



# HISTORIAN'S DIGEST

Volume XXXIX Number 1

Spring 1999

## FOURTH HISTORICAL CONVOCATION AND SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

**K**nowledge and Vital Piety: United Methodism's Historic Role in Higher Education" is the theme for the 4th Convocation of The United Methodist Church, June 25-28 on the campus of Hamline University St. Paul, Minnesota.

Sessions begin on Friday afternoon, June 25th and continue through lunch on Monday, June 28th.

The Convocation is open to all interested persons. Because of the theme, a special invitation has been issued to faculty, students and leaders of our institutions of higher education.

The annual meeting of the General Commission on Archives and History precedes the Convocation.

### EASY TO RENEW

**N**ote on the Convocation registration form that you can begin or renew your Historical Society membership along with your Convocation registration.

**T**he 1999 Annual Meeting of the Historical Society of the United Methodist Church will be 11:00am, Sunday, June 27 in Sorin Hall on the campus of Hamline University. All members are urged to attend and are entitled to vote on all issues.

The four sections of the Society will have their meetings on Saturday evening, on the Hamline campus. Society awards will be presented at a banquet on Friday evening in the Sorin Café.

All details, can be found on the advanced program and registration form

### RENEWAL REMINDER

**P**lease look at the address label on this newsletter. Above your name you will find the expiration date of your membership. If you see the date January 1999, or any earlier date, the time to renew your membership is now.

Our treasurer, would appreciate an early response. Send your checks to Lyle Johnston, 733 S. 3rd Street, Williams, AZ 86046-2461.

**It is a great help when you renew on time. It saves time and money for**

**Knowl-  
edge  
and Vital  
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**United  
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Education**

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## THAT REMINDS ME...

Robert Drew Simpson

Native Americans were early a concern of the Methodist missionary movement. An article in Woman's Home Missions magazine for September 1885 has an interesting account of the origin of the first Cherokee hymn.

The story begins with a missionary attempting to teach a Cherokee girl the 23rd Psalm. He repeated the words, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want," to his little scholar, Lydia Lowery. But it was the words, "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters" that really attracted her to thoughts of God.

When the lessons were over, the youngster bounded away and sat down by her favorite brook. Wondering about the Great Spirit of the Pale Face, she fell asleep. Lydia dreamt of a beautiful grove where many of her people were gathered repeating the words she had learned. They were singing them in joyful Cherokee song. When she awoke there was no one there, but the song of her dreams still filled her mind. The missionary asked her to repeat the exact words the congregation in her dreams had changed. She repeated the words in Cherokee, of which this is a free translation:

*God and I are friends,  
I will not be afraid of Him,  
Though the world be against me,  
I will still be confident.*

This stanza of the first Cherokee hymn was followed by other stanzas.

## SOURCES FOR ARCHIVAL SUPPLIES

**Light Impressions Corporation**  
439 Monroe Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14607-3717  
800-828-6216 fax 716-442-7318

**University Products, Inc.**  
P.O.Box 101  
517 Main St.  
Holyoke, MA 01041  
800-628-1912 fax 413-532-9281

Other library supply companies and local photo shops also contain archival quality products.

## HOW DO I JOIN?

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Individual:	\$ 30 per year; \$ 55 for two years
Student:	\$ 20 per year
Family:	\$ 36 per year; \$ 67 for two years
Institution:	\$ 43 per year; \$ 80 for two years
Benefactor:	\$ 100 per year (\$70 gift credit for tax purposes)
Life:	\$ 500

\*Outside U.S.A., add \$2 per year for postage. Some UM conference historical societies offer reduced joint memberships.

\*Memberships are entered quarterly: January 1, April 1, June 1, or October 1 (allow 4 weeks for processing)

Make checks payable to the Historical Society and send to:

**Lyle Johnston, Treasurer**  
**733 So. 3rd St.**  
**Williams, AZ 86046-2461**

Consider a gift membership for a family member, friend, colleague, or local church library! Recipients will receive a special letter acknowledging the gift.

**Lydia dreamt of a beautiful grove where many of her people were gathered repeating the words she had learned**

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OF THE UMC***

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***PRESIDENT'S CORNER***

**A** CALL is often more than a loud shout or a request to interview at a church. To be called is to understand life in a spiritual sense.

What you and I do as historians, genealogists, librarians, and scholars is re-CALL who we are and WHOSE we are. John Wesley was clear in his focus. He understood his actions, thoughts, and behaviors to be a model for Christian living.

Is OUR Christian living such a model? I am not just speaking in an behavioral sense. I'm talking about your commitment to preserving the past by sharing with others the enrichment of its treasures. This is not just so many words. You and I have a "call" to remember the past by sharing and showing its richness in our present.

When we do that, by thought, written words and deeds of helpfulness, the past we remember is honored.

Have you been awaiting an invita-

**...  
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our present**

***JURISDICTIONAL  
WORKSHOPS***

**D**r. Charles Yrigoyen, Jr., General Secretary, and Dr. L. Dale Patterson, Archivist, of the General Commission on Archives and history, will be the presenters at the two South Central Jurisdiction Workshops on Archives and History. One will be in Kansas City on April 14-15 and the second in Dallas on April 16-17.

Information and registration forms for the Workshops are available from the chairpersons of your Conference A&H Committees , Conference

## HANDLING AND CARE OF PHOTOGRAPHS

By Mark Shenise

*The following is excerpted from a Archival Leaflet. The full text is available on-line from the GCAH Web Page ([www.GCAH.Org](http://www.GCAH.Org)) or can be obtained by contacting Mark Shenise at GCAH.*

Photographic images play a primary role in the documentation of historical events. They freeze in time those moments that have sacred meaning to both the memory of the individual and the congregation. Often times at local church gatherings many photographs are taken to record a specific event while there is little or no written record to augment the photographic account.

Items to remember when recording an event with photographs:

- Black and white images that are processed on a paper base last much longer than their color counterparts. Color images are chemically unstable (especially Polaroid prints) and often deteriorate at a much faster rate than black and white images.
- Information to gather about each photograph (and record in some sort of index) include the name of the event, the date, identity of all persons pictured and the photographer.

Storage of the photograph depends largely on space and monies available. Supplies should be purchased carefully to ensure archival quality. Tears should not be repaired with standard, office-type tape—specific repair tapes such as Filmoplast are available. Photographs that have been rolled up

should be relaxed (simple details available in the full archival leaflet.) Photographs should be handled wearing cotton gloves and in non-direct lighting. Finally, never write directly on a specific image—never on the back of the photo or around the border of a slide, negative or photograph. Storage methods include:

1. Plastic or paper sleeves—Each individual image can be place in a protective sleeve made of polyester (mylar, Mylar D or Melinex). Never use polyvinylchloride (PVC), the base element of most photographic sleeves commonly found in department or discount stores. If you choose paper sleeves, they should be acid-free and if possible lignin-free with a neutral pH balance.
2. Alternative Cost-effective Storage—the Archivist/historian preserves and stores images in various sizes of acid-free folders and containers (manuscript boxes, record center containers, etc.) Acid-free and lignin-free folders and containers should be used if finances permit. File folders containing images interleaved with acid-free paper should be packed reasonably tight to prevent curling. Large, oversized images can be stored in flat storage boxes.
3. Photographic Albums—All albums used should be archival quality—D-ring binder with polypropylene pages that have acid-free paper inserts. Photographs should be mounted to the inserts using archival holder/corner mounts. Never use glue or paste.
4. Non-paper based images—Glass

**Storage of a photograph depends largely on space and monies available**

## CONVOCATION INFORMATION

### MINNESOTA AND HAMLIN HOST CONVOCATION

When the United Methodist historical community gathers in June, the host state will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Minnesota Territory and the host institution, Hemline University in St. Paul, will celebrate its 145th year.

Welcoming participants will be the co-chair persons of local arrangements. Thelma Boeder is Archivist for the Minnesota Annual Conference and Hemline University, and Gretchen Fogo is Director of Church Relations at Hemline.

Our hosts have planned numerous special opportunities for those who attend the Convocation. One feature is the early bird "behind the scenes" tour at the marvelous Minnesota History Center on Friday morning.

Another highlight will be the drama, *The Vision*, telling of John Wesley's founding of Kingswood School

### EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS GUIDE

Last July, the General Commission on Archives and History called each Annual Conference to research the history of higher educational institutions within its geographical bounds, including those schools no longer in existence and no longer associated with the Church.

Each Conference was asked to compile the results of their effort into two or three pages to be submitted by May 1st. These reports will be assembled and distributed to all the registrants at the convocation.

For guidance or information on this project, contact Arthur Swarthout, PO Box 268, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745. [Editor's Note: This is an exciting project. I am greatly looking forward to it's

### ROGER IRESON KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Roger W. Ireson, General Secretary of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church, will address the Historical Convocation at its opening plenary on Friday, June 25th.

His keynote message will center on the Convocation theme of the history of higher education in our Church. Dr. Ireson has been executive for our educational institutions since January 1st, 1988. United Methodism has 123 schools, colleges and universities and theological seminaries.

Dr. Ireson is a graduate of DePauw University and Garrett Evangelical Seminary, and a clergy member of the Detroit Annual Conference. His doctoral degree is from Manchester University in England. He is the recipient of numerous honorary degrees.

Roger has given leadership to establishing Africa University in Zimbabwe, developing theological education in east-

*The Vision, telling of John Wesley's founding of Kingswood School near Bristol in 1748.*

### TOURS ANNOUNCED

Note on the registration information that several tours have been put together by the local hosts. These tours include the Minnesota History Center (tour on Friday, before the Conference), Fort Snelling, St. Paul's Evangelical and Methodist German sites, St. Paul's architecturally distinctive churches, Minneapolis' "Big Steeple" churches, Minnesota Conference Archives and S. St. Paul and Newport (Methodist Indian missions.)

Information about these tours was presented in the last *Historian's Digest*. Final information will be mailed to Conference registrants.

Further information can be obtained from Thelma Boeder, 122 W

## FROM GCAH

### 1999 HERITAGE SUNDAY

Heritage Sunday will be celebrated on April 25, 1999. The theme is, "The World is Our Parish: Africa." There will be an article in the April issue of *Interpreter* highlighting the theme.

Worship resources are available from the General Commission on request by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelop (2 oz.) Please encourage your annual conference and local church to observe this important Sunday in our church year.

Future themes will encompass the Americas (2000), Europe (2001) and Asia/The Pacific (2002). These Sundays are designed to remind

**The  
World is  
Our  
Parish:  
Africa**

## RESOURCES TO

### NOTE ...

Providence House Publishers—*Church History Library* is a publishing program designed to preserve the stories of individual congregations, organizations, and denominational bodies. It contains histories of churches and denominational organizations from many states. Publishing a history is an excellent, tangible way to celebrate a milestone or anniversary [from a brochure by Providence House Publishers, 238 Seaboard Lane, Franklin, TN 37067.]

Susan Pellowe—The author of *A Wesley Family Book of Days* "brings the Wesley family and Methodist heritage alive for your church." Fees for performances, workshops, residencies and travel arrangements are negotiable dependent upon format, group size and lo-

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