years as a secondary school teacher of speech, drama, English, social studies and journalism, in California and overseas, and as a director and actress in many community theaters.

To help ministers-in-training discover the most effective ways to communicate the Unity message is Hypatia's primary purpose in SMRS.

In private life, Hypatia is the mother of a grown son and daughter, the grandmother of eleven-year old Patia, and the wife of Louis Hasbrouck, an osteopathic physician who practices in Kansas City, Missouri. They make their home in Lee's Summit.

A PRAYER

*Father, perfect me in Thy love
 That I may be earthborn and yet
 Of starlight consciousness.*

*Nor ignorant of sorrow -- yet
 Catching the cosmic gaiety
 (As even from the barren tree
 He caught the New Jerusalem).*

*Father in Thy love perfect me
 That I may in the dust
 Of the incredible Cross
 Look up and catch the glimmer
 Of the starlit consciousness --
 And be as He: enthroned in Christ.*

by Dennis Neagle
 Unity Northeast Church
 Kansas City, Missouri

SPARKPLUGS

(A summary of Once Upon A Christmas by James Dillet Freeman)

Unity School has published a collection of ten Christmas stories by James Dillet Freeman, ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS. The stories, eight of which have appeared in UNITY Magazine, are suitable for children as well as adults. Most are allegorical and can be interpreted on several levels. Thus, they can be used to illustrate various Truth principles in sermons during Advent.

One of the stories, "The Tale of a Pig," may capture the most attention because the association of a pig with Christmas is unusual. Many animals are associated with Christmas--sheep, cattle, donkeys, and in modern day, turkeys but certainly not pigs. Yet this particular pig illustrates two very important principles.

"The Tale of a Pig" relates a fictional account of the humans and animals who

were nearby when Jesus was born. The animals exemplify inner qualities and feelings, such as the dog, courage; turtle, patience; mouse, ingenuity; and sheep, protection and love. The humans illustrate the indirect reasoning or thinking nature. All of them brought gifts to the baby Jesus whom they thought looked sad. None of the gifts gave the baby happiness.

Because the pig was not held in high repute in that part of the world he was not allowed to see the baby. However the pig persevered and, in the confusion during the arrival of the Three Kings, he wiggled into the stable. He became so excited when he saw the baby that he bobbed, bounced, jiggled, and jogged and caused Mary to laugh and the baby Jesus to smile. Thus the pig gave Jesus what no one else could--joy.

In their solemnity of purpose and self-involvement the other animals and humans repressed the one quality they

were trying to evoke in the child--joy.

The author tells us that joy does not result from the expression of any other quality, no matter how good or valuable, or even from worldly wealth. Joy is a quality in its own right and its nature is irrespressible. It will come forth immediately when we stop trying to repress it, when we stop thinking of it as trivial or unworthy of us. It is in fact one of the most precious human qualities, but people in their sense of self-importance or desire to express more "noble" characteristics often overlook it. When we worship with joy, the joy is returned to us magnified.

The other important principle involves the status of the pig in the Middle East. The pig was thought to be unacceptable. Jesus did not see him that way and He showed us that all of God's creations are acceptable.

ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS contains nine other stories for the Christmas season. The book, in hardcover, is \$4.95.

ASSOCIATION OF UNITY CHURCHES Statement of General Funds Operations Five Months Ended 8/31/78

	August	Year to Date
INCOME—OPERATIONS:		
Love Offering	\$33,740.64	\$163,800.14
Other Income	946.17	14,640.63
	<u>34,686.81</u>	<u>178,440.77</u>
Less: Tithe Transfer	3,374.06	16,380.01
	<u>31,312.75</u>	<u>162,060.76</u>
Gross Profit Materials	2,931.47	9,455.22
Total Income	<u>34,244.22</u>	<u>171,515.98</u>
EXPENSES—OPERATIONS:		
Ministry Services	24,913.28	108,267.34
Ministerial Education	9,453.79	52,755.03
Total Expenses	<u>34,367.07</u>	<u>161,022.37</u>
INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES:	<u>\$ (122.85)</u>	<u>\$ 10,493.61</u>

WHO'S WHO IN AUC

The Reverend George R. Rieger has served as a member of the AUC Board of Trustees and as Regional Representative for the South Central Region since 1977. Since his ordination in 1974, he has been minister of Unity of Independence, Independence, Missouri, where he was joined by his wife, Marilyn, as co-minister in 1975.



Before entering SMRS in 1972, George pursued a business career in the field of audio-visual and communications equipment manufacture and distribution, serving as division manager for a period of ten years. His hobbies include flying (he holds a private pilot's license), camping and photography.

In their co-ministry in Independence, George and Marilyn have developed a most effective Marriage Enrichment Retreat/Workshop, for the purpose of improving communications between couples, thereby enhancing their marriage relationships.

Unity is grateful to George Rieger for the many services he so generously and willingly performs. AUC appreciates his dedication and devotion.

Y.E.S. REPORT

(Continued from page 7)

and decorate fingers to make tail and draw head and neck on thumb.

6. Write a family prayer.
7. Perform a Thanksgiving playlet. (One included with article.)
8. Make no-bake cookies to share with others.
9. Decorate a carton for Thanksgiving gifts to needy family. Admission to workshop can be a contribution to the Thanksgiving gift.
10. Make a mural on butcher paper about the first Thanksgiving.
11. Make a centerpiece for the family Thanksgiving table.
12. Make Thanksgiving crafts from flat pieces of tree bark, seeds, nuts and other natural materials.
13. Make Bible verse place cards.

(By the way, subscriptions to Church Teachers Magazine can be ordered for \$7.50 per year, or at a discounted rate for bulk orders, from Church Teachers Magazine, 6947 East MacDonald Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85253.)

I'm going to celebrate Thanksgiving with an attitude of gratitude to you and your Youth Education staffs for sharing your Sunday School, YOU and YAU news with me so I can share it with other ministries through this column. Thanks in advance!

Lovingly,

The Field Speaks

Below is an excerpt from a letter received in the AUC office which we thought you might be interested in.

"...also in this letter I am enclosing a receipt for my air fare to Headquarters and the Executive Committee meetings. By ordering my ticket and paying for it early, I was able to save the Association of Unity Churches \$35 because as of tomorrow, the rates increase by that amount. Also, by going "K class" (and not getting any food), I also saved an additional \$20 each way. According to my estimation, this means that this ticket cost the Association \$75 less than it normally would."

G. Arthur Hammons

Christ Church Unity, El Cajon, California

* * * * *

The AUC office received correspondence between Winston Fletcher, DSA Inc., and Nick Griffin, minister in Clearwater, Florida which may be of interest to you.

Dear Winston,

"...Last week I wrote a lengthy letter to The Association of Unity Churches, our parent organization in Kansas City. In that letter I urged them to make available to all our affiliated churches information concerning the valuable work that DSA can undertake for any ministry which contemplates embarking upon a building project."

Nick Griffin

Dear Nick:

"...Even though the project is a little smaller than we normally manage, everyone involved has worked with pride to see that your building will be completed with a high degree of quality and at a cost well below today's market.

"A special 'thank you' for your recommendation to your parent organization in Kansas City. We would enjoy working with Unity Churches in all areas of the country. You may feel free to have anyone contact me and I will make sure that they receive attention."

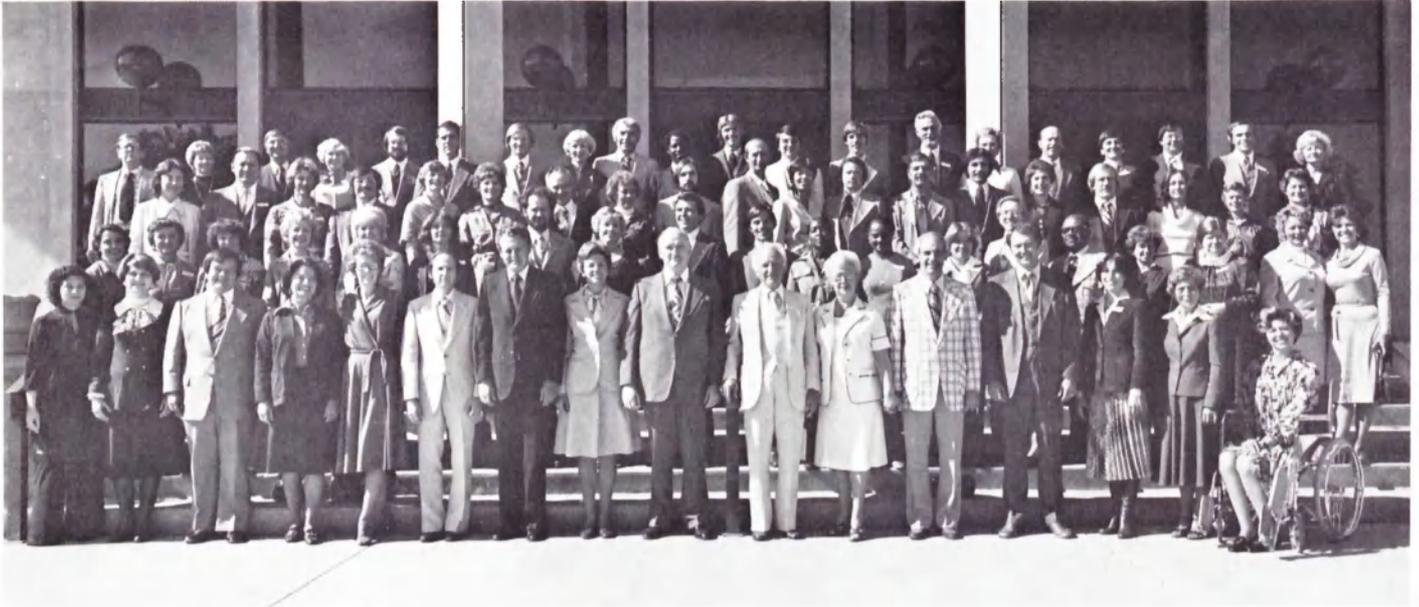
Winston Fletcher

LICENSED TEACHER RECOGNITION

In July and August, 1978, the Licensing Committee met with and approved seven applicants for Licensed Teacher Recognition. The Board of Trustees ratified such recognitions and we are pleased to welcome into the AUC: **Karen A. Landwehr**, 27½ North Washington, Brazil, Indiana 47834; **Margaret Ellis**, 6025 W. Florida, Lakewood, Colorado 80226; **Lavinia Parkhurst**, P.O. Box 205, Bayamon, Puerto Rico 00619; **Lourdes C. Arias**, P.O. Box 1808, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; **Carmen V. Figueroa (Fe)**, 2 Este Number 46 La Esperilla, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; **Ana Antonia O. Peralta**, San Francisco Number 93, San Francisco de Macoris, Dominican Republic; and **Maria Emilia Soler**, c/o SMRS, Unity Village, Missouri 64065.

We have listed the mailing addresses with the thought that you might want to write a letter of congratulations to each of these new Licensed Teachers.

1978-79 MINISTERS IN TRAINING



We would like to introduce to you the 1978-79 Ministers in Training.

Row 1, left to right—Jean Caputo, New York, NY; Beverly Alberstadt, New Orleans, LA; *Gary Jones, *Hypatia Hasbrouck, *Gladys Branscum, *Dennis Neagle, *Phil White, *Marilyn Rieger, *Paul Barrett, *James D. Freeman, *Martha Giudici, *Frank Giudici, *Scott Sherman, Wendy Craig, San Diego, CA; Zelda Loader, Montreal, Quebec, Canada; Betty Winters, Elmwood Park, IL.

Row 2, left to right—Maria Solar, Santiago, Cuba; Tia Price, Kansas City, MO; Vicki Walden, St. Louis, MO; Becky Lynne, Dallas, TX; Hope Taylor-Fries, San Diego, CA; Frieda Olsen, Belton, MO; David Durksen, Burnaby, BC, Canada; Alice Reynolds, Sacramento, CA; Rene Pare, Independence, MO; James Fisher, Walnut Creek, CA; Sallye Taylor, Chicago, IL; Enid Bailey, Montego Bay, Jamaica; Kerrie Ellis-Hubatsek, Liverpool, NY; Robert Biddick, Evanston, IL; Steve Samms, Kingston, Jamaica; Sue Ann Smith, Grand Island, NY; Deanna D'Ambrosia, Tacoma, WA; Claire Bunting, Auckland, New Zealand; Jo Foster, Lake Winnebago, MO.

Row 3, left to right—Eunice Chagnon, Kendall Park, NJ; Spike Chagnon, Kendall Park, NJ; Sidney Ryman, Roanoke,

VA; Gary Simmons, Daly City, CA; Marleen Davis, Gardnerville, NV; Helen Glover, Springfield, MO; Ronel Sinstead, Kitchener, Ont., Canada; Geri Weeks, Laguna Beach, CA; James Gaither, Davenport, IA; Dick Andrews, Augusta, GA; Joan Gattuso, Akron, OH; Mark Yarnell, Springfield, MO; Al Abdulky, Lee's Summit, MO; Charles Murphy, Santa Barbara, CA; Barbara Williamsen, Springfield, IL; Charles Hancock, Snohomish, WA; June Fraser, Bridgeport, CT; Grace Harvey, Farrer, Australia; Beth Whitters, Adelaide, Australia.

Row 4, left to right—Kent Kessinger, Millbrae, CA; Billie Blain, West Palm Beach, FL; Gerald Bartholow, Atlanta, GA; Sara Watson, Lee's Summit, MO; Thomas Bassford, Columbia, MO; Eddy Edwards, Port Angeles, WA; David McArthur, Victor, MT; Judith Ann Childress, Sacramento, CA; Dale Soppe, Dubuque, IA; Emmanuel Fakeye, Ibadan, Nigeria; Earl Andersen, Chicago, IL; Robert Brumet, Grand Rapids, MI; Gregory Barrette, Alameda, CA; Robert Detzler, Olympia, WA; Marianne Bowers, McAllen, TX; Nickolas Sidovar, Austin, TX; Frances Martyns, Camillus, NY; Larry Church, East Peoria, IL; Richard Barnes, Lake Oswego, OR; and Edwene Copeland, Houston, TX.

* Faculty Members

Happy

Thanksgiving



DIAL-A-PRAYER MESSAGES!

Here are three Dial-A-Prayer messages from **Mary Jo Cooper**, minister of **Unity Church of Leisure World, Seal Beach, California**. You are welcome to adapt or use them as they are. One catch; if you enjoy the concept, send at least three of your own messages for CONTACT to be shared with our ministers in a forthcoming issue.

Dear one,

If anything is troubling you now why not step out on a promise given by Jesus, "That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven"--why not do it now while I am here and you and I can agree together? Let us agree right now that greater is the power of God within you than anything else in the world. Your true Self is made in the image and likeness of Almighty God and is mightier than any circumstance, mightier than any condition, and now sets you free. You are strong, you are free, you are healed and blessed for you are a child of God.

We thank You, dear God, our Father, for this promise of Your Son Whose word is with authority, Whose promises are always kept. We make His promise our premise and in our agreement we behold it IS done out of Your great love. Thank You, Father. Amen.

Hello, dear friend,

Thank you for dialing for prayer. God needs you, beloved, heed His loving call. Respond with all your heart, all your strength. God loves you. You are His beloved child. Return that love by simple turnings throughout the day; whisper your outpouring of love from your full-to-overflowing heart as you receive and feel His great love for you. Say often, "thank You, God, for loving me; thank You, God, for needing me. Use me as an instrument through which Your words "I love you" may be spoken.

I will join with you, dear one, right here, right now and say with you: "I love You, God, I love you, world, I love you, people everywhere" in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Blessed friend,

You have dialed a prayer--now let us pray: We come to You, dear Lord, remembering Your words, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Here we are, Lord, this dear one and I, just as we come to you whenever we feel restless or hemmed in by circumstances or burdened by any problem whatsoever. Even as we feel Your Presence with us we recall the words of St. Augustine: "Thou wilt have us for Thyself, and our hearts will restless be until they repose in Thee." Lord, I rest from my efforts, and I come to You bringing this dear one who has dialed a prayer with me. In Your Presence we become aware of ourselves as You know us. Each of us knows: I am a spiritual being, I am meant to live life fully, freely, joyously, unburdened and unencumbered. This we do in Your precious Name and through the power of our own individual indwelling Christ. Amen.

CHRISTMAS RESOURCES AVAILABLE

The following Sunday School Christmas plays, pageants, and activities from past years are available by writing Lani Jones, Youth Services Coordinator:

The Message of the Carols
(A Christmas Pageant)

Dedication of the Christmas Tree

The First Christmas
(A Christmas Pageant)

Symbolism of the Christmas Tree
(A Pageant)

The Story of Christmas
(A Play)

The Light Bringers
(Metaphysical meaning of Christmas)

The Christmas Story in Verse and Song
A Star and a Stable

(by Aylsea Forsee, reprinted from WEE WISDOM)

A Christmas Candelighting Service

Please share with Lani Jones a copy of original pageants, plays or programs that your church presents at Christmas time so our resources will grow from year to year.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- †4 Youth Education Seminar, hosted by Unity Church of Peoria, Illinois, conducted by Lani Jones
- †11 Youth Education Seminar, hosted by Unity Church of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, conducted by Lani Jones
- 13-18 Skill Development Seminar, Unity Village, Missouri
- 18-24 Thanksgiving at Unity Retreat, Unity Village, Missouri
- 23 Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 25 Christmas

1979

JANUARY

- 3-5 Northern California Regional Retreat, Carmel, California
- 14-18 AUC Mid-Year Committee Meetings, Unity Village, Missouri
- †28-31 Southwest Regional Conference, (location will be announced later)

APRIL

- †23-27 Executive Committee Meetings, Unity Village, Missouri
- 24-29 Second Caribblue Retreat, Intercontinental Hotel, Ocho Rios, Jamaica, West Indies, hosted by Unity of Jamaica
- *29- May 3 SCUCA Regional Conference, Denver, Colorado, hosted by Unity Church of Denver

MAY

- †2-4 Northern California Regional Conference, Reno, Nevada, hosted by Unity Ministry of Reno

JUNE

- 10-21 AUC Pre-Conference & Conference, Unity Village, Missouri

AUGUST

- †6-10 Southeastern Unity Regional Retreat, Boca Raton Hotel, Boca Raton, Florida
- 12-18 YOU Conference, Unity Village, Missouri
- 19-24 YAU Retreat, Unity Village, Missouri

OCTOBER

- †14-16 Southeastern Region Ministers/Teachers' Conference, (location will be announced later)

† Additions
* Changes

