

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Conference

THE CHURCH IS THE COMMUNITY OF PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO GOD THROUGH CHRIST. THIS COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES IS TO LIVE IN AND EMBODY THE MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST OUT OF BIBLICALLY-BASED THEOLOGY. BY CHRIST WHEN HE SAID, "THE REASON I AM SENT TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL IS BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO DO SO. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL TO THE BLIND, TO THE MUTE, TO THE OPPRESSED, TO PROCLAIM THE KINGDOM OF GOD."

WE BELIEVE THAT GOD ENABLES AND EMPOWERS THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO EXPRESS HIS LOVE, LIBERATION, AND JUSTICE TO ALL PEOPLE.

THE DETROIT CONFERENCE AS A PART OF THE CHURCH IS TO MAKE THIS MINISTRY REAL.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE DETROIT CONFERENCE

THE CONFERENCE SHALL BE SUPPORTIVE OF THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS LOCAL CHURCHES AND MISSION.

THE CONFERENCE SHALL ENABLE THE LOCAL CHURCH TO DEVELOP A MINISTRY AND MISSION BEYOND ITS LOCAL CHURCH COMMUNITY.

THE CONFERENCE SHALL PROVIDE CAPABLE LEADERSHIP FOR BOTH THE TRADITIONAL AND EMERGING FORMS OF MINISTRY.

THE CONFERENCE SHALL DEVELOP SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR VULNERABLE LOCAL CHURCHES, DISTRICTS, THE CONFERENCE AND ITS AGENCIES AND THE GENERAL CHURCH TO BE INCLUSIVE.

THE CONFERENCE SHALL DEVELOP SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR VULNERABLE LOCAL CHURCHES, DISTRICTS, THE CONFERENCE AND ITS AGENCIES, AND THE GENERAL CHURCH TO BE CONNECTIONAL.

By Bill Donahue

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DR. JOHN H. BUNCE, *Secretary*

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Rev. Ardo Arthur Carmitchell

Rev. Ardo Carmitchell, 72, passed away after months of poor health, on February 6, 1983. Ardo was born March 24, 1910 at Mt. Carmel, Pa. He was brought up in a Christian Home; his father was of Scottish descent, his mother Pennsylvania German. As a youth he taught a Sunday School class and became active in youth work. He heard God's call in a youth assembly in an evangelical Church; Bishop Henry Holt Hughes was one of the preachers. Ardo answered the call some years later. His education was at Albright College and Drew Theological Seminary.

He began preaching in the Evangelical Church in 1939, but in 1942 transferred to the Wyoming Conference (Pa. & N.Y.) of the Methodist Church. He married Marian Snyder at Tompkinsville, Pa. She was a graduate of Scranton Business College. Ardo's ministerial appointments were in four states as follows: Penbrook-Harrisburg 1939-42; Clifford 1942-45; Cortlandville, N.Y., 1945-47; Sparks, Nevada 1947-1951; Truckee, CA 1951-54; Munising 1954-58; Ontonagon Parish 1958-61; Vernon 1961-62; Flint, Huron St. 1962-63; Ortonville 1963-65; Elkton-Grant 1965-67. In 1967 he retired and located at Alanson. In his ministry he was a Rotarian and camp counsellor; he enjoyed summer camping and the Bay View Assembly.

Rev. Merton L. Stevens

Rev. Merton L. Stevens, 81, departed this life at Hurley Hospital, Flint, on May 23, 1983. Merton was born in Flint June 13, 1901, the son of Walter and Elizabeth Stevens. He attended Albion College and met Metha there. They were married in the Lakeview M. E. Church, Flint, August 26, 1922. Merton attended seminary at Boston University School of Theology, graduating in 1927.

He joined the Detroit Conference on trial that year and was appointed to Ortonville. His subsequent appointments were Millington 1929-32; Flushing 1932-37; Pontiac: First 1937-40; Detroit: Campbell Avenue 1940-49; East Detroit 1949-60; Superintendent of the Port Huron District 1960-66; Dearborn: First Associate 1966-67. Following heart surgery, Merton retired in 1967.

The Stevens settled in Burton, Mich., and Paradise Bay Mobile Home Park in Bradenton, Fla. During his ministry Merton was a trustee for the Chelsea Methodist Home, and the Methodist Children's Village, amid other responsibilities. Blessed with a friendly and congenial spirit, Merton and Metha enjoyed a host of friends during their ministry and retirement years. "Merton had room in his heart.." for all kinds of people. In 1982 the Stevens celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Merton is survived by his wife Metha, and three children--Whitney of Plymouth, Waneta Howes of Mt. Clemens, and John of Van Wert, Ohio; nine grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. The Memorial Service following cremation, was held on Sunday, May 29, in the Atherton United Methodist Church in Burton, with Rev. Charles R. Marble conducting the Service.