

Church News



WORDS OF HOPE

By Charles W. Godfrey,
Pastor

Pembroke Seventh Day
Adventist Church

The twentieth century has been called the "century of ecumenism." Trends from diversity to unity in the Christian church began to take shape in the last quarter of the nineteenth century, and this year will undoubtedly be crucial for the whole ecumenical movement.

By the mid-nineteenth century the various branches of the Christian churches were farther apart than they had ever been since the Reformation of the sixteenth century. Yet at this very time, a sense of the scandal of division was beginning to stir, particularly in the Reformation churches.

At first it took the form of replacing competition in the mission fields with cooperation there; and in the homelands, of a drawing together of the fragmented communions of the main Protestant churches. All of this represented a giant step toward ecumenism.

But still there was no attempt to cross confessional boundaries, so at the turn of the century, the main streams of the Christian Church-Roman, Orthodox, and Protestant were still very far apart. The Protestants maintained as strongly as ever that true unity was a "unity in truth," from which the Catholic churches (both Roman Catholic and Orthodox Catholic) had departed. The Catholic churches, on the other hand, claimed that they had preserved not only the true Christian faith but also the continuity of "apostolic succession" unbroken through the centuries; they held that indispensable to unity was the return of the Reformation churches to the historic continuity of the church.

In the year 1870, Episcopal William Reed Huntington of New York published his book *The Church Idea*. In it he outlined what he considered the four "essential" bases for the reunion of Christendom: (1) the Scriptures as the Word of God and the ultimate rule of faith, (2) the primitive creeds as a sufficient expression of the faith of the church, (3) the two sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper as ordained by Christ Himself, and (4) the "historic episcopate" as the basis of organizational unity.

The idea took root in the American Episcopal Church, and at a conference in

Chicago in the 80's a resolution based on Huntington's four "essentials" was approved. In 1888 the resolution came to the Church of England's Lambeth Conference, and there it took the form of the Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral, setting forth the basic positions which might constitute a platform for the reunion of the whole Christian Church.

From Edinburgh there emerged three separate unity movements: The International Missionary Council, as originally contemplated, the Faith and Order movement, and the Life and Work movement. Archbishop Soderblom of the Swedish Lutheran Church expressed the hope that all these efforts for unity might be coordinated in an "ecumenical council of churches."

The outbreak of the second world war held up international organization, but after the cessation of hostilities, the World Council of Churches came into being. Its first assembly convened in Amsterdam in 1948, attended by delegates of 147 churches from 44 countries. It was indeed "a new phenomenon in church history."

More recently, alternatives before the churches were forcefully presented by the moderator of the United Reformed Church, Dr. Kenneth Slack, when he addressed the Methodist Conference in Newcastle, England, in July, 1973. "To the United Reformed Church," he said, "has been given the privilege of setting things going. To the Church of England, in large measure, is given the responsibility of determining whether we can go forward in hope."

Already spokesmen of some of the participating churches are becoming vocal, and it is certain that there will be some plain speaking in the future. Will the Protestant churches decide to compromise and accept the necessity of becoming more and more catholic and less and less protestant or reformed in the interests of wider unity? Or will they say once for all that they take their irrevocable stand upon "unity in truth" alone?

Don't forget to listen to "Springs of Living Water," weekdays at 7 p.m. on WSTS-FM, 96.5 on the dial with your host, Pastor Godfrey!



Pastor Leonard Gibbs, right, Deacons Welsey Revels [center] and Anthony Blanks throw out the first shovel of dirt for Ten Mile Center, Baptist Church of

Lumberton. A brief service was held and after a delicious dinner prepared by the ladies of the church was served. Thanks to contributions,

yard sales and just giving from the heart, the goal will soon be a reality. The pastor and congregation of Ten Mile wish to say thanks. [Photo by James F. Lowery]

"Advice is not disliked because it is advice; but because so few people know how to give it." Leigh Hunt

MT. AIRY NEWS

by Violet Locklear

Sunday was a marvelous day for us in church. We really had a lot of visitors with us. I am quite sure everyone felt welcome. So come back again soon.

Bro. D.H. Wilkins gave an inspiring talk. The Lord has really been good to him and blessed him with a long life, over 83 years old. He got saved September 3, 1916, 70 years ago. He led us in singing a very religious song with a strong rhythm "When You Meet Me Over Yonder" with lots of testimonies following and the Spirit of God being manifest.

The pastor brought forth a wonderful message entitled "The Glory of the Gospel" taken from II Corinthians 3:17-18. The Glory of God is shown all around us. We have a nice world to live in.

It was indeed a thrilling experience to see Mr. Billy Ray Oxendine, better known as "Dollar Bill" as he walked the aisle and surrendered his heart to Christ. Also Master Matthew Jones. I believe Bill's life will have a lot of influence upon his father, Mr. Birtir Oxendine who is a wonderful person. I worked with him a number of years. Dollar Bill is former President of the Pembroke Jaycees.

Now the very moment you take Jesus at His word and turn your life over to Him in complete surrender, that very moment you are saved. You are a child of God. Your name has been written indelibly in the Book of Life. On Sunday night at 7 p.m. we saw a film by Brother LeVerne Locklear entitled "The Silent Scream." It was about abortion. It was really heart touching. May God have mercy on the doctors. I do wish that it was not legal. It should have never been legal in the first place.

On Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. a group attended the Freddie Gage Crusade in Fayetteville.

Revival begins this Sunday and runs through Sept. 20th. Rev. Steve Jones and Rev. Johnny Chavis will be

our evangelists. On Tuesday night we will have Rev. Johnny Hunt of Wilmington and the Sites Sisters from Lincoln, NC with us. We are all looking forward to it. We have so many loved ones we long to see saved. Our choirs will be leading each night in music.

The pastor has reservations for 25 married couples to attend a retreat October 3-4 at Caswell. The theme is "Growing in Closeness." Miss Vernie has been taking the calls. I don't know how many she already has.

Mrs. Janie Hunt has returned from Southeastern General Hospital where she underwent surgery. We certainly will be glad for her return to church. She is such a remarkable person.

Mrs. Angelina Locklear is the proud mother of a baby son, James Reed - weight 7 lbs, 14 ozs. Born on Sunday, September 7 at North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill. Maternal grand parents are the late Mrs. Annie Ruth Locklear and James B. Locklear.

Miss Willie Mae Locklear and Bro. Dewey Hardin remain patients in the Extended Care Unit. Remember our shut ins, Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Locklear, Mrs. Beulah Oxendine, also Mrs. Mary Locklear. Pro. Bracy Locklear was able to be back in church Sunday.

WHAT DOES YOUR FACE SAY?

When other people look at you, do they see the love of God shining in your face? Lord, please let others see you through me. Through my actions, deeds and expressions - For a smile to be genuine, it should come from the heart. And remember - God has no hands but our hands, to do his work today. He has no feet but our feet to lead others in His way. He has no voice but our voice. His words of love to say. Perhaps we should remind ourselves; He has no face but our face to show the world His way. What does a smile cost?

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A MUST FOR ANYONE WHO WANTS TO MODEL OR ACT

WHO OWNS YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE?



Most Americans must rely on profit-making, investor-owned utilities for electricity. But in this area, many residents are served by Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation, a member-owned non-profit cooperative.

In addition to having a greater say in the cooperative's service policies, rate structures, design and siting of facilities, local ownership benefits members in many ways. One of these advantages is the opportunity to be counted at the cooperative's annual meeting.

At the annual meeting, members elect their representatives to the co-op's board of directors. Members learn about the financial status of their co-op and have a chance to offer their recommendations on the system's operation. They have a chance to talk face-to-face with co-op management about the business and any problems they might have.

Lumbee River EMC's annual meeting for this year will be held Tuesday, Oct. 7, at Pembroke State University's Performing Arts Center. All members are urged to attend to learn more about their cooperative and exercise their rights as owners.

Who owns your electric cooperative? You do, at Lumbee River EMC.



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A Social Note

Vivian Lowry Girkins from Granville, Ohio visited Stacy and Mae Hunt of Montebello, CA and Kathleen Spaulding Johnson of Covina CA. While in southern California, she also visited Lee Ellen Sanderson Marquez of Mission Viejo, California.

Vivian, Mae and Kathleen took a cruise on the Ship S.S. Azure Seas to the coast of Baja California and Mexico.

Following the cruise they traveled to Las Vegas, Nevada for three days.

They then returned to southern California to tour Disneyland, Hollywood and Sea World in San Diego, California.

Vivian truly enjoyed herself with her former classmates and hopes to return to California again soon for a visit with her friends. These friends reunited after 41 years of growing up in Robeson County, NC.

Submitted by
Vivian Girkins
Neark, OH

local bulletin

Mr. and Mrs. Marson Maynor had as their guest on August 31st, their two grandchildren from Chicago, Ill. The occasion was the Jordan Nile Maynor Memorial Family Reunion. Marson Maynor III came down and with him came his sister, Diane Maynor and his girl friend, Carren. They had not

seen the ocean, so Marson's father took them to the ocean and walked along and picked shells to take back to Chicago and also some sand too. They just had a good time and hope to return soon.

Submitted by
Mrs. Marson Maynor

A SOCIAL NOTE

On August 31, the Fourth Annual Pig Roast was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Locklear of Mt. Clemens, Michigan. And, as always, there was a lot of good food and everyone seemed to have a good time. We look forward to this event every year. It is a time to get together and reminisce about the past year.

We would like to say congratulations to Doris

(Hammond) Hall and Robert Pickens on their retirements; to Arthur and Sandy Uroman on their marriage; to Tim and Cindy on their baby boy; to James and Judy on their new home; and to all the graduates. Good luck. We will be looking forward to next year's event.

Submitted by
Betty Bullard
Rockwood, Michigan

The Star Spangled Banner, our National Anthem, was originally known as "The Defense of Fort McHenry" and printed on an 1814 handbill without the name of Francis Scott Key.

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