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Alfred T. Day III, Editor

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EDITOR'S NOTE

I start most days with a brief reflection from Edward Hay's *A Pilgrim's Almanac*. Today, first thing, as I set out to write the "Editor's Note" for this issue, I discovered today is The Feast of St. Vincent, the patron of wine growers, who died in 304 CE.

Tradition says that if the sun shines today there will be a good crop of grapes this year. It is mostly cloudy and cold here at the United Methodist Archives and History Center on the campus of Drew University, Madison New Jersey. Last night there was a dusting of snow. No matter. Somewhere across the widening, ever more global Methodist connexion, today, the sun is shining. This issue of *Methodist History* is proof—a very fine yield.

Ashley Boggan's "A God Sent Moment: Methodism, Contraception and the Protection of the Methodist Family, 1870-1968," is an important piece in the wake of the current Hobby Lobby controversy, not to mention the denomination's continued wrestling with matters of human sexuality. Ashley offers a helpful, insightful survey of Methodism's vulnerable and valuable journey, from fear and endangerment to understanding contraception's role in enhancing healthy, intimate, home-building Christian families.

Brian Shetler's "Prophet and Profit: John Wesley, Publishing and the Arminian Magazine," offers a window into the development of Methodism's early literary canon. Under its founder's hands-on superintendence, *Arminian Magazine* would communicate the marrow of the Methodist message of universal redemption, readily available to preachers and the mass audience alike.

This issue also allowed space for word about the most recent additions to the vintage list of United Methodist Heritage Landmarks. Discover them, embrace them and be both informed and inspired by whom and for what they stand.

As if the above are not harvest enough, we conclude with Laurence Wood's word of Russell Frazier's *True Christianity* as more than a once-over of the dispensational soteriology of John Fletcher (1729-1785). The review is indeed a fine refresher on the understanding of divine revelation from the theological mind of one who Wesley once thought would be his successor.

Alfred T. Day III