

From The Pulpit

by Rev. Donald M. Clark

"PLEASE USE ALTERNATE ROUTE"

THE ROAD

Text: "Commit thy way unto the Lord." Ps:37:5.
THERE IS NO more familiar figure in the Bible than the figure of the road. We meet it everywhere. From end to end of the Book, our life is compared to a way, a journey, which reveals every manner of changing circumstance as we step out toward the goal.

In some parts of the Scriptures the figure of the way is most impressively abundant. The twenty-fifth Psalm might be called "The Psalm of the Open Road." But all through the Book of Psalms, and, on through the Book of Isaiah, and way into the New Testament itself, we see the way of life, stretching before us in all its many lights and varied significance.

How different is our modern taking to the road from that of Biblical times! Then it was taking one's staff in hand and going by "shanks' mare." Even then, when the journey became a figure of life itself, good counsel was helpful. The Psalmist, for example, sings his advice to commit our way unto the Lord.

IN THESE DAYS, we more often take the car and venture upon the freeway. This experience, too, becomes significant for the journey of life. Congestion on the Freeway is symbolic. Life, too, becomes involved and complex so that one makes progress slowly. How necessary to keep life well-planned and organized to be free from pressure.

Speed laws, too, have their parallel. These suggest the moral laws which, when kept, give us the larger liberty and greater promise of arriving at our destination.

Fast and Slow lanes are also exemplified. Each man must follow his own way and stay in his proper place. There is a right lane to follow in each man's life. God has his own purpose for each life. To know that purpose and to follow it is to arrive without harm to oneself or others.

SLOW DOWN on Curves--the pace of life must be adjusted to circumstances. Some of these life-road curves are sickness, sorrow, disappointment, failures of others to be dependable. The ability to adjust is vital to successful living. It comes from a trust in God which holds us steady on the curves.



REV. D. M. CLARK

ART EXHIBIT - TEA

"LET'S MEET at Zion Methodist Church Sunday at the Tea which will serve as the kick-off for the local Art Exhibit' is the popular date friends have been making with each other all week.

The announcement by James Millender that an Art Show will be held at the new Revere Street Church on Sunday from 4 to 6:30 p.m. has created extraordinary interest in the community. NSU students, as well as other local artists, will display their works at Sunday's Tea at the Rev. Marion Bennett's beautiful new church where the exhibit will continue to be on display from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. daily for the next following several days.

Donations received at the Tea on Sunday will be allocated to the fund for sending Missionaries abroad.

Amateur and professional artists are invited to participate in this rewarding community event. Interested persons should call Mr. Millender at 642-9442.

"Social Concerns" Meet

THE SUB-DISTRICT committee for Social Christian Concern of the Phoenix District of the Southern California-Arizona Conference of the Methodist Church met Wednesday April 5, 1967 at Zion Methodist Church.

Represented were members of four of the seven local Methodist Churches. This was the second pre-organizational meeting of the group. It is anticipated the committee will develop a real Christian Concern for many of the perplexing social problems of our day, and then actively set about to change those that can be changed within the Church's concept.

A motion was unanimously passed by those present to request the State Legislature to reconsider the proposed legislation to legalize terminating pregnancy at an early date for therapeutic reasons.

OTHER ACTIONS memorialized the legislators to support and appropriate funds necessary for full participation by Nevada in all possible programs created by the Anti-Poverty Act of 1964. Particular emphasis was placed upon the necessity for an increase in appropriations by the State to fully bring to needy residents every available opportunity under Title V as operated by the Nevada State Welfare Dept.

This group was most desirous that Fair Housing Legislation is introduced at this session. The So. California Conference has urged its local churches since 1959, by resolution to work for Open Housing Legislation in every State of the jurisdiction.

It was the opinion of those attending that the Clark County Delegation in particular be asked to introduce and support a Fair Housing Bill that would be meaningful while removing some of the obstacles to free and open housing market.

Persons attending were from First, Griffith, North Las Vegas and Zion Methodist Churches. J. David Hoggard, convener, announced the next meeting will be at noon on May 1, 1967 at Griffith Methodist, 17th and Oakey, Las Vegas, Nevada.

"A Change

For The
Better With
Chaney"

VOTE
MAY 2ND

ALTAR CALL

By EMORY G. DAVIS, D. D.
NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

BIG BUSINESS--CHURCH STYLE

They had come from all over the country to do church business. The church in this case being the duly elected delegates from the nation's major faiths, 33 or 34 highly institutionalized churches. The church also being a super-structure of said representatives known as the National Council of Churches.

BUT LIKE some of their constituent bodies do at conventions, everyone showed up for the first couple days of the NCC General Board meeting, but when it came time for action on some important resolutions, so many had gone home that there were not enough to make a quorum. No action was taken.

In defense of the well-intentioned, it must be added that either God or some little men in outer space decided--the night before the closing vote-action session--it was time for a big snow to descend on Chicago, and delegates fled by the score.

One of the matters to be decided upon was a resolution that would urge Congress to "adopt an explicit code of ethical conduct for all Congressmen before judging Rep. Adam Clayton Powell."

THE FIRST, second and third drafts had been circulated and discussed for two days, and according to one of my favorite news columnists--Dolores McCahill (Chicago Sun-Times)--the resolution was "the most timely item of business facing the board."

Let us not suppose that the issue of Powell cast a cloud of raciality causing the delegates to blame the snow for their flight, but knowing how it often happens in big church bodies we have known, when something really important is to be done, the doers are not there.

Former NCC prexy, Bishop Reuben H. Mueller of Indianapolis, said to the remaining board members what needs to be said to most of the institutional church: "It isn't until we make up our minds that the NCC is a major business for our churches, and ourselves as the representatives of our churches, that we will succeed."

"Amen, Brother Reuben!"
WHEN WILL the organized church determine that the business of the Church (love, mercy, justice, equality) is major, and that success--the solution of our problems of human relations--can come only when the Church makes up her mind to get down to business, when it ought to get down to business, like now?

Certainly church goes ought to be able to demand more of their representation, their financial investment.

There is an Altar called The Business of the Church, and it has nothing to do with the idol called church business where the institutional church pays homage.

*Renew your strength,
courage and faith*



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