



NEWSLETTER 1986

The Visitor



REMEMBER

MAKE-UP PHOTO SESSION
JUNE 1

If you did not get your

picture taken in May for our church directory, you will have your opportunity on Sunday, June 1 after worship starting about 10:30 a.m. (It could be a bit later than that because of communion and reception of a new member.)

Hopefully you will have seen the proofs of your first sitting on Saturday May 31. You have been assigned a time. If you are not certain about the time set for you, you could call at the church at 472-2370.

PLEDGE FOR INTERN

Extra pledge cards will be developed to pay the expenses that the church will incur by the ministry of David Bartholomew during his intern year. You can also mark an amount on your check by saying "intern", and we will know what you mean.



It is also helpful for us if you catch up with your regular pledge as income drops during the summer months, but expenses do not. Some might even be able to pay ahead.

SLUMBER FALLS CAMPING season is upon us. Thus far Ricky Masters is the only youngsters that we know about planning on attending camp. We do have some funds to help out which have not been used in recent years. The schedule was printed in our April issue, but it is posted in the Fellowship Room, and you can contact the pastor for information. The camp is in a lovely setting with good programming.

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE held its Annual Meeting in New Orleans with good attendance and participation. Terry Ocean was our delegate, and the Rev. Sarah Bentley and the Rev. John C. Towery were also present. Rev. Ms. Bentley was elected as a delegate to General Synod which will meet in Cleveland next year and in Fort Worth in 1989. The pastor was reelected to Texas United Campus Christian Life Committee. (See p. 3)

SERMON TOPICS



Our summer schedule of 9:30 a.m. worship is in effect, and we can all check to see who forgot about the time change and arrived at 11:00 a.m. to worship. The pastor will preach on the topic

of "Keeping Covenant" from I Kings 8:23 on June 1. Other scriptures are Gal. 1:1-10 and Luke 7:1-10. It promises to be a busy Sunday receiving Michael Adams as a member and celebrating communion. We trust that you will also remember to bring staple foods to take to Faith Food Pantries. We may even have refreshments after worship, and we know that some members or friends will have their pictures taken for the directory. The Board of Deacons will meet after worship is completed and communion fixtures cleaned and replaced.

The bulletin cover picks "The Word of the Lord on Your Lips is Truth" from the Old Testament passage of I Kings 17:17-24. The pastor will use that text as a sermon topic on June 8. Read Gal. 1:11-24 and Luke 7:11-17 as the other scriptures for the day. We suspect that David Bartholomew will be sharing in the service, and we can consider having a "pounding" for him. That means that you bring food for him, of course!

We plan and hope to have David preach once a month during his time with us, and we suspect that June 15 may be a good time for that. Our bulletin uses Gal. 2:20 "it is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me" as a theme, but he may choose what he wants. I Kings 19:1-8 and Luke 7:36 to 8:3 are other readings for the day.

June 22 could be used as a celebration of the 29th birthday for the United Church of Christ, and the bulletin cover of "You Are All One in Christ Jesus" Gal. 3:28 would be very apt.



(cont. on p. 2)

From the Pastor's

"Friendship"

Through the years I have been deeply impressed with the way that members of this church would work to help each others and sometimes persons whom they hardly knew. It is one of the most hopeful attributes of our fellowship and future growth. It is difficult to differ and yet love one another.

Marty was reflecting on Harvey Cox's reaction to a biography about Reinhold Niebuhr by Richard Fox. Niebuhr evidently would break friendships if one took a different position on major issues. Niebuhr was basically a loner with a few friends who did not expect him to pay attention to them.

Cox cites Aristotle on three components of friendship. First, we enjoy their company. Second, our friends are the people we help and who help us. Third, one "shares a moral vision with friends.

Marty goes on to agree with Cox's conclusion: "Maybe our hapless desire to stay friends somehow with those we know we must oppose mightily is not, as Niebuhr thought, just a symptom of sentimentality or the unwillingness to admit real conflict. Instead it might be a confused but valid recognition of our own finitude and sinfulness, and at the same time as expression of our need---even before the eschaton---of some foretaste of the Blessed Community." And, who knows, maybe some of those friends who gyrated 180 degrees from where they'd been, might gyrate back and complete the circle some day. And find us, friends, waiting.?"

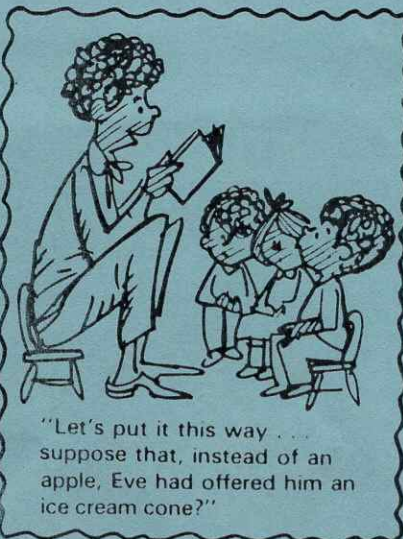
What Martin Marty is saying in his review of Cox's article in Christianity and Crisis is that we need each other and should care about one another even when we disagree about matters of great importance.

We seem to be improving in that regard at Conference meetings, but the muttering in the

background keeps us aware that the conversion of our feelings is greatly to be desired.

From Marty "A line of Catholic theology from a Rosemary Ruether article: 'Or, as the women's ordination movement puts it: Either ordain women or stop baptizing them.'" (America)

From Context 6/1/86



"Let's put it this way... suppose that, instead of an apple, Eve had offered him an ice cream cone?"

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(Sermons from p. 1) text for a uniting denomination. Trinity UCC wondered if we would like to worship together, but we have not yet had a meeting of the Deacons. We usually feel the necessity of having worship each Sunday in our building, and they may feel the same. Read I Kings 19:9-14; Gal. 3:23-29; Luke 9:18-24 and come to see what means we use to celebrate UCC's 29th birthday.

June is a five Sunday month this year, and we finish on the 29th with the Rev. Hudson "Bill" Phillips in the pulpit with the topic "Our Bodies Are Ourselves". Bill reports that gaining of insights from his work as a counselor at Brown School that he hopes to share with us. Scriptures for the day are I Kings 19:15-21; Gal. 5:1,13-25; Luke 9:51-62, but Bill usually uses personally selected scriptures.



On May 10 a good many people donated many hours of labor to repair and clean up our facilities. Not being present because of a meeting, some will be missed but a more important presence likely noted their efforts. Rick Vensas and John Camden wrestled with a balky sump pump that failed to go on. They along with Judy Vensas and ? others worked to get water out of the basement of the educational wing. John later greased the pump and enabled it to work again. Linda Bulkeley cleaned the lower part of the windows in the educational wing. Leo Wegner rented a machine that sprayed water with detergent at great force to remove the black fungi from the stones around the church. Laura Camden did some cleaning etc.

On May 24 Midori and Oliver Campbell replaced some of the rotten lumber in our ramp built for wheel chairs. Now it is safe again.

Leo even came back later and still has one more session to clean up our stones.

People's Community Clinic wants to rearrange the basement of the educational wing. They are looking for a doctor who will work full time for the clinic. We need to have some persons present to be certain that our interests are heard. Members of the choir should come and be heard.

Our deep appreciation to Cindy Anderson for her work as our treasurer and our best wishes to her and Tad as they move to the state of Washington as Tad continues his study to become a Meteorologist.

CALENDAR

For the summer: 9:30 a.m. worship, no church school, no choir. Refreshments only when a member of friend of the church desires to do so for a special occasion.

June 1, 9:30 a.m.-Morning Worship with communion. Reception of new member. Picture taking for those who missed the earlier session. Deacons will meet following worship. Sermon topic of "Keeping Covenant"

June 3-David Bartholomew is scheduled to arrive in Austin.

June 6 & 7: Pastor meets with Eden Home Expansion Committee in Austin.

June 8, 9:30 a.m.-Morning Worship. "The Word of the Lord on Your Lips is Truth"

June 15, 9:30 a.m.- Morning Worship. David Bartholomew preaches.

June 22, 9:30 a.m.-Morning Worship. "You Are All One in Christ Jesus"

June 25-June 28-Pastor in Boston for a meeting on Higher Education Concerns.

June 29, 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship. "Bill" Phillips preaches on "Our Bodies Are Ourselves"

FLOWERS FOR CHURCH WORSHIP-While Hildegard Everett is away, we are invited to furnish flowers for our worship service. Marie Clark will do that on June 1, but we could still use flowers on June 8 and 15. Hildegard will be back after that but is glad to have others furnish flowers if she knows in advance.

TRUSTEES met on May 18 and received reports on various repairs that had been made to the church. They learned that the church did have insurance on the computer. Apple III's are no longer on the market but can be obtained from a firm in Utah that bought them up. Some sentiment for purchasing an Apple Macintosh was expressed as being easier to learn to use. David Bartholomew will be consulted. It will likely be placed on the top floor which has not had the break-in problems associated with the Clinic.

The Board approved the purchase of the 1981 Rabbit Diesel automobile by Leo Wegner for the price of \$2,000 (approx. wholesale) and provided credit to him for the purchase. The pastor had indicated a preference for owning his own vehicle and reporting milage to the treasurer to be reimbursed at a rate of 21¢ a mile. The pastor will not have to report that to IRS. He has now purchased a 1986 Toyota pick-up which he is willing to loan to members of the church. It can be noted that it has already so been used.

3 SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE(from p. 1) The Conference Board are recommended reducing our 1986 Budget to balance with anticipated income, but the meeting listened to concerns about restricted committee meetings and voted to maintain the higher figure. Now local churches will need to raise about \$2 a member in addition to the amount they pledged to meet the budget.

Resolutions on Nicaragua, liberation theology of Marxist variety, hazadrous waste genetic engineering, tax justice, study of ecumenical documents, dialogue with Muslims, and others were debated altered in some cases, and passed. When final editions are available, we will post them in the Fellowship Room of the church



As usual we did miss some of our graduates. Actually neither Beth Russell or Mark Tomasek are members of this church. Mark never has been. They are, however a part of our fellowship. We are proud of their completion of college. Mark graduates from St. Edwards University here in Austin, and Beth is completing her studies at Catabwa College in N. Carolina. Mark hopes to go on to medical school, and Beth, at last report, would like to teach in the central Texas area.

We continue to be proud of David Pinkard who is going to Yale, and Carole Marie and Marilyn Harris. What a musically talented trio!

PERSONALS (cont.) It was a real shock to Ches Towery when Gronseth discontinued the Senior Pages operation that he was working on, but they offered him another job. He will be going to Indianapolis, Ind. on June 2 to work on yellow pages adds for phone directories. He will likely move wife Maggie & ? in Sept. or Oct. to a city in KY. or Tenn. in the center of the area he will be working. The pastor helped him take his furniture etc. to Corpus Christi where the company will move all furniture to the new location.

Ches also surprised sister Sally and husband Tom Johnson by driving to New Orleans Friday night, May 23 with wife Maggie and Mary and Dan Masters. They woke Sally up to tell her and Tome that they were there.

Terri Ocean may be going with two sisters and her parents to visit another sister in Annapolis, Md this month. We hope that it works out for her.



Personals

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April 13 was a real surprise for Marilyn Stephens as she suddenly she had surgery. She had beento see her doctor on Monday and returned on Tuesday. She had tests on Tuesday. By the time they operated her appendix had burst, but she is doing fine and is now at home. Sara Ross gave Marilyn's dog a place to stay for a couple of days.

We noted that the Briggs were out of town for two weeks but missed on hearing where they went. We have heard from Hildegard Everett reporting cold in Zion and Bryce Canyons. She liked the North Rim of the Grand Canyon but still prefers the south rim. Eunice Paul sent a humorous card from England and reports that she and Bob celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary at Lygon Arms in Boradum (?) where they spent their honeymoon. They were the guests of the management this time! She is a bit weary of cold weather.

Judy Cole and daughters plan on departing later this month to join Garry in London for the summer. Garry had to fly back briefly to appear in a trial in Houston as a witness. Leo Wegner will house sit for the Coles while they are overseas. Guess we can finally call you on the phone, Leo. He is the purchaser of the VW Rabbit which belonged to the church.

We hear that Linda Bulkely will also do a house sitting bit by watching the Paul's home.

Jean Cassel's address is P. O. Box 253, Crete, NE 68333. We hope her new home will soon be completed.

Flo Chiles will have gone to the North Shore in Minnesota for the summer. She delayed a bit this year because of the cold the first part of May in that area. Mary Charles Williams plans to visit later.



Margaret "Mardie" Oakes became a member of the church on Pentecost Sunday, May 18, by confirmation. She thus confirmed the hopes of her parents, Pat and Mel Oakes, at her baptism in this church several years ago. Mardie plays the viola, plays tennis a bit, watches children in our nursery for us, and enjoys the out of doors.

We hope to have a welcome and write-up of Michael Adams next month as he joins us by letter from University Baptist Church.

Allan Case purchased a home at 610 W. 46th St. and is having it renovated before moving into it. He also purchased a new small van and gave the old cars to a sister and brother.

Mary Halladay's mother has been in the hospital and is out but is in very poor health as she nears her 100th birthday.

Our sympathy to Pat and Mel Oakes on the death of a friend and associate who had come to Mel's 50th birthday celebration but died later of a heart attack.

We heard that Ted Jefferson had finally gotten to church at Plymouth UCC in Beaumont. He reports that he may be in Austin the first part of June.

In meeting the minister of Plymouth, Bill Oliver, we learned that Dennis Graham will be attending Lancaster Theological Seminary beginning this fall. Dennis has been in Beaumont this summer.

Conference also enabled us to learn that Ann Mueller is in Houston with Russ and Helena hoping to obtain a degree in nutrition while working.

We are all sorrowful that Edith and David Scott are returning to Scotland.



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