



CHURCH of GOD

News

Chicago - Midwest Edition

Volume 2, Issue 6

June, 1963

Pentecost in Chicago — 3 Ordained!

by Ken Westby



Mr. Roderick C. Meredith, God's Evangelist, evoked a bit of humor when the photographer was trying to take his picture during the announcements. He obligingly posed for this photo.

Powerful sermons, three ordinations, fine meals, a church social, a wedding, and a combined Spokesman Club were all part of a jam-packed, never-to-be-forgotten, 3-day Pentecost Festival!

Once again, beautiful, spacious McCormick Place was host to 1,700 of God's people in the Northern Mid-West area. God blessed His people with warm weather, a bright sun, blue skies, a refreshing view of Lake Michigan, and an air-conditioned hall! These were just a few of the physical blessings God granted us—the priceless spiritual blessings came from the sermons and fellowship with the brethren.

Services were conducted by Mr. Roderick C. Meredith and Mr. Dean Blackwell. Mr. Meredith and his charming wife had to leave Pasadena during graduation services at the college to catch a plane late Friday night for Chicago. Mr. Meredith, an Evangelist, is superintendent over all the churches and ministers in America. We were all very happy to have Mr. and Mrs. Meredith back in Chicago again.

Several other ministers joined Mr. Meredith and Mr. Blackwell in giving us moving and dynamic sermons stressing our need for more diligent **prayer, Bible study, and fasting.** As individuals, and as a body, we need to have the very mind, character, and power of Christ—and that comes **only** thru zealous prayer, study, and fasting!

Other sermons were given on prophecy, brotherly love, and on an exciting, eye-opening account of just what it will be like to be a spirit being in God's government. Let's not permit these much-needed sermons to slip by and be forgotten. Review your notes and put the instruction we received to practice immediately!

Saturday night Mr. Peterson and Carol Volkema became Mr. and Mrs. just
(Please Cont'd on Page 2)

GRAND RAPIDS REPORT

by Victor Johnson

Truly the windows of heaven opened with a BLESSING when the latest of God's churches was raised up May 25 at Grand Rapids, Mich. Located directly in "the middle of a mitten" that is Michigan, 131 attended initial services at the Ladies' Literary Club, 61 Sheldon St., S.E.

Church-goers were ushered into a theatre-like auditorium with green, cushioned seats in fan-shaped rows tiered in levels descending to the podium. Grey, decorated walls of Shakespearean motif, and white, chandeliered ceilings completed the setting. Am
(Please Cont'd on Page 3)

A SECOND NEGRO SPOKESMAN CLUB!

by Elisha Crim

God is tremendously blessing the Chicago Negro Church in many ways in addition to new records that are set in church attendance. The Spokesman Club has continued to increase until it has become absolutely necessary to begin a second one. The forming of this club has given opportunities for more men to hold office, as well as opportunities for all the Spokesmen to participate twice as often as before.

The first club continues to meet on Saturday night. Yours truly has been blessed with the honor of remaining as the president of that club, with Mr. Charles Watson as the vice-president, Mr. Maceo Hampton
(Please Cont'd on Page 4)



CHURCH of GOD News

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Letter To The Editor

Dear Mr. Ball,

I enjoyed a very wonderful festival of Pentecost in Chicago and was very happy to see all the brothers and sisters again and to meet new ones. Like many of the brethren I attended all three days and afterwards the combined Spokesman Club meeting also. All was very wonderful.

God certainly has enlarged the ministry lately and also the entire church. I'm very thankful for all of them. It will give many more people an opportunity to hear the word of God, locally. Of course, we really have high hopes for a church in Minneapolis, also.

I had never seen an ordination before so when the two elders and a deacon were ordained I appreciated the privilege of witnessing it very much. It was a very moving occasion.

While in Chicago I picked up a back issue of the Church of God News. It was the Jan. 15, 1962, issue and said on page 3 contributions are needed very much. So I've enclosed \$5.00.

In Brotherly Love,

Karl Schroeder,
Lake Crystal, Minn.

NEW DEACONS FOR SOUTH BEND

by Victor Johnson

The South Bend Church, God ordained its first two Deacons Mr. Raymond J. Johnson and Mr. James E. Hambrock, on May 25. Both men have served the church with faithfulness and vigor ever since its inception in August, 1961. The Chicago Church still lays claim to Deacon Roland Van Slooten who "grew up" there.

Mr. Johnson and wife, Dorothy, reside at Kenwanee, Ind. They have five children Robert, 25; Jon, 22 (and now a sophomore at Ambassador College); George, 17; Winston, 15, and Penny Rae, 10.



Mr. Hambrock and wife, Alice, make their home at Fort Wayne, Ind. They have three children: Lori, 5;

Danny, 3, and Rhonda, 9 months.

Ordained on the same day, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Hambrock share the further coincidence of being baptized only a week apart, March 25 and March 30, 1961, respectively.

These two men, HAVING SERVED, now are called to still MORE SERVICE in God's Church.



A SCRAMBLED VERSION

First—Unscramble these Biblical names: Thatmew, Abojc, Meelrusaj, Viadd, Omess, Hurt, Herset, Ittyhara.

Second—Insert under the numbered solution at the bottom of this puzzle the letter from each name as plotted.

The final solution will give a correct answer to the question above the numbered riddle.

Check your answer with Psalms 119:103.

THATMEW (4)
ABOJC (5)
MEELRUSAJ (6)
VIADD (7)
OMESS (8)
HURT (1)
HERSET (2)
ITTYHARA (3)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

What is sweeter than honey?

NEWS BRIEF

Jon Johnson, student from Ambassador, arrived in time to attend Pentecost services with his folks (the Raymond Johnsons) at Chicago. Welcome home, Jon.

Chicago Pentecost (Cont'd)

in time for the combined church social and dance! God not only gives us meat in due season—but with this feast He included dessert!

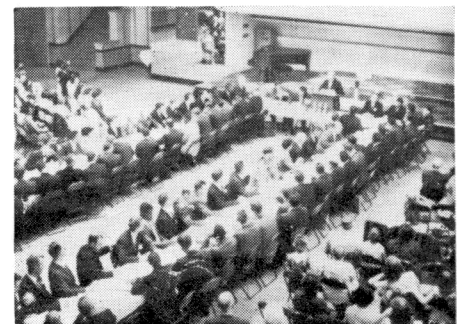
Several "outsiders" were greatly impressed by our conduct at McCormick Place. One lady said, "I've never before seen so many little children in a meeting . . . but they are so quiet you wouldn't even know they were here!" A man attending a business meeting couldn't resist taking a 'peek' into one of our services. He remarked to someone nearby, "I've never seen so many happy people in one place!" God's people are different!

The day of Pentecost itself was a day of surprises! Mr. Blackwell rounded one of the corridors in McCormick Place and came face to face with Dr. C. Paul Meredith! Totally shocked and taken aback, Mr. Blackwell took a second look—yes, it was Dr. Meredith all right!

Dr. Meredith, Mr. Roderick Meredith's uncle, had just flown in from South America, and was en route back to Pasadena. Dr. Meredith's presence was especially appreciated by all of us enrolled in the Correspondence Course.

More surprises! Just before the final sermon, Mr. Meredith announced three ordinations—One Deacon and two Local Elders! Mr. Fred Mancewicz, our enthusiastic, smiling song leader, was ordained to the office of Deacon. Then, two men who have served the brethren faithfully for years—Mr. Joseph Tkach and Mr. Martin Filippello—were ordained Local Elders! We can all rejoice that God has given more qualified laborers to serve in this area.

After the Sabbath had ended there was still more in store for us. Ten Spokesman Clubs from four states joined for a combined meeting with all the church invited! For many this was the first time they had seen the Spokesman Club in action. Mr. Meredith was the over-all evaluator of the meeting.



Combined Spokesman Club largest ever held.

We have a long summer ahead of us before the next Holy Day. Until then, let's use the spiritual food we received during Pentecost to keep us growing, to keep us 'charged up' with zeal for God's Work, all summer long!

Graduates Feted At Formal Prom

Three Set Apart

by Ken Ellis



Graduates of eighth grade and high school were honored at a formal prom held on Saturday evening, June 9. Billowing gowns and a gay atmosphere permeated the Keyman's Club on this special occasion.

Highlighting an evening of dancing and socializing was an introduction of the graduates and then their presentation of a card of thanks to Mr. Dean Blackwell, Pastor of the Mid-West area. The card was signed by Andria Beyersdorfer, Bonnie Landes

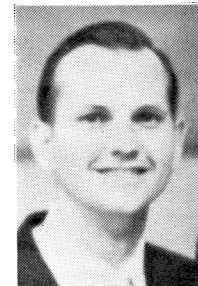
Shirley Ochs, Kitty Runice, Ken Peterson, and Ruth Ann Scutt, high school grads of 1963. The elementary school graduates were Maureen Burkland, Don Davis, John Foster, Mark Jauch, John Karwacki, Leslie Olson, and Sandra Scutt.

After refreshments were served, dancing under colored lights continued until Mr. Foster announced the last dance and the "end of a perfect day."

Pentecost Monday; 1,932 years after that day when the Spirit of God descended from heaven and filled those set apart by God to begin the New Testament Church (Acts 2).

Mr. Roderick C. Meredith, Evangelist in the Church of God, was telling the assembled members about a phone call. It was a trans-Atlantic call to London which would have a great bearing on the lives of the hearers. Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong had authorized an ordination!

An air of expectancy stirred the crowd as the familiar words of 1 Tim. 3:8-10 were



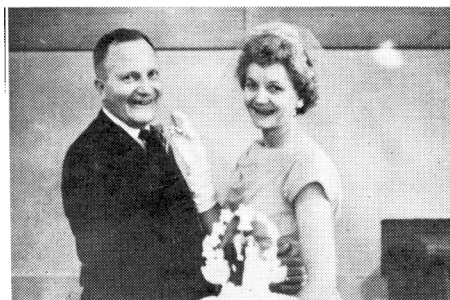
read and then our song leader, **Mr. Fred Mancewicz**, was called forward. Mr. Dean Blackwell led in prayer while Mr. Meredith and Dr. C. Paul Meredith (visiting Evangelist) joined him in laying hands upon our new Deacon! Thus

one more laborer was set apart for even more abundant service in God's Church.

Then Mr. Meredith read 1 Tim. 3:1-7 and Mr. Joseph Tkach was called forward and raised in rank from Deacon to Local Elder—thus becoming a member of the **ministry** in God's Church.

Score Is Evened

Mr. Elmer Peterson came to the rescue by replacing Chicago's loss of Miss Emma Dayton (now Mrs. LaSocha), with Miss Carol Volkema. She became Mrs. Peterson on the night of the social at Logan Square Masonic Temple during the Feast of Pentecost. Our Pastor, Mr. Dean Blackwell, performed the God-given ceremony of marriage.



The bride was adorned in a lovely street-length blue dress with matching short veil and shoes. She was escorted down the aisle by her father. The lovely maid-of-honor was the daughter of the bride, Nancy Volkema, dressed in a lovely pink street-length dress with matching short veil and shoes. Best man was Kenneth Peterson, son of Mr. Elmer Peterson.

Cake and wine were served, and there followed an enjoyable evening of dancing to a four-piece band which was provided by Mr. Ochs. Baby-sitters were provided for children up to two years of age. Movies were supplied for children from two to eight years of age, with relay races and games entertaining the children eight years and older.

Grand Rapids (Cont'd)

ple counseling rooms are adjacent to the auditorium. In decor and elegance the facilities are said to rival the Shakespeare Club in Pasadena.

But now for the BLESSING! About 12 in attendance stated it was their first service in God's True Church! With the mailing of a letter announcing the new church, at least 50 scattered brethren are expected to swell the congregation.

LAST YEAR 70% OF MICHIGAN'S BAPTIZED MEMBERS DID NOT ATTEND THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES! The real BLESSING to **scattered brethren** is yet to come!

Opening day sermons were given by Mr. Dean Blackwell, area Pastor, and Mr. Lester McCole, who will minister to both Grand Rapids and South Bend churches. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tkach, Mrs. Blackwell, and a score or more of enthusiastic South Benders were also in attendance. Included were two newly ordained Deacons, Mr. James Hambrook and Mr. Raymond Johnson (story on page 2). Mr. Raymond Van Slooten, formerly South Bend Deacon, has now transferred to the Grand Rapids church.

The South Bend church, walls bulging with a 414 congregation on May 18, counted its loss of Grand Rapids members and had an attendance of 341 on May 25, **AND IS STILL GROWING!**



Mr. J. Tkach and Mr. M. Filippello

The third wonderful surprise took place when Mr. Blackwell called Mr. Martin Filippello, Deacon, forward. Mr. Blackwell explained the importance of growth and yield-ness—which Mr. Filippello exemplified. Then Mr. Blackwell led in prayer and once more the symbolic ceremony of the laying on of hands was used. Mr. Filippello, too, became a Local Elder!

As in John 4:35, it is plain that the harvest is great—but now the laborers are not **quite** so few.

NEWS BRIEF

The Bloomington Church now has a Bible study after Sabbath services. Then, after the Sabbath, the Spokesman Club meets to round out the evening.

NEWS BRIEFS

Congratulations—To Mr. and Mrs. Bill McDowell, Pastor of the Pittsburgh-Akron Churches, on the birth of their new infant son.

Mrs. Gierman's relocation to Texas was postponed because of her chronic illness. **Remember her—**

After a prolonged illness, Mrs. Arlie Paterson died this past month. We rejoiced in that she recently was baptized and took the Passover.

Also one of our older members, Mr. William Tkach, died a very peaceful death after faithfully enduring a siege of stomach cancer.

We missed the Robert Skaggs family this Pentecost because of malaria. See you at the Feast of Trumpets!

Mr. and Mrs. Zacharias and family have left Chicago to move to Wisconsin. We'll miss them but we need some pillar members for the soon coming Church in Minneapolis.

Mr. John Wood and son accompanied Mr. Harold Jackson to Meridian, Miss., for Pentecost services.

Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Fowler attended their son Roy's graduation from Imperial High School in Gladewater.

Roy Fowler is back with us for the summer. Welcome home, Roy!

That picnic-going South Bend Church had their first turnout at Plymouth, Ind., with a crowd of 350 attending (practically the whole church). There's a lot more to come.

Eugene Dumas, grammarian for the colored Spokesman Clubs, and teacher by profession, will claim Vivian Yvonne Ivey as his bride in August. Miss Ivey hails from the city of "brotherly love."

Elbert Atlas and Patricia Cunningham will take the big step in September. Mr. Atlas will assist Mr. Jackson as over-all evaluator for the colored Spokesman Clubs.

Needless to say, Mr. Clarence Wadley was only too happy to make the diamond rings for the two couples.

Mr. Marrs on Fulltime Basis

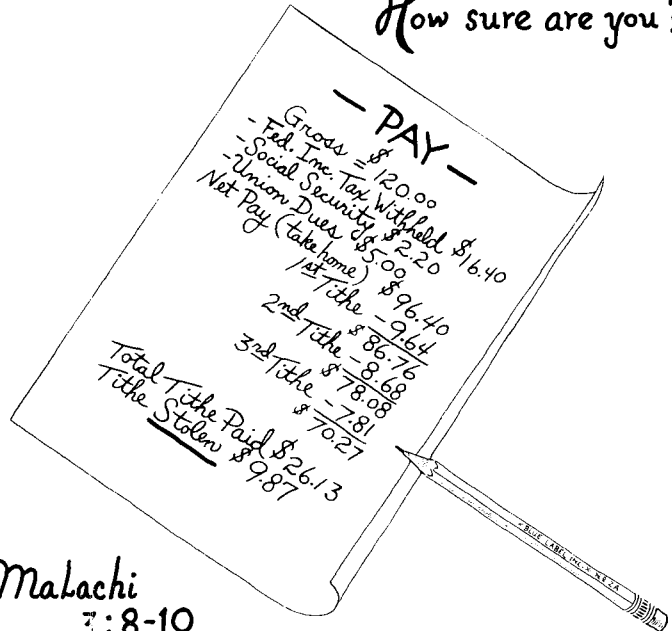
Our brother and former Chicagoan, Mr. Edwin Marrs, is now in the work on a full-time basis. He is working with Negro brethren in the Mississippi, Georgia, and Alabama area. **Remember him.**

LAODICEAN JONES

Misapplication of Figures

Mr. Jones thinks he pays his tithes.

How sure are you?



Malachi
3:8-10

Pentecost Held In Indianapolis

by Fred Thomas

The day of Pentecost in Indianapolis was cloudy. However, the people of God were not dismayed by a little cloudiness. Those attending numbered 476.

We were given three powerful sermons—two by Mr. Carn Catherwood and one by Mr. Joseph Tkach.

After the afternoon service, God added more to His Church—Mr. and Mrs. James Apostolou, Mr. James Ray, Mrs. Maruriette Hudson, and Mrs. Robert Caylor—with a baptism service. Congratulations to all five!

Negro Spokesman (Cont'd)

as secretary, Phillip Penson as sergeant-at-arms and Mr. Walter Burtin as treasurer.

The second club, which meets on Monday night, has Mr. John Wood as president and Mr. Robert Jones as vice-president, Mr. Maurice Welch as secretary and Tomotha Adams as sergeant-at-arms and Mr. George Bailey as treasurer. Mr. Eugene Dumas is the grammarian for both clubs.

As God continues to extend His many blessings to this congregation, we hope to remain in the Spirit of thankfulness and strive to become profitable servants.

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