

DEAR MR. PUBLISHER, BY PARSON JONES

Dear Mr. Publisher,

We had a psychiatrist speak at our men's meeting the other night. He talked about today's preachers. Dr. Subconscious pointed out that todays ministers lacked a proper "self-image". He showed how years ago the clergy knew what they were supposed to do - preach, teach and visit - and they were trained accordingly. Now -a-days they're expected to be everything to everybody and as a result they're nothing to nobody. He pointed out that preachers today don't know whether they should preach sermons or do social work. They don't know whether to study the Bible or the latest welfare rules. On top a that, some preachers wonder whether their place is in the pulpit or walking in street marches.

After Dr. Subconscious was finished he opened up the subject for discussion. Hezekiah allowed as how a preacher's place was preaching and teaching the Gospel. John S. Rowbuck said he thought the minister's place was being a good executive. After all, with the church adding more and more hired hands, somebody needed to be the foreman.

Ben Twist, home from college for the weekend, said the preacher's job was out in the streets, demonstrating and helping the poor.

Before the meeting ended I got up and left cause I was getting a headache. Folks expect me to be a social worker, a business executive, a financial wizard, a psychiatrist, and a street walker, all on a theological education.

Mr. Publisher, sometimes I think preachers are confused 'cause they've been trying to follow instead of lead. A shepherd don't let the sheep push him along - he's supposed to lead 'em.

Well, I gotta close and read the Good Book. It's still got some good stuff in it.

Parson Jones

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From the Higgins Memorial United Methodist Church Bul letin we find that Mr. Mack

Blood mobile

The American National Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Armory in Burnsville from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. today, January 15. A spokesman for the Red Cross states that there is a critical shortage of blood of all types at the present time. Prospective donors are urged to contribute NOW as the need is urgent and there will never be a better time. Ray coordinated an outstanding endeavor of Methodist Men in the financing, preparing and distribution of 75 Friendship Food Baskets during the holidays. In the tradition of John Wesley himself who on occasion plodded three days through English snows on a similar mission, the distribution teams spent a total of several days on snowy roads to complete their goals.

During the month of Janu ary Higgins Memorial is having morning worship services broadcast via Station WKYK each Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

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