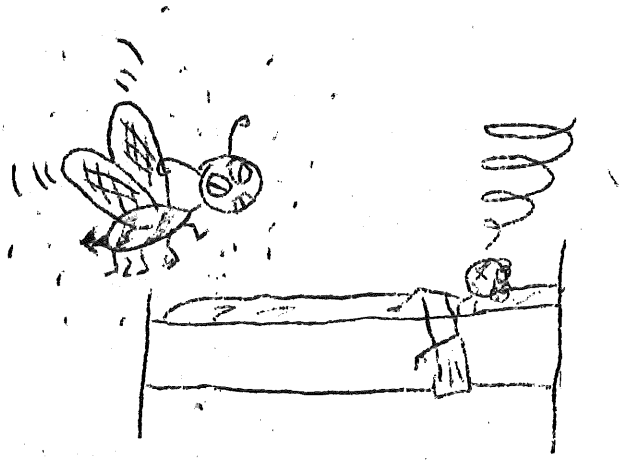
STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

POTOMAC UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Potomac, Maryland

January 25, 1968

Richard W. Blice, Jr., Pastor

GREETINGS! We go to press a couple of weeks late this month and we blame it on that horrid Asian Flu Bug! Having literally "cracked up" from its after-effects, there was little to do but give in to time and rest. Now, fully re-couperated, I'm ready to fill my calendar and yours. Why not mark these coming events now before you forget!



January

26 - Senior Youth Winter Retreat, Camp Fairfield, Ligonier, Pennsylvania
28 - Worship Services, 9:00 & 10:30 AM
New Member Seminar, 7:30 PM
30 - Girl Scouts, 3:45 PM
Junior High Parents' Conference, 8:00 PM

February

1 - Choir Rehearsal, 8:00 PM
2 - Businessmen's Luncheon, the "Y", 17th & K Streets, NW, 12:15 PM
4 - Worship Services, 9:00 & 10:30 AM
Reception of New Members, Second Service
Junior Youth Group, 6:45 PM
5 - Session Meeting, 8:00 PM
6 - Girl Scouts, 3:45 PM
7 - Women's Sewing Group, 10:00 AM
8 - Choir Rehearsal, 8:00 PM
9 - Family Dinner, 7:30 PM
11 - Worship Services, 9:00 & 10:30 AM
Senior Youth Group, place to be announced, 6:30 PM
12 - Church School Faculty Meeting, 8:00 PM
13 - Girl Scouts, 3:45 PM
15 - Choir Rehearsal, 8:00 PM
18 - Worship Services, 9:00 & 10:30 AM
Junior Youth Group, 6:45 PM

February (continued)

20 - Girl Scouts, 3:45 PM
22 - Choir Rehearsal, 8:00 PM
25 - Worship Services, 9:00 & 10:30 AM
Senior Youth Group, place to be announced, 6:30 PM
26 - Women's Association Meeting, 12:30 PM
27 - Girl Scouts, 3:45 PM
Lenten Bible Study, 10:00 AM
Board of Deacons Meeting, 8:00 PM
28 - Ash Wednesday Communion Service, 8:00 PM
29 - Choir Rehearsal, 8:00 PM

March

1 - Church Women United's World Day of Prayer, 10:30 AM
3 - Worship Services, 9:00 & 10:30 AM
Junior Youth Group, 6:45 PM

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A few years ago my mother sent me a copy of a "poem" written by Miriam Drury, someone unknown to me. I cannot say much for her poetic ability, but her message was loud and clear. Earlier this week, while working on this edition of Steeple to People, I realized I had no "guest columnist" and therefore, no guest column. (As dear as all of you are, I must say, you are certainly reluctant!) To prevent your looking at an empty space, I herewith offer Miss (or Mrs.) Drury's

LITTLE PINK PILLS

(A poetic presentation of the reality of psychosomatic illness, from a physician's viewpoint)

Fingering three diamond rings, she sits before me,
  Sleek, fur-coated, scented;
Her words arrow out; hard words, yet smooth with frequent usage.

Doctor, my stomach aches; every time I eat, it aches,
  Lamb chokes in my throat.
That diet you gave me -- it simply doesn't help,
  And just look at this rash...

(The son-in-law again)

And Doctor, my blood pressure is going up; I know it is -- I feel it;
  And my heart skips beats.
Sometimes it stops altogether. I'm so dead tired
  I can barely get up in the morning...

(Her husband is spending more and more time away from home)

And, Doctor, I can't sleep at night; sometimes all night I lie awake,
  And my brain goes 'round and 'round.
And even those pills you gave me aren't helping any more,
  What with the neighbors' dogs barking --
They have Great Danes, you know -- and they haven't done a single thing about it
  Although I have complained to the police twice...

(This neighbor's wife made the Social Register this year and her name was dropped)

And, Doctor, why do I have to have so many sick headaches? I do nothing to deserve them,
  And you know it.
My head aches all the time, although actually it doesn't ache
  Right this minute.
I tried once to take up social service, but it's no use.
How can I do anything when I'm so weak?
  And feel so sick?

(She despises the poor. She was poor herself once)

And, Doctor, my neck gets pains in it. Sometimes I have to stay in bed all day,
  And that makes my back ache.

(Funny, I didn't notice it before. She dyes her hair)

Doctor, what can you give me?

(continued next page)

LITTLE PINK PILLS (Continued)

Dear God Almighty, I wish you'd take over this case.
  Take it off my hands.
Tell this wretched patient
  That it is resentment and not food;
  That it is hate and not heart trouble;
  That it is pride and not Great Danes;
  That it is selfishness and not social service;
  That it is fear and not vitamin deficiency.
I mean it.

And tell her more, Lord.
Tell her that religion will make her over.
Tell her that love will turn her into a vigorous woman
  So beautiful that she won't need so much make-up;
  So calm that she won't need sleeping capsules;
  So strong that she won't need me.
Above all, Lord,
  That she won't need me!

God, forgive me as I reach for my pad
  And write another prescription;
RX: Two pills with water three times a day after meals.
  Tell her these things, Lord, tell her.
But I warn You ahead of time --
  She won't listen!

* *

PREACHER'S PERCH
by RICHARD W. BLICE, JR.

Attached to this issue of Steeple to People is your copy of the Youth Code For Parents. Except for the misnaming of our church, I would give the pamphlet my hearty approval.

Some members of the congregation will remember that a preliminary draft in mimeographed form was distributed last spring. The draft has since been revised and rewritten on the basis of those criticisms and suggestions submitted by interested parents of the four participating congregations.

MR. JOHN DAY and MR. ROBERT TIETJEN represented the Potomac United Presbyterian Church in preparing the original draft. MR. TIETJEN and I were present to approve the final statement of the code as it now is offered.

The code speaks for itself. I hope the parents in the congregation will read it carefully and discuss its suggestions with the young people of their families. It may be that such a discussion will lead to improvements or changes in the code and this is as it should be. If this code serves to assist the families of Potomac to build stronger relationships of trust, love, and confidence between adults and youth, its purpose will have been accomplished.

Additional copies are available at the church for the asking.

* * *

There is no friendship, no love, like that of the parent for the child.

...Henry Ward Beecher

FINANCIAL REPORT

We came through 1967 having paid all bills and with a balance in our general fund of $1,086 (this is not an adequate balance for our present level of operations. We should have at least a balance of $2,000 at all times.). In order to do this, however, we had to use some contributions paid in advance on 1968 pledges. Our expenditures in 1967 exceeded the budget due to additional expenses incurred in setting up the new building and in making necessary repairs and improvements to the manse.

So far as the building fund is concerned, we have estimated that we have invested approximately $270,000 in the building and furnishings as of this time. The building fund has an uncommitted balance of approximately $3,000 at the present time and we still expect to have further bills from the architect and for certain improvements, such as landscaping, in 1968.

We have made arrangements with the bank to eliminate regular monthly payments planned for 1968. In lieu thereof, we have indicated to the bank that we would plan to make payments of $15,000 on the principle of our loan by the end of 1968 and this amount would be paid from building fund pledges which would be paid in 1968. In this connection, the session is extremely anxious that new members of the church who have not made pledges to the building fund consider participating in this building program and that any pledges for this purpose be made as soon as possible so that the building fund campaign can be completed in 1968.

* * *

Liberality consists less in giving much than in giving at the right moment.

...La Bruyere

* * *

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

convened on January 8th. The Nominating Committee submitted the names of the following who were unanimously elected to three-year terms as Elders: ROBERT ACKER, JAMES CLARK, and FREDERICK HARTING, who was re-elected. Also unanimously re-elected to three-year terms as Deacons were: JOHN DAY, JAMES RICHARDS, and JOANNE SCHILLING.

JIM PERRIN reported that the DISC campaign resulted in pledges from 66 families amounting to $36,676.80. After careful analysis of expected additional income, the budget for the coming year was set at $45,176 and adopted by the congregation.

MRS. HARMONY FORE reported on the activities and accomplishments of the Women's Association, and MRS. ADELE BURGESS gave the financial report for this group.

* * *

SENIOR YOUTH WINTER RETREAT PLANNED

On Friday, January 26, at 8:30 AM, a chartered bus will depart from the Lord and Taylor parking lot with 21 "PUPS", PAT and BOB MARTIN, and DICK BLICE. They will be headed for Camp Fairfield, in Ligonier, Pa., site for their annual winter retreat.

These young people plan and conduct their study and discussion groups, combining serious thought and worship with fun, frolic, and fellowship. They will return Sunday evening, about 6:00 PM, barring a blizzard!

In attendance will be: KENNY DOYLE, WAYO YEGEN, NICK and CATHY SMITH, LINDA FORE, PAT SAVAGE, JEAN WILSON, JIMMY PERRIN, GREG WINN, STEVE ECKMAN, SALLIE and MARTIE MARTIN, CHRIS HANKIN, JANE KERRIGAN, BARBIE ACKER, SUE and DAVE MEINKE, PETER TIETJEN, CAROL BRAY, LORETTA SIH, and MARILYN CLEMENTS.

WOMEN TO SEW ON WEDNESDAYS

Fridays just didn't work out for the women's sewing group, so the day has been changed back to Wednesday -- the first Wednesday of each month. On February 7, at 10:00 AM, ladies, pack your thimbles, needles, and lunches, and head for the church! We've lots of pajamas and dresses to make, and millions of things to talk about! Thanks to the generosity of JO SCHILLING (isn't she the best-looking deacon you ever saw?), we now have a very nice sewing machine "in residence." We still urge those with portables to bring them and we always need materials, pins, buttons, zippers, tapes, etc. But most of all, we need you. Working together to help someone in need is both fun and satisfying. The following verifies this:

"Please accept this note of acknowledgment of the very useful and lovely items sent us. They will certainly bring comfort and warmth to those who receive them. You may be assured that your gifts will bring cheer and a feeling of worth to some of the less fortunate ones in our midst. Thanking you again for your concern for us, In appreciation, I am faithfully yours, (signed) Mrs. L. B. Brown, The Gillespie-Selden Institute, Cordele, Georgia."

Another note of thanks was received from the First Spanish United Presbyterian Church, Miami, Florida. It read, in part, as follows:

"I want to express to you my most deep gratitude for the wonderful layette that you have sent to us. Please give our regards to the Church. Very truly yours, (signed) Rev. Martín Anorga."

Let's get busy, girls, and make someone else glad. Remember the date -- Wednesday, February 7, 10:00 AM. MIMI CARROLL, Sewing Chairman, wants to see your smiling face!

* * *

ATTENTION, PARENTS OF JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS!

A meeting of parents of junior high age students is being planned for Tuesday evening, January 30, at 8:00 o'clock. The purpose of this meeting is to explore in detail what parents can do to improve their work in church with this group. If you have children between the ages of 12 and 15, you are urged to be present.

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BUSINESSMEN! Don't forget your monthly luncheon on Friday, February 2, 12:15 at the "Y", 17th & K Streets, N.W.

* * *

OUR NEXT FAMILY DINNER has been scheduled for Friday, February 9, at 7:30 PM. Parents, get your babysitters lined up now for those children under junior high age. Junior high age and up are cordially invited.

This will be a covered dish dinner. To make reservations and to get your food assignments, call FRANCES BENTON (299-6959) or HARMONY FORE (365-8571) no later than February 7.

These dinners always offer good fun and fellowship as well as good food, so don't miss it. Friday, February 9, at 7:30 PM. Come hungry!

* * *

THE REV. JAMES E. ZEEK TO SPEAK

At their regular meeting on February 11, the Senior Youth Group will have the privilege of hearing the REV. JAMES E. ZEEK, Admissions Counselor of Jamestown College, Jamestown, North Dakota, who will speak on "The Meaning of Vocation, and the Contribution of the Small Liberal Arts College to Our Culture."

* * *

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

DICK BLICE will conduct weekly Lenten Bible studies beginning Tuesday, Feb. 27. These study sessions will begin promptly at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Room of our church and will last approximately one hour. As in years past, we invite women of all faiths who live in Potomac. Men, too, for that matter!

* * *

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE, FEBRUARY 28

The beginning of Lent, 1968, will be observed in the Potomac United Presbyterian Church by the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, Ash Wednesday, February 28, 8:00 PM. Your presence is requested.

* * *

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SET FOR MARCH 1

On Friday, March 1, Church Women United, a world-wide organization of Christian women, will hold its annual World Day of Prayer in churches throughout the world. In Potomac, the service will take place in our sanctuary at 10:30 AM. Taking part will be women from St. Francis Episcopal, Potomac Methodist, and Potomac United Presbyterian Churches. A special service, written this year by MRS. RATHIE SELVARATNAM, of Ceylon, has as its theme, "Bear One Another's Burdens."

Following the service, light refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Room. Women from all churches in the area are invited.

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CHUCK BENTON, who celebrated his 21st birthday this week, had yet another reason for celebrating. He has been taking flying lessons and received his solo pilot's license. Congratulations, CHUCK! Twice!

* * *

AS SOON AS GROUND CONDITIONS are suitable, a five-foot wide flagstone walk will be laid from the doors of the Fellowship Room to the parking lot on the side of the building. At a later date (when we have more money), they will be taken up and used in laying the terrace outside the Fellowship Room. Meanwhile, the walk will allow us to come and go to our automobiles with greater ease and convenience.

* * *

ELAINE LOWRY, home from the hospital following surgery, was recovering very nicely until she fell ill with the flu. Somehow that just doesn't seem fair!

* * *

T H I S

S P A C E

S H O U L D

H A V E

H E L D

Y O U R

N E W S

I T E M!

Next time, call the church (299-6007) or JOY GARCIA (762-4841).

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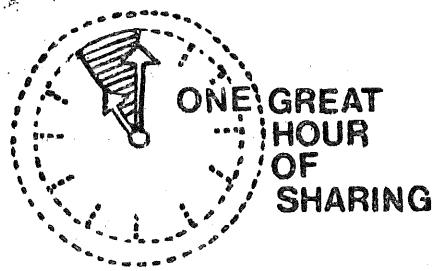
STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

POTOMAC UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10301 River Road
Potomac, Maryland 20854

March 14, 1968

Richard W. Blice, Jr., Pastor



MARCH 24, 1968

During the worship services on Sunday, March 24, the members and friends of the Potomac United Presbyterian Church will participate in annual Lenten offering known as the One Great Hour of Sharing. This offering is a Christian response to human need. Floods, famine, disease and war destroy our neighbors' health and homes, demolish their hope. This offering permits the individual Christian to express himself in a direct manner in response to those whose hopes have been dashed by events beyond their control.

On December 27, 1967, in the Maharashtra State of India, some 200,000 persons were left homeless by earthquakes. Countless homes were flattened. One crack in the earth was 40 miles long, 6 inches wide, 6 feet deep. The uprooted, mostly mountain people, were stunned, cold, and frightened. From One Great Hour of Sharing funds the area was supplied with tents, food, clothing, huts, and water purification pills. In 1967, Hour of Sharing funds provided 67,000 pounds of medicines to Ghana, school lunch programs for 15,000 children in Hong Kong, and $5,000 for emergency aid and relief programs that were made possible last year by this offering.

Further description of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be found on the offering envelope that is attached above. Please use this envelope for your offering on March 24. Parents are urged to remind their children to bring their Hour of Sharing coin boxes to Church School on March 24.

Our guest columnist this month is MIKE BENTZEN, who recently was appointed the new Church School Superintendent by the Session. I am sure we all are grateful that he has assumed this responsibility, and I, in addition, am grateful for his contribution to Steeple to People.

From conversations with members of the congregation I have come to the conclusion that an element of mystery exists concerning the Church School. Therefore, I have asked JOY GARCIA for this corner of the newsletter so I can attempt to inform you about our program, facilities and aspirations.

Our present faculty consists of five more or less permanent members with another five or six who help on alternating Sundays or if needed. The basic study materials we are using this year present a fairly detailed review of the Bible. In the Junior Department, for example, we started by discussing what the Bible is, who "wrote" it, and its organization. After orientation, we started with the creation (both accounts) and progressed through Abraham to our present point which concerns the prophets Amos and Isaiah. We have been able to put the Old Testament in historic context and to give its ancient teachings some relevance to today's world.

Permanent classrooms and additional class time make a big difference when we compare the present to the old days in the school. The "new" building (it still seems new) enabled us to use displays which greatly aid the teacher. That, plus enlarging class time to a full hour, have permitted the staff to do several things we could not do previously. We now have the facilities and the time to conduct art projects, to prepare plays and to otherwise supplement the lesson.

I do not want to leave the impression that the Church School is so blessed that you should be thankful and forget it. We still have problems, such as lack of equipment and supplies, and we are always looking for additional teachers. However, I do hope I have given you the impression that your Church School is doing a highly creditable job and is performing an effective and meaningful service to the children. Therefore, I hope that parents will want their children to participate in the Church School program and will see that they attend regularly.

The latter point is very important. As I explained, our program is detailed and chronological. A child who attends on a hit-and-miss basis misses not only those lessons taught in his absence, but also a large part of those he attends. If he does not, for example, know the reason why David and not Saul's heirs succeeded Saul to the throne or what prompted Israel to be split into two separate nations or what King Ahab of Israel was doing, the child will not understand the lesson concerning Amos and Isaiah and the differences between their problems and those of earlier prophets.

There is an additional reason why it is important that eligible children attend Church School regularly. We can all agree that it is essential that we provide our children with a certain minimum level of instruction in our faith. Because we severely limit our opportunities to teach that faith to the children on a formal basis, we must make the maximum use of the time available. I believe that Church School is the answer. We have the teachers, the facilities and program to do the job. Children who attend sporadically or who attend Church instead of Church School are effectively missing their only opportunity to have prepared, regular teachers available to teach a well-planned course of study concerning the foundations of our beliefs.

(continued from previous page)

In summary, the fortunes of our Church School are on the up-swing. We can be thankful for many things indeed, but we also have areas where we need your ideas and support. It will be challenging to work together to improve what we have and to increase our service to the congregation.

...MICHAEL P. BENTZEN

* *

AFTER YEARS OF DISUSE, COUNTY HOUSE IS HAVEN TO FIRE VICTIMS

Montgomery County owns the house, on Route 28, west of Shady Grove Road. It was given to the County by the GUDELSKY family as part of a 50-acre tract that is to be the site of the County Health Center. Recently, the Housing Bureau was given permission to use it as a "halfway house" for families who have lost their homes and would otherwise be on the street.

BUT there are very few furnishings in the house. We have been asked by THEODORE ATKINSON, Chief of Tenant Relations, to make a call for these much-needed furnishings. Here is a partial list:

Kitchen -- silverware, large pan, dish-drainer, dish towels, soap, detergent, broom, mop and refrigerator and washer.
Pantry -- canned foods, etc.
Living room -- fireplace screen, lamps (floor and table), end tables.
Hall -- small tables, chairs, rug.
Bedrooms -- dressers, blankets, sheets, crib, rugs.
Entire house -- curtains, drapes, pictures, etc.

Articles to be donated should be brought to the Fellowship Hall of the church from March 25 - 30. Questions should be directed to KATHY McMAHAN (762-2076).

* * *

Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has many; not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some.

...Dickens

CONGO PRESIDENT GIVES PAUL CARLSON MEMORIAL

Many of you may recall the death, late in 1964, of the medical missionary, Dr. Paul Carlson, who was a classmate and close personal friend of DR. BOB GARCIA. Many of you also contributed to a fund which was begun locally to provide a means for the education of his two small children and monthly financial support of the family. The fund snow-balled across the country and in time The Paul Carlson Foundation, Inc. was established to carry on the work interrupted by Dr. Carlson's death.

The Paul Carlson Foundation, Inc., has received from Congo President Mobutu a medical center in Northwest Congo as a memorial to Dr. Carlson.

The "Loko" is estimated to be worth a half million dollars. Located on a scenic plateau, the Congo government donation consists of 5,000 acres and all the necessary buildings to begin operations. An announcement from the Foundation states that python and elephant are also included in the wooded areas, to be used as food for patients.

There is a high incidence of leprosy in the area -- government estimates run as high as 88,000 persons afflicted with the disease. The beginning phase of the medical center will focus on rehabilitation of leprosy patients. Later it will branch into other medical specialties and research.

Recently drugs valued at more than $500,000 were sent to the Congo by the Foundation. Obtained without charge from drug companies, the drugs were sent

(Foundation, continued)

to needy medical areas with the help of the Congo Protestant Relief Agency and the Medical Assistance Program. A second shipment will be leaving soon. Dr. Paul's nurse, Miss Jody LeVahn, now working at a mission hospital in the Congo said, "The shelves are sagging and the drugs are worth so much. Dr. Paul would really be thrilled to see this."

Known as "Loko," the medical center was opened in January and will be dedicated this month by Congolese officials and Foundation representatives from the U.S.

Dr. Carlson died in the Stanleyville massacre on November 24, 1964. The Foundation was established in 1965 to perpetuate his efforts to improve medical conditions, particularly in Central Africa.

Contributions for the project can be sent to the Paul Carlson Foundation, 5101 N. Francisco Ave., Chicago, Ill,60625.

* * *

Have a purpose in Life, and having it, throw into your work such strength of mind and muscle as God has given you.

...Carlyle

* * *

"TAKE HER, SHE'S MINE"

We'll be happy to! SALLIE MARTIN, cast in the leading female role of Mollie Michaelson, brought down the house at Churchill High School last weekend as she demonstrated another of her many talents. Some of those assisting backstage were LINDA FORE, SUE MEINKE, CATHY SMITH, and BARBY ACKER.

* * *

HAVE YOU NOTICED THE MOST RECENT IMPROVEMENTS to our church property? Posts have replaced the logs around the drive and parking areas, and a flagstone walk now leads from the Fellowship Hall entrance to the west parking lot.

P.U.P.'s POPULATION "EXPLOSION"

Our "family" is growing and we think it's just great! On February 4, our congregation increased by 19. We extend a hearty welcome to these new members and offer the following information with the hope that it may help us to become better acquainted with each other:

FELIX and LUCILLE BLOCH
7610 Hamilton Spring Road, Potomac

FELIX, a Foreign Service Officer with the State Department, is now in the Bureau of European Affairs. He has previously served in Germany and Venezuela, and enjoys tennis and stamp collecting. LUCILLE is engaged in academic research in international medical education for the Association of American Medical Colleges and is co-author of a book on this subject now being published. She, too, loves tennis. They have two daughters, KATHY, age 6 (a first-grader at Carderock Springs Elementary), and ANDREA, 4½ (a "senior" at Camp Furman).

HARRY and JACKIE EVANS
11000 Fawcett Road, Potomac

HARRY is in the Contract Department of COMSAT, and JACKIE tells me that the whole family loves to swim. Sons ROBBY, 9 (third grade), and RICKY, 6 (first grade), attend Potomac Elementary. An event they all are impatiently awaiting is the landing in August of that long-legged bird, the stork!

HARLEY and NANCY HINRICHS
9595 Persimmon Tree Road, Potomac

HARLEY, an economics professor at the Univ. of Maryland and consultant to the World Bank and AID, has travelled in 60 countries and will be making three trips this year to India. He likes chess, tennis, skiing, and mountain climbing. His second book on economics (the combined titles would occupy most of the space in this column!) will be published this year. NANCY formerly taught high school science in Kabul, Afghanistan, and enjoys reading, writing, and acting.

(New members, continued)

She also keeps busy with sons JOHN, 8 (2nd grade, Beauvoir School, National Cathedral), and SCOTT, 6 (1st grade, Potomac Elementary); and daughters REBECCA, 5 (Potomac Montessori), and JENNIFER, 2.

BILL and FLO JOHNSTON
12516 Knightsbridge Court, Rockville

Lucky people! They're in Florida! When they return from the land of sunshine and ocean breezes, I'll try to discover more about them.

LARRY and VELMA KILLION
JANE KILLION
9032 Rouen Lane, Potomac

The KILLIONS moved to Potomac from Tucson, Arizona, and find our cold weather a bit hard to accept. LARRY is with the AEC and owns an impressive collection of coins and stamps. He also likes to paint. VELMA, too, is an amateur painter and enjoys knitting and sewing. JANE, 15, is a sophomore at Church High, and MARY ANN, 11, is in the 6th grade at Lake Normandy Elementary.

BILL and MARY MOTT
6707 Tildenwood Lane, Rockville

The MOTTS knew pretty much what to expect when they joined Potomac U. P. Church! They came from Pittsburgh's Third Presbyterian Church, as did our pastor, DICK BLICE. BILL is a nuclear physicist at AEC, specializing in isotopes development (one of the peaceful applications of atomic energy). MARY tells me they're all for the birds -- bird-watching, that is -- and they love the seashore. "They" includes KATHY, 7 (2nd grade, Town and Country Day School), and GREG, 5 (kindergarten, Sidwell Friends School).

CHUCK and BARBARA PRATT
12524 Knightsbridge Court, Rockville

Wilbur Smith & Associates opened a new, permanent office in the Washington area and brought CHUCK, a consulting traffic engineer, from Columbia, S.C. CHUCK works very long hours, but is an avid golfer when time permits. BARBARA, a former nurse, sings in our choir and is active in the League of Women Voters and the Planned Parenthood Association. Their three sons, TOM, 10½, DAVID, 8½, and LEE, 5, attend Ritchie Park Elementary School.

HERMAN and MARY JANE SCHURER
10025 Carmelita Drive, Potomac

The SCHURERS have come home to this area after nine years in California, where HERMAN was Vice President of Continental Airlines. He is an aviation lawyer now in private practice. TOM, age 12, and JOHN, age 15, are in the 7th and 9th grades at the Landon School and are eagerly awaiting spring vacation when they and their mom, MARY JANE, will head for the ski slopes of Vermont. They also enjoy boating, golfing, tennis and gardening.

From the Georgetown Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C., we also welcomed LARRY and ELAINE FILSON, 11021 Brent Road, Potomac. We enjoyed their company at the covered-dish dinner on Feb. 9 and were happy to have them as an addition to our congregation. On Feb. 29, while dining with LARRY in a Washington restaurant, ELAINE died very suddenly, the result of a particle of food becoming lodged in her trachea. This sudden, tragic loss dealt a stunning blow to her family and to them we extend our sincere sympathy. In addition to LARRY, ELAINE is survived by their five-year-old son, GREG.

THANKS, LADIES!

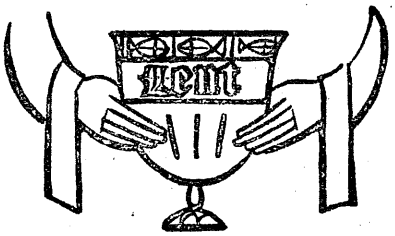
Did you notice the lovely ceramic ash trays and bud vases on the tables at our last dinner? They were made by FRANCES BENTON and SHIRLEY TIETJEN. We thank you nice people for your generous gift.

* * *

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING -- MARCH 24, '68

PREACHER'S PERCH

On Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season, we gathered in our sanctuary to observe this event by celebrating the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Our pastor, MR. BLICE, in preparing us for the bread and the cup said, "We believe that somehow we will be stronger persons for having been here and for having eaten this simple meal together." He then asked the question, "Who are we who have come to this table?"



The answer followed. I have asked for and received permission to reproduce it here as this month's "Preacher's Perch." It is but a portion of the total sermon, but I believe that if you read it thoughtfully, you will, perhaps, examine yourself more closely.

"Who are we who have come to this table? We are people. We are husbands and wives, children and youth. We are people who argue with each other and love each other. We sometimes understand each other and sometimes misunderstand each other. We are people who love and try not to hate, who are worried about our world and try not to be duped by falsehood, who care for our families and our homes and our community and try not to let anything destroy that which we believe is good. We are people. People with hopes, fears, worries, joys, problems, challenges, temptations, concerns. We are people with responsibilities, mortgages, debts, clients, enemies, friends, neighbors. We are people who laugh and who cry, who work and who play, who worry and relax. We are people who need the love of others, the care of others, the discipline of others, the encouragement of others. And by virtue of our being here tonight we are people who believe in the love of God for all His people.

We are sometimes led to believe that before God all these things we are and need are unimportant and unworthy of God. The only thing God is concerned about, we are told, is our souls and that somehow before Him we are to remove from ourselves all that which is either materialistic or sinful or human.

Not so, writes the Apostle Paul to the Christians in Rome. I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

...Present your bodies as a living sacrifice... His message seems to be that God wants us the way we are! We are to present our bodies to God. There is no more characteristically Christian demand.

...Richard W. Blice, Jr.

COVENANT PLAYERS TO PERFORM HERE ON PALM SUNDAY

Circle the date -- April 7, which is also Palm Sunday -- because we are in for a real treat! The Covenant Players will perform for us that evening at 7:30. We hope all of you will attend this event which promises to be different and exciting.

Covenant Players is a group dealing exclusively with contemporary Christian drama. Since their beginning in 1963, the group, from Encino, California, has given more than 5,000 performances throughout Southern California and all along the West Coast. Road trips are becoming more and more frequent, ranging from San Diego to Seattle, to Denver, Pittsburgh, and east. The unit's repertoire now includes over 100 plays ranging in length from under a minute to an hour, covering many themes and utilizing a wide variety of dramatic treatments. Humor and science fiction are used extensively but no method of theatre communication is left untouched in the all-original repertoire.

The prime purpose of the group is to offer drama as a means of communication; to affect inspiration, challenge and new insights to the meaning and demands of Christianity.

Covenant Players, however, seeks first of all to serve the leadership of the churches --to offer its work as an adjunct to the churches' educational and spiritual programs. The plays, as a result, are geared to create and cause discussions -- on a short- and long-range basis. The casts will participate in such discussions whenever it is desired by the leaders of the particular audience group. We are planning to give time for questions and answers following their presentation, and light refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall at the close of the program.

Tell your friends about this and plan to come. We especially invite young people of junior high age and up. Palm Sunday, April 7, at 7:30 P.M., in the sanctuary.

* *

A BOWLING LEAGUE???

Some interest has been shown in organizing a Bowling League in the Potomac United Presbyterian Church. The River Bowl Lanes on River Road are available beginning next September if we move quickly. The league can meet every other week. This would be a Ten Pin League.

If you are interested, please plan to meet briefly in the sanctuary following worship this Sunday, March 17. At this time dates, fees, teams, etc., can be discussed.

<u>AHEM</u>!!! Anyone for tennis?????

* * *

FIVE OF OUR YOUNG MEN ARE BEGINNING WORK on their God and Country Award, Boy Scouts of America. This is a detailed program which takes a year to complete. The boys are TIM and JEFF SCHILLING, NICK SMITH, DAVID TIETJEN, and BRAD WINEGAR.

* * *

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING -- MARCH 24,'68

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SEMINAR
THE UNITED NATIONS

The Christian Education Committee of Washington City Presbytery is sponsoring a unique event for 11th and 12th grade youth who have developed a real concern and understanding of the crises in our world. On March 27 - 30, 45 young people from Presbytery will go to the UN where the Christian Education Committee will attempt to interpret the Church's concern for world peace in terms of the present crises in the Middle East and Southeast Asia. Adult leaders from Presbytery will participate as interpretative leaders in this seminar. The group will be housed at the Hotel Tudor, one block from the UN. All of their time will be spent in areas of the UN which are out-of-bounds to tourists and will involve briefings with UN officials, members of various delegations representing those concerned in present world problems. They will attend meetings of UN committees and hearings on issues that are related to the Israel-Arab confrontation and the conflict in Vietnam.

The group will attend a first-run Broadway play while staying in New York and have an opportunity to do some sight-seeing. Visits and briefings at the Church's Mission to the UN and the U.S. Mission to the UN will also be included in their itinerary.

SUE MEINKE has been accepted by the Committee and will attend. PETER TIETJEN is first alternate choice and may possibly attend.

* * *

EIGHT LARGE CARTONS OF CLOTHING AND OTHER items recently collected to be sent to ROD McALPIN, jr., for distribution to the people living on the island of Hon Doc are on their way. On Feb. 22, they were taken to Andrews AFB by ROD, Sr., and JIM PERRIN, where they were sent by air to Norfolk, Va. From Norfolk they left by Navy Air for their destination.

* * *

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

17 - Worship Services, 9:00 & 10:30 AM
Junior Youth Group, 5:30 PM
19 - Lenten Bible Study, 10:00 AM
Girl Scouts, 3:45 PM
Communicants' Class, 4:00 PM
Stewardship Commission Mtg., 8:00 PM
20 - Evening Lenten Bible Study, 8:00 PM
21 - Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM
24 - Worship Services, 9:00 & 10:30 AM
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
Worship Service at Presbyterian Home for the Aged, Washington, D.C. MR. BLICE preaching, Senior Youth Choir providing music, 4:00 PM
Senior Youth Supper following 4:00 PM Service, Home of CAROL BRAY, Gary Road
25 - Board of Deacons Meeting, 8:00 PM
26 - Lenten Bible Study - 10:00 AM
Girl Scouts, 3:45 PM
Communicants' Class, 4:00 PM
27 - Evening Lenten Bible Study, 8:00 PM
28 - Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM
31 - Worship Services, 9:00 & 10:30 AM
Junior Youth Group, 5:30 PM
New Member Seminar, 7:30 PM

APRIL

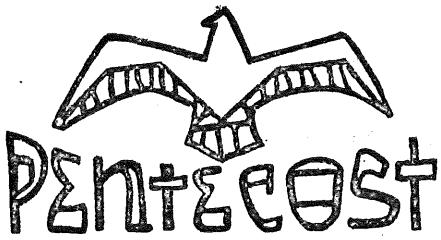
1 - Session Meeting, 8:00 PM
2 - Lenten Bible Study, 10:00 AM
Girl Scouts, 3:45 PM
Communicants' Class, 4:00 PM
3 - Women's Sewing Group, 10:00 AM
Evening Lenten Bible Study, 8:00 PM
4 - Choir Rehearsal
5 - Businessmen's Luncheon, the "Y", 17th & K Sts., N.W., 12:15 PM
7 - Worship Services, 9:00 & 10:30 AM
PALM SUNDAY, Reception of New Members at Second Service
Covenant Players, 7:30 PM
8 - Church School Faculty Mtg., 8:00 PM
11 - Maundy Thurs. Communion, 8:00 PM
12 - Good Friday Service, 8:00 PM
14 - Easter Services, 9:00 & 10:30 AM

STEEPLE TO PEOPLE

POTOMAC UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10301 River Road
Potomac, Maryland 20854

May 22, 1968

Richard W. Blice, Jr., Pastor



Sunday, June 2, 1968, is Pentecost -- that day in the church year which marks the birth of the Christian church. The story of the first Pentecost is found in the second chapter of the Book of Acts. It was on the 50th day following the first Easter that the first disciples experienced the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in their midst, so much so that they began a mission activity in behalf of the Christ that has not ceased until this very day.

On June 2nd, the Potomac United Presbyterian Church will join with other Christian congregations across the world in celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The liturgical color for the season of Pentecost, which continues through the first Sunday in October, is "red" signifying both the tongues of fire at Pentecost and the blood of Christian martyrs across the ages.

New members will also be received into the communicant membership of the church at the worship service at 10:30 AM on Pentecost Sunday.

REPORT FROM THE SESSION

This is the first of what will be a regular report on the proceedings of the Session at its monthly meetings and any events of note concerning Session affairs. I hope you will find it interesting.

At the regular Session meeting on Monday, May 6, a number of subjects concerning the administration of the Church were discussed. One of the most troublesome at the moment is the financial situation in which we find ourselves. Elder HEMPHILL has already addressed a letter to the Congregation on this matter, and I will not dwell on it save to say that we are all most concerned regarding Stewardship Commitment, and we are watching the situation closely.

The following items were approved:

1) The June 16th worship service will incorporate a baccalaureate to observe the graduation of our high school seniors. A special reception in their honor will be held during the fellowship hour.

2) The 9:00 AM worship service will be suspended during June, July, and August.

3) MR. BLICE will attend a "Continuing Education" course in the Philadelphia area during the week of October 6 - 12. This action is in accord with congregational wishes expressed at the time MR. BLICE was called to our church. He will not be absent from the pulpit on October 6 or 13.

Other items concerning the spiritual and administrative life of this congregation and the church at large were discussed. These are troubled times, and our discussions sometimes became troubled in our search for a faithful course for our congregation during these times. As we progress, advice and/or comments of anyone in the congregation wishing to make his thoughts known to any members of the Session will be appreciated.

--D. R. TIETJEN
Clerk of the Session

May 26 - Regular worship services, 9:00 and 10:30 AM
New Member Seminar, 7:30 PM
27 - Women's Association, 12:30 PM
Board of Deacons, 8:00 PM
28 - Christian Education Committee, 8:00 PM
30 - Memorial Day -- Be careful!

June 2 - Pentecost Sunday. Regular worship service, Holy Communion, reception of new members, 10:30
3 - Session Meeting, 8:00 PM
4 - Study Group on Civil Disorders, 8:00 PM
5 - Women's Sewing Group, 10:00 AM
6 - Choir rehearsal, 8:00 PM
7 - Businessmen's Lunch, The "Y", 17th & K Sts., N.W., 12:15 PM
9 - Regular worship service, 10:30 AM
10 - Spring Faculty Orientation Conference, 8:00 PM
11 - Study Group, Civil Disorders, 8:00 PM
13 - Choir Rehearsal, 8:00 PM
14 - Commencement Exercises at Winston Churchill High School, 4:00 PM. Invocation by MR. BLICE
16 - Regular worship service and Baccalaureate, 10:30 AM
Reception immediately following honoring graduating seniors.
18 - Study Group on Civil Disorders, 8:00 PM

* * *

To MARGE RICHARDS, a patient in Sibley Hospital, we send a "hurryupandgetwell" wish!

To HARRY EVANS, now home recouperating, we send a "gladyou'resomuchbetter" greeting!

STUDY GROUPS ON CIVIL DISORDERS

On Tuesday evenings of June 4, 11, and 18, an opportunity will be given to the members and friends of the Potomac United Presbyterian Church to study and discuss in some depth the report of the President's National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders.

MR. BLICE and MR. MICHAEL P. BENTZEN will lead the study. MIKE is the Superintendent of the Church School and he is an attorney employed by the firm of Jacob and Speiller.

To assist in the study of this report, the Board of Christian Education of The United Presbyterian Church in the USA has recently published three documents all concerned with interpreting the main issues of the Commission's Report. These documents will be made available on the literature table in the narthex as soon as they are received. Copies of the Commission's Report at the cost of $1.25 each will be available at the table on Sunday, May 26. This is the Bantam paperback edition.

The Christian Education Commission of the Session is making these study opportunities available in the knowledge that United Presbyterians want to be informed about these issues and that they want to have the opportunity for dialogue in this time of the crisis in our cities. They invite every member of the congregation to participate in this study group. If the group is large enough, two or more groups will be organized so that plenty of opportunity for discussion will be possible.

Each of the three evenings of study will deal with a specific phase of the Commission's Report so that it is not therefore necessary that participants attend all three meetings in order to register for the group. If you plan to be present for one or more of the three sessions, will you please sign the registration card attached to this issue of Steeple to People and return it to the church office at your earliest convenience?

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE APPOINTED

The Potomac community is growing rapidly. New homes are becoming ready for occupancy every day. In order that the Potomac United Presbyterian Church may be prepared for the way this growth will effect its membership and its mission, the Session has recently appointed a Long Range Planning Committee. The members of this Committee are: FREDERICK G. HARTING, Jr., Chairman, LAWRENCE P. GREEN, and COMPTON S. JONES.

This committee will be primarily responsible to the Session and will recommend to them periodically those changes which might be made in the church's program in light of the expanding nature of the community. They will be concerned with the numerical growth of the church in ways and means that the facilities of the church may be put to better use by the congregation and the community.

Members of the congregation who may have particular concerns about the long range plans of the church are invited to share those concerns with the chairman or with other of its members.

PLEASE

BE

CAREFUL!

THE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION will hold its final (before summer vacation) meeting on Monday, May 27, at 12:30 P.M. All ladies of the congregation are invited to come and enjoy delicious refreshments, an interesting program, a short business meeting, and good fellowship. Baby-sitting services will be provided.

* * *

The best helping-hand you will find is at the end of your arm.

* * *

WOMEN's ASSOCIATION TO HOLD AUCTION

Make a note right now to attend the Women's Association's third annual auction and luncheon on Monday, June 10, at 10:30 AM. If you were absent from the first two of these happenings, you don't know what you missed. With ADELE BURGESS presiding again as auctioneer, we can guarantee you'll shed a few tears (from laughter) before the day is very old. The members of the Executive Board will again prepare a delicious luncheon to be served at the close of the sale. The price is $1.50. Baby-sitting will be provided. Reservations are requested by Thursday, June 6, in order that adequate preparations may be made. If you plan to use the babysitting service, please indicate it when making your luncheon reservation. Call either JO SCHILLING (299-6622) or CLAIRE HARTING (299-9463).

As for the sale itself, gather up those nice unused items around your home that you've tucked away. We need lots of "nice white elephants" -- no junk, please! Books, house plants, small appliances, furniture, jewelry, handbags, vases, guest towels, prints, frames, etc., etc. Also, baked goods. With the exception of the baked goods, please bring items for sale to the church on Saturday or Sunday prior to the auction on Monday so that they may be catalogued.

Remember -- Annual Auction and Luncheon! Monday, June 10, 10:30 AM, $1.50. We need your items to sell. We need your reservations. And we need you there to buy! Proceeds will go into the Parlor Decorating Fund.

* * *

ATTENTION, LADIES!

Put on your sneakers and jeans or whatever is most comfortable, pack a lunch, and join your friends for a day of sewing. This will be our last session until Fall, and we want to see as many of you as possible. Wednesday, June 5, 10:00 AM.

The Summer-Camping-Conference Program for 1968 begins June 30 and continues through August 24 in one-week sessions. Children who will be entering fifth grade in September are considered old enough to register for sessions in their age groups. Other sessions will be held for age groups through high school. For further information and registration forms, stop by the church office and pick up a church camp brochure. The total cost of a week's session is only $35.

* * *

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Over 800 commissioners, elected by the 192 presbyteries of The United Presbyterian Church in the USA and representing in one body all of our 8,903 churches, gathered in Minneapolis-St. Paul this past week for the 180th General Assembly of our Church. Our pastor, DICK BLICE, elected by the Washington City Presbytery, attended as one of the commissioners, half of whom were ruling elders and half clergymen.

The General Assembly is the highest judicatory of our Church. It reviews and gives direction to the work of the Church as it continues in mission through its national boards and agencies, its synods, presbyteries, and local congregations. The General Assembly receives all appeals, complaints, and references that affect the practice, doctrine, or interpretation of the constitution of the Church.

IN THE SWIM

Last summer over 500 kids from the heart of Washington -- poor city children, black and white -- had the chance to spend one afternoon each week like other children do. They went swimming.

They were picked up and carried out of their hot, crowded neighborhoods into parts of Washington, Virginia and Maryland (including Potomac) where there were space and grass and trees and people who wanted them to be there. There were sparkling pools, snacks, lifeguards who cared enough to help them learn to swim, dive, play some new games.

The following statement was submitted by MRS. DONALD GORMLEY (BARBARA):

> "In-the-Swim" is a program initiated last year by the REVEREND THOMAS B. ALLEN and his wife, JANE. They are fellow Potomacites. Eighteen pool owners in Potomac offered the use of their pools one afternoon a week for a period of three hours to groups of inner-city children from deprived areas. Children from the summer programs at St. Steven and the Incarnate and Northwest Settlement House participated. Life guards and supervisory personnel accompanied the children so pool donors had no responsibility other than seeing that their pools were clean and chemicaled. However, many of us found ourselves becoming involved through simple interest. As one who participated I can say that I could not resist the temptation to begin instructing some of the non-swimmers. The results delighted me. My children, who had been hesitant about all these "strangers" coming to our pool, soon were participating with them. Perhaps they gained as much from the experience as the youngsters who enjoyed these three hours a week. It is significant that all the people who participated last year have again volunteered the use of their pools this year."

It costs only $25 to give a child ten swims -- ten afternoons in another world. Your check pays for lifeguards, transportation, snacks, and insurance. The contribution is tax deductible.

Be an Allen Fund Volunteer. Send your check. Work in the project. Lend your pool. Encourage your friends to help. For more information, call 469-8612, or write to:

The Allen Fund
9001 Congressional Parkway
Potomac, Maryland 20854

Since our last Steeple to People was sent to you, we have witnessed a great deal of nation-wide ugliness, hatred, destruction, and frustration. Millions of our citizens, embittered and ignorant, are ripe for exploitation and manipulation by extremists whose goal so obviously is to divide and conquer.

If we as a nation are to survive this crisis and weather the coming months without succumbing to panic and senseless acts of moral and physical destruction, we must look first into ourselves to determine the steps we as individuals must take. The solution will not come overnight, or next month, or even, perhaps, in our lifetime, but we can begin now the long journey towards national unity and international peace and brotherhood with a single step -- prayer. For guidance, understanding, perseverance.

Forty-five years ago there was published a book which has become one of the classics of our time. It is The Prophet by Kahlil Gibran. I quote a passage from this masterpiece:

> Oftentimes have I heard you speak of one who commits a wrong as though he were not one of you, but a stranger unto you and an intruder upon your world.
> But I say that even as the holy and the righteous cannot rise beyond the highest which is in each one of you,
> So the wicked and the weak cannot fall lower than the lowest which is in you also.
> And as a single leaf turns not yellow but with the silent knowledge of the whole tree,
> So the wrong-doer cannot do wrong without the hidden will of you all.
> Like a procession you walk together towards your god-self.
> You are the way and the wayfarers.
> And when one of you falls down he falls for those behind him, a caution against the stumbling stone.
> Ay, and he falls for those ahead of him, who though faster and surer of foot, yet removed not the stumbling stone.
>
> And this also, though the word lie heavy upon your hearts:
> The murdered is not unaccountable for his own murder,
> And the robbed is not blameless in being robbed.
> The righteous is not innocent of the deeds of the wicked,
> And the white-handed is not clean in the doings of the felon,
> Yea, the guilty is oftentimes the victim of the injured,
> And still more often the condemned is the burden bearer for the guiltless and unblamed.
> You cannot separate the just from the unjust and the good from the wicked;
> For they stand together before the face of the sun even as the black thread and the white are woven together.
> And when the black thread breaks, the weaver shall look into the whole cloth, and he shall examine the loom also.

Welcome New Members

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Abernethy 11612 St. James Road Rockville, Md. 20850	762-8112	From: Wife:	United Church of Christ, Liverpool, New York. Nancy Son: Lee
Carol and Judy Bray 10208 Gary Road Potomac, Md. 20854	299-6089		
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Chapple 9417 Falls Road Potomac, Md. 20854	299-9284	From: Wife:	Chevy Chase Presbyterian Ch. Washington, D.C. Mary Ann
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Cole 11710 Devilwood Drive Potomac, Md. 20854	424-8327	From: Wife:	Geneva Presbyterian Church Rockville, Md. Joan
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Gilliams 1368 Canterbury Way Potomac, Md. 20854	424-2297	From: Wife:	First Baptist Church Westfield, N.J. Hope Son: Geffrey
Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Hampton 9809 Aldersgate Road Rockville, Md. 20854	762-0589	From: Wife:	St. Johns Episcopal Church Bethesda, Md. Betty
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Hoge 8801 Cold Spring Road Potomac, Md. 20854	762-9102	From: Wife:	Congregational Church Hingham, Mass. Marilyn
Mr. William Kerrigan 7609 Hamilton Spring Road Bethesda, Md. 20034	469-6265	From:	Chevy Chase Presbyterian Washington, D.C.
Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Wakeland 9013 Cherbourg Drive Potomac, Md. 20854	299-5846	From: Wife:	Garden City Community Church United Church of Christ Garden City, N.Y. Barbara