



REV. HERBERT G. MEYERS was the guest of honor at a surprise reception given to him by members of the church as he plans to leave after 16 years as senior rector of St. David Episcopal Church in Southfield. With him at left are Betty Parks and Mrs. Meyers; at right Joan McKenzie. Rev. Meyers will leave to serve a parish in Key Biscayne, Fla.

## Ward missionary conference set Jan. 23 to 27

The World Wide Witness missionary conference sponsored annually by Ward United Presbyterian Church, Farmington Road and Six Mile, Livonia, will bring two missionaries for a series of meetings Jan. 23 to 27.

Participating will be Dr. Arthur F. Glasser, dean and associate professor of missions in the Fuller Theological Seminary at Pasadena and Sue Oiler, affiliated with the Oriental Missionary Society, with headquarters at Greenwood, Ind.

The sessions will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday when both speak in evening Christian education classes.

There will be visits to several homes for informal discussion programs on Thursday, Jan. 24, and an All-Nations Banquet for families is scheduled Friday, Jan. 25, at 6:30 p.m.

Miss Oiler will conduct a missionary rally for children from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26. She will do a ventriloquist act and a lunch will be served.

Saturday's schedule also will include an informal rap session with Dr. Glasser at 7:30 p.m. The session will be sponsored by the church's Pathfinders Class and youth groups.

The conference will end Sunday with mission talks in all Bible school classes and Dr. Glasser preaching during services at 9:30 and 11 a.m. and at 7 p.m.



DR. ARTHUR GLASSER



SUE OILER and her puppet Rachel will participate in the Ward United Presbyterian Church missionary conference next week.

## Rev. Roy Pranschke honored

Members and friends of Hosanna - Tabor Lutheran Church of Redford Township recently joined in a service of thanksgiving to honor the Rev. Pranschke's 25 years in the ministry and as pastor of Hosanna - Tabor.

The surprise anniversary service was planned by Rev. Pranschke's associate, the Rev. Bernhard Kube, and officers of the congregation and its organizations.

Speaker for the occasion was the Rev. Richard Schlecht, president of the Michigan district of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod. The Rev. E.M. Hadwiger, former assistant to Pastor Pranschke, was liturgist. There was special music by both the adult and children's choirs.

Following the morning service, there was a congregational potluck dinner and informal program with the Rev. Walter Rutkowski, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Farmington,

serving as master of ceremonies.

Edwin Ott, congregation chairman, presented a check to the pastor.

Rev. Pranschke organized the Hosanna Lutheran Church as a mission congregation in 1949, the year after he graduated from Concordia seminary in Springfield, Ill. In 1955 the congregation merged with the inner-city congregation of Tabor Lutheran Church.

"Not only have I seen God's Kingdom flourish in this Hosanna - Tabor congregation," the pastor said, "but also I have seen it in the whole Plymouth - Inkster area where so many churches have grown along with our Lutheran church during 25 years."

Pastor Pranschke and his wife, Hildegard, have lived in Redford Township throughout their 25 years of married life. They have four sons and a daughter.



REV. ROY PRANSCHKE

Rev. Lester Kinsolving's

## Religion Update

A drive to civilianize all military chaplains seems evident in official reports of the American Civil Liberties Union, the United Church of Christ, and the United Presbyterian Church.

For the chaplaincy has been a prime target of those clergy critical of U.S. participation in the Vietnamese War. Military chaplains have been identified, rather unfairly, as being the worst among their number, rather than the best.

Hence they have all been characterized as blessers of bombings and body counts who are isolated from the enlisted men by virtue of their officer's rank - a rank which is, in turn, dependent upon how willingly they allow themselves to be manipulated by commanding officers all the way to the White House.

This general caricature has been effectively challenged by U.S. Navy chaplain R.G. Hutcheson - effectively, because he does not deny that occasionally there are such chaplains.

He notes, however, that there are just such clergy, and similar, if not identical pressures, in the civilian parochial ministry.

Writing in Christian Century magazine, Chaplain Hutcheson cites a letter sent to all Air Force chaplains by the Clergy and Laity Concerned About Vietnam. This letter, he notes, was "widely interpreted as urging chaplains to council airmen to disobey orders," and may have been an attempt to "get at" the military by "manipulating their chaplains."

He goes on to note that the issue is not whether the military should or should not exist, but how churches and synagogues can most effectively minister to the millions who comprise it. He brands as "startling naivete" the idea that the military would allow "persons whose selection it has no part in and over whose conduct it has no control" to minister in the areas where chaplains are most needed - such as combat.

Chaplain Hutcheson asks this key question later in his article: "West Point has a civilian chaplaincy. What are its characteristics?"

Yet the Rev. James Ford, chaplain of the United States Military Academy, told this column: "I'm really not a civilian chaplain, because I'm paid and housed by the military."

No such pay allowances accrue, however, to West Point's Catholic Chaplain. For the Rev. Robert McCormick is pastor of the Church of the Most Holy Trinity by appointment of the Archbishop of New York, rather than the President of the United States.

Despite his civilian status, Fr. McCormick did not take to his pulpit to denounce the widely publicized (and severely, deplored) "silencing" of a Catholic cadet named James Pelosi.

While he counseled with Cadet (now 2nd Lt.) Pelosi during his long ordeal of isolation, Fr. McCormick did not denounce this ancient punishment from his (civilian) pulpit.

"When you're part of an organization you can be more effective by working within the organization," he said. "Of course this is difficult in an iconoclastic society."

Said Chaplain Ford: "I was an area campaign manager for Hubert Humphrey when I was a Lutheran pastor back in Ivanhoe, Minn. But since I felt an obligation to try to relate to all my parishioners, I preached goals and left the specific methods to the political campaigning."

How much these two chaplains had to do with the Corps of Cadets' recent vote to abolish the silencing system, neither of the two will detail. But it is doubtful indeed that this reform would have been aided by a frontal attack from the pulpit by either chaplain - or by a silent press outside of the Academy.

Perhaps as Chaplain Hutcheson puts it: "The military needs prophets pronouncing judgment from the outside and also pastors sharing the life of the institution."

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