

# Perquimans People

## Honest to God!

### The lady's a preacher

By SUSAN HARRIS

Carol Goehring looks like your run-of-the-mill person walking down the street holding her one-year-old daughter's hand. Her hair is not severely pulled back, but falls to her shoulders. Her apparel is a stylish sundress.

So why do people whisper and point their fingers when she passes? Perhaps it's because Goehring is a Methodist minister assigned to the Chowan Charge.

Although at one time common in Perquimans County, "lady preachers" are now a rarity, and one tends to expect them to be a little old-fashioned and reserved.

One tends to expect wrong if this is how one pictures Carol Goehring. With the energy of a two-year-old, Goehring is busily making a home in Winfall with her daughter, Kindra, and husband, David, also a Methodist minister (assigned to the Perquimans Charge).

Goehring says that people's reaction to her is mixed. Some of the long-time county residents are very used to the idea of a woman in the pulpit and take her ability for granted.

Others, upon realizing her profession, say things like, "You're pulling my leg," "What did you say?" or "That's interesting. Are there many of you?"

Goehring has four churches: Evans and Center Hill in Chowan County and Anderson and Bethany in Perquimans County. "I love getting to know all the members," Goehring says with enthusiasm.

Many women in the ministry are more comfortable in missionary work, hospital chaplaincy, counseling

or campus ministry, but not Goehring. "Personally, I love the parish," she said.

Although some ministers could not cope with the rigors of having four churches under their charge, Goehring sees the experience as a positive one.

The diversity of the people and the wide variety of services that can be offered on such a large charge challenge Goehring to be her best.

The only setback, she says, is "I miss contact with Sunday School." Goehring preaches at two of her churches each Sunday — a 9:45 service and an 11:00 service. The next week, she ministers to the other two, and on the cycle goes.

A city girl, the hardest thing for Goehring to get used to here is the back roads. "I get lost a lot!" she says.

Raised in Durham, Goehring graduated from Vanderbilt University with a degree in fine arts, religion and English.

Active in Christian groups and church work during her teen years, Goehring was a counselor and Bible study leader in a campus ministry called Young Life while in college.

During her senior year at Vanderbilt, she seriously considered joining the Young Life ministry professionally, but it seemed there were barriers everywhere she turned.

A religion professor offered Goehring a scholarship to divinity school, an avenue she had not considered. After much prayer, it seemed that this was her intended route.

"Suddenly all the doors were opened," Goehring said, adding that ever since that time, "I've just really felt good about where I was."

Goehring reports that she had a good experience in seminary.

Her grandmother, it seems, was concerned about her "Mrs." as well as her other "degrees."

Good ole Granny knew a young man who was also to enter Duke Divinity School by the name of David Goehring and promptly showed the handsome youth her granddaughter's picture with instructions to look for her.

As fate would have it, the two met on the first day of class and married a year later, leaving both with two years of seminary to go.

They were ordained by the United Methodist Church and both received appointments to be associate ministers at Jarvis Memorial Church in Greenville upon their graduation from divinity school.

Their lives were highlighted last year with the birth of their daughter, Kindra. Goehring says that the little girl has added to her ministry, for through her child she has learned a new dimension to unselfish Christian love and understanding.

Some people would say it's like old times in the county with a woman in the pulpit. Some people are just a little curious as to what she looks like. Others want to know if she can preach.

Whether brought by nostalgia, curiosity or a desire for the word of God, Goehring invites everyone to worship at one of her churches. On the first and third Sundays of the month, she is at Evans and Center Hill. Anderson and Bethany have services on second and fourth Sundays.

Goehring says, "Ya'll come," one of the Perquimans County phrases she has already adopted.



Doris Chappell looks over the wares at Hopewell Ceramics and Gift Shop in Bethel, which held its grand opening Monday.

## People briefs

Mrs. Monnie Ross and son, Jason, from Raleigh visited Mr. and Mrs. Haywood Divers during the weekend. Jason stayed over for a visit with his grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Preston Nixon and Mrs. Addie Keegan attended the Quince-Smith wedding at Virginia Beach, Va. on Saturday.

Miss Sara Winslow spent the weekend with friends at Southern Pines.

Mrs. LaClaire Rogerson, Miss Ann Rogerson, Mrs. Elizabeth Rogerson, Miss Lisa Kennedy and Mr. and Mrs. Phil Harris and Andrew visited Richard Rogerson in Morganton over the weekend.

John Young is spending this week at an athletic training workshop in Charlottesville, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Lathan and family from Greenville spent the weekend in Hertford with Mrs. Reba Owens.

Mrs. Gladys H. White of Easton, Md. is a guest of Mrs. Max Campbell.

Dr. and Mrs. Phillip Karam of Greensboro were weekend guests of Mrs. Pearl Banks.

Mrs. G.R. Tucker was a guest of her sons and daughters-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. G.R. Tucker, Jr. and Dr. and Mrs. W.B. Tucker, in Henderson on Tuesday.

Miss Louise Chalk, Miss Hulda Wood, both of Hertford, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Norflett from Holland, Va. were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Chalk in Wilson on Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Estes Copeland of Belvidere spent several days last week at the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tenn.

Mrs. Jackie Bowles of Norfolk, Va. spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A.F. Williams, III.

Mrs. Jack Stafford and Mrs. Edgar Lane visited friends in Oxford on Tuesday.

Mrs. Lois Jennings has returned

home from a trip to the World's Fair.

Mrs. H.A. Whitley has returned home after spending several weeks at Nags Head with Mrs. Leo Merrill from Sonora, Texas.

Mrs. Eldon Winslow and Miss Thelma Elliott are spending some time at Topsail Beach.

Mrs. Tommy Mathews of Norfolk, Va. visited Mrs. Alma Leicester during the weekend.

Mrs. LaClaire Rogerson spent a few days last week at the World's Fair.

Miss Sue White of Virginia Beach, Va. spent several days this week with her father, Mr. Julian White.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Foreand spent the weekend in Norfolk, Va. with relatives.

Mr. Lynn Boynton and daughters, Nancy and Beth, are visiting relatives in Maine.

Mrs. Wayland Howell spent the weekend in Newport News, Va. with Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Dail and family.

Miss Sarah Goodwin spent several days last week with her brother, Mike Goodwin, at Nags Head.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Proctor, Jr. and family of Roanoke, Va. are guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Proctor, Sr. at Hertford and Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Hurdle at Belvidere.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hendricks of Chesapeake, Va. were weekend guests of Mrs. T.R. Winslow at Belvidere.

Mr. and Mrs. Saint Clair Basnight

of Nags Head were overnight guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fenton Britt on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Mansfield and Robin from Mobile, Ala. are visiting relatives in the area this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Stallings of New Bern were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Linford Winslow at Belvidere on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Chappell of Chesapeake, Va. were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Chappell at Belvidere on Sunday.

Dr. and Mrs. Harold White of Rocky Mount are spending this week at Belvidere.

Mrs. Loy Harrell of West Point, Va. was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Linford Winslow at Belvidere on Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Britt and children of Cary were weekend guests of Dr. and Mrs. Harold White at Belvidere.

Mr. and Mrs. Haywood Divers and Mrs. Helen Woodard were overnight guests of Mrs. Monnie Ross and Mrs. Bruce White at Nags Head on Tuesday.

#### Hospital Notes

Mrs. Helen Woodard and Mr. Carroll Williams are patients in Albemarle Hospital.

Mrs. Marie Elliott has returned from Leigh Memorial Hospital. Mrs. Reba Owens has returned home after a stay at Pitt Memorial Hospital and from convalescing at her daughter's home in Greenville.



A muffin tin makes a great bed tray for feeding a sick child. Place food in compartments, a small glass of beverages in another. Include a small, surprise treat.

# July Clearance!

## MEN'S SHORTS

### REDUCED 20%

Three styles to choose from! All three come in cool, easy care fabric and are designed for the active man on the go.

1. Campus LeTigre® Tennis Shorts available in white, pastel and bold solid colors.
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## Summer Skirts Reduced 20%

Polyester cotton blend skirts by Stonybrook® in a large variety of prints, stripes and solids. From office, to evenings out, to lazy afternoon picnics you'll be dressed just right with Stonybrook® skirts!

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In 100% Polyester or poly-cotton blends, 100% cotton blouses and cotton knit tops. Available in solids, patterns, plaids, and flowers. All reduced 20%!

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