



NEWSLETTER 1985

The Visitor

SERMON TOPICS



This month we will merge our Friday Forum and our Pot-Luck Dinner. We meet at 6:30p.m. on Friday, Oct. 25, with a real highlight of a program which will commence close to 7:30p.m. for those who can't or would prefer not to come for the dinner. We meet in the Fellowship Room of the church, and we are ardently hoping that the new tables which have been ordered will have arrived as some of the old ones are no longer around.

Our slide presentations are usually very good, but we have discovered that the pictures of Dr. Eugene Grove, Jr., are outstanding. He has excellent equipment, patience, and the ability to go to unusual places. We do not know what he will be showing, but he has been to the Galapagos Islands since he was last with us, and he may have some pictures of the largest cranes in N. America who winter on the Texas coast. If you know of a friend who is a nature lover, do not miss this program. See you and some others at the church on Fri., Oct. 25 at 6:30 or 7:30p.m.?



 TWENTY-THIRD STREET--By the time that you read this item we will have had a meeting on Sunday, Sept. 29th, to discuss where we are and where we are going. The Clinic would like to be with us at least three more years. It will take them two years to raise a million dollars even with the aid of two other groups. If they do succeed, it will take another year for construction to be completed. If they do not manage that, they would have no place else to go. Should we fold, they would have had difficulty relocating.

United Campus Ministry does not have another site that they could go to as we write. UCM could change their style of operation and not need to be located so close to a university campus, but that does not now seem to be desirable. Some discussion has been held about the possibility of minority worship service in our building in the afternoon if and when the Metropolitan Community Church moves to their own building.

The church has hired Mr. Les King as its attorney, and it is quite likely that a law suit will be filed against the City of Austin this week. The actions of the city have already lessened our property value and have definitely handicapped our ability to function as a church. We will keep you informed as to what happens. The Renaissance Market Commission will likely approve an ordinance that would close 23rd Street from the alley to Guadalupe St. for the benefit of the four or five vendors operating most of the year. Because of the City Manager's move to decrease the number of city departments, the Market is being placed under Parks and Recreation Department.

Vic Appel has been on a committee for Save University Neighborhood and made a count of (pg. 3)



October marks not only World Wide Communion Sunday but also the resumption of our observance of the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of each month. We were pleased that so many of you remembered to bring offerings of staple foods to be shared with the hungry of Austin. Reports indicate that many churches

have forgotten that the need continues and has even risen. The pastor has chosen the topic, "To Be Salty and Peaceful," using Mark 9:50 as the basis. In the Navy a person who was thought of as "salty" would usually also be combative. How can we combine that with "peaceful?" Rean Num. 11:24-30, James 5:1-6, and Mark 9:38-48. We will be receiving Neighbors in Need offering and hope to welcome three new members into our church. Tommie Pinkard and Nancy Brown will be our greeters.

We will again celebrate October 13, the second Sunday in October, as Laity Sunday. The pastor will experience the novelty of worshipping with the congregation and his wife. While we lack a list of participants at this time, Doyal Pinkard, our head Deacon, will be in charge of the liturgy, and Vic Appel will be bringing a children's sermon. A search is on for several to witness to their own experience of a modern saint. Scriptures are: Gen. 2:18-24, Heb. 2:9-13, and Mark 10:17-27. Vic Appel and Susan Ashton are the greeters.



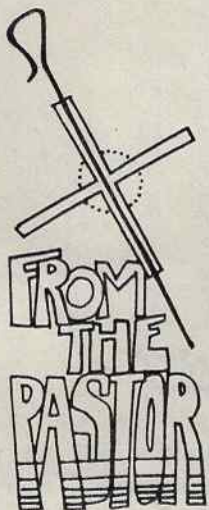
The third Sunday of October is traditionally World Order Sunday, and the topic for the day will be "A Just Peace Church." As some of us know the UCC General Synod in Ames, Iowa voted to call ourselves a "Just Peace Church." The pastor will report on that and also give his interpretation. The lectionary for the day will be Prov. 3:13-18, Heb. 4:12-16, and Mark 10:17-27. Vic Appel and Judy Cole will be the greeters.



Reformation Sunday will be observed on Oct. 27, reminding ourselves of the meaning for us today of Martin Luther's posting of 95 themes for debate. The sermon topic will be "Faith". The scriptures are Isa. 53:10-12, Heb. 5:1-10, and Mark 10:35-45. Greeters are David Ross and Marie Clark.

New name tag holders have been obtained. Members who have attended church on the 30th have their tags completed. When you next come be sure to put your name and occupation on your tag. Don't forget to leave it for the next time.





For some people faith is believing everything that the church teaches. If one reads a bit of church history, one discovers some rather unusual beliefs and practices. Today we do not try to use holy water to kill insects in the garden, but we could think we have to believe every creed word for word. A healthier faith which provides strength for living is more likely to be developed by thinking and even doubting what the church teaches. Luther tried to discover spiritual wholeness by confessing all of his sins, but he kept discovering some he forgot. Further, he was plagued by

the fact that he could have said something harmful or misleading and not be aware of it. He tried a pilgrimage to Rome and prayed on each step of a long ascent, but he could not secure a sense of inner peace until he understood faith as a trust in the goodness and love of God. It is dangerous to elevate attitudes toward our fellow humans to a teaching about God, but our best understanding of faith may come when we trust God in the same way that we trust a good mother or father. When Jesus spoke of God as a good parent who would not give a stone to a child who asked for bread, he is teaching us what kind of God we worship. Faith is our development and growth of a sense of trust in the Creator and Sustainer of Life who reaches to us in love and concern.



The pastor has two students in the Confirmation class this year, and we could use some more. One adult has joined us to learn more of the Christian heritage. If you did not have the advantage of Confirmation training, you might wish to consider joining us each Sunday at 9:50 a.m. For parents of young people who choose not to come to the class, we have the text, "Confirming Our Faith" which would be beneficial for both of you to share together. Some young people would have enough background from confirmation studies to not be tempted by Unification Church, Scientology, or other groups that take one's whole life. If you want a text, call the pastor. You might want to share in going to a Jewish service or other worship experience to know more about other's faith in our plural heritage.



(((SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE is one and a half months behind in giving to Our Christian World Mission which is not too bad as so much money comes in at the end of the year, but money for our new church starts is way behind. A request to consider putting a church development item in the budget will come to local churches of the conference. You will still be able to give to Witness Shares or New Church Starts as you may do at this time. If most churches gave at the percapita rate that this church does, many more churches could be started. The Conference plans on a new church start in Round Rock next year. They have had difficulty in securing pastoral leadership.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Millions of Americans, especially older people, have inadequate health insurance coverage. Funds from the 1985 *Neighbors in Need* offering will support legislation which assures health care coverage for such persons and strengthen and support senior citizen groups, community organizations, and churches working together on health issues.



Our appreciation to our members who have already rallied to provide refreshments for worshippers. It is a great aid to a time of visitation. Most of us do not see one another during the week,

and we like the opportunity to become better acquainted with our visitors. Our thanks go to: 9/8 Clare Blackstock Sprinkle and Mathis Blackstock; 9/15 The Garry Cole family; 9/22 the Oakes family; 9/30 the Pinkards, We look forward to the following in October: 10/6 the Andersons; 10/13 the Polomes. We wonder who will provide for us on Oct. 20 and 27.

***** BRAZOS ASSOCIATION will have its fall meeting in Umland at St. John UCC. The Rev. Joyce Meyers, an associate of the Office for Church Life and Leadership, will be featured speaker on the new priority of the UCC of Spirituality. She will also participate in a communion service. She has been a missionary to Africa and now works with churches in the South.

Trinity UCC on Cameron Road will be proudly inviting all of us to be with them as Brazos Association ordains Bruce Bergthold, the pastor's son, into Christian ministry on Oct. 20 at 3:00p.m. Bruce is already serving our UCC church at Schulenberg, close to our former member Ernie Dean.

DEACONS will be meeting on Sunday, Oct. 13 after worship services. One big change this year is having two greeters for each worship service who will then obtain two others to take up the offering. Next month we will print all of the names for you.

The Board approved a goal of ten new members for 1985. We have three to date.

PERSONALS (cont)--and Univ. of Chicago. Micah has an all A scholastic record, led the league in home runs in baseball, and is an outstanding kicker for the high school football team. Steve is hoping for a football scholarship!

Frances Creech had a cataract removed from her left eye and had an implant placed in it at Scott and White in Temple on Sept. 26. She had a bit of nausea but is now doing well.

We just received a very attractive card from Joanne and Hamp Shuford from Spain, but they had been to Geneva and Portugal too. Hamp felt that Lisbon was similar to Austin. He even felt that being in Calvin's church in Geneva and seeing the results of his work made him more appreciative of Calvin than he had been in his days as a student at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

***** Shettles Lectures at APTS are Oct. 28-30 featuring Dr. Samuel Hugh Moffett on the theme "Lights and Shadows in the New Day" It will be about the new look of international missions. Information is posted in the Fellowship Room.



CALENDAR

Sunday, Oct. 6: 9:50 a.m. Church School.
11 a.m. Worship with Communion. "To Be Salty and Peaceful." Trustees meeting after worship. Reception of New Members after worship? Neighbors in Need offering.

Sunday, Oct. 13: 9:50 a.m. Church School.
11 a.m. Worship Laity Sunday. Theme: "Saints." Board of Deacons will meet following the service.

Thurs., Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m. Meditative Prayer at Mary Halladay's home?

Sunday, Oct. 20: 9:50 a.m. Church School
11 a.m. Worship. World Order Sunday. "A Just Peace Church."

3:00 p.m. Ordination of Bruce Bergthold at Trinity United Church of Christ located at 5800 Cameron Road.

(Pastor will be at Slumber Falls Camp that evening until Tues. noon for Texas United Campus Christian Life Committee.)

Wed., Oct. 23, 7:30 p.m. Cluster meeting at Trinity United Church of Christ on Evangelism, Stewardship, etc.

Friday., Oct. 25, 6:30 p.m. Pot-Luck Dinner at the church. Dr. Grove will show slides at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 27: 9:50 a.m. Church School.
11 a.m. Worship. Reformation Sunday.
"Faith" Church Council meets afterwards?

23rd Street (cont)--pedestrians using the street. The claim of the vendors is that they want the street closed for the safety of the pedestrians. Dr. Appel's survey showed the following:

1. There is a substantial flow of students heading both to and from campus that reaches its greatest number around noon. The flow is 348 at its maximum (coming from campus), or about 6 students per minute.

2. There is a very limited amount of motorized vehicular traffic, amounting to a maximum of 25 cars per hour, or less than one vehicle every two minutes.

3. Most of the on-foot traffic does not proceed down 23rd Street. Approximately 60% of the traffic cuts off at the alley and heads in a northerly direction. Twenty-third Street is a diagonal pathway from the West Mall of the campus to points north and west of 23rd Street.

Unfortunately, as Dr. Appel discovered after the survey, no opinions were changed by the facts. We could need a large turn-out of those of our membership who belong to SUN at its meeting the first Monday of October at 7 p.m. at University Presbyterian Church.

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CRIME--One of our members discovered the following from Crime Analysis of the Police Department from Aug. 1 until early September. Two arrests for public intoxication, 3 arrests for the possession of drugs, 1 arrest for using an impounded vehicle, 1 with a found substance, 2 arrests for sleeping in a public place, and 1 arrest for disturbing the peace. As most of us realize, you could easily double or even quadruple some of those figures.

Our thanks to Linda Norelli for her work in typing most of this newsletter. If she did not push the pastor to get the work accomplished, we don't know when it would be completed.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED is one of two all-church offerings that the United Church of Christ has asked local congregations to participate in. Next year we will



have four. This year most of the offering will go for advocacy programs. They are: Health Care Coverage for All, an Equal Chance for Children of the Poor, Educational Opportunities for Disadvantaged Youth through Community Partnership, Justice and the National Toxic Pollution Crisis. One direct aid part of the offering will enable our American Indian congregations to function more effectively and will provide some aid to impoverished Indians.

TRUSTEES--The next meeting of the Board will be after worship on Oct. 6th. We do not know our exact bank balance, but it is much lower than it was last month, but we have some good results to show for it. The deacons' bench and the wood table donated by Van Walton and Weldon Schell were refinished. Our rug was cleaned by Deep Eddy Rug Cleaners. Give a big applause to Rizer Everett and John Camden for putting our one bulletin board up. If it comes down after the lag bolts John put in, we'll worry about the wall. At our last clean-up our other boards went to the junk yard along with our old tables. Judy Cole has ordered, with the approval of the Board, five new tables and a wagon to hold our tables. (We all hope that they arrive by the 25th of this month.) Our old Savon copier failed three straight times to do our bulletins. Thanks to a generous donor, we now are the owners of a new Toshiba which will also enlarge and reduce copy. Thus far it is doing much better and offers more options. The Board also authorized Austin Guardian to make a gate which would close off the steps to the basement and the north area of the educational wing where the air conditioner compressors are located. Street people use the stairwell for a latrine at times and store items by the woodpile. The last break-in occurred by breaking a window on that side. One person has offered to pay for the new gate, which will be about \$270.

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CHURCH MEETINGS--On Sept. 15 church members affirmed Vanessa Fontenot and Donald Small as new members and Linda Bulkeley as an associate member.

At our Sept 29th meeting the church voted to use some of the Memorial Fund to have a circular symbol design in memory of Frances and Joseph Towery. They also approved the use of Memorial Funds to purchase the tables which have been ordered.

The situation of the church was discussed. The only vocal appeal was for the church to remain in its present location. The pastor indicated that the Clinic could not relocate for at least three years as it would take two years to raise the needed million dollars and one year for construction. United Campus Ministry will still need to be located in our building.

The desirability of having a seminarian hired for an intern year to develop a young adult program and work with students was discussed. It was suggested that we could use our reserve funds even if we did not raise the money. We would need to furnish living space, perhaps \$750 a month, and \$100 travel allowance for none, twelve, or fifteen months. David Bartholomew was mentioned as a possibility.



Operations seem to be stylish for members and friends this past month. Paul Saustrup had a hernia repaired and got out of the hospital just in time to celebrate his 21st birthday. The pastor tried to call to make a visit the next day, but he was already out.

Mrs. Perkins daughter, Dr. Priscilla Grew, had surgery in Calif. and is recovering nicely. She had made some interesting trips including one to Alaska.

Beth Placek enjoyed her trip to England very much and recommends the peak district. She did get to Burnham-on-Crouch for an overnight stop. She didn't enjoy the surgery of having her tubes tied as it was much more painful than she had been led to believe.

We regret reporting that Lydia Paul Tapley will be entering the hospital for back problems. Thus far treatments have not helped, and Beth reported that Lydia was in great pain when she was there. Surgery may be necessary.

Garry Cole had his motor scooter fall on his foot and missed playing tennis for a few days. Mel Oakes had to miss playing due to a cold.

Breathing problems are with us too. Stella Morrison had something akin to whooping cough for a month that created difficulties. She is president of a ballroom dancing group, and her vice president was unavailable to help. The pastor has been sniffing for over two months from allergies.

Ruth Case reported a restful interlude as she was away to (was it Mo Ranch?) Allan did survive, and the girls were fine.

We regret reporting that Guido Riley plans on leaving by January. She reports that living is too expensive in Austin, and she is not able to obtain the studies she needs. She is investigating New Mexico and Arizona.

Mary Halladay flew to Toledo, Ohio to visit her mother and two of her brothers. She reports a very good visit. Her mother is nearing 100 and is in good spirits and is doing better than she had been doing.

The Towery family minus John gathered in Garland Sept. 20-22. Ches was working in the Sherman area. The men plus Ricky and Pamela went to see the Dallas Cowboys play and beat the Cleveland Browns. Dan Masters was still excited about his purchase of a truck with a welding rig on it. He is available at \$25 an hour with one hour minimum charge. He has already had some work but is looking for more. Call him at 837-7854.

David Pinkard was in an auto wreck and was knocked unconscious. A trip to the hospital

revealed no permanent damage. The car however was totaled. We hear that Doyal was thinking about letting David have the Rabbit and getting a pick-up truck. David has been playing the piano for a Pentecostal church which pays a good bit more than we do. A musician's union would give us some criticism for our pay.

We heard that Dennis Graham was back in North Carolina, but we have been unable to confirm that or obtain his address.

Cheryl Appel investigated a job opportunity in Boston, Mass and liked the area, but she is intrigued about a job possibility in Hawaii. If she goes to Boston that would have three of our members moving there in a year.

Bob Breihan had to shift from Tuesdays off to Wednesday which did enable Sarah to meet with the Brazos Association minister's bi-monthly meeting for the first time. Now she has been to downtown Burton.

Dorothy and Chester Lay found their trip to England so wonderful that they are planning on another sojourn there.

We neglected to report that Christine Ocean had injured her leg. We hope that it is doing better. Terry will be going to South Dakota to drive an elderly friend to the Texas valley to enjoy warm weather during the winter.

We hear that Katherine Flarity discovered that chaplain work in a Deaconess hospital involves a lot of work on the floor and not as much training as she would prefer.

We hear that Arne Saustrup has purchased and moved into a house in San Antonio, but we don't have the new address. We also heard that he made a big sale in some computer software.

Hildegard and Rizer Everett will take advantage of the special Southwest Air rates for those over 65 to visit the west coast and granddaughter Lael later this month.

Steve Neuse up in Fayetteville, AR felt a need to get in the newsletter and reported that all were doing fine. He has been doing a lot of research on politics and literature and finished a chapter on a book on American crime, detective fiction, and politics. (He and Bob Paul need to have a talk on detective fiction.) Jeanine is in charge of the culinary arts program but is looking for a change. Jonathan was at Governor's school for gifted and talented and was named a national merit semi-finalist. College tours have included UK, Lexington, UNC at Chapel Hill, Duke, and Vanderbilt. Trinity in San Antonio, KU in Lawrence, Northwestern



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