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Reaganomics: The Pastoral Implications
National Capital Union Presbtery
May 12, 1981
7:30-9:00 p.m.

7:30 Introduction Rev. John Wimberly Social Justice Committee, NCUP

7:35 Keynote Speaker

"Where are President Reagan's Budget Choices Taking Us?"
Dr. Robert Hartman
The Brookings Institution

7:55 Go to small group discussion meetings

Group	Leader	Room
A	Rev. Margie Adams Rockville Presbyterian Church	Dining Room
B	Rev. Don Allen Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church	Dining Room
C	Rev. Jeanne Clark Westminster Presbyterian Church(D.C.)	Choir Room
D	Rev. Louis Evans National Presbyterian Church	Registration Room
E	Rev. Henry Ferry Howard University	Room 14(Upstairs)
F	Rev. Vin Harwell Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church	Room 2
G	Rev. Rosemary Mitchell New York Avenue Presbyterian Church	Room 3
H	Rev. John Pharr Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church	Room 6
I	Rev. George Taylor Takoma Park Presbyterian Church	Room 7
J	Rev. Donna Weddle Chaplain, U.S. Army	Room 17(Upstairs)

8:45 Return to Sanctuary

8:50 Wrap-up Speaker

"A Call to Justice"
Rev. Arthur McKay, New York Avenue Presbyterian Church

9:00 Resume Presbyery docket

(OVER)

Small Group Discussion Questions

- 1) Who are the truly needy?
- 2) What is the responsibility of the government(federal/state/local) to meet the needs of people who are vulnerable? What are the church's responsibilities?
- 3) What should be the guiding principle in allocating scarce resources among competing programs?
- 4) Will these budget cuts effect people in your congregation(i.e. job loss/change, impact on elderly or handicapped, create new opportunities through increased defense spending, etc)? What are the pastoral implications?
- 5) Will these budget cuts effect people in your community(i.e., hurt or help community services, create new jobs, drive marginal people below the poverty line,etc.)? How will this effect the ministry of your congregation to its community?
- 6) What are the pastoral implications for the Presbytery itself(i.e., re-ordering mission project funding, creating more direct social-service-type ministries, etc.)?

The committees of Presbytery cannot address every area effected by the proposed budget cuts. If you could pick four issue areas as priority concerns, what would they be?

☒ Child Nutrition Programs

☐ Legal Services

☐ CETA(job-training)

☒ Food Stamps

☐ Foreign Aid

☐ Programs for the elderly

☐ Programs for the handicapped

☐ Unemployment Benefits

☒ Subsidized Day Care

☒ Education(Head Start, etc.)

☐ Social Security

☐ Veterans Benefits

☐ New Federalism(Block Grant system)

☐ Other _____

Community Ministry News

Community Ministry of Montgomery County, 114 West Montgomery Avenue, Rockville, Maryland

Vol. IX No. 3

March 1981

OUR CHILDREN/OURSELVES: A PUBLIC EXPLORATION INTO DRUG ABUSE

CMMC helped form the Interagency Planning Committee on Drug and Alcohol Abuse, in response to the Police-Student Report on Substance Use. The Planning Committee made recommendations for a response to the problem in government, school and community. One of those recommendations was to prepare a series of public seminars on misuse of drugs.

On Tuesday, March 31, 7:45 PM, in the auditorium of John F. Kennedy High School, 1901 Randolph Road, in Silver Spring, Dr. Robert Dupont, former Director of the National Council on Drug Abuse, will speak on problems of drug abuse today. With him will be a student and a parent who will tell their own stories of drug abuse and remedial action.

Nearby in the cafeteria will be five exploration centers offering opportunity during the evening to inquire more deeply in one or more areas of special interest:

One center will deal with Common Drugs of Use: What drugs do to the body, how you spot drug use in your children, potential problems in the use of prescription drugs.

Another center will relate to Drugs and the Law: Confidentiality, what it means to get busted, what are the laws related to drug use, drug traffic, paraphernalia laws, legal restrictions and responsibilities on parents and teachers.

An exploration center on Parent Peer Groups will show how to form them, how they help, parenting skills, single parenting, age-related decisions, life style concerns.


There will be a center on Alcoholism, and a booth displaying the resources of the new Drug Resource Center, which is just getting started in the Park Street Building, in Rockville.

Let folks know at your church that this meeting is happening. We all - especially parents - need to be better informed about drugs.

HEARINGS ON UNMET SOCIAL NEEDS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

CMMC, together with another twenty organizations in the County (Community Action Agency, HELP/FISH, League of Women Voters, Suburban Maryland Fair Housing, YWCA, et. al.) sponsored hearings on February 21 and 22 to take testimony from the clients of various types of social services on the social problems they face in their struggle for a decent life in our County.

The hearings were planned as preparation for budget decisions at various levels of government where the climate is one of fiscal restraint and reluctance to invest in government programs to resolve social problems. Testifiers were invited to tell their own stories of struggling on low incomes; how the problems affected their daily lives; what people/programs (government and other) helped; and what changes could be made to improve the system.



Housing and health led the list of problems told by the testifiers. We heard of the high housing cost which leaves money for little else, and of long, long waiting lists for assisted housing. One woman told of living with her two children and twenty other people in her mother's house - how hard it was to keep clean! Another woman witnessed children bitten by rats in substandard housing. Health appeared to be the major cause in pushing a family on to public dependence. An injury, operation, or illness again and again proved to be too much to handle. But the most bitter complaints were reserved for the bureaucracy itself: the frustration, the insult - the hassle - often proved too much to take, and was ever endured only because of utter necessity. "Thou art set as a dam against the stream and behold thou art become a moving flood."

The most important part of the hearings was being there to hear and feel what these problems mean to people. "I'm seventy-two years old. I have lots of wants, but I don't gets much." The people talked of deprivation, anxiety, shame, frustration. But we also learned a great deal about human courage, grace under pressure, humor, and the will to survive. Heard most often was the plea for someone to listen - the crucial element of human contact.

We also heard success stories. One graduate student looked back with gratitude to the help she had to make it. Another told of all the volunteer jobs she did until she found an opening into gainful employment. A mother spoke with pride of her five children with good jobs and the sixth soon to graduate from college. CMMC's Grant Assistance Program, and many other private programs got a good deal of thanks and praise. Again and again we heard of a County worker who cared and who won the deep gratitude and reverence of a client, and the reward, "She saved my life!"

The findings of the hearing are now being collated and will be used by the sponsoring groups in their testimony before government hearings, and for their own planning.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY HOSPICE

(The following letter was requested and received by CMMC President, Adrienne Carr):

"Montgomery Hospice Society welcomes each member of the clergy in Montgomery County as a participating member of our hospice team. While we have a coordinating minister on our staff in the person of the Reverend Marian Windel, we expect that each Hospice family will want to be in touch with their own clergy person.

" Because we hope that many of you will be involved with hospice families, we want you to understand the basic principles of hospice care and to know where the Montgomery County Hospice is in its development.

"Hospice is a concept of care for the terminally ill and their families. It is composed of an interdisciplinary team of professionals: medical director, nurse coordinator of home care, director of volunteers and education, social worker, member of the clergy, and an administrative director. This staff together with trained volunteers can provide twenty four hour, seven day a week service with the objectives of relief from fear, loneliness, guilt and anxiety for patient and family. The goal is to help a person live as fully as possible and to die with dignity. Bereavement counseling with both patient and family is an on-going service and will continue as long as necessary after death. We will be working with individuals and groups. One of our hopes is to offer support to children whose parent has died. Often there are not at one time enough children in one church or synagogue to form such a group. Clergy could let us know if there are such children.

"As of this writing, Montgomery Hospice has been granted a Certificate of Need by the county, and the State Review Board will be making their decision on the certification by the end of February. We then have to go through a licensing process for Home Care Agency

or license as a hospice, in order to give direct medical care. We will keep you posted because it is possible you may want to begin referring families to us through their physicians.

"Once certification is granted we will launch a major fund drive. We will be entirely dependent on community support initially. Religious institutions can function as a direct means of communication between us and individuals. We have already received much support from various religious congregations. It is our hope that we could average \$200.00 a year from each religious institution in Montgomery County, giving us a basic resource for those patients who cannot afford to pay for hospice services.

"We look forward to getting to know each of you as we progress together toward a mutual goal of better services to the terminally ill."

THE EFFECTS OF THE REAGAN PLAN - Carmel Michie and Jay F. Sterling

Last Wednesday, March 4, we had the opportunity to attend a Democratic Policy Forum concerning the proposed budget cuts by the Reagan Administration. The Forum was sponsored by Senator Kennedy and featured speakers representing Education, Labor and Senior Citizens.

Albert Shanker, president of the American Federation of Teachers offered several warnings on what would be the effects of the cuts on Education. The cuts would be most heavily felt by the poor and handicapped; ironically, with this being the International Year of the Handicapped. The burden for financing special programs would be shifted to state and local governments, already seeking areas in which to cut back; the results would be increases in property and other regressive taxes. Families with children entering college will face the prospects of escalating tuition and other costs at the same time the government is proposing to end the Federally funded student grant and loan programs. The loss of the Federal subsidies in the School Lunch Program will result in an increase in the cost of the school lunch to \$1.25 per day. The quality of education will also be affected by the elimination of the Title 1 program and the loss of 65,000 teachers' jobs nationwide.

Lane Kirkland, president of the AFL-CIO, has warned that a minimum of one million jobs will be lost as a direct result of the proposed cuts, including the CETA program and summer youth jobs. In human terms, studies have pointed out the devastating consequences of extended unemployment: increases in alcoholism, domestic difficulties, etc. Douglas Fraser, president of the UAW, speculated that the administration and Congress do not understand unemployment and the feeling of "helplessness and powerlessness." Kirkland warned that the much promised tax cut over the next three years will be tilted in favor of the upper income levels; families earning under \$50,000 a year, however, will not see the benefit of their cut after higher energy costs, etc., are taken into account.

The conclusions derived from the day's testimonies lead us to believe that the proposed budget and tax cuts are slanted in favor of the rich, while attacking the working poor and middle classes on many fronts. Douglas Fraser summed it all up by saying that the mood of the country is not in favor of cutting specific programs. We all need to educate ourselves as to how these cuts will affect the well-being of our society.

SUB-STANDARD WELFARE GRANTS

(From Food and Poverty Notes comes the following article by Susan Tippet, Social Concerns Unit of Catholic Charities):

"On January 21, Governor Hughes unveiled his \$5.6 billion budget for fiscal year 1982. The governor referred to his proposal as a 'responsible, holding-the-line budget which maintains the integrity of vital state programs and services.' The advocate community has serious questions as to whether it is responsible to say that a budget maintains the integrity

of essential programs when it offers no inflation relief to Maryland's impoverished welfare poor and projects cuts in many vital programs benefiting poor persons. On the other hand all advocates see this budget as a reflection of the political climate of both Annapolis and Washington and the growing sentiment to limit government spending as well as the size of the government itself. There is a widening gap between the needs of the poor and the perceived priorities of those who vote. Any realistic effort to increase funds available for poor people must take into account their own priority in the political arena.

"This is the time for all the advocate community to start building coalitions and a time for people who have not taken an active political role to resolve to contact their legislators and the governor to make plain the devastating financial hardships facing poor people generally and people on welfare (AFDC or GPA) in Maryland particularly.

"July 1, 1980, Maryland's monthly AFDC grants were increased 11% (from \$294 to \$326 for a family of four.) In January 1981 food stamp allotments for the AFDC family of four increased to \$192. The total income for the family would be \$518 (11.3% increase from 1979.) However, in 1980 the cost of living increased 12.4%, food prices in the Baltimore area rose 11.6%, heating oil 22%, natural gas 13.4%, and electric costs 13.9%. The 11.3% increase in AFDC families' income actually represents a decline in purchasing power when you compare it to the cost of living increases above.

"The burden of inflation is heavy for everyone, but it is doubly so for Maryland's welfare poor. Their grants are totally inadequate when compared with the state's recommended Standard of Need. The Standard of Need is the minimum dollar amount considered necessary for various size families to live in health and decency. It is set by the state through a special commission appointed by the governor. The standard for 1982 is \$696 a month for an AFDC family of four, and is \$330 for one person on GPA. Both figures do not include food stamps rising.

"It is this continuing inflation and the inadequacy of today's grants which make it imperative that we all struggle to have an increase in welfare grants included in the first supplemental budget. Legislation will be introduced to provide for bringing Maryland's Public Assistance grants up to the state Standard of Need within several years. This must have our wholehearted support. It is vital that we all realize that when a state forces its citizens to live at a level which it recognizes as indecent and unhealthy, then all the people of the state stand to suffer the consequences. We urge all our readers to write the governor and their representatives in Annapolis supporting increases for welfare recipients in fiscal year 1982 as a matter of high priority."

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Community Ministry News

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Vol. IX

No. 2

February 1981

"REAUTHORIZATION: Lights, Camera..."

From Lynn Brantley, Prince Georges County Community Ministries, comes the following article, which appeared in Food & Poverty Notes, January 1981:

"A chilling November wind will bring to Washington in January a Congress and President bent on huge cutbacks in Federal Food Assistance Programs. None is in more danger than Food Stamps. Its visibility and high cost, public misconceptions about its beneficiaries, and its symbol as a cornerstone of Democratic social policy all make it a certain target.

"In the Senate, Jesse Helms who is an arch-conservative, will take control of the Agriculture Committee. The rest of the committee, already very conservative, will move further to the right. Our friend George McGovern is gone. The House also is far more conservative than last year, as is the Agriculture Committee, which is responsible for Food Stamps. Votes there are expected to be close. Further, Tom Foley has accepted the Majority Whip's job, and will no longer be chairman. Foley, too, has been a friend; the likelihood of his successor, Kika de la Garza, doing the same is unlikely.

"The stage is set; so what can be expected for reauthorization of Food Stamps in 1981? First of all, the program is up for renewal in 1981. During the last 10 years or more food stamps have been kept under the wing of farm legislation and guarded by congressional liberals. For 1981, many of the liberals are gone, and the farm bill does not have to be passed until September. Food Stamps, because of its ceiling (CAP) of \$9.7 billion, will run out of money in June or July (the project cost at current levels to finish the year is \$11 billion - \$2 billion short of what is needed.) We either face a foodless June or July again, or reduced benefits to recipients so the program will stay within its budgeted \$9.7 billion - unless the CAP can be lifted.

"The first skirmish and votes will come through the budget process. This, more than likely, will be beginning in February. The 1981 budget is expected to be \$2 billion under what is needed, and fiscal 1982 spending to be at least \$3-\$4 billion under (due mainly to inflation); committees will be first and foremost looking for ways to cut costs.

"What are some ways Congress will devise to stay within its budget or even cut benefits? Senator Helms is expected to get off on a running start and has made it clear he wants to cut the program in half, and has even referred to recipients as 'parasites.' Helms, like many other Republicans, favors the concept of block grants, giving states vast control over food assistance programs.

"Helms and Reagan also could opt for an incremental assault on food stamps. Some of the potential changes that probably will appear and have good chance of passage are...:

"Reinstatement of the Purchase Price. Elimination of the purchase price helped to bring in many rural & elderly poor who were eligible but who could not afford to buy into the program.

"Tighter Eligibility Requirements. Amendments could set lower resource limits or count currently exempt assets such as a home or car. They also could count as income all federal housing or energy subsidies.

"Ending Duplication of Benefits. This means counting the value of school meals available to a family's children.

"Workfare. Forcing unemployed and able bodied recipients to work off their food stamps often at non-competitive wages.

"Recoupment. Would require temporarily poor families who get food stamps to repay them if they eventually earn about twice the poverty level over a year's period. (IRS is against this.)

"At a time when Congress (who also have their percentage of cheats) is feeling inflation and is thinking of increasing their salaries; the poor and the struggling are being told that they will have to suffer and struggle even more. A nation that has moved toward eliminating hard-core hunger needs to be challenged to give more to our greatest resource - our people."

ST. MARK'S NEEDS LINENS

For years, St. Mark United Presbyterian Church has maintained a linen closet for people in need. They are facing a critical shortage of sheets, pillow cases, and blankets. If you can help, call the church, 530-0600, or Edith Ashe, 593-0816.

JURY SERVICE -- by Lon Dring

For the first time in my twenty-seven years of eligibility, the courts called on me for jury service, and on Monday, January 26, I appeared at the Montgomery County Courthouse, which faces on the Rockville Mall, to do my civic duty. I'd like to tell you a little bit about that experience because, under the new one day/one trial procedure, you will probably be called soon. The new policy means that a citizen makes himself available for jury service for one day, and serves for the duration of the trial he may be assigned to. Now everybody serves; there is no automatic excuse for lawyers, physicians, and mothers with young children, who could not afford the previous two-week assignment. Where six thousand citizens used to be used in jury duty, sixty thousand now take part in this civic service. For me it was a great pleasure to be able to observe something of our justice system and to be a part of it.

About 140 jurors are called for each day, which means, statistically, every eligible name will come up in a four year period. A number of computer patterns are programmed. These are placed in a wire cage and drawn out before witnesses by one of the judges. That's how the names are chosen.

First a questionnaire arrives which is to be filled out and returned. Later comes your summons, with your jury number. You are instructed to call the court the day before when a taped message tells whether your number is required to report the next morning at the County Courthouse. That's as far as my wife, Jan, went in the process. You have an opportunity when the summons arrives, and even after you arrive at the Courthouse, to excuse yourself. However, an excused person must serve within the next thirty days when called, and there is no excuse the second time.

I went as instructed to the Courthouse at 8:15 a.m., and followed the signs. Since all 140 potential jurors were called in on the day I served, there was a bit of a line outside the courtroom where we each checked in. By 8:30 a.m., we were all gathered, and the orientation began. The orientation, which included a slide show, was conducted by a very bright and friendly young man, called the jury commissioner (James Pearo). He was available to the jury all day long and did a good job of making our service there as pleasant as possible. We were told clearly what our responsibilities would be if selected for a jury, how that selection process (voir dire) works, what we might expect from the looks of that day's schedule, and a very nice pep talk (sermon) on the meaning and value of what we were doing.

There were five cases on the calendar that day: rape, murder, assault, and two civil suits. The defendant in the murder case "copped a plea," pleading guilty to a lesser charge, and two of the civil cases were settled out of court. By 1:00 PM, it became clear that I would not be needed that day, and I could leave. Like every person called for jury duty in Maryland, I received \$15.00 for expenses, which I was able to take in cash. It was a good experience: good to be part of such a great American, democratic tradition, and to serve one's fellow citizens; moreover, it was a pleasure to see our County do it with such style.

FORUM ON "NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND RELIGIOUS ETHICS"

On Sunday evening, February 22, 1981, at 7:30 PM, St. Martin's Catholic Church will host a forum entitled, "Nuclear Weapons and Religious Ethics." This event is sponsored by the Social Concerns committees of Church of Ascension (Episcopal) and St. Martin's, and will be held in the latter's church hall.

Featured panelists are: Dr. Jack M. Holl, Chief Historian, Department of Energy, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Damascus; The Rev. Denise Giardina, Executive Secretary, Episcopal Peace Fellowship; The Rev. Richard McSorley, S.J., Professor of Theology and Director of the Center for Peace Studies, Georgetown University; and Dr. William Condit, Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church. John Caricofe, Social Minister at St. Martin's, will moderate the program.

There will be ample time during the program for discussion. Youth groups are cordially invited to join with the adults. For information, call John Caricofe, 948-1955.

PUBLIC SEMINAR ON DRUGS IN MARCH

CMMC helped form the Interagency Planning Committee on Drug and Alcohol Abuse, in response to the Police-Student Report on Substance Use. The Planning Committee made recommendations for a response to the problem in government, school and community. One of those recommendations was to prepare a series of public seminars on misuse of drugs.

On Tuesday, March 31, 7:45 PM, in the auditorium of Kennedy High School, Dr. Robert Du Pont, former Director of National Council on Drug Abuse, will speak on problems of drug abuse today. With him will be a student and a parent who will tell their own stories of drug abuse and remedial action.

In the auditorium, too, will be five booths offering opportunity during the evening to inquire more deeply in one or more areas of special interest:

One booth will deal with Common Drugs of Use: What drugs do to your body, how you spot drug use in your children, potential problems in the use of prescription drugs.

Another booth will relate to Drugs and the Law: Confidentiality, what it means to get busted, what are the laws related to drug use, drug traffic, paraphernalia laws, legal restrictions and responsibilities on parents and teachers.

There will be a booth on Parent Peer Groups, how to form them, how they help, parenting skills, single parenting, age-related decisions, life style concerns.

A booth on Alcoholism will be present and there will be a booth displaying the resources of the new Drug Resource Center, which is just getting started in the Park Street Building.

HEARINGS ON UNMET SOCIAL NEEDS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Two hearings on unmet social needs in Montgomery County will be held February 21 and 22, sponsored by the following organizations: Community Ministry of Montgomery County; Community Action Agency; Council of Churches of Greater Washington; Emory Grove United Methodist Church; Gaithersburg Emergency Shelter; Gaithersburg HELP; League of Women Voters of Montgomery County; Mill Creek Parish; Office of Social Development, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington; PROP, Inc.; Suburban Maryland Fair Housing; a number of tenants' associations; United Church Center for Community Ministries; YWCA.

On Saturday, February 21, there will be a hearing, beginning at 1:00 PM, at the Emory Grove United Methodist Church, Gaithersburg; on Sunday, February 22, a hearing will begin at 1:00 PM, at the TESS Community Service Center, Silver Spring.

The hearings are planned as preparation for budget decisions at various levels of government where the climate is one of fiscal restraint and reluctance to invest in government programs to resolve social problems. The primary focus of the hearings will be on the testifiers who will tell their own stories of struggling on low income for a decent life in the county: what are the major problems a family faces; how do these problems affect their daily life; what people/programs (government or other) have helped or not; and what could be changed to make things better. Also invited to testify will be agency personnel who are somewhat removed from that particular struggle, but close enough to see and to state what is needed to satisfy basic social needs.

It is expected that the hearings will provide an assessment of needs and programs from the point of view of people who know them best. The hearings will also demonstrate the human dignity of this struggle, so often unseen and maligned.

A hearing panel will be set to receive the testimony. The panel, which will be changing at intervals during the hearing, will be composed of representatives of sponsoring groups and a variety of community leaders.

To sign up to testify on either Saturday, February 21, in Gaithersburg, or Sunday, February 22, in Silver Spring, Call CMMC, 762-9407, weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and noon.

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LINCOLN S. DRING, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*See - I really appreciated your cheerful
admission so help you*

The Rockville Presbyterian Church, the United Church Center & C.M.M.C. join in inviting you to a very important meeting.

We will be meeting with some County officials about what the Federal cuts in social programs will mean for people in our community.

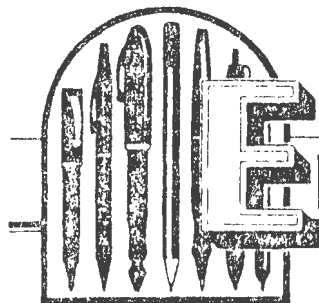
What will be the role of the churches? What should & what can we do?

Let's talk about it together. Let's begin planning:

7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 21

Rockville Presbyterian Church
215 W. Montgomery Ave
Rockville



EDITORIALS

Public Aid and the Churches' Duties

FROM CHRISTIANITY
TODAY

MAR. 13, 1981

The reordering of the federal budget presents the church with a fresh opportunity.

FOR MOST of two generations now, the government has steadily moved in to deal in institutionalized fashion with human needs once relieved by local churches in more personal fashion. As New Deal policies, resulting from the Great Depression of the 1930s, have permeated our society, food baskets delivered to the poor in the congregation and a deacons' fund to meet the rental or mortgage payments of unemployed members are an almost forgotten memory for the senior few, and totally absent from the experience of most of the younger church. Growing government largess allowed the church, almost unnoticed, to stop exercising its function of caring for physical needs within the community. Most believers perceived that sections of government had expanded to bloated proportions, but few noticed that a vital aspect of church life had atrophied, leaving the church less robust.

The radical reordering of economic policies being championed by a new administration in Washington presents the church with a fresh opportunity to recover its lost role and rebuild its shriveled muscle.

President Reagan's general promise that his proposed austerity measures would penalize only the greedy and not the needy is hard to square with specifics being mentioned as this issue goes to press. Unemployment compensation, we are told, will be cut off after a lesser number of weeks. Food stamps are to be discontinued for entire categories of current recipients.

As such retrenchments occur, evangelicals are presented with a made-to-order opportunity to translate increased social awareness into action. Make sure your officers know who has been laid off work in your congregation and when their compensation cuts off. Budget to pick up those payments in equal amount for the duration of the need. Find out who in your church family has received food stamps and be prepared to provide a functional equivalent if these are curtailed. Unemployment, moreover, is running several times higher in the inner city than in most parts of the country. If yours is a suburban church, therefore, budget an amount at least equal to your own needs to share with a sister urban church whose congregation

will be much more deeply affected—as the Macedonian churches gave for the church in Jerusalem.

This is a cause around which all evangelicals can comfortably unite. Those of more conservative political persuasion who helped vote in the Reagan administration have a built-in interest in seeing his policies succeed. They will logically want to pair the philosophy of less reliance on government with that of a return to reliance on the church. Those of more liberal political inclination should now support the church in assuming those welfare functions being jettisoned by the federal government that historically have been the church's natural sphere. □

ACT OF (RE)DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY MINISTRY

We, the members of _____, are a part of the Community Ministry of Montgomery County, in covenant with thirty congregations in this county committed to be servant in our local community: to give food to the hungry; drink to the thirsty; to take the stranger into our homes; to clothe the naked; to visit those in prison; to proclaim justice in the gate.

Today, we rededicate ourselves to this mission and renew our covenant with sister congregations to do community ministry in Montgomery County.

READER: Genesis 1:27

LEADER: God, our Creator, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until we find our rest in you. You have formed us in your own image, and we belong to you. You have created us in and for relationship, and we are lost and empty until we give ourselves in love.

PEOPLE: We render to you, O Lord, ourselves and our community. Open our eyes to see the imprint of your image among us. Create in our hearts a recognition of the sacredness of each and every person, and build into our laws and our rule your will for justice and mercy among people.

READER: Amos 5:21-24

LEADER: The sacrifice you want, O God our Judge, is a broken and contrite heart. The offering you desire is the wholehearted gift of ourselves. The music that pleases you is the harmony of peace and justice and right relationships in the land.

PEOPLE: We offer our lives to you. Use us to provide liberty to the poor and the powerless. With our hands, wipe away the tears from the eyes of the mourners. With our feet, speed your succor to the comfort of the suffering.

READER: Luke 4: 18-19

LEADER: O God, our Redeemer, you have brought Good News into our poor lives. You have opened our blind eyes and set our captive spirits free. You have accepted and received us as your very own.

PEOPLE: O God our Leader, we commit ourselves to your cause and join in your mission to announce good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty the broken victims and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

READER: Hebrews 13: 11-13

LEADER: O God, our Hope and our Promise. You call us out. You, who have given yourself completely in service to us, have many services to be done. Some are easy; others are difficult; some bring honor, others bring reproach; some are suitable to our natural inclinations and temporal interests, others are contrary to both; in some we may please you and please ourselves; in others we cannot please you except by denying ourselves. Yet, the power to do all these things is assuredly given us in Christ, who is always with us.

PEOPLE: We are not our own; we are yours. Put us to what you will. Rank us with whom you will. Put us to doing; put us to suffering; let us be employed for you or laid aside for you; exalted for you or brought low for you. Let us be full; let us be empty; let us have all things; let us have nothing. We freely and heartily yield all things to your pleasure and disposal.

ESTIMATED IMPACT - MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Reagan Administration Proposals

1. Social Services - D.S.S.

(Assuming a 25% across the board reduction of present service programs - based on the Proposed Title XX Plan, DHR, July 1, 1981 - June 30, 1982).

<u>Proposed FY'82</u>		<u>Reductions</u>		<u>Actual FY'82</u>	
<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>
15,343	\$5,281,639	3,836	\$1,320,408	11,507	\$3,961,2

2. Social Services - Other

(Includes Mental Health, Mental Retardation Services and other purchase of service programs in Montgomery County)

<u>Proposed FY'82</u>		<u>Reductions</u>		<u>Actual FY'82</u>	
<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2,855	1,319.310.	714	\$329.828	2,141	\$989,4

3. Food Stamps

(Based on current level of expenditures - proposed program cuts and estimations based on 4% of the State recipients and expenditures)

<u>Proposed FY'82</u>		<u>Reductions</u>		<u>Actual FY'82</u>	
<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>
13,914	\$5,760,000	4,914	\$1,740,000.	9,000	\$4,020,0

4. Low Income Energy Assistance and Energy Assistance to Families and Children.

(Assuming these programs are "block granted" with a 25% reduction - estimates based on State experience, with Montgomery County at 4%).

<u>Proposed FY'82</u>		<u>Reduction</u>		<u>Actual FY'82</u>	
<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>
15,390	\$1,216,000.	5,130	\$304,000	8,700	\$912,0

5. Medical Assistance

(Based on the "capping" of this program, the State's estimates of reduction and the experience, indicating 6.6% expenditure in Montgomery County - actual FY'82 individuals to be served is not estimated because some of the reduction will result in ineligibility, but others will receive reduced benefits.)

<u>Proposed FY'82</u>		<u>Reductions</u>		<u>Actual FY'82</u>
<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Cost</u>
26,070	\$22,498,410	15,800	\$1,511,400	\$20,987,010

6. AFDC & AFDC - UP

(This is a conservative estimate in that many of the Reagan proposals have not been finalized, these will have additional impact. Estimates were based on Budget request for FY'82 with respect to individuals and cost - actual FY'82 individuals to be served is omitted for the same reason as Medical Assistance data.)

<u>Proposed FY'82</u>		<u>Reduction</u>		<u>Actual FY'82</u>
<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Cost</u>
8,176	\$7,983,120	1,516	\$305,000	\$7,678,120

Totals

- Individuals are not totalled due to duplication of counts in programs.

- Costs

<u>Proposed FY'82</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Actual FY'82</u>
\$44,058,479	\$5,510,636	\$38,547,843

Proposed Budget Cuts of the Reagan Administration

<u>Program</u>	<u>Current Policy</u>	<u>Proposed Reduction</u>	<u>Percent Reduction</u>	<u>Affects on Maryland</u>	<u>Affects on Montgomery Co.</u>
Medicaid	18,861,000,000	1,280,000,000	6.8		
Fed. subsidies to public schools	16,025,000,000	(plus additional 969 million loss in state matching funds) 3,400,000,000	32.0	\$38,728,000	
Food Stamps	12,392,000,000	2,678,000,000	21.3	140,400 lose some or all benefits	4,914 lose some or all benefits
Special Ed. Assist. Programs	10,400,000,000	2,600,000,000	25.0		
*ESEA Title 1 *Education for the Handicapped *Emergency School Aid/Desegregation *Adult Education		(These programs along with over forty others dealing with special educational needs will be combined into two block grants. The total funding from the Federal gov't would be cut by 25%. Administration would be left to states and localities. The individual programs would be left to compete for the limited funds.)			
Aid to Families with Dependant Children	6,115,000,000	1,182,000,000 (plus additional 1 billion loss in state matching funds)	19.3	40,980 lose some or all benefits	1,516 lose some or all benefits
Aid for Higher Education	5,019,000,000	803,000,000	16.0		
*Guaranteed Student Loans *Pell Grants					
Child Nutrition	4,125,000,000	1,763,000,000	42.7	\$19,591,000	\$2,816,357
*School lunches *School breakfasts *Snacks in Day Care centers					
CETA public service jobs	3,955,000,000	3,955,000,000	100.0		
Title XX	2,890,000,000	725,000,000	25.0	\$14,125,000	2,496
*Adoption services *Child Day Care *Community Home Care				55,347 lose all benefits	lose all benefits
*Comprehensive Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Services *Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services *Comprehensive Services for Mentally Retarded Individuals *Comprehensive Services to Drug Addicts and Abusers		(These programs would be combined into one Federally funded block grant. The total funding would be reduced by 25%. Each program would have to compete with the others for the limited funds available.)			

(cont'd.)

- *Comprehensive Services to Juveniles
- *Day Care for Adults
- *Family Planning
- *Foster Care for Adults and Children
- *Health Related Services
- *Home Delivered/Congregate Meals
- *Homemaker Service/Chore Service
- *Information and Referral
- *Multi-Purpose Senior Centers
- *Protective Services for Adults and Children
- *Residential Camping
- *Services to Adults in Institutions
- *Services to Families
- *Single Parent Service
- *Special Services to the Handicapped

Social Security	2,250,000,000	Would affect over six million nation-wide			
(This cut would come in several forms: 1) cut disability insurance by 3%; 2) eliminate Social Security minimum benefit; 3) eliminate benefits for children of deceased breadwinners, who are full-time students ages 18 through 21.)					
Low Income Energy Assistance	1,850,000,000	463,000,000	25.0	90,000 would lose all benefits	5130 would lose all benefits
Unemployment Insurance	1,231,000,000		60.0	cut in extended benefits	
Unemployment Insurance for Ex-servicemen	175,000,000	175,000,000	100.0	(All members of the services leaving the military voluntarily after July 1, 1981 will no longer be eligible for unemployment)	
TAA (Trade Adjustment Assistance)	1,494,000,000	1,150,000,000	77.0	(TAA supplements unemployment benefits to workers who are laid off because of increased imports)	

Other Cuts by Departments:

Department of Energy:	Cuts	Percentage
*Synthetic Fuel subsidies	864,000,000	
*Energy Conservation Program	310,000,000	39.0
*Solar Energy Research and Development	365,000,000	60.0
Housing and Urban Development:		
*Rehabilitation Loan Fund	191,000,000	100.0
*Solar Energy and Energy Conservation Bank Program	149,000,000	100.0
*Subsidized Housing	242,000,000	
Department of Labor:		
*Black Lung Trust Fund	378,000,000	78.0
Department of Transportation:		
*Urban Mass Transit Capital and Operating Subsidies	366,000,000	10.0
*Federal Highway Program	244,000,000	3.0
*Amtrak subsidies	325,000,000	
COMMUNITY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (CSA)		100.0

Miscellaneous Cuts

EPA Water Treatment Plants	125,000,000	
Conrail	300,000,000	
Legal Services	321,000,000	(100% of budget for program)
Postal Service	644,000,000	
Export-Import Bank	410,000,000	
Foreign Aid	402,000,000	

Totals:

*Total Federal Budget Cut for FY 1982: \$48,600,000,000

*AFL-CIO estimate of jobs which will be lost directly attributed to the cuts: 1,026,000

Sources

AFL-CIO Department of Economic Research

Children's Defense Fund

Maryland Food Committee

Montgomery County Department of Social Services

Montgomery County Public Schools

National Council of Churches

House of Representatives:

1st District: Roy Dyson

2nd District: Clarence Long

3rd District: Barbara Mikulski

4th District: Marjory Holt

5th District: Vacant

6th District: Beverly Byron

7th District: Parren Mitchell

8th District: Michael Barnes

Mail to:

The Honorable _____
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Senate:

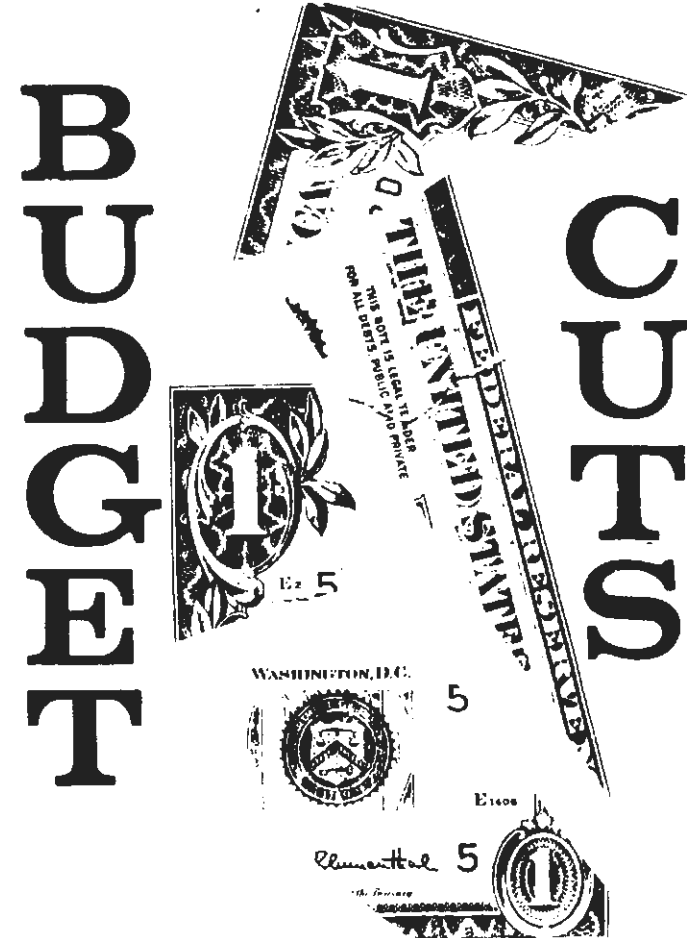
Paul Sarbanes

Charles Mathias

Mail to:

The Honorable _____
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Title XX Advisory Commission
Maryland State Board of Social Services



WHAT WILL THEY
MEAN TO
YOU
?

The majority of the money that Maryland spends on Social Service programs each year comes from the Federal Government. The Federal Government has been awarding money to state governments this way for forty years.

The money comes to Maryland in the form of "categorical" grants--a specific amount for Child Welfare, an amount for Day Care, etc., in order that states commit resources in a manner consistent with national goals.

President Reagan, in his economic recovery package, has proposed two sweeping changes that will have a profound effect on Maryland as well as all other states:

First, the President has proposed the elimination of categorical grants in favor of a "block grant" approach. Block grants are simply large amounts of money given to the states without requirements on how the money should be spent.

All of the Social Programs funded by the Federal Government will be combined into one block grant.

Second, the President has proposed a twenty-five percent reduction in the total amount of money going into the block grant. For the State of Maryland that means a reduction of about 16 million dollars per year in Social Service Programs.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES CANNOT ABSORB A 16 MILLION DOLLAR CUT IN FUNDING WITHOUT A SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT ON SOCIAL SERVICE DELIVERY.

Programs and services which will be affected include:

ADOPTION Services affecting 1,734 children

FOSTER CARE Services affecting 11,698 children

DAY CARE Services affecting 12,415 children and their families

FAMILY Services to 39,680 families

HOMEMAKER Services affecting 6,390 disabled and/or aged persons

HOME CARE Services affecting 18,814 disabled and/or aged persons

PROTECTIVE Services for 12,527 children

PROTECTIVE Services for 4,367 adults

LEGAL Services for 7,048 people

COUNSELING Services affecting 8,233 adults

EDUCATIONAL and COUNSELING services to 4,860 single parents

In all 55,000 Maryland residents will be affected by President Reagan's budget cuts.

If you are as concerned about these budget cuts as we are, you need to make your voice heard by your senator or congressman.

Please write and let Washington know how you feel. You can use the attached form, or express your own concerns as you wish.

_____, Member of Congress

Washington, D.C.

Dear _____:

I am concerned about the effect that President Reagan's proposed budget cuts will have on Social Services programs in Maryland. As a voter whom you represent, I hope that you will take my concerns into account in casting your vote.

DENVER--A letter urging Pope John II to better acquaint himself with the concerns of the women's liberation movement has been approved by the United Presbyterian Council on Women and the Church.

The letter to the pontiff expresses concern about his comments last November, in which he implied the movement is contrary to women's vocation to motherhood. While affirming that parental roles are vital to society, the letter observes that men as well as women have such responsibilities and that limiting women solely to motherhood violates the primacy of personhood which the Pope himself has defended in his writings.

The United Presbyterian organization, along with others, has authorized the response at the suggestion of theologian Rosemary Ruether of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill.

MISSIONSCOPE

NEWS

FOR/ABOUT PRESBYTERIANS

PHILADELPHIA--Declaring that the answers given by a minister applicant "were not denials of the doctrines" of the church, the United Presbyterian Permanent Judicial Commission has upheld the acceptance of the Rev. Mansfield M. Kaseman as a minister member of the denomination.

In a detailed decision specifically affirming the church's confessional heritage and "the centrality of these confessions to the issues presented" in the case, the Judicial Commission upheld the rights of

the Presbytery of National Capital Union in accepting Kaseman, and the later action of the Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Piedmont in sustaining the presbytery's action.

The synod commission's decision had been appealed by one minister and six ruling elder members of the presbytery, and it was on 10 specifications of error alleged by the complainants-appellants that the formal case was decided. The Permanent Judicial Commission pointed out in an accompanying statement, however, that "the heart of the issues is not to be found in the determination of the specifications of error. The decision strongly reaffirms the traditional doctrines of the church and the inherent powers of the presbytery."

(Complete copies of the Permanent Judicial Commission's decision in this case are available from the Office of the General Assembly, 1201 Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115.)

CINCINNATI--A Presbyterian reunion plan originally due for publication in February, 1982, has been rescheduled for distribution "as soon as possible"--perhaps by next October 1.

A joint committee of Presbyterian Church U.S. and United Presbyterian Church members, meeting here, decided to move up the publication date after reaffirming an earlier decision to ask for denominational votes on reunion in 1982-1983.

The earlier publication date for the plan to reunite the nation's two major Presbyterian denominations was approved as part of a motion dealing with the voting schedule on the

(More)

plan of reunion and saying that the committee members "pledge ourselves to work hard for its adoption."

Advocacy by committee members was proposed in more detail in reports of subcommittees on planning and on interpretation. The subcommittee reports also proposed a call throughout the two churches for volunteers to work for the reunion cause; and included a number of specific projects to be carried out by staff and volunteer persons.

Representatives of half a dozen church-related organizations spoke during the session here, presenting their groups' views. Among them were representatives of women's organizations, theological seminaries, the United Presbyterian General Assembly Mission Council, and conservative-evangelical bodies affiliated with both church branches.

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LOUISVILLE, Ky.--Participants in a social welfare ministries conference here protested to President Reagan, in a letter they signed individually, the continuation of U.S. military and economic aid to the ruling junta of El Salvador, and called for the immediate termination of such aid.

The signers were among 350 members of the United Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church U.S. who attended the conference. The event was sponsored by the Division of Corporate and Social Mission of the Presbyterian Church U.S., the Program Agency of the United Presbyterian Church, and the Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare Association.

The theme of the meeting was "That All May Be Whole," and the quest for human wholeness was emphasized in all aspects of the meeting.

Organized at the conference was a "Disabilities Concerns Caucus," the purpose of which is to promote, encourage, develop, and support persons and agencies in ministry with, by, and for persons with disabilities. The caucus was received as an affiliate organization of the Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare Association.

Association officials announced that the organization's membership had doubled in the past two years.

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STONY POINT, N.Y.--Six major papers dealing with various aspects of ministry have been approved by the board of the Vocation Agency for transmittal to the General Assembly. Three of the documents were compiled jointly with members of the Presbyterian Church U.S. and will go to the Assemblies of both denominations.

Most of the recommendations in the reports call for continued study and voluntary application rather than legislative action. Constitutional changes proposed include the authorizing of part-time ministerial calls; procedures for counseling ministerial candidates on employment prospects; the establishing of an office of certified Christian educator; and the approving of a "designation plan" to help congregations and potential pastors get together.

In addition to a general document on the nature and practice of ministry, the papers deal with specialized ministries (ordained ministers in work other than pastorates); the placement of ministers; steps to ensure high-quality candidates for the ministry; the severe shortage of racial/ethnic ministers and ways to overcome it; and the work of Christian educators.

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ALL ABOUT ELDERS:

About 98 out of every 120 Missionscope readers are ruling elders. Therefore, it seems likely that a high percentage of those readers would be interested in what other ruling elders believe, and how they carry out their responsibilities.

The Presbyterian Panel* provides some information on such subjects. The Panel, acting on a request from the Advisory Council on Discipleship and Worship, did a broadscale survey and came up with these results:

+ Nine out of every ten elders attend worship, contribute money to the church, and attempt to live in ways that might be considered setting examples for others on a regular basis.

+ About four out of five pray for members of the congregation and participate in the church's programs at least several times each month.

+ About half of them talk with and encourage the pastor at least several times each month; and about the same number talk with and encourage other church officers with about the same frequency.

+ Only one elder in five is active on a committee or task force of a higher judicatory.

+ More than a third of them, though, attend presbytery meetings several times a year or more often.

There are (according to 1979 figures, the latest totals available) 89,005 ruling elders in the United Presbyterian Church, including 32,351 women.

- + Fewer than one elder in every 10 is under 35 years of age....
- + Elders are slightly more likely than other members to have college degrees or some postgraduate education....
- + More than four out of five elders are married....
- + Among women elders who work, 55 percent hold professional jobs (compared to 16 percent of women in the total U.S. work force)....
- + More than 2/3 of the elders have been members of the United Presbyterian Church for more than 20 years.

+ Approximately one in three makes at least monthly visits to the ill or the bereaved in the congregation. Fewer than one in five, however, makes monthly or more frequent visits to non-members, or to members for any one of the other purposes for which elders are expected to make calls.

The tasks ruling elders are least-often involved in include--

- # Session examination of newly-elected officers.
- # Session examination of persons facing disciplinary action in the church.
- # Discussions with group leaders in the church on how their organizations are doing.

At session (and session committee) meetings, the subjects likely to receive the most attention are worship policy and program, church finance, evaluation of the church program, and the goals and objectives of the congregation.

*The Presbyterian Panel is made up of more than 3,600 United Presbyterians—members, elders, pastors, and other clergy—selected to comprise a scientifically-based cross section of the church. Panelists respond to a series of six surveys a year on attitudes, opinions, and practices. Subscriptions to the findings are available: six issues of two-page summary sheets, \$3; six full reports per year, \$15; single issues, \$3. Order from Special Office of Research, 1740 Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115.

Two dollars a day for total hospital care? This is the cost of medical services at the American Mission Hospital in Tanta, Egypt. Established in 1896, Tanta Hospital serves the medical needs of both the urban and rural communities in the densely populated Delta of the Nile River. Annually, 17,000 persons are treated in day clinics and 3,000 people receive inpatient care.

Dorothy Compton was appointed by the Program Agency in 1980 to serve as general nursing supervisor at Tanta Hospital upon request of the Coptic Evangelical Church. She writes of the conditions at the hospital:



"What does a patient pay at our hospital per day for a hospital bed, nursing care, all meals, and for doctor and resident care? A bed in a large ward is \$2 per day. Even for this small amount the patient usually has to sell a cow or some land to pay for the care as the per capita income in Egypt is \$240.

"There is only one deluxe suite in the hospital. It is a private room with bath and air conditioner and an adjoining sitting room for family or servant. The cost per day is \$12.

"When admitted to the hospital, patients are furnished two sheets, pillow cases, and in winter, blankets. Patients bring with them towels, wash cloths, soap, a gown, water pitcher, glass, lotion, powder--everything."

The Major Mission Fund supports Dorothy Compton's healing ministry at Tanta, as well as two other projects there. One grant is assisting the hospital in its outreach program for neighboring villages. Major Mission Fund dollars are used for transportation of personnel, health education programs and medical services. In order to meet increasing demands for inpatient care, a new floor was added to the existing hospital building. The Major Mission Fund provided \$50,000 for medical equipment to help furnish the addition.

Closing her letter, Dorothy Compton adds: "Please pray for God's miracle to take place, for more equipment and the reopening of the school to train Christian nurses. Next time I write I'll tell you how we sterilize our hospital supplies. Can you imagine?"

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On the other side of the world, the Major Mission Fund has enabled medical outreach to another community of people.



Recent cutbacks in social services have been responsible for an increase in the number of patients seeking medical help at the Westside Neighborhood Clinic in Long Beach, Calif. After identifying a lack of adequate medical services for the low-income families, community groups and churches joined forces four-and-one-half years ago to establish this clinic designed to meet primary medical needs.

Since that time, the clinic has grown. Brenda Parks, director of the clinic, reports that approximately 380 persons receive health services each month. Primary health care and general physicals are offered at the facility. More severe medical problems are referred to other doctors and hospitals. Pre-natal check-ups and well-child care are a luxury to many low-income families who can now receive these services at the clinic.

Westside Neighborhood Clinic was encouraged by the work of the Presbyterian churches in Long Beach through the Long Beach Mission Probe, now the Presbyterian Area Ministries. Grants from the Major Mission Fund of the Presbytery of Los Ranchos and the Synod of Southern California have enabled this healing ministry to grow to meet the physical needs of the community.

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missionscope

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SUBSISTENCE SERVICE— A SPECIAL KIND OF GIVING

Sheri Noah is a graduate of Whitworth College and a member of First Presbyterian Church, Yakima, Wa. She also is completing a 27-month term as an international subsistence service worker, assigned by the Program Agency to service in Uruguay, in response to an invitation from the church in that country.

International subsistence service workers are persons with special skills who are willing to live at the same standards as residents of countries where they are assigned. The program was begun in 1976.

When Sheri first went to Uruguay, she was assigned to work in the Emmanuel Center as part of a team to provide leadership programs. More recently she has been serving on a team in the Barrio Borro, one of the poorest neighborhoods in Montevideo. On the team with her are a Methodist couple and a Mennonite couple.

Here, in part, is what Sheri writes to friends: "Here I am lost between two worlds. I am almost lost to myself and who I am. I don't belong in either world, but the reality of my existence is deeply pressed upon me.... Today, like yesterday, a child is crying for a piece of bread while a mother is cleaning another mother's house in order to feed her six children alone at home. Tomorrow an elderly person will be on a street corner selling candy and gum to make ends meet."

"...Does it matter if I touch the lives of these people? Can I break this chain that has gone on for decades? Why do I feel so called--when others don't even realize that these realities exist at all?



Sheri Noah

Sheri says she is privileged, "if only to teach a child a new word, listen to a lonely person, or to help a mother and her teenage son to communicate with each other."

VINCENT DAVID CARES, SO THOUSANDS CAN READ

The fruits of Presbyterian mission come to bear in unusual ways. Consider the case of Vincent A. David of Guhranwala, Pakistan: A member of a Pakistani family, Vincent devoted his time to running the family bicycle repair shop until about 12 years ago. When one of his employees was cheated out of some money by the paymaster because he could not read or sign his name, Vincent decided that all of his workers should learn to read and write the Urdu language. Despite the fact that Vincent had no formal training in teaching literacy, in 15 days he taught all of his "students" to recognize numbers and sign their names. Soon they became more proficient and news of Vincent's success reached Presbyterian fraternal worker Laura R. MacLachlan in Pakistan.

(More)

Laura saw great promise in his abilities and asked him to work with her in the Adult Basic Education Society. Vincent left his shop in the hands of others and began almost as a volunteer--receiving a salary no more than that of his own employees.

His parents were not pleased with this action, feeling it was beneath the dignity of the family to have him work for such a small wage. The parents of his bride-to-be even broke off the engagement to such an "irresponsible" young man.

Today, Vincent is director of the society and the star (television teacher) of the literacy education through television series that reaches more than 21,000 students yearly. An auxiliary staff of 1,200 trained literacy coordinators works with small classes in villages throughout the country. They set up television sets to receive the programs and then carry out the necessary follow-up classwork.

But, Vincent David's greatest help comes in the person of United Presbyterian fraternal worker Ed Carlson who carries on the literacy work of Laura MacLachlan in Pakistan and works with the Adult Basic Education Society.

KNITTING CLASSES LEAD TO JOBS AND HEALTH CARE

Life for Vietnamese women living in Korea is hard. Most of them took refuge there with their children after the Vietnam War. They hoped to find the men they met and married in Vietnam, but many discovered that their husbands had Korean families as well and, therefore, were reluctant to recognize their Vietnamese brides.

As aliens, unregistered in Korea, unable to speak the language, these women cannot get adequate employment. They live in overcrowded refugee housing. Food is scarce. Usually they have to settle for the barley-rice mixture provided by the Korean Red Cross, which is only two-thirds of the acceptable minimum by United Nations standards.

Help for some of these women came from a young Korean woman, Hyun Hee Kim, who was looking for a way to use her skill in knitting and crocheting. Hyun Hee Kim and Jean Sibley, United Presbyterian fraternal worker in Seoul, Korea, went to see a Dutch Franciscan priest who worked most directly with the refugees. He provided a place to hold classes in knitting and crocheting.

About 50 women now have acquired this skill and are paid for the items they complete. Jean Sibley is helping to find dependable outlets for the marketing of the goods as the cottage industry expands.

A by-product is the opportunity for health care. Fraternal worker physician John Sibley holds a free clinic for the women each Sunday. He treats simple cases and refers the more complicated ones to places that will accept the women for treatment. Some are able to pay for their medicines because of the work they are doing; those who cannot pay are given it free.

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Postmaster: Send form 3579 (address change) to *Missionscope* Publication Office, 2457 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46201.

HE PRESENTS CHRISTIANITY WITH CHINESE PERSONALITY

His name is Matthew Chung Shing Lui and he is pastor of the First Chinese Presbyterian Church in New York's Chinatown. He and Mrs. Lui moved to Manhattan after eight years of pastoral ministry in Hong Kong at the Hop Yet Church, related to the Hong Kong Christian Council.

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(or)
帝
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God

His work in New York continues a style of ministry begun in China: to express the Gospel with an authentic Chinese personality.

"It is still difficult for western Christians to understand how foreign the Gospel message is to most Chinese," he explains. "Even the concept of the Trinity is foreign to our language and our culture. We are a people that has experienced many thousands of years of history, culture, and thought. Writing the Chinese word for God is like drawing a strong tree. This illustrates a way of thinking about God as the Great Emperor, the one who dwells in a supernatural realm, always removed from earthly cares.

"It is a challenge for Chinese people to conceive of God becoming a 'mere man.' As we Christians write the word, God, we often incorporate another symbol that introduces the concept of the Son. But we must learn to do this authentically, otherwise our young people will be learning biblical and theological terms only, and the Gospel will not make sense for their lives."

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Jesus

COMBINED RESOURCES TAKE GOSPEL ACROSS HEMISPHERES

"This is a thrilling and effective combination of resources--personnel and funds--to proclaim the Gospel across hemispheres." Aulden and Ruth Coble, United Presbyterians who direct the Spanish Language Institute in San Jose, Costa Rica, say that about one of the things happening at the institute.

This year, the Cobles report, the Eglise Evangelique du Congo will have a Congolese pastor and his wife in the institute's training program. They are being sent to the institute to prepare for missionary service with their sister church, La Iglesia del Pacto, in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Financing for the whole operation is coming from the Svenska Missionsforbundet (Mission Covenant Church of Sweden).

For 39 years, missionaries from Christian churches in many lands and cultures have studied Spanish language and culture at the Spanish Language Institute in preparation for service in Latin America. Sponsored for 30 years by the Presbyterian Church, first in Colombia and then in Costa Rica, the institute was reorganized in 1972 under a Costa Rican interdenominational board.

All of which makes it a good example of the way Presbyterians are doing mission interdenominationally, across hemispheres.

QUICKLY:

The Ecumenical Development Cooperative Society (EDCS) has produced a filmstrip/slide set which describes its method of fighting oppression and poverty by investing funds directly with the poorest of the poor in Peru, Ecuador, and India. The production, titled "Like an Inca Rainbow," may be purchased from EDCS, 1062 Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115. The filmstrip is priced at \$9, the slide set at \$40. Copies of "Like an Inca Rainbow" also will be available on a free loan basis from United Presbyterian synod offices....

Seminary Sunday, when United Presbyterians give special attention to the work of the seven theological seminaries related to the denomination, is scheduled for April 26 this year. Usually observed in the past in January, Seminary Sunday in the future will be the fourth Sunday in April--coinciding with a similar observance by the Presbyterian Church U.S....

Two pilot evangelism and church renewal conferences, "New Life for the New Decade," are planned for the Synod of the Southwest. Made possible by the Major Mission Fund, the conferences are to include worship, workshops, and major addresses. The Rev. Harold Daniels, director of the Joint Office of Worship, will be the worship leader; the Rev. Cecilio Arrastia, the Program Agency's associate for Hispanic Church Development, will be the preacher; and the Rev. Donald P. Smith, general director of the Vocation Agency, will be the keynote speaker. The conferences--March 27-29 in Albuquerque, N. Mex., and April 3-5 in Phoenix, Ariz.--will serve as pilots for similar conferences to be held in other synods....

A five-day conference to celebrate Women in Ministry within the United Presbyterian Church will begin October 23 in Syracuse, N.Y. The event will commemorate the 25th anniversary of the ordination of the first clergywoman in the United Presbyterian Church in Syracuse and the 50th anniversary (in 1980) of the ordination of women as elders in the denomination. Sponsored by Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery and the Synod of the Northeast, the conference will include nationally known theologians and religious leaders. Among them will be the Rev. Margaret Towner and the Rev. Rachel Henderlite, the first women ordained to the Gospel ministry in the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. and the Presbyterian Church in the U.S., respectively. Intended to provide a setting to celebrate the contribution of all women, both lay and clergy, the conference is open to the public. For details write to the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse, 3049 East Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY 13224....

The Church World Service program to aid Afghan refugees in Pakistan received nearly half a million dollars in 1980. The total was \$455,937, well above the \$375,000 that had been sought in two appeals to the 32 member organizations of the National Council of Churches. The most recent figures received by CWS show about 1.4 million Afghan refugees had registered with the Pakistan government....

Observance of Farm Worker Week is scheduled beginning April 27, with May 3 designated as Farm Worker Sunday. The theme this year is "This Far by Faith," celebrating the 60th anniversary of migrant ministries. The observance is sponsored by the National Farm Worker Ministry, an ecumenical body made up of about 40 Catholic and Protestant groups....

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CONCORD, N.C.--A grant to the Japanese Presbyterian Conference's Laity Board for its new lay training program was approved here at the 33rd annual meeting of United Presbyterian Men. The \$3,000 grant was the first of its kind to be made by the men's organization.

Also presented at the meeting was the Mission Man of the Year Award, to Dr. Daniel W. Martin of Cincinnati. A former UPM president, Martin reported on his work with church groups in the Cameroon.

Robert C. Metke of Athens, Ala., was installed as the new president, succeeding George Scarbrough of Omaha, Neb.

MISSIONSCOPE

NEWS

FOR/ABOUT PRESBYTERIANS

HOUSTON--One of the basic tenets of the Christian faith--and how United Presbyterians express it--is expected to be at the center of emotional discussions when the General Assembly meets here.

Five overtures (proposals) held over from last year and at least one submitted this year ask the church's 193rd General Assembly to affirm that "confession in good faith of the full deity as well as the full humanity of Jesus Christ" is required of the denomination's ordained

officers (ministers, ruling elders, and deacons). Presence of the overtures means the Assembly, made up of minister and ruling elder commissioners (voting delegates) from throughout the country, will be required to make some kind of decision on the subject.

The issue is one that traces to a 1979 vote by National Capital Union Presbytery on admitting the Rev. Mansfield Kaseman, a minister in the United Church of Christ, to United Presbyterian membership. Critics of the action contended that Kaseman did not satisfactorily answer questions regarding the deity. The case was appealed twice to the denomination's Permanent Judicial Commission, which in the first instance ordered a reexamination of Kaseman by the presbytery, and in the second upheld the presbytery's right to receive him and declared his answers "were not denials of the doctrines" of the church.

Because the matter was still being adjudicated during last year's General Assembly, that body, on the advice of Stated Clerk William P. Thompson, deferred five overtures on the subject. They automatically come before this year's meeting, which begins May 20.

For some United Presbyterians, the deity debate is expected to overshadow the fact that the General Assembly is being held jointly with the southern-based Presbyterian Church U.S. Several worship services and special events, along with some business sessions, will be held together. The two denominations are due to begin voting in 1982 on a long-considered reunion proposal. They split in the Civil War era and have been engaged in the current talks since 1969.

Among other topics expected to generate more-than-moderate interest at the United Presbyterian meeting are these:

(more)

- # Overtures seeking to change a rule requiring all congregations to elect women as well as men to church offices.
- # A major assessment of the denomination's record and responsibilities in racial ministries, with proposals including extensive structural changes for its Council on Church and Race.
- # Papers on urban ministry, and on higher education, both asking sizable financial outlays.
- # The election of a moderator who will preside over the Assembly and be a primary denominational spokesperson during the one-year term of office.
- # The election stated clerk for a five-year term as the denomination's chief ecclesiastical officer. Thompson, who has held the post since 1966, has indicated his willingness to be nominated again.

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FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEWS. . .

Here are three ways to get information about the 193rd General Assembly (1981) coming up this month in Houston, Texas:

→ Telephone news of the Assembly will be available direct from Houston in both English and Spanish. Three-minute newophone summaries will begin about 6 p.m. (CDT) Wednesday, May 20, and will be changed daily at about 6 p.m. throughout the Assembly. For English language news call 713-227-3430. For news in Spanish, 713-227-3432. Check your telephone book for inexpensive times to call.

→ Highlights of the Assembly will be telecast throughout the country by satellite on Saturday, May 30, starting at 10 a.m. (EDT) via Transponder 22, Satcom I. This special telecast also will include a new Video One program at 10:30 a.m.

Presbyterians in these communities have arranged for the highlights program to be broadcast by local TV stations in addition to the satellite telecast: Pittsburgh WPCB-TV Channel 40, Saturday, June 6 at 5:30 p.m.; Philadelphia WPHL Channel 17, Thursday, June 4 at 10:30 p.m.; and Poughkeepsie WFTI-TV Channel 54, Saturday, June 6 at 7 p.m.

(For more information about Video One, write or call Bob Thomson, 1940 Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115, telephone 212-870-2863.)

→ The June issue of Missionscope will be the same as the wrap-up issue of The General Assembly News. For distribution to congregations or committees, extra copies of the wrap-up issue may be ordered at 50 cents each from the Presbyterian Office of Information, 1935 Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115. Orders must be received no later than May 13 for papers to be sent direct from Houston by first class mail. Be sure to include names and addresses of recipients, and checks made payable to the Office of the General Assembly.

ECUMENICAL GIVING BY UNITED PRESBYTERIANS: AN ANALYSIS

All told, United Presbyterians now give about \$550 million annually through regular church channels for church-related work at all levels. This includes Women's Giving and receipts from special offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, the Christmas Offering, and the Peacemaking Offering, as well as special giving during the year for disaster relief and hunger.

Of that amount, congregations remit some \$36 million for General Assembly mission--that is, mission carried out nationally and internationally on behalf of the whole church by General Assembly agencies.

The major expression of G.A. level commitment to ecumenicity is made through councils of churches, world and national, although significant witness is also made through participation in Christian coalitions which focus variously on such areas as higher education, rural ministry, communication, food policy, agricultural development, Bible distribution and student work.

A FURTHER LOOK. . . .

In 1981 the United Presbyterian Church is giving \$319,000 to support general administration for the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, the World Council of Churches, and the National Council of Churches together. This assistance amounts to less than 1 percent (.89%) of congregational receipts for General Assembly mission. To support a broad range of program, \$1,081,000 is allocated to work through units of the World Council of Churches and \$1,291,000 to work through units of the National Council of Churches.

The bulk of these amounts--about \$1.5 million--goes to the Commission on Inter-Church Aid, Refugee, and World Service (WCC) and Church World Service (NCC) for disaster relief, hunger needs, refugee resettlement, and self-development, and comes from One Great Hour of Sharing. The balance of the program allocations to the World Council of Churches and National Council of Churches goes to more than 20 program functions; some portions also come from OGHS. Among the larger allocations are the Churches' Commission on Participation in Development (\$125,000) and the Ecumenical Development Cooperative Society (\$100,000)--both World Council entities; and the Division of Overseas Mission (\$229,000), Agricultural Missions (\$94,000), and Division of Church and Society (\$72,000)--all National Council functions. (In National Council parlance, Church and Society is what used to be called Home Missions.)

"Communities and particular churches ought to cooperate insofar as possible in giving expression to their oneness in Jesus Christ within his body, the ecumenical, catholic Church."

--The Book of Order, III, 5

United Presbyterian Church support for the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the two church councils has been fairly flat in recent years,

following a cut in contributions in the mid-1970s. We were giving even more 10 years ago than we are today.

During 1980 our support level for the three church bodies was increased slightly, amounting to an average of 1.2¢ per UPC member. There is no increase in 1981 and no expectation of an increase in 1982.

Some of the other ecumenical organizations and coalitions United Presbyterians are supporting in 1981, for a total of \$522,000: the international Heifer Project, the Commission on Religion in Appalachia, United Ministries in Education, Technoserve, Interreligious Task Force on U.S. Food Policy, and the World Association for Christian Communication. Some of this funding also comes from OGHS through the Hunger Program.

When Hans Frick came to the United States from his native Germany, he found inner-city neighborhoods in this country replete with abandoned, boarded-up houses. Frick, an ordained minister with a degree in architecture, also realized that low-income families in these same cities were living in sub-standard housing. The idea occurred to him that abandoned houses could be rehabilitated and sold to low-income families who otherwise would never have an opportunity for home ownership.

Project Home was the result of Frick's initial concerns. As project leader, he coordinates the rehabilitation of abandoned houses with labor from CETA workers and volunteers from the churches and community. Unfortunately, the CETA program has been discontinued due to federal government cutbacks for social programs.



After rehabilitation, the houses are sold to low-income families at the average cost of \$5,000 to \$6,000 each--basically, the cost of the renovations. Low interest loans are available for the new home owners with the help of the Major Mission Fund. The MMF grant is used as a revolving loan fund to enable families to establish mortgages through local banks.

The goal of Project Home is to buy and renovate one house each month. To date, 54 houses have been turned into homes. One welfare mother with six children was helped to purchase a Project Home house. Because of this outreach to her and her children, she is now off the welfare roles and is providing day-care service for children of working mothers. Her story is an example of how the program is helping people to help themselves, and the pride of home ownership is strengthening the community.

"MMF gave us a boost in our work," says Hans Frick. "Without this aid, it would have been difficult for us to continue." Project Home is a part of Linwood United Ministries, which in turn is part of the Major Mission Fund work of Kansas City Union Presbytery in the Synods of Mid-America.

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Evangelistic outreach is growing in the remote areas of Egypt with the help of two Major Mission Fund projects and the Coptic Evangelical Church of Egypt.

Christians in remote villages have a strong desire to remain active Protestants, but the lack of leadership and Christian education has left them struggling.

The home evangelism project is providing growth for this Christian community by beginning with house churches while moving toward the building of permanent structures.



The need here has been for transportation, since public transportation is not extended into these areas. With help from the Major Mission Fund, books and materials are moved to the house churches enabling them to continue their community of faithful witness while the churches are being constructed.

One church in Minia, a provincial city 150 miles south of Cairo, has successfully formed 20 to 30 house churches in villages surrounding the city.

In more remote areas, the Evangelism Caravan project made possible by the Major Mission Fund has provided vehicles, mostly mini-buses, to take evangelists into the outback areas to minister to the Christians in the villages. The presbytery in Egypt provides the full-time workers and the Major Mission Fund grant has been used to purchase three vehicles. Seven more vehicles are needed and will be sent in the future.

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missionscope

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Number 5

May, 1981

IMAGE OF GOD SEEN IN MIDST OF DESPAIR

"We, the participants in Las Americas Unidas, reflecting the diversity of United Presbyterian Women, saw the image of God on the faces of each other and our sisters of the Americas. We traveled and spoke with the women of Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and Guatemala. Our experience has taught us that human needs are the same everywhere: food, housing, and education; freedom to be and to do; freedom to develop to one's full potential; and structures of societies that allow for peaceful change."

This was part of a common statement made by 68 United Presbyterian women who were participants in a three-week seminar and dialogue sponsored by the National Executive Committee of United Presbyterian Women. The seminar began early in February, when the women attended a six-day orientation in Costa Rica on the culture and history of Latin America and the Caribbean region. They then formed several groups, and each group departed to a different Latin American country, where they were guests in the homes of women in the four countries.

The Rev. Phyllis Neal, of First Presbyterian Church, Jamaica, N.Y., was one of the women who went to Guatemala. Listen to what she said about the experience: "In my life I have at many moments felt a deep hurt and frustration in living in a situation where sometimes differences are made because of one's skin color. In my moments of despair and frustration, I pleaded with God to show me a place where I could go and feel accepted for my self, with no hostile reactions to my being black. I found that place in Guatemala. I never have seen such uninhibited love and acceptance in a people in my life....I was struck at the utter despair and deprivation in which the people of Guatemala live, yet at the strength and commitment they have for their church as the stabilizing factor in their lives. It was seeing the Kingdom of God alive and thriving in Latin America, an awesome thing for a Westerner to come to grips with. I was able, in my experience, to see, touch, smell, love, live with Christ incarnate in my sisters and brothers in Guatemala."

Those who went to the other three countries had similar impressions about the churches there. June Rogers of Huntington, N.Y., who went to Cuba, said she found the Presbyterian Church in Cuba to be a "creative, vibrant, and vital church, alive with mission." Mary Dodd Hunter of Greenwich, Conn., among those who went to the Dominican Republic, was "impressed with the spirit of the Dominican Evangelical Church, and with the quality of educational work the women of the church are involved in." And JoAnne Cassell of LaGrange, Ill., who went to Colombia, said that even though the Protestant Church is a minority in Colombia, "it has many strong voices, including Presbyterians, that are being heard in the communities."

The total group, in their statement following the seminar, said: "Our experience has taught us that the church, because it is the body of Christ, cannot but feel the pain of the people."

BROADCASTING SYSTEM IN KOREA FINDS NEW LIFE UNDER SUPPRESSION

Last November 12 the government of South Korea suddenly ordered massive changes in the structure and operations of all news media in the country. The Christian Broadcasting System (CBS) was directed to end all news broadcast activities and to air only evangelical programs. It also was ordered to

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stop selling commercial air time, on which it had depended for survival. Two other broadcast networks were ordered to merge with the government-controlled system. Newspapers were forcibly merged, news agencies were amalgamated, and press and broadcast organizations were told to recall their correspondents from outlying cities.

The overall impact of the directive was to place all news media under complete and tight government control. Before the clampdown, the popularity and influence of the CBS had rested first of all on its news service. Its news bulletins were so widely listened to that the system had a larger audience than the bigger government network.

The Christian Broadcasting System had grown out of work established in 1954 by a Presbyterian missionary, the Rev. Otto DeCamp. It was operated by the radio committee of the National Council of Churches of Korea, whose cooperative work is supported by an annual grant from the Program Agency of the United Presbyterian Church. Today the CBS in Korea is the third largest of eight broadcasting networks in that country.

Loss of its advertising revenue provoked a severe crisis. Facing the prospect of shutdown, the CBS adopted emergency measures. Staff were reshuffled, the budget rearranged, and all expenses cut to a minimum. Church support began to mobilize. Without any campaigning, there was a very strong response from churches in Korea, both conservative and liberal, to contribute toward the maintenance of the broadcasting operation. An appeal to churches overseas, all members of the World Association for Christian Communication, for help in particular during the critical coming months, brought some financial relief.

The United Presbyterian Church moved to increase the amount designated for the Christian Broadcasting System as a Major Mission Fund project in 1981 and also approved the CBS as an Extra Commitment Giving project to extend support through 1982 and 1983.

Looking to the future, the CBS began organizing a permanent support base consisting of member churches of the Korean National Council of Churches as well as non-member churches. Dr. Kim believes "it will be a strong ecumenical body supporting the media; in fact, we expect it to emerge as the strongest ecumenical body in Korea."

Faced with the necessity and the opportunity for developing new programming to fill the newscasting void, the CBS is experimenting with ways for the Korean people to express themselves about their daily life involvements. Programs designed for particular groups--and encouraging responses from listeners--have been developed for such sectors as the passengers and drivers of public transportation, housewives in need of consumer education, aged persons existing without any interest or concern, patients fighting against disease at home or in hospitals, teenagers in need of good advice and ethical perspective, and mission witnesses who have experienced God's love.

Now that the political newscasts have been stopped, the Christian Broadcasting System has set itself the task of carrying the "real news" of the people, along with Good News of the gospel, in their daily lives.

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If you plan to change your address, notify us four weeks in advance. Give old address as well as new. Please include address label from last issue and send to address below.

Postmaster: Send form 3579 (address change) to **Missionscope** Publication Office, 2457 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46201.

PROJECT VERDAD SHEDS LIGHT ON THE DESERT

There is always plenty of daylight to brighten the desert valley known as the Sparks Addition, near El Paso, Texas. But the nights are extremely dark in the poor, outlying area because it is not served by the El Paso Electric Company.

After fostering several self-help enterprises in the region, Presbyterian Project Verdad began to concentrate on improving living conditions there. It is the first such effort north of the Rio Grande to receive assistance from the Project and it involves three branches of the Presbyterian Church in this country as well as the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico.

A steering committee was formed with local leaders who were willing to cooperate, and El Paso Electric was asked to refigure the \$300,000 calculated cost of setting poles and extending utility lines. When the difference between those costs and anticipated four-year income was brought down to less than \$10,000, Project Verdad arranged interest-free loans from its funds and other sources so the residents could pay the deposit necessary to start work.

An unforeseen site survey was needed and as Bill Schlesinger, the Project's co-director, reports, Presbyterians in the El Paso area held a rummage sale at St. Andrews Church. The proceeds of \$1,600 nearly covered the two-thousand dollar cost.

With all the obstacles overcome, the first poles were put in place in early April and soon electricity, and light, will come to Sparks Addition or at least a part of its 475 acres of sand and rock.

CALLS FOR HELP HAVE BEEN HEARD

Somalia, one of the least-developed nations in the world, now contains the largest concentration of refugees on earth. More than 1.5 million, most from neighboring Ethiopia, have entered the drought-stricken country. The impact of such a large influx of people on a country already experiencing severe hardship is devastating.

Calls for help, however, have been heard. An Emergency Relief Alert sent to all churches in November 1980 has resulted in contributions of \$30,851 as of April 1. With black churches leading the way, churches of several denominations in the Detroit area, including United Presbyterian, have given about \$80,000 for Somalia relief since August 1980.

Church World Service, the relief and development agency through which denominations channel funds, has been active in responding to needs in Somalia. Medicines and life sustaining equipment costing \$50,000 have been flown to the country. Doctors, nurses, a midwife, and a nutritionist have been assigned to work in the area.

Church World Service has exhausted its funds for aid to the beleaguered country, however, and is now asking member churches for an additional \$300,000 to continue its assistance.

TWO SCHOOLS MARK SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

Boggs Academy, in Keysville, Ga., is "75 and Quite Alive." That's the theme as the institution marks its diamond anniversary this month. In keeping with the celebration, Boggs is engaged in a campaign to raise half a million dollars "to enable the school to continue to provide its unique experience of learning and training...."

Menaul School celebrates its centennial this year. The high school in Albuquerque, N.M., related to Santa Fe Presbytery and the Synod of the Southwest, has served as an educational facility almost continuously since its founding by pioneer missionary Sheldon Jackson.

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QUICKLY: Here are some facts that must belong in the record books: Some hard-working people in eastern Ohio have, over the past half-dozen years, made possible the resettlement of about 120 refugees from Europe and Southeast Asia. Associated with the Refugee Resettlement Home in Youngstown they have not sought government funds and, except for one case involving high medical bills, have not even requested financial assistance from the denomination. The work is headed by the Rev. Sandor J. Farkas and is financed by Eastminster Presbytery, in partnership with Catholic Churches....

"Peacemaking is Under Way," a booklet containing program suggestions for doing peacemaking, has been sent to all United Presbyterian congregations. The suggestions are organized by four tasks of ministry: worship, pastoral care, study activities, and public responsibility and outreach. The booklet, one piece in a packet of materials designed to interpret the special Peacemaking Offering, is available, at 50 cents a copy, from Presbyterian Distribution Service (#913-01-706), 935 Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115....

"Faith Sharing: A Conversation" is a 15-minute 16mm color sound film for use in evangelistic events, youth work, and membership classes. Designed to stimulate discussion on techniques involved in sharing the faith, it is a discussion-starter rather than a how-to-do-it training device. The film was produced by Evangelism Program staff member Jeffrey Wood and missionary John Ankele. It is available from Presbyterian Film Distribution Centers at a \$10 rental fee....

Three major religious agencies and the Advertising Council have joined forces for an extensive advertising campaign to fight world hunger. Church World Service, Catholic Relief Services, and the American Jewish Distribution Committee already were working together as the Interfaith Hunger Appeal; this is the first time the Advertising Council, a nonprofit group formed by advertising and communications industries, has aided in a hunger campaign....

An initial grant of \$25,000 for relief work in El Salvador has been approved by the United Presbyterian World Relief, Emergency and Resettlement Services office, from One Great Hour of Sharing funds. The grant is in response to a request from Church World Service for \$1.5 million from denominations CWS represents. Presbyterians may send contributions to Mission Treasury Service, 905 Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115....

A coordinated peacemaking plan has been developed for the United Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church U.S. In the 14 union presbyteries, there will be one peacemaking emphasis. The Peacemaking Project (UPCUSA) will provide resources and assist the joint work. Funds raised in these presbyteries will be sent to Mission Treasury Service in New York City. The Peacemaking Project also will assist non-union PCUS presbyteries by providing resource materials, inviting PCUS persons to leadership development events, and by interpreting the peacemaking emphasis....

The 121st General Assembly (1981) of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. will consider adopting "Peacemaking: The Believers' Calling." The PCUS non-union presbyteries will not be asked to take the special Peacemaking Offering, but the General Assembly Mission Board (PCUS) will make a grant to the United Presbyterian Peacemaking Project of \$15,000 in 1981 and \$50,000 in 1982....

Oops: An announcement in this section of the March Missionscope listed a filmstrip called "Like an Inca Rainbow" at \$9. The correct price is \$19....

Community Ministry News.

Community Ministry of Montgomery County, 114 West Montgomery Avenue, Rockville, Maryland

Vol. IX

No. 1

January 1981


HEARINGS ON UNMET HUMAN NEEDS

The political atmosphere created by the new administration in Washington filters down to all levels of government. The climate is one of much greater fiscal care and restraint and reluctance to invest in government programs to address social problems. In the State of Maryland and in Montgomery County, there are indications of severe budget constraints being applied.

On January 7, Community Ministry gathered together a group of government and community leaders who are aware of the problems of low income people: folks from Community Action Agency, the Department of Social Services, the Housing Opportunities Commission, from HELP/FISH, churches, emergency shelter programs. The group shared the common concern that, in the face of pressures to reduce the budget, the best possible case be made for providing for the unmet human needs in our County. The decision-makers need to be made sensitive to the struggle of poor families for a decent life, and to be made aware that their decisions can open or close doors of opportunity for these struggling souls. The group discussed two ways of making this case. One way would be to gather thousands of names on a petition supporting these people in their struggle.

The other way would be to sponsor a hearing where the people themselves could tell their stories and describe what their struggle is like. Invited, too, would be the professionals - social workers, ministers, planners - who are somewhat removed from that particular struggle, but close enough to it to see and to state in concept, program or statistics what is needed to keep on keeping on in the pursuit of a decent life. Together, these groups could set forth subjectively and objectively the plight and the fight of the poor in the County today. The idea at the January 7 meeting was then to consult expert advice on how best to state the case of these people in terms that decision-makers could understand and respond to. In addition, the hearing was seen as an occasion for the people themselves to get encouraged and organized to state their own case to the government leadership.

It was hoped and expected that material gathered at such a hearing would be useful for presentations to the state and federal, as well as local, lawmakers. It was noted that while we may seem like adversaries in presenting our case to County Council we are colleagues and team mates in stating that case to the state and federal people. And the group at the planning meeting came to see that the hearings could also be a means of public consciousness raising. To this end, the panel of people who would receive testimony at the hearing was envisioned as a changing body, providing the chance for exposure of a variety and number of community leaders to the human struggle in the face of unmet needs in the county. Perhaps a questionnaire could be developed to let such panel members tell what the experience meant to them.



The timing for such a hearing was discussed. It was decided that it was not necessary to wait for publication of the County Executive's budget. The major considerations were for providing time beforehand to organize the thing and for time afterward to colate and analyze the material and to prepare a report. Tentatively, the group named the dates: Saturday, February 28 and Sunday, March 1, afternoons and as long into the evenings as necessary. One hearing in the Gaithersburg-Rockville area and one in Takoma Park-Silver Spring were suggested.

As large as possible a group of sponsors of the hearing would be sought. While government folk or agencies receiving sizable financial grants from the government would be invited to testify, they would not be invited to be sponsors. Dozens of organizations which work with poor people were suggested as sponsors.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25, was conceived and first sponsored by the Graymoor Ecumenical Institute, many years ago. They are joined, in 1981, by the Commission on Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches, and the Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops of the United States in publishing a resource booklet for the celebration. The theme this year is "There is a variety of gifts but always the same spirit." (I Cor. 12:4). The booklet sets it forth:

"The diversity of the Spirit's gifts is not an obstacle to the unity of the church. Indeed all such gifts come from one and the same Spirit. They are given to build up the Body of Christ. They are meant to serve the common good....What St. Paul told the Corinthians can help us in our own efforts to overcome Christian division. St. Paul opposed the tendency to claim God's gifts for self-glory rather than for God's glory. He insisted that every good gift comes from God. He deplored the temptation to make God's gift a ground for self-reliance. Instead, he demanded that

Christians assert their continual dependence on God at every moment and acknowledge that God's gifts are given for the common good and the service of all. The variety of gifts received for mutual service can be a bond of unity. If these gifts are appropriated in an exclusive and selfish way, however, their very variety can produce divisions."

Ecumenism is central to the meaning and purpose of Community Ministry, so prayers for Christian unity come natural and, perhaps, we have some obligation to call the churches of Montgomery County to this action.

CMMC is sponsoring a prayer breakfast at 7:00 a.m., Thursday, January 22, at the Rockville Presbyterian Church, 215 West Montgomery Avenue. Our speaker will be the Rev. Clark Lobenstine, Executive Director of the Interfaith Conference. The IFC involves as members four major faith communities - Protestant, Catholic, Jewish and Muslim. The bishops and other chief religious leaders of some 28 judicatories, denominations or associates have committed themselves and these four faith communities to work together on dialogue and joint work on critical issues. Clark presently serves on the executive committee of the National Association of Ecumenical Staff, and was director of an ecumenical community ministry in Louisville, Kentucky. He will speak on "Issues in Chris-

tian Unity from an Interfaith Perspective."

Please let us know (762-9407) that you're coming, and we'll have breakfast ready for you. You will be free to leave for work by 8:30 a.m.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday is January 15. The day will be celebrated in our schools and many of our churches, and on that Thursday, 7:30 P.M., in the Fine Arts Building of Montgomery College, the county will celebrate the meaning of this man for us today. The Honorable Jessie M. Rattley of the League of Cities and Newport News, Va. Council member, will be the keynote speaker. Entertainment will be provided by the Montgomery County Youth Chorus, and the Francis Scott Key Creative Movement Club.

Wherever you are that day, you would do well to remember the words of moving rhetoric and positive power spoken by that man of peace and justice when he received the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway, December 10, 1964:

"I accept this award today with an abiding faith in America and an audacious faith in the future of mankind. I refuse to accept the idea that the 'isness' of man's present nature makes him morally incapable of reaching up for the eternal 'oughtness' that forever confronts him.

"I refuse to accept the idea that man is mere flotsam and jetsam in the river of life, unable to influence the unfolding events which surround him. I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality.

"I refuse to accept the cynical notion that nation after nation must spiral down a militaristic stairway into the hell of thermonuclear destruction. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant...

"I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality and freedom for their spirits...."

ROCK RUN PRELIMINARY REPORT -- Lon Dring

Plans are being made for an advanced wastewater treatment facility at the Avenel Farm site in Potomac. It's called the Rock Run AWT Facility (after the creek that runs through there) and is located north of the Naval Ship Research and Development Center. (If you have the popular Alexander Drafting Company's Montgomery County Street Map booklet, it's at and around 5B and 5C on page 37.) I have been named to the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) for this project and am finding it is an interesting affair. I am representing Concerned Citizens for Affordable Housing, more than CMMC.

The job of the committee consists of three major functions: 1) periodic review and comment on reports made by the consultants. The principle points for comment on the consultants' work regard (a) factors for evaluating environment impact, (b) alternative locations on the Avenel Farm site of the plant and alternative alignments of the conveyance system, (c) alternative uses of the Buffer Area, (d) their report on the preferred locations of the treatment facility and conveyance system.

(2) A second function of the committee will be to be a conduit of information to the public and especially to our constituents. This education/information transfer process will be accomplished through public workshops and meetings and field trips.

(3) the CAC will prepare a report to the County Executive on the preferred location of the treatment facility and conveyance system.

It's much too early to draw any conclusions, but I can make an observation or two. Most (9-10) of the members of the committee live in the neighborhoods surrounding the Avenel Farm site. They are, understandably, very concerned about the advent of an AWT plant in their backyards. As a representative of CCAH interests, I understand my role to be something of an advocate of sewer facilities because they are needed for more affordable housing. It can be a rather awkward position.

In each of CAC's meetings, there sit with us almost a million dollars worth of consultants, plus a half-dozen County and WSSC staff. We meet in the County Executive's conference room in high-back lounge chairs around a beautiful conference table. (I feel I ought to dress up to go to these meetings.) Each committee member has been supplied with a very nice looking, fat, three-ring notebook, which is slowly being filled with the reams of papers which are distributed at each session. I have been appointed by the Executive to several County Committees in the past related to issues of poverty, elderly affairs, drug abuse, fair housing. It is interesting to note how different is the County's attitude toward this last subject as measured in the time, talent, and money devoted to it.

You probably don't think much about sewers! But the fact is that these conveyance systems set the patterns for human development in our County. So many questions are answered before most of us think of asking them by the presence or absence of sewers.

If you are interesting in learning more about Rock Run, you'll have these opportunities over the next couple months:

January 12	Public General Information Meeting, at Potomac Elementary School
January 14	Public General Information Meeting, at Brookmont Elementary School
February 23	Discussion of Site Topography and Conveyance Corridors, at COB
February 28	Field Trip on site and Conveyance Corridors

COMMUNITY MINISTRY NEWS
Community Ministry of Montgomery County
114 West Montgomery Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Non-Profit Org.
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Lee Martin
16805 Briardale Road
Derwood MD 20855

Morton Blackwell

July 26, 1982

Dear Friends:

Over the years, I have witnessed many times the greatness of the American spirit. Compassion for others, creativity in meeting challenges, and determination to accomplish our goals are significant attributes of our people. One evidence of this spirit is the vitality of organizations such as The Presbyterian Church.

file

I am pleased to extend my personal congratulations and commendation to you for your generous voluntary contributions to your community. Your involvement exemplifies the highest tradition of service to others and enhances the lives of all our citizens.

With best wishes for continued success,

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

The Presbyterian Church
Miss Rosellyn J. Calvert
3214 Cristo Lane
Jacksonville, Florida 32211

cc: Jeanne Hyde
Jay Moorhead

RR:JMH:AVH:ba
P-42C

cc: R. Birney w/ iax incoming
Room 134, J. Moorhead's Office

~~Jack Burgess w/ copy of incoming - FYI~~

RR - P42-2
The Presbyterian Church

cc: R. Gurney w/enclosure
Rm 134 J. Moorhead's
office
Jack Burgers w/ff
copy of enclosure / 798.

June 1, 1982
3214 Cristo Lane
Jacksonville, Fla.
32211

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear President Reagan,

J. Moorhead
The cutbacks in federal spending effect every arena of living. I'm writing to let you know the importance of an invincible force that is keeping wheels in motion in our schools, hospitals, charitable organizations and even in homes.

This entity gives of its time, talents and energy to the elderly, the shutin with food, clothing and transportation. This natural resource is a valuable undercurrent helping our social structure. It's amazing how this under riding force is keeping organizations and homes intact, it is happening!

When budgets are cut the administrators and employees diminish. This natural resource continues filling special needs. What is their drive?

A person totally devoted to a cause will do double or triple effort to accomplish a set goal. Many times the bureauacracy or salaried structure is a hinderance if they want recognition of the project. The valuable undercurrent is not limited by time or organizational structure. The goals they are working for become realities because of their persistance, dedication and determination. The goal eventually becomes a reality.

Why should I know? I've been a participate and involved for forty years. This is an example of the undercurrent happening within just the Presbyterian Church. On April 5, 1976 I suggested to the Women of Northeast Florida we give 2¢ a day for hunger for twenty years. To be used home and overseas. We'd been studying hunger since 1967, writing letters to Congress to get WIC and the School Lunch programs started. In 1975 I realized taxes was not the way to correct the problem. It needed to be corrected at the graasroots level. It was time to give money to hunger. The 2¢ a day seemed small to some ministers and chairpersons, they changed it to 2¢ a meal. Six cents a day doen't seem large, but when I suggested the 2¢ a day our family was living on a dollar a day because of a forced job change and double house payments. It was also like the Lord told me to do 2¢ a day for 20 years and everyone could participate. This is now being practiced in many denominations all acrossed the United States and in our own Presbyterian Churches. Occasionally 2¢ a meal projects get started, they survive for several months then are picked up by other churches to keep funds coming in. This daily awareness oped doors of personal involvement to hunger problems in every community doing it.

R. Calvert

Persistence in an invincible force like this has many spin-offs. In the beginning federal funding was totally used for the Meals-on-Wheels project. We gave a dollar you gave three. There has been a change in this. Now several of the areas are totally self supporting with community help. That takes care of part of the food. Food pantries are now being supplied by the churches, taking a month at a time. Many are doing this faithfully. Clothes closets have been available to the poor or those in need for years.

The people participating in these projects are dedicated. Not becoming involved because of a thrust in their career or job affiliations like some volunteer programs. They have replaced self pity, loneliness and frustration of uncertainties with compassion, concern and care. They are filling the social gap of necessity, giving of their natural resources. Working all acrossed the United States of America. The Church Volunteers of this nation are accomplishing results right where they are.

Sincerely,



Rosellyn J. Calvert

THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4101 NEBRASKA AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016
Telephone 202 - 537-2800



file Reliq. briefing

MINISTERS
LOUIS H. EVANS, JR.
CHARLES E. REINHOLD
JOHN E. BOYLES
ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER
ERNEST E. LIGON
DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION
HENRY R. MASTRONI

July 17, 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Office of Elizabeth Dole
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Blackwell,

It was good of you to set up the economic briefing for clergy at which we met on Monday.

With all the groups you have to coordinate, you have quite a burden. If there is anything I can assist you with in liaison to the religious community, please let me know.

I am enclosing copies of prayers I gave in the two weeks following the attempt on the President's life which speak to the hardship engendered by national service.

Sincerely yours,


Rev. John Boyles

enclosures

jeb:ja

THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016
Telephone 202 - 537-2800



MINISTERS

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CHARLESE REINHOLD
ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER
ERNEST E. LIGON
DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION
HENRY R. MASTRONI

Prayers given by the Reverend John E. Boyles

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 1981

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit

Minister: Let us pray.

O Lord our God - even as we come before Thee with hymns of halleluia in our hearts, waving our branches of palm and praise, hailing Thee with loud hosanna - we know we have not lived out that praise in our lives - and we ask, implore, O Lord, Thy word of salvation- salvation from ourselves, from our own selfishness.

O Lord, we would ask Thee to take our selfish hand, to guide it to reach out to others, toward our friend in need, to someone else.

O Thou Creator God, Lord of all life, in this coming week, a holy but hard week, O Lord, we would walk with Thy Son. We would walk with him today in entering Jerusalem, walking on palm branches, but walking then into a week of sorrow and pain, to a time of agonizing meditation in a garden, to a solemn final meal of fellowship, to a disciple's decision to betray, to tribunal and tribulation and accusation, to a washing of hands and a carrying of cross, to the clang of nails and a loud last cry.

O Lord, Thou hast sent Thy Son to suffer, but to suffer for all people, and therefore, for us. O Lord, in the suffering of Thy Son we see, and feel, the suffering of all.

Lord, we would reach out to others. We reach out to families sorrowing in the sickness of those they love, sick in body or soul or mind. We reach out in spirit to those lonely souls who know not where they travel in life's journey. And we would reach out to those who have come to journey's end and are ready to rest in Thee.

Lord, we would reach out to all here today, touched as we are by sudden threat to a leader's life and to liberty itself. We pray to Thee for restoration, for Thy healing power in lives made vulnerable by freedom's very principles. Lord, we praise Thee and thank Thee for the healing power of Thy Creation, for true miracles we often cannot see, in gift of medicine and mind and will and spirit. Lord, move Thy spirit over fallen servants and protectors. O Lord, that we had not to ask the brave to block bullets of sickness aimed at our land's law and leader. O Lord, that all might feel Thy healing power; policeman, president, and pressman, agent and assassin. O Lord, give us all Thy healing power, the power of Thy love, Thy love which walks with us in this week, this hard and holy week, in which we walk with Jesus and say with Him, as he said to Thee: Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever. Amen.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 1981

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit

Minister: Let us pray.

O Lord, even as we sing alleluia's here, there are those who still lie broken in body, there are those whose hearts are fluttering in fear, those who have not conquered death and tremble before it.

O Lord, our hearts go out to those today who are in pain, whose bodies weaken by age or accident, and who look to a healing hand to reach out and touch them, to transmit a love for all which Thou hast given.

O Lord, our souls go out to those who face decisions on what to do when rampant cells seem to rage against valiant life. O Lord, Thy wisdom is not earth's wisdom. So often is our earthly wisdom wrong, Lord, so give us, and others, strength to number our days on earth, with care and concern for the love of others.

O Lord, our hands go out to help those who walk through our nation's life on our behalf, as servants of ours and Thine eternal order. We thank Thee for life spared by sacrificial feeling, for life spared by medicine's healing, for life spared by Thy Providence.

O Lord, in gratitude we experience a bit of what we celebrate today as we give thanks for the life of the President and those who protect him. Continue Thy healing strength in their lives that they might continue to serve Thee.

And be with, O Lord, those who are called upon to minister to those who cannot worship here today, those who rest and regenerate to continue to serve country but who need the gratifying word and celebration of resurrection.

O God, we are grateful for, and we glory in, the Resurrection of Thy Son. Thou hast taken from the world the dominion of death, Thou hast left death itself entombed forever.

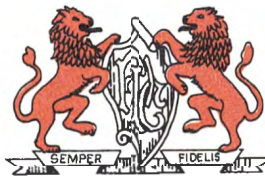
O God, we do take clues from Thy Creation on this glorious day of shining sun and fresh fragrance of spring, from flowers unfolding and birds returning. But, O God, give us to see that Christ's quickening was not a springtime arriving but a fullness of time revealed.

O God, the world everyday sense only a part of Thy revival of life, and it comes to those of faith to tell that old, old story of Jesus and his glory. O God, that we could witness to others whose withered lives could sense a new strength of revealed and ressurected faith.

O Great God, Thou hast given power that surged into solid rock and rolled away that stone of materiality that blocks each one of us present here, that same power which surged into feeble flesh and gathered up body again. O Great God, we praise Thee for that power, for because that feeble flesh lives again we too shall live.

Because Thou hast entered the darkness of the tomb two thousand years, O Great God, we fear not to enter it today. For there we meet Thy Son, our Lord, that Figure of Light, robed in white linen, spun on a luminous loom, and there we will be taken gently

by the hand, and walk together into life anew, where we can in eternity say to Thee, with the Christ who walks beside -
O Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.



OCT 5 REC'D 113
file

First Presbyterian Church
2930 Woodward Avenue at Edmund Place
Detroit, Michigan 48201

September 29, 1982

Mrs. Elizabeth Dole
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Dole:

In February, 1982, I sent a scenario to the President outlining the volunteer program of mothers in this community. The President invited me to the White House luncheon for religious leaders on April 13, an event I shall always remember. I met you at that time.

You will be interested, I think, in the next scene in that developing scenario. With the Teachers' Strike here in Detroit, these same volunteers went into action and opened an interim school here at First Church. The teachers are not paid. The seventy children do not pay to come. The opening of each school day includes the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer, and a hymn.

All three television stations have highlighted this program, along with excellent newspaper coverage. Murray Feldman (Channel 2) did an especially good job. He had the camera begin with our church tower and then move to a picture of John Monteith, our first pastor in 1816. Feldman said: "First Church has been interested in education since the days of John Monteith who founded the first public school in Detroit. And now that same church is providing an interim school. . . ."

We are pleased with this further development in the Private Sector Initiative where we live.

Best wishes!

Sincerely,

Ken Kettlewell

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The back of the enclosed worship bulletin gives further details.

SCENE NINE

Thursday morning, Sept. 16, 1982. . .a year later

The faces look familiar. It is the same group of women, mothers who began meeting months ago. They have lots to talk about as they gather. .the summer program. .the church bus trip to Florida. . .the ice cream festival. . .

They plunge into a discussion of the school strike. No public schools in the city! They are upset, concerned. But what can they do about it?

Maybe we could have a school here at First Church. But who would teach and what materials would be available and who knows how long the strike will last?

Excitement mounts as the discussion continues. Of course, we can do it! Some of these mothers have training as para-professionals in the classrooms. All of them are closely related to the schools.

Plans are soon made. An interim school will open Monday morning. It will begin with an assembly in the sanctuary, the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer and a hymn. The hymn will be First Church's hymn, "Stand Up for Jesus."¹ There will be classes for 70 children, Kindergarten through eighth grade, gym classes, music, lunch.

The scene fades and re-opens on the following Monday morning with the boys and girls jumping off the church bus. They will be spending the day at the church, their first day of interim school. The mothers are conspicuous as the group divides into classes and various segments go off in one direction and another.

Funding? The staff is volunteer and the church provides the necessary funds.

¹ "Stand Up for Jesus" is the hymn written in 1858 by George Duffield, Jr., whose father was the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan.

Ken Kettner
Detroit

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Telephone 212-870-2005



William P. Thompson, Stated Clerk

Otto K. Finkbeiner, Associate Stated Clerk and Treasurer

Rev. Robert F. Stevenson, Associate Stated Clerk

Rev. Robert T. Newbold, Jr., Associate Stated Clerk

November 4, 1982

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In February, 1981, a conference was held in Washington, D.C., of which I had the honor to be chairman, on the subject of "Government Intervention in Religious Affairs." It was noteworthy because it was co-sponsored by the six largest religious federations or bodies in the country:

- The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., a federation of thirty-one Protestant and Eastern Orthodox denominations with an aggregate membership of over 40,000,000;
- The U.S. Catholic Conference, comprising a membership of nearly 50,000,000 in the U.S.;
- The Synagogue Council of America, comprising the Jewish community of 5,860,090;
- The National Association of Evangelicals, an agency that includes 35 denominations plus other groups comprising altogether over 3,000,000;
- The Lutheran Council in the U.S.A., a cooperative agency of major Lutheran bodies in the U.S., encompassing over 8,000,000 members;
- The Southern Baptist Convention, over 13,000,000.

These groups invited other religious bodies not connected with any of them, and the 280 delegates who met together for three days represented over 90% of organized religion in this country, making it probably the most broadly inclusive religious gathering in the nation's history!

What brought them together from a wide range of theological traditions was their common concern about a pattern of increasing government interference in religious affairs. I listed seventeen evidences of such interference in my opening statement, which may be found at page 16 in the proceedings of the conference accompanying this letter.

Some forms of such interference have since been halted by the courts, others are seen mainly at state or local levels. But a few are federal and still continue, and it is about them that a group of religious leaders from the participating religious bodies would like to meet with you to express their concerns. They are the following:

1.) One is a policy of government inaction that threatens religious liberty and the very sanctity of conversion. That is the apparent refusal of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to enforce the kidnapping statute against the paid kidnappers of (adult) converts to religious groups unpopular with the convert's family. (This practice, called "deprogramming," is not limited to so-called "cults," but has been used against members of Episcopal, Catholic, Pentecostal and evangelical groups as well.) We have taken this up with the Justice Department without success, so the next step would seem to be to appeal to the White House.

2.) Another issue of great concern to all of us who have missionaries working abroad or with marginalized populations in this country is the possibility of their use as informants by federal intelligence agencies. A recent Executive Order (No. 12333*) setting forth the policies to be followed by those agencies fails to prohibit them from using clergy or missionaries as informants, (mis)representing their agents to be clergy or missionaries or setting up proprietaries ("fronts") purporting to be church agencies. It is not enough that many of us have directed our own missionaries not to let themselves be used in this way, since that does not prevent other missionaries from being used or intelligence agents from pretending to be church workers. Even the possibility that any church personnel may be "tools of the CIA" endangers all of our workers in troubled parts of the world, so it can be a life-and-death matter to us!

3.) Many religious bodies have objected to the regulations adopted by the Treasury in 1976 which exclude church-related colleges, hospitals, homes, pension boards, etc., from the definition of "integrated auxiliaries" of churches exempted from filing annual informational returns under Section 6033(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. Thus these church-related entities are required to file such forms because their "secular counterparts" do. Some institutions are refusing to do so because they are integral parts of the church's ministry, and litigation is imminent unless the matter can be resolved. A broad coalition of church representatives has approached the Vice President on this question in his capacity as chair of the President's Task Force on Regulatory Reform, but the Task Force seems to have

*Several of the bodies represented in the proposed delegation are seeking adjudication in the courts of the legality or constitutionality of various aspects of this Executive Order.

November 4, 1982


found the Internal Revenue Service particularly intransigent, and so we are raising this concern with the President, since it is more a matter of substantive principle than just a simplification of regulations.

Realizing the pressures of your heavy schedule and its unpredictability because of world events -- as well as the similarly crowded schedules of the heads of major religious bodies -- I cannot anticipate that we could bring together on short notice all of the heads of ecclesiastical bodies who would like to meet with you on these three issues. I enclose a list of the persons to whom I have written inviting their participation in a possible meeting with you, subject of course to the exigencies of your calendar and theirs.

If you would be willing to meet with us for this purpose, I will undertake to get as many of them together as possible. I think an hour should suffice at most to communicate our concerns, and the details of the follow-up can be carried on with whomever you may designate in the Executive branch.

Your favorable response on this matter will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,



William P. Thompson

Enc.

WPT/ea

OTHER INVITEES INCLUDE:

- The Right Reverend John M. Allin
Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church
- Dr. James E. Andrews
Stated Clerk, Presbyterian Church in the U.S.
- Bishop James Armstrong
President of the National Council of Churches
- Dr. Harold C. Bennett
Executive Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention
- Dr. Ralph A. Bohlmann
President, Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
- Dr. Arie Brouwer
General Secretary, Reformed Church in America
- Dr. Robert C. Campbell
General Secretary, American Baptist Churches
- The Reverend James R. Crumley, Jr.
President of the Lutheran Church in America
- Bishop Finis A. Crutchfield
President of the Council of Bishops, United Methodist Church
- Rabbi Joseph B. Glaser
Executive Vice President, Central Conference of American Rabbis
- Dr. John R. Houck
General Secretary, Lutheran Council in the U.S.A.
- The Reverend Monsignor Daniel F. Hoyer
General Secretary, National Conference of Catholic Bishops and U.S. Catholic Conference
- The Most Reverend Archbishop Iakovos
Primate of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America
- Dr. T. J. Jemison
President, National Baptist Convention in the U.S.A., Inc.
- Bishop Nathaniel L. Linsey
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
- Rabbi Bernard Mandelbaum
Executive Vice President, Synagogue Council of America
- Dr. Billy A. Melvin
Executive Director, National Association of Evangelicals

(Cont'd.)

Dr. Avery Post
President, United Church of Christ

Dr. David W. Preus
General President, American Lutheran Church

Dr. Kenneth L. Teegarden
General Minister and President, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Rev. Robert F. Stevenson, Associate Stated Clerk

Rev. Robert T. Newbold, Jr., Associate Stated Clerk

November 1, 1982

*Morton Blackwell
(LyI/copy)*

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The purpose of this letter is to add my voice, as official spokesperson for the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, to the many others in the religious community urging you to pardon the young men who have been convicted of failing to register with the Selective Service System. Enten Eller, Benjamin Sasway, and Mark Schmucker have already received sentences for violating the draft registration law; several others have been indicted. Our appeal to you is to exercise your Presidential pardon power in every such case where young men, out of their sense of religious and moral conscience, have been convicted for violating draft laws in conflict with their conscience.

Over the years, General Assemblies of the United Presbyterian Church have opposed use of the draft system in peacetime generally and have specifically addressed the current resumption of registration. The 181st General Assembly (1969) said:

There are many young men who, in good conscience, choose not to cooperate with the Selective Service System in any way. For them, any form of conscription in a democratic society is unconscionable, and they feel compelled either to ignore it, to oppose it, or to exile themselves, taking the consequences of the penalties the law provides for such choices...

With such men, the church affirms that God is Lord of their conscience also, and hence along with those who make the other response to war the church offers them her ministries of compassion and pastoral care without necessarily approving or encouraging such responses.

The 193rd General Assembly (1981) reaffirmed the denomination's "obligation to provide spiritual and pastoral support for those individuals affected by the reactivation of registration," and again in 1982 expressed concern for persons in conflict of conscience.

November 1, 1982

In addition, the United Presbyterian Church has long-held policies directed at the inappropriateness of incarceration for many offenses against society. The 184th General Assembly (1972) said:

The reduction of reliance on incarceration must be accomplished as rapidly as possible. State and federal governments, with the concurrence of courts, must develop alternative means for dealing with offenders at all levels of government....No substantive social objectives are served by the involuntary confinement of individuals. On the contrary, prisons tend to contribute more to the perpetuation of crime than to its correction. There is massive evidence that prison and jail life are seriously destructive of the health of human personality.

Thus our urging you to pardon young men being convicted for exercising their conscience is supported by several positions taken by the United Presbyterian Church over the years. We are committed to assisting persons wrestling with issues of conscience; we recognize the individual's responsibility for bearing the consequences of such conscience-based decisions; we find, at best, a limited utility for incarceration, but one certainly not applicable in the cases of these young men.

You have been unwilling up until now to take the necessary steps to discontinue military registration. We will continue to urge you to do so, agreeing with the sentiment you expressed to Senator Hatfield in May 1980:

But perhaps the most fundamental objection to draft registration is moral. Only in the most severe national emergency does government have a claim to the mandatory service of its young people. In any other time, a draft, or draft registration, destroys the very values that our society is committed to defending.

Until our appeal to end registration is successful, I urge you to honor those values by granting Presidential pardon to these three young men and all others who may be convicted because of moral conscience openly exercised.

Sincerely,



William P. Thompson