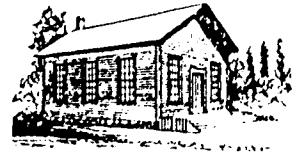




"WE are the end-product of our history."

# FLASHBACKS



Revealing glimpses of our creative past

Official newsletter of the

UNITED METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN

Vol. 14 No. 2

August, 1987

## WOMEN OF WHITEWATER TO SERVE PILGRIMAGE DINNER SATURDAY NOON, OCT. 3

Women of our Whitewater United Methodist Church, 145 S. Prairie St., will serve the meal for the 1987 Pilgrimage of the United Methodist Historical Society of Wisconsin to the Aztalan Circuit on Saturday noon, Oct. 3. Send reservations by Sept. 20 to the Rev. Dale Christopher at the church address or phone (414)-473-2131.

\* \* \* \* \*  
The Pilgrimage program will be held at the Whitewater church from 1 to 4 p.m. in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the organization of the Aztalan Circuit, which was set up as part of the Milwaukee District of the Illinois Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1837.

### Three Aspects of Aztalan Circuit

Three aspects of the work among Aztalan Circuit churches will be presented, according to the Rev. William Jannusch, program committee.

A history of the Aztalan Circuit will show that the work was begun by the Illinois Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church in 1837, 150 years ago.

"Early settlement had taken place in southern Wisconsin in 1836-1837," Jannusch said. "A circuit was formed in 1837 with 15 churches which continue to this day."

The circuit encompasses Waukesha on the east, Janesville on the west and Watertown on the north.

Circuit riders in the persons of Samuel Pillsbury and Jesse Halstead were assigned in the summer of 1837, lent to the Illinois Conference by New York's Troy Conference.

The second part of the Pilgrimage emphasis will feature the reality and the circumstances faced by those circuit riding preachers in the 1830 to 1860's.

The program will conclude with a history of the Whitewater church and the work which began there in 1837.

"The sanctuary of the Whitewater church is more than 115 years old," Jannusch pointed out.

The program committee encourages all members of the Historical Society and local church historians to attend the Pilgrimage activities.

### NEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESIDENT LOOKS TO FUTURE POSSIBILITIES

The Rev. Charles B. Sanford, Neenah, newly elected president of the United Methodist Historical Society, is looking to future possibilities for the Society.

"We hope more can be done to arouse interest in our Wisconsin United Methodist history and heritage throughout the conference by articles, dramas and programs," he said. "Another aim is to help further the development of the Conference Museum in Greenfield, both in facilities and in exhibits and programs there, especially since the Museum has received an endowment."

Sanford suggested that time be taken at the Fall Pilgrimage at Whitewater to "brainstorm" ideas for future activities, and that the executive committee meet during the year to develop plans.

## TALENT FILE

Sanford, Charles  
Sanford, Lourinda

pastor, historian, library science  
pastor, historian, library science  
drama, writer, archeologists

### INTRODUCING THE REVS. CHARLES AND LOURINDA SANFORD AND THEIR TALENTS:

The Reverends Charles and Lourinda Sanford have been fully ordained clergy members of the Wisconsin United Methodist Conference since 1965, serving United Methodist churches in various parts of Wisconsin as joint pastors and as pastors of separate adjoining parishes (although some were 50 to 100 miles apart!)

Lourinda was the second woman minister to become a full member of the Wisconsin Conference and the Sanfords were the first clergy couple to become such. They also served churches in Vermont and New York state before coming to Wisconsin in 1964. Lourinda was born and brought up in the First United Methodist church of Neenah, which her father helped build. Charles was from New York state, where his grandfather was a Methodist minister.

#### Education

Lourinda earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in speech and drama from UW-Madison, a Master of Divinity degree from Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, and a Master of Library Science degree from UW-Oshkosh.

Charles has a bachelor's degree from Syracuse University, a Master of Divinity degree from Colgate-Rochester Divinity School and a Master of Library Science degree from UW-Oshkosh.

#### Historical Interests

As a result of research for his master's thesis, Charles has written and had published two books on Thomas Jefferson, Thomas Jefferson and His Library and The Religious Life of Thomas Jefferson. Since retiring, the Sanfords are living in Lourinda's family home in Neenah which her father moved to its present location in 1905. Before that, it was a chapel used by the Neenah Methodist Church.

"We are kept busy restoring it," Charles said.

During their ministry, the Sanfords became interested in archaeology and the historical background of the Bible. They spent many summers on study tours of the Holy Land, places visited by St. Paul in his travels, and Babylon of the Old Testament.

"We also traveled widely in Great Britain, studying the life of John Wesley and places associated with his ministry," said Charles. "We have a number of plays and sound-slide programs which we have written and presented on these studies."

Since retirement, the Sanfords have become active in the Neenah Historical Society and the Wisconsin Preservation of Historic Trusts. They took part in the spring play of the Neenah Historical Society on the founding of Neenah-Menasha.

Lourinda and Charles attended the Jurisdictional Archives and History Commission Conference in Michigan last year where Lourinda gave an original play on Peter Cartwright's wife. This year, they attended their conference in Iowa where they presented a play Lourinda wrote on President Hayes and the First Lady, both Methodists of special interest.

## LOIS OLSEN, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY, TO RECEIVE DUES

Lois Olsen, newly elected Membership Secretary of the UM Historical Society, seeks those who are interested in the history of our denomination and conference to join the organization and pay the required dues.

Membership money is used to publish our newsletter, *Flashbacks*, and to finance the annual pilgrimage and other activities.

The Society encourages the collection and preservation of records, recollections, biographies, memorials and local church memorabilia. It promotes and disseminates knowledge of United Methodist history.

Single memberships, \$3; family, \$4; life, \$ 50. *Methodist History* magazine is available for an additional \$ 10.

Send money to Lois Olsen,  
P. O. Box 10326, Milwaukee, WI 53210.

## DOROTHY NEUMANN NOTES FAMILY TIES TO AZTALAN THROUGH EVANGELICALS

Mrs. John (Dorothy) Neumann of Marshfield, in response to the announcement of the Historical Pilgrimage to Aztalan, wrote, "We have a family interest in the Pilgrimage as my mother's birthplace was Aztalan, 1885. Her parents were members of the rural church there and Milford, later, Lake Mills, all unrelated at that time to the Methodists.

"Our family roots are Evangelical, the 1968 merger made us Methodists."

Mrs. Neumann has books and old pictures handed down in her family. Among them, Wisconsin Conference 1840-1920, written in German and containing 487 pages. One picture in the book is of the Rev. Fritsche.

Another book is Evangelisches Missions Album, written in 1894, with pictures of missions in Japan.

Golden Jubilauni, a book about a celebration in Montana, WI from June 16-20, 1915, contains pictures of churches and the Rev. August Lutz."

"Somewhere among the old pictures are churches of the Lake Mills and Milford area, dated 1885 to 1900," Mrs. Neumann said.

*Memo:  
Annual Historical  
Pilgrimage to Aztalan, Oct. 3*

## FLASHBACKS TO VOICE CONCERNS OF NEW SOCIETY OFFICERS

In future issues of *Flashbacks*, concerns of newly-elected officers, Ruth Steffen, Stevens Point, recording secretary; and Lois Olsen, membership secretary, will appear.

Re-elected officers are the Rev. William Jannusch, vice president; and Ferne Hoeft, *Flashbacks* editor. Linn Emerick, treasurer, remains an ex-officio member of the Society.

## FLASHBACKS TO UPDATE MAILING LIST

If you know of a local church historian, a member of the United Methodist Historical Society or of the Commission on Archives and History who does not receive a copy of *Flashbacks*, please notify Editor Ferne Hoeft as soon as possible.

Pastors of every local church sent in names for the 1987 conference mailing list early this year. If your name was sent in as church historian, you should have received the May issue of *Flashbacks*.

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## FLASHBACKS

*Official newsletter of the United Methodist  
Historical Society of Wisconsin*

Mrs. Ferne E. Hoeft, *editor*

P. O. Box 162

504 Northeast First Street

Marion, Wisconsin 54950

Material of historical interest, such as church anniversaries, recollections, activities of local church historical committees, and historians should be sent to her at the above address.

## OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

Rev. Charles B. Sanford, president  
Rev. Wm. Jannusch, vice president  
Ruth Steffen, recording secretary  
Linn C. Emerick, treasurer  
Ferne E. Hoeft, *Flashbacks* editor  
Lois C. Olsen, membership secretary  
P.O. Box 10326  
Milwaukee, WI 53210

Elections to be held at 1988 Pilgrimage

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN VOTES ON AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

A recent change in the Constitution of the United Methodist Historical Society of Wisconsin moves the election of officers from the annual meeting in May to the annual Pilgrimage of 1988 and those thereafter.

Amendments to the Constitution follows. Words and phrases which were deleted appear as **strikeouts**; words and phrases added appear in **boldface type**.

Article III entitled "Officers" was amended to read:

"The officers shall be: president, vice president, secretary, membership secretary, treasurer (ex officio, the Conference Treasurer), and editor of the newsletter. **No officer may serve more than four years in an office, and a person may not be on the executive committee for more than eight years in succession, and then must be off for at least two years. The only exceptions to this rule shall be the treasurer and the editor of the newsletter.**"

Article IV, Section 7 entitled "Elections" was amended to read:

"Elections. The officers shall be elected annually, **at the annual meeting at the Annual Pilgrimage** of the society. A nominating committee, to be named by the president at least 60 days prior to such meeting, shall present a slate of nominees, each of whom has indicated a willingness to serve in the capacity named. Additional nominations may also be made from the floor. Persons elected shall serve until the close of the following **annual meeting Annual Pilgrimage**. In case of vacancies, the executive committee is empowered to fill the unexpired term (except in case of the president, who shall be automatically succeeded by the vice president.)"

Article IV, Section 8 entitled "Executive Committee" was amended to read:

"Executive Committee. There shall be an executive committee, composed of the officers of the society, plus two additional members elected at the **annual meeting Annual Pilgrimage**. In interims between meetings of the society, it shall exercise powers of the annual meeting **and Annual Pilgrimage**, subject to review at the next annual meeting. It shall exercise general oversight of the program and work of the society. **No person may serve on the executive committee more than eight years in succession, then they must be off for at least two years. The only exception to this rule shall be the treasurer and the editor of the newsletter.**

Article V entitled "Meetings" was amended to read:

"There shall be an annual meeting held in connection with the sessions of conference. ~~Officers shall be elected~~ **Reports shall be received** and such other business transacted as may seem best to the society. There may be a program of historical interest in connection with its annual meeting. Special meetings of the society may be called by the president plus at least two other members of the executive committee. The executive committee shall meet on the call of the president."

**HISTORICAL**

**PILGRIMAGE**

**1832**

**1987**



**SATURDAY OCTOBER 3**

**WHITEWATER**

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

145 South Prairie Street  
Whitewater, WI.

The Schedule of the Pilgrimage is as follows:

12:00 Noon	Dinner at Whitewater United Methodist Church
1:00 to	Historical presentations on the old Astalan Circuit, which was organized in 1837;
3:00 pm.	the early circuit riders; and the Whitewater United Methodist Church.

The cost of the noon meal will be \$5.00  
Reservations should be sent to:  
Watertown United Methodist Church  
145 South Prairie St.  
Whitewater, WI. 53190

**SPONSORED BY THE UNITED METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN**