

1978

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Lutheran Human Relations Association of America

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Is There Hope For Namibia?

For more than three decades, Namibia (formerly Southwest Africa) has waited for independence from South Africa. Again and again, the United Nations called for free elections and full independence.

In April of this year, South Africa finally seemed ready to end its racist, colonial domination of Namibia. In August, an international team of 50 persons traveled to South Namibia. Following their report to the U.N.'s Security Council, free elections were to follow—including freedom fighters such as SWAPO (Southwest People's Organization).

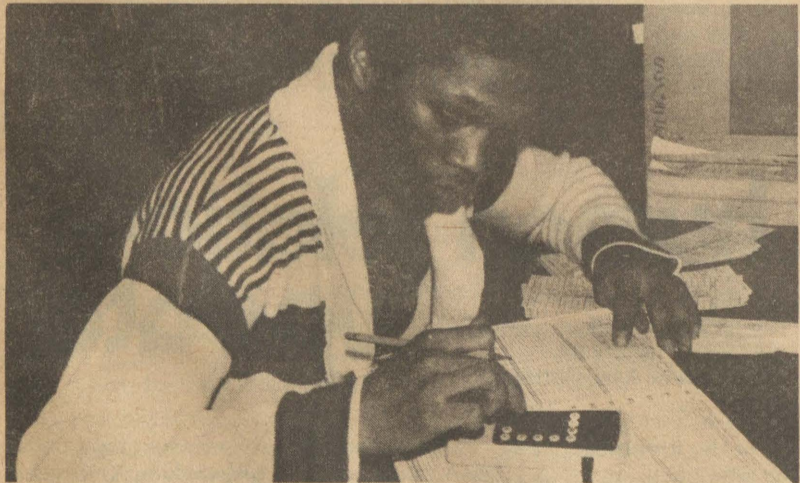
But then South Africa's Prime Minister John Vorster stepped up the timetable for the elections. Under South Africa's regime, many Namibians have fled the country. Now they won't have time to return for the elections.

Vorster also announced he was retiring as Prime Minister. His successor, Pieter Botha, is generally acknowledged even less likely than Vorster to make concessions.

In response to South Africa's latest move against independence, Paul Wee, general secretary of Lutheran World Ministries, called for "political and economic sanctions (against South Africa), in the hope that there is still time to avoid the ravages of all-out war."

As VANGAURD goes to press, the U.N. Security Council is meeting to consider possible actions. Secretary of State Vance and foreign ministers of other Western nations are heading for South Africa to try to persuade South Africa to permit equitable elections.

See page 3 for letter from African churchmen



This young man, taught bookkeeping skills by a local Lutheran businessman, now serves as bookkeeper for JET (Job Experience Training) program in Rochester, New York, one of 40 projects overseas and in the U.S. supported by the Wheat Ridge Foundation. Funds for these projects come from the Foundation's annual Christmas seals campaign. Congregations and individuals who would like to use the seals and the children's Advent Calendar can contact WHEAT RIDGE, 7 S. Dearborn, Chicago, IL 60603; phone: 312/263-1182.

Lutheran Human Relations Association of America

vanguard

Valparaiso, Indiana 46383

November 1978

Students, Congregations Work For Peaceful School Desegregation

What's happening in Cleveland is similar to what's happening in many communities involved in school desegregation. And in Cleveland, the churches are showing what Christians can do to make desegregation a constructive, peaceful process.

The district federal court has ordered the city's school system to be completely desegregated by September 1979. A lengthy teacher's strike (classes just resumed as VANGUARD went to press) and school financing problems may slow down the process. But eventually buses (as yet unordered) will transport students back and forth between Cleveland's east (predominantly black) and west (predominantly white) sides.

"Busing creates massive problems and raises well-grounded fears. But the Gospel calls us to make a witness in very trying circumstances, in unclear situations. And desegregation is an exciting opportunity to meat onto words like salvation and grace."

Those are the words of one person deeply involved in seeing to it that Cleveland's school desegregation takes place peacefully. The Rev. Richard Israel is director of the Cleveland Church Council's **youth task force on school desegregation**. A Lutheran pastor, Israel also works with Lutheran Metro Ministries.

Metro Ministries, which evolved from an LHRAA project in Cleveland and is directed by the Rev. Richard Sering, has its own desegregation task force and has been a leader in forming several coalitions working with parents and students.

Pastor Israel reports Metro Ministries has sponsored four desegregation information meetings for clergy in the last two years. Bulletin inserts have been provided for congregations, regular mailings have been sent to all Lutheran churches, and meetings have been held in neighborhoods to be affected by the court order.

Meto Ministries has also helped

east and west side congregations form "pairings"—where people in the two parishes can get to know each other and work together to maintain good schools in the congregations' neighborhoods.

Lutheran Schools

Although not legally involved in the court order, Lutheran parochial schools are deeply involved in the turmoil surrounding school desegregation.

"I've been gratified," Israel says, "that the Lutheran schools, have on the whole, said, 'we're not going to be a haven from desegregation.'"

Cleveland has two Lutheran high schools—one 70 percent black on the East Side, and one predominantly white on the West Side. Lutheran East has only one black teacher.

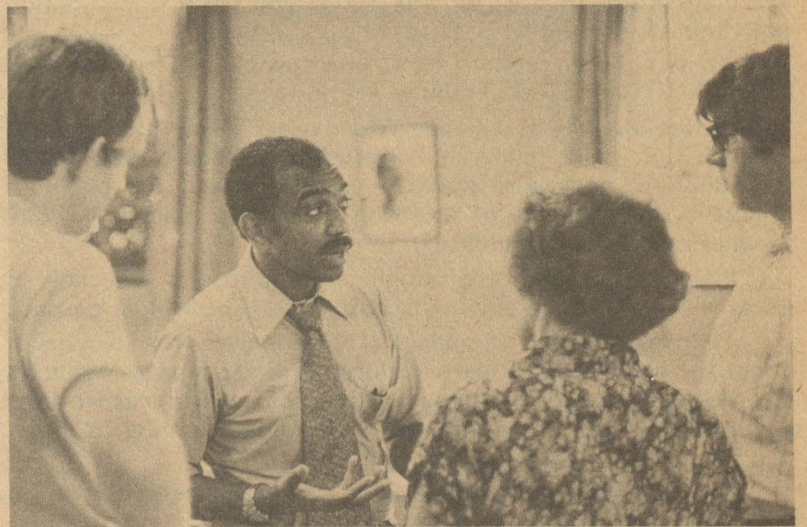
Israel is hopeful the high schools will accept Metro Ministries proposal to provide in-service training for teachers and to offer joint educational experiences for the students from the two schools.

The ecumenical youth task force Pastor Israel works with is also a model for other communities. Students from east and west side public high schools make up the task force.

- They publish "Student Guide," a monthly newsletter for all students to share positive experiences in desegregation.
- They've testified before the Ohio state legislature.
- Appeared on radio and TV shows.
- Conducted panels and discussions at several high schools.
- Worked for a more equitable and sensible method of funding Ohio's public schools.
- Operated a drop-in center where students could continue their learning during the teachers' strike.

Lutheran Metro Ministries and this Youth Task Force have joined with many other groups to form WELCOME, which includes busing as well as anti-busing groups. On

See page 3 'DESEGREGATION'



The Rev. Lynell Carter, pastor of Third English Lutheran Church, Baltimore, talks with participants of the third LHRAA workshop for congregations in changing neighborhoods.

LHRAA WORKSHOP

Congregations Discover Needs, Allies In Neighborhoods

"Are we seeking people to meet our institutional need, our crass need for money to pay the light bills?"

Dr. Clemonce Sabourin posed that question to about 30 pastors and parish leaders as they struggled with their congregations' relationship with the newer, minority residents of their parish neighborhoods.

Six east coast congregations sent representatives to a week-long workshop, September 17-22, conducted by Lutheran Human Relations and funded by the Wheat Ridge Foundation. The workshop took place in Baltimore and participants focused on two of the congregations involved in the workshop—Our Saviour Lutheran Church and Second English Lutheran Church, both in Baltimore.

Workshop participants spent the first two days touring those two congregations' neighborhoods, by bus and on foot, eating their lunches in local restaurants. Neighborhood residents also

talked with participants about community needs and their perceptions of the churches.

Driving In On Sunday

Many of the workshop participants now drive into church from the suburbs, so this experience challenged some assumptions and stereotypes. Census data helped identify other people and needs in the neighborhoods.

Mid-point in the workshop, participants wrestled with their congregations' own histories and inadequacies in responding to those people and needs. As Thomas McGinn of Our Saviour Church put it, "This has really opened my eyes—here's another church with the same problem we have."

In the final two days, participants developed skills in outlining goals, specific objectives, and detailed plans in response to neighborhood needs. Pastors and

See page 4 for photos and complete story

Florida Church Women Encourage Inter-Lutheran Action On Aging, Child Abuse, Migrant Workers

"There's an imaginary myth that we can't get together. But we're trying to tear down barriers."

That's how Jacqueline Wendt described the purpose of the first convocation of members of Lutheran Church Women (LCA), American Lutheran Church (ALCW), and Lutheran Women's Missionary League (Missouri Synod) in Florida, Georgia, and the Bahamas Islands.

The four day convocation focused on social ministry and community action. Vivian Jenkins Nelsen, an ALC director of church community, talked about how women combat racism and sexism in the church.

Participants then broke up into small groups to explore such

issues as nutrition, aging, child abuse, and migrant workers.

Ms. Wendt was most enthusiastic about the effort on Saturday to set up community action groups. Women from the same geographical area—across denominational lines—met to form "support groups ready to address social issues and concerns in home communities."

The convocation in Orlando, Florida, October 19-22, involved more than 1000 women. There were no official delegates, nor any official business. But the event was planned by the area presidents of three women's auxiliaries were also present.

Dr. Oswald Hoffman, speaker for the Lutheran Hour radio program, was the convocation's keynote speaker.

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COMMENTARY

Why Aren't Minority Children Being Adopted?

By EVELYN MIDDELSTADT
and MOSES THOMPSON

In Kansas, more than 6000 children are in out-of-home care, that is, foster homes and institutions. **One third** of these children are of minority race when only about **one tenth** of the state's population is non-white.

These children seem to be no one's problem. They've gotten lost in the system. How did things get this way?

In the late 1960's, agencies "discovered" many minority and other "hard to place" children. Fewer white children were available for adoption, and there was also concern about the plight of minorities. Thus many of these children were placed in white families eager to adopt children.

Placements in minority families also increased, especially in areas with good programs to recruit minority adoptive parents.

Then in the early 1970s, black professionals expressed concern about the placement of black children in white homes. Agencies also began to question whether institutional racism was working against black and other minority parents who wished to adopt children.

Placement of minority children in white families slowed down. Some agencies decided to end them altogether.

Now families are urgently seeking children from overseas. Many adoptive parent groups are devoting their energies to placing these overseas children.

So many minority children seem destined to spend their childhood in foster homes and institutions. And because there are very few minority professionals in adoption placement agencies—and they are usually in upper level positions—the agencies do not generally have **minority staff persons** to help **minority families** who want to adopt children.

The issue of whether or not to place minority children in white homes was raised but never settled. Families who have adopted transracially are often confused and without resources for help—except each other.

Will there be a new "discovery" of minority children who desperately need permanent homes? Will that discovery take place only when the supply of overseas children runs out?



Moses Thompson serves as an advocate-consultant for services to minority children in Wichita, Kansas.



Deaconess Evelyn Middelstadt serves Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wichita, Kansas and works with the Kansas Council on Adoptable Children.

Lutheran Human Relations is planning its second retreat for Transracial Families (July 1978 VANGUARD). Those interested in participating in this retreat can contact Lutheran Human Relations, Valparaiso, IN 46383; phone: 219/462-0331.



Gary Alston



Milton Rector



Linda Beery

LUTHERANS IN GOVERNMENT

Seminar Reveals Inadequate Justice, Rehabilitation

"We're about where we were when we were dunking witches. Indeed, there isn't much difference between the percentage of the population of those in the poor houses in early America and those in our prisons. And they're the same people—the low income, the low skilled . . . and the minorities."

The speaker is Milton Rector, president of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. He was talking with the more than 100 people gathered for the 24th Church and National Life seminar, September 29-October 1.

Sponsored by Lutheran Council's Office for Governmental

Affairs in Washington, D. C., the seminar brings together Lutherans who work with the federal government and representatives from the four church bodies in the Lutheran Council. This year's seminar focused on "Crime and Punishment."

Gary Alston (who is involved in the LHRAA Coordinator program in the D. C. area and whose poetry has been published in VANGUARD) and two other ex-offenders described the "living death" of their imprisonment.

Ted Gleiter and Deaconess Linda Beery, Coordinator and Project Director of the LHRAA Coordinator program in D. C., also made presentations. Seminar

participants decide to give part of the offering from the closing worship service to the Coordinator program.

Gleiter and others are seeking funds to purchase a van to transport families and friends to visit women prisoners in Alderson, West Virginia (see April 1977 VANGUARD).

Other seminar speakers underscored Rector and the ex-offender's contention that the U.S. criminal justice system is devoted to institutionalization rather than rehabilitation. Only the Soviet Union and South Africa lock up more people than the U.S., said one speaker.

worth writing for

More-With-Less Cookbook By Doris Longacre

More and more congregations and individuals are using this practical book for simpler, globally-conscious lifestyles. Published by the Mennonites as part of their Christian mission of peace-building. If you can't find the book at your local bookstore, you can order it for \$6.95 from Herald Press, Scottsdale, PA 15683.

Your Rights As A Disabled Person

A helpful pamphlet for disabled persons—and their families and friends and congregations serving the disabled. Also describes services and programs available. Free from Office for Civil Rights, Health Education and Welfare, Washington, D.C. 20201.

"We must destroy the prison, root and branch!"

The theological, political, and practical grounds for stopping construction of new prisons are outlined in this pamphlet. Resources are also listed. 1-20 copies available free; over 20 copies 5¢ each, from National Moratorium on Prison Construction, 324 C St. SE, Washington, DC 20003.

New Edition of Alternative Celebrations Catalogue

The fourth edition of this marvelous catalogue is off the press—just in time to help your congregation and family celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas in ways that promote peace and justice. The catalogue is prepared by Christians who want to live more simply and give new meaning to holidays, weddings, birthdays, and other events. \$5.00 from Alternatives, 1924 E. Third, Bloomington, IN 47401; 812/339-5205.



Catalogue of Spanish Language Films and Filmstrips

Churches that need Spanish-language audio-visual resources will want to get hold of this catalogue—with film summaries, rental fees, and distributors' addresses. Free, from Division for Mission in North America-Interpretation Office, Lutheran Church in America, 231 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016; 212/481-9689.

Waiting for the Wizard

By VICTOR SCHOONOVER

**A
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T**

If waiting is one of Advent's meanings, then all of life is an Advent. We are always waiting for something.

Under how many red lights have you idled your motor? In how many lines have you stood to fill out how many forms? How many "waiting" rooms have you sat in looking at how many walls? How many dental offices have you sat in . . . waiting . . . and hoping that they would forget you were there?

How long have you waited for justice and longed for equal opportunity? How long have you been waiting for the Godot . . . pacing, restless, looking for something, waiting for meaning, waiting for that person or thing that would bring all the answers and solve all the problems?

How long have you expected the magic pill and waited for the coming of the Wizard? The Wizard with that bag of vengeance that will level the mighty and turn the tables on the greedy? The Wizard who will make sense out of pain and remove the need for suffering?

Our preference for Santa Claus is well known. So we run to the magic saving power of science or politics or positive thinking or into another frantic embrace with the Wizardry of materialism.

Even in the ashes we stubbornly wait for the Wizard. ". . . up to this present time all of creation groans with pain . . . we also groan within ourselves as we wait for God to make us sons and daughters . . . as we wait for God to set our whole being free" (Romans 8:20-23).

Magic depends on illusion. The hoped for Wizard is a mirage.

The "Deus ex machina" is replaced by the Manger. The hoped for removal of suffering is denied by the Cross. And Advent never ceases.

God's answer repudiates magical deliverance with the silence of the Bethlehem night and the poverty of the Manger stall.

Now we wait with hope. Hope borne of the words "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come".

Victor Schoonover, former LHRAA President, is pastor of Augustana Lutheran Church in Omaha and directs Lutheran Metro Ministries there.

human relations update

Latest news of Lutheran Human Relations Association

"The basement is dug," reports Gerhard Fischer, who along with his wife Lucy, serves as LHRAA Coordinator in Milwaukee. After years of patient planning with community residents, city agencies, and building contractors, the Coordinator program and the Lutheran Social Action Conference in Milwaukee are erecting their first low-cost, energy-efficient, easy maintenance house in the inner city.

Tentative completion date is January 1979. The house is a model for future efforts to revitalize and encourage home ownerships in neighborhoods faced with absentee landlords and vacant lots.

The Pierre Learning Center will be the location for the first state-wide meeting of the LHRAA State Council in South Dakota, December 1 and 2. The center has some dormitory rooms for those wishing to spend the night.

The meeting will begin on Friday at 7:30 pm and resume on Saturday at 8:00 am with breakfast. Closing worship will be at 4:30 pm. Charles Trimble, director of the National Congress of American Indians, and Duane Addison, author of "Justice for American Indians," will speak on Saturday.

The State Council program enables Lutherans from across the state to address human relations issues in their particular state and to communicate their concerns to government and church leaders.

Redeemer Lutheran Church in Columbus will be the site for the second annual state-wide meeting of the LHRAA State Council in Ohio, Saturday, November 18.

**Namibian Church
Leaders Protest
South Africa's
Early Election Plan**

Namibia



Your Excellency, P. W. Botha:

This letter comes to you at the direction of a conference of thirty representatives of six major churches in Namibia. We have sought the guidance of God in our deliberations on the decision of your government to hold elections in Namibia this year. We have felt called to write you this letter as you assume your new responsibilities.

Bearing in mind our continuing striving for reconciliation, we as pastors over about two thirds of the Namibian population feel that we must voice a strong warning concerning this South African decision.

During our conference we heard reports of extensive intimidation and deception in the campaign to register voters . . . The registration has not been fair and free; the elections cannot be fair and free.

It is clear to us that if elections are held in Namibia this year they will take place without participation of the United Nations and the majority of the political parties. Many exiles and political prisoners will also be excluded.

We learned with gratitude of SWAPO offering a ceasefire, their acceptance of the Western settlement plan, and all Dr. Waldheim's recommendations to the United Nations plan, which in our opinion enjoys majority acceptance in this country, and provides a real possibility for ending the war on our borders and bringing about a peaceful solution to our country's problems by truly democratic means.

At this decisive time, and mindful of the on-going suffering of our people, we call you, Mr. Prime Minister, to accept this opportunity for peace under the guarantees provided by the United Nations. We feel compelled to caution that should your government not make use of this opportunity, you will be held responsible worldwide for the escalation of an avoidable, terrible and tragic war in this country.

We continue to pray that God may guide you and your government into conciliatory actions which will be in the best interests of all concerned.

Signed by Dr. J L De Vries, Evangelical Lutheran Church; Pastor K Dumeni, Evangelical Lutheran Ovambokavango Church; Landespropst P G Kauffenstein, German Evangelical Lutheran Church; Bishop J Kauluma, Anglican Church in Namibia; Bishop R Koppmann, Roman Catholic Church; Pastor Tjirimua for Rev. Karuera, African Methodist Episcopal Church.

COMMENTARY

Reading News Reports From Namibia And Rhodesia

By EDWARD MAY

Rhodesia and Namibia are in war situations. War is full of moral ambiguities.

God is color blind. White, "colored," and black casualties are equally deplorable. Civilian deaths are especially deplorable—whether they occur in refugee camps or mission compounds.

Under the best of circumstances, armies may have undisciplined troops or units. In a war situation (or even in a black-out, flood, or earthquake), bandits and looters are present.

Every war is accompanied by propaganda campaigns. Epithets and slogans are not helpful in discovering valid identity. One person's "Marxist terrorist" is another's "Christian freedom fighter." One person's defender of the Christian free world is another's racist, fascist oppressor.

The situation in southern Africa changes rapidly, if not daily. Yesterday's negotiable options become tomorrow's uncompromising demands. What might have been a viable proposal a year ago becomes an unacceptable one due to a variety of causes.

A free press is rare any place in the world. Control of the media is an early objective of a threatened government.

All sides have access to all kinds of weapons.

Dr. Edward May is director of the Office of World Community for Lutheran World Ministries.

Desegregation (from page 1)

October 22, WELCOME sponsored a Youth Festival, where east and west side students could meet each other and enjoy music, drama, and games.

This summer, WELCOME sponsored Bridge Walk. Almost 1000 east and west side residents met on a major Cleveland bridge to sing

and pray for peaceful school desegregation.

For more information about these and other efforts in Cleveland, contact the Rev. Richard Israel, **Youth Task Force on School Desegregation, 2230 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115; phone: 216/621-5925.**

BOOKS • BOOKS • BOOKS

New Findings On Transracial Adoption

A review by CAROLYN JACKSON

Transracial Adoption

By Rita James Simon and Howard Altstein
Wiley Interscience Publication, 1977

Minority children adopted by white parents generally have a clear understanding of their racial identity. They do not show ambivalence toward their own race.

White siblings of adopted minority children do not consistently prefer whites to other groups.

These findings—reported in this book by Simon and Altstein—contradict earlier studies as well as popular myths.

The authors provide a good review of how adoption has changed over the years: from adoption of only children who physically resembled their adoptive parents to the adoption of Korean children in the 1950s and

Carolyn Jackson, an adoptive parent, is a former LHRAA Coordinator in Milwaukee. She and her husband, Dr. Thomas Jackson, helped organize the first LHRAA Transracial Family Retreat (July 1978 VANGUARD).

the adoption of black children by white parents in the early 1970s.

Families who adopt transracially are profiled, and the authors report the results of their study of adopted children's racial attitudes—research conducted by the University of Illinois and the University of Maryland.

Simon and Altstein caution that the children in the study were still young. Only time will tell if children raised in transracial settings will retain their generally positive racial attitudes.

Child Development And Christian Faith

A review by LOWELL TIMM

Self Realization and Faith

By Thomas Droege
Lutheran Education Association, 1978
Paperback: \$3.25

Joshua Harry is the unusual name of the little guy recently baptized at our church. More unusual than his name, however, is our Lutheran teaching that little infants such as he receive faith through this Sacrament of Baptism. Who knows what that means? Can an infant really receive faith?

Thomas Droege convincingly says "Yes." Terming Baptism the point of our "self-reception," he relates our psychological development to our theological development and in the process makes responsible use of Erik Erikson's psychological theory.

Readers who are pastors, teachers, and parents will better understand why trying to confirm 8th graders is so often a frustrating venture. Again from a psychological perspective, Droege maintains that a 12 or 13-year-old is not far enough along in his identity formation to find confirmation a meaningful experience.

This is introduced as a "think" book, not one on "how to." Rightly so, for this book provides needed

The Rev. Lowell Tim is associate pastor of Capitol Drive Lutheran Church in Milwaukee. Dr. Thomas Droege teaches on the theology faculty of Valparaiso University and serves as a consultant to Aid Association for Lutherans Department of Family Health. His "Religious Roots of Wholistic Health" will be published next year.

stimulus to the thinking of parents, pastors, and teachers involved in the Christian nurture of Joshua Harry and his many brothers and sisters who are beginning their journeys of faith.

Ethics For Social Engagement

A review by EDWARD SCHROEDER

**On Being Human Religiously: Selected Essays
In Religion And Society**

By James Luther Adams, edited by Max L. Stackhouse
Beacon Press, 1976; hardback: \$9.95

James Luther Adams has been the voice of liberalism in American theological ethics for almost half a century. His own journey from childhood fundamentalism, through intense rebellion, to liberalism's model of "being human religiously" will find biographical echoes in many VANGUARD readers, even if they have not moved into Unitarianism as he has.

Yet his Unitarianism is a far cry from the "there is

at most one God" stereotype. Over the years he has in fact been the bane of the Eastern Unitarian establishment with his suspected crypto-trinitarian theology.

In selecting these particular 15 essays, Stackhouse walks us through Adams' life and thought. Five essays each are devoted to The Spirit and Forms of Freedom, to Sources and Tests of Human Action, and to what Adams calls Refractions of Meaning. In the final five

Dr. Edward Schroeder serves on the faculty of Christ Seminary-Seminex in St. Louis.

he offers his readings of Marx, Weber, Sohm, Troeltsch, and Tillich. Stackhouse's own introductory essay is a gem.

In the history of American academe Adams is a (if not the) primary architect of the discipline of Religion and Society. Herewith are some one-liners to whet the appetite for reading this volume:

Theological motifs and social engagements are the dual touchstones of all profound ethics.

"Nothing is so marketable as egoism wrapped in idealism."

Of a good idea—"if it does not incarnate, it will dissipate."

Therefore voluntary associations are structures as necessary for being human as are ideas.

Puncturing Roles Imposed On Women

A review by
RACHEL CONRAD WAHLBERG

Liberty, Equality, Sisterhood

By Elisabeth Moltmann-Wendel
Fortress Press, 1978; paperback; \$3.50

Elisabeth Moltmann-Wendel is a European Christian feminist who has converted into a meaty small book some of her lectures and speeches concerning the coming of age of women in the church.

In the first section she reviews the biblical evidence for the women's movement, noting that while Paul was convinced there was no male/female difference in Christ, "when it came to questions of style and behavior, elements of patriarchal thought patterns on order kept oozing out of him. . . ." Then in the Pastoral Epistles, the Jesus tradition became even more diluted and the false patriarchal understanding of Jesus grew larger.

Moltmann-Wendel discusses Four Stations on the Road to Woman's Coming of Age: her Intellectual-Political Coming of Age (the Enlightenment), her Economic Coming of Age (background of women's achieving economic power), her Social Coming of Age (breaking through social restrictions and sex role stereotyping), and finally, the Body's Coming of Age.

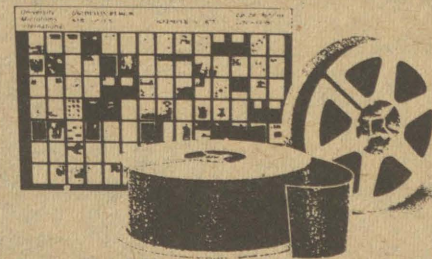
Not only women but men must accept this integration of the whole person. Today women are accepting their vast range of abilities, while men are beginning to accept their emotional selves, their commitment to child-raising and housekeeping. Both sexes are relating

Rachel Conrad Wahlberg is author of JESUS ACCORDING TO A WOMAN and serves on the LCA's Consulting Committee on Women and Men in Church and Society.

to each other more as human beings rather than sex role polarities.

In her last chapter, "Self Surrender and Self-Assertion," Moltmann-Wendel cites a story by Berthold Brecht about an old woman who began a new life of spontaneity and daring at the age of 70. The author concludes with the biblical Mary who dared to sit at the feet of Jesus and discuss religion—each a revolutionary model of a woman who punctured society's imposed roles and obeyed a new law of "freedom, passion, and spontaneity."

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Changing Neighborhood Workshop (from page 1)

Ted Gleiter (left) talks with Daphene Jones and her daughter during the recent LHRAA workshop for congregations in changing neighborhoods. Mrs. Jones lives in the neighborhood surrounding Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Baltimore. Ted Gleiter, LHRAA Coordinator in Washington, D.C., served on the workshop staff.



Carol Dausch of Our Saviour Church talks with Dr. Clemonce Sabourin, a former president of Lutheran Human Relations. Dr. Sabourin recently retired as pastor of Mount Zion Lutheran Church in Harlem. He served on the LHRAA workshop staff in Baltimore.



LHRAA Director Karl Lutze (left) talks with the Rev. Al Whitelock, pastor of Arlington Presbyterian Church in Baltimore. Pastor Whitelock shared his experiences as pastor of a Baltimore congregation when almost 90 percent of the membership left to form a suburban congregation.

photo by K. Christiansen

Story continued from page 1

parish leaders will use these skills in helping their entire congregation go through a similar planning process.

Follow-Up

Lutheran Human Relations will continue to work with these congregations as they implement the workshop's learnings. Follow-up visits have already revealed

progress in the 13 congregations involved in the first two workshops—one in Chicago and the other in Los Angeles—in fall 1978.

The purpose of all this, according to LHRAA Director Karl Lutze, is to help these congregations as they seek to be "faithful to Christ's love, that together we are Christ in the world."

Seven Gulf Coast congregations will participate in a fourth workshop, November 5-10, in Houston-Galveston.

Other congregations participating in the Baltimore workshop were Mount Olive (Baltimore), Hope (Selden, Long Island, New York), St. Mark's (Bridgeport, Connecticut), Holy Trinity (Wilmington, Delaware).

Doris Johnson, director of the Coldstream-Homestead-Montebello Community Corporation, urged workshop congregations to work for "social rehabilitation" as well as for physical renewal of changing neighborhoods.



Norman Downing of Second English Church looks at census data with the Rev. Michael Hagebusch, assistant pastor at Our Saviour Church.



TELEVISION

The Fight For Food November 12-16 PBS, 8:00 pm (ET)

The extent, causes, and possible solutions to world hunger will be the focus of this outstanding two-part documentary (followed on November 15 and 16 with a classic film about the Indiana famine of 1945 and a forum discussion).

Congregations and other organizations are setting up viewing/

discussion groups. Bread for the World has sent every pastor a **special study guide**. Arthur Simon, a Lutheran pastor and Bread for the World director, has been invited to share in the forum discussion on the November 16 telecast.

Additional copies of the study guide are available from Bread for the World, 207 E. 16th St., New York, NY 1003; phone: 212/260-7000.

IN THE NEWS

The Census Bureau has released new figures on U.S. poverty: 11.6 percent of the population -- about 25 million people are below \$6190 a year for a family of four. 31.3 percent of blacks and 22.4 percent of Hispanics fall below the poverty level.

Maine's Senator Hathaway recently announced a tentative settlement of Indian claims to 12.5 million acres of land in the state. The Indian tribes, President Carter, private interests in the state have agreed to a \$27 million federal payment plus \$10 million to be used to purchase 100,000 acres. At press time, Maine authorities had not yet agreed to the proposal.

Syd Beane, LHRAA Board member, was recently named to the executive staff of the Intertribal Council of Arizona. He formerly served as director of the Phoenix Indian Center.

The standing committee of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services has urged that 15,000 Cambodian refugees be admitted to the U.S. under a special program. LIRS cited the "brutalities being committed upon the people of Cambodia (which) continue to shock and horrify the world."

The senior citizens council of Portland, Maine, has started Postal Alert. Senior citizens participating in the project receive a special sticker for their mailboxes. The senior citizens council is notified if the postman notices that a participant's mail has not been picked up for several days.

The fifth assembly of Evangelical Lutherans in Mission (ELIM) called on Missouri Synod's board of directors to rectify the low pensions of retired black pastors -- some of whom are receiving less than \$150 a month in pension.

Third World development and mission will be the focus of a study trip, December 29-January 18 -- to be led by Dr. George Johnson (December 1977 VANGUARD). Participants will travel to Central and South America and may receive college credit. For details, contact George Johnson, 6500 Stearns, Long Beach, CA 90815.

Dr. Harold Kupke of Lenoir-Rhyne College authored a recent Catawba County (N. Carolina) Chamber of Commerce report that reveals that non-whites in the county are worse off in terms of quality of life. Nonwhite infant death rate, for example, is 32.8 per thousand -- compared to 20.8 per thousand for whites.

Military spending worldwide now totals one million dollars per minute -- enough to raise the world's poorest billion people by 700 percent, according to a recent estimate by Paul Hiebert of Fuller Theological Seminary.

The Missouri Synod has officially objected to an IRS proposal that could penalize private schools failing to meet minority enrollment and hiring figures. For Missouri Synod congregations, which sponsor more schools than any other Protestant church body, such regulations could mean the loss of tax-exempt status.

Only seven percent of all high school principals are women, according to surveys by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Only three percent of the high schools have black principals. Less than one percent have principals with Spanish surnames. Less than 10 percent of all high school principals have contact with students in the classroom.

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