

CW Rife

STUDENT INTERRACIAL MINISTRY
475 Riverside Drive, Room 574
New York 27, New York

June 15, 1964

Dear SIM Students and Ministers:

Enclosed you will find several items I hope will be of interest. There are two copies of each, one for the student and one for the minister.

The Orientation Evaluation was written by Ruth Brandon and Bill Minter on the day after the Conference ended. It was not intended for general distribution, but it may be helpful for the information of those who were not at the Conference and for the reflection of those who were. We would be interested in any further comments on the Conference from the participants.

The list of students and churches is self-explanatory. Extra copies are available on request.

The conclusion here regarding SIM's progress so far this summer is that "no news is good news". But that will become less and less true as time passes. To help you share with your fellow SIM'ers, therefore, we have institutionalized a mid-summer report. All student participants are requested to send in this news sheet before Monday, July 13; anything received after that date will be excluded. Those received will be edited, mimeographed and sent to all students, ministers, and interested persons. Here are some suggestions of what you could include in your report:

1. The one experience that has made the biggest impression on you.
2. A short summary of your main activities and especially those that might be different from other SIM jobs.
3. Anything funny.
4. Anything showing the influence of interracial ministry in the community...in the church.

I will be looking forward to hearing from you. Feel free to write or call if any problems arise which we could help clarify or solve here in New York. We hope for good news about your work; we expect something less than revolutionary but more than trivial.

Sincerely yours,

Tom Boomershine

Tom Boomershine
Summer Coordinator

An Evaluation of
The Orientation Conference
by
Ruth Brandon and Bill Minter

June 1-3, 1964
Raleigh, North Carolina

Reactions by most participants seemed favorable, even highly enthusiastic in some cases about the quality of speakers and simply about the opportunity to meet with fellow SIM'ers before facing the individual church. One person commented that it made one feel really part of something more than just a field work job. Another felt that if a student had qualms or felt lonesome at the summer prospects it helped to have personally known and talked with others headed for similar situations. Particularly welcomed was the presence and participation of a number of the ministers to be involved in SIM. Not only could they add perspectives and ideas in discussion, but also when both the pastor and student pastor were present it was felt that the common experience provided valuable common ground for beginning the summer working relationship.

The panel the first evening was unfortunate in its one-sidedness; there was only one student and two ministers. Another year, planners should get definite commitment from panel participants so they will arrive. The panel should include some variety from the following possibilities: 1) student, pastor; 2) town with 1 SIM church, town with more than 1 SIM church, town with both Negro and white churches in SIM; 3) Negro, white; 4) church with SIM student only 1 year, church which has had several SIM students.

The panel of laymen was most enjoyable and also informative of some of what might be expected or not expected, liked or disliked by local churchmen.

Jim Forbes' session was also felt very good by most though the value seemed not so much in the images which emerged as in the reactions people had to the suggesting of the concerns aroused for the breaking of the images. There was some disagreement with Forbes' choice of groups. He used northern white, southern white and Negro. The southern white image seemed to exclude the poor white. The northern white did not seem appropriately unified. There was a difference between rural, urban, suburban - New England, Mid-West, California. The Negro seemed more properly separated into the older images of passivity and its accompanying traits and the newer images of the educated Negro and the Negro of the "revolution".

The speeches by Will Campbell were enjoyed by all. His manner of speech primarily conveyed a certain atmosphere rather than only certain contentions, and this was valuable. His emphasis on the necessity of ministering to the racist, and his analysis of the position of the poor white (as not only a victim, but also one who did not know his enemy and struck out against the Negro) were points which stood out.

Floyd McKissick, in spite of being tired and having to arrive late, made all of us feel that we had a better understanding of the prospects for the summer. His specific references to North Carolina were valuable even for those going elsewhere.

Did the Conference, then, accomplish its purpose? As far as one can tell now, yes. The speeches and panels, while by no means comprehensive, were useful. The schedule was crowded and most people were tired, but, as one person commented, it was interesting enough that you never found yourself wishing a session would end. The fact of being together as a group was also important, perhaps more so than the content of the presentations. It seemed that most people found the conference worthwhile.

Specific questions for participants:

Physical arrangements?

Schedule too crowded?

Was there enough opportunity for discussion among the participants themselves?

1964 SIM PARTICIPANTS

<u>STUDENT</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>
1. Robert B. Blair (W) Bethany Theological Seminary Den: Church of the Brethren	The Rev. William Harris Grace United Presbyterian Church 218 Fayette St. Martinsville, Virginia
2. Ruth M. Brandon (W) Union Theological Seminary, N.Y. Den: United Church of Christ	The Rev. Howard Cunningham First Congregational Church (U.C.) Manly and South Streets Raleigh, North Carolina
3. G. Keith Churchill Union Theological Seminary, N.Y. Den: Atlantic United Baptist	The Rev. Milton A. Reid First Baptist Church 236 Harrison Street Petersburg, Virginia
4. Douglas W. Cruger (W) Andover Newton Seminary Den: American Baptist	The Rev. Robert Hare First United Presbyterian Church 514 No. Monroe Street Richmond 20, Virginia
5. Douglas B. Denton (W) Boston Univ. Theo. Seminary Den: Methodist	The Rev. J. L. Key Bethel C. M. E. Church 1662 Pio Nono Avenue Macon, Georgia
6. Wichert J. H. Hoekert (W) Union Theological Seminary, N.Y. Den: Netherland Reformed Church	The Rev. William T. Green Central Congregational Church 2401 Bienville Avenue New Orleans, Louisiana
7. Merle Longwood (W) Luther Theological Seminary Den: Lutheran (ALC)	Rev. Lawrence Haygood Parkway Gardens Presbyterian 1683 South Parkway, East Memphis, Tenn.
8. Mark G. Lundeen (W) Union Theological Seminary, N.Y. Den: Methodist	The Rev. John Cameron Faith Tabernacle Baptist Temple 405 Ashford Street Hattiesburg, Mississippi
9. Robert N. Lynn (W) Emory Univ. Divinity School Den: Methodist	Dr. Melvin Watson Liberty Baptist Church 395 Chamberlain St., S. E. Atlanta 12, Georgia
10. Homer L. McCall (N) Yale Divinity School Den: Baptist	The Rev. David W. McShane The First Presbyterian Church 321 West South St. Kalamazoo, Michigan 49006
11. Theodore R. McKenney (N) Interdenominational Theological Seminary Den: Christian Methodist Episc.	The Rev. Earl Mohler Wooster Ave. Christian Church 298 Wooster Avenue Akron, Ohio

12. Maryka Matthews (W)
Union Theological Seminary, N.Y.
Den: Baptist
Mississippi Summer Project
Council of Federated Organizations
1017 Lynch Street
Jackson, Mississippi
13. William M. Minter (W)
Union Theological Seminary, N.Y.
Den: U. Presby., U.S.A.
The Rev. Charles W. Ward
First Baptist Church
101 South Wilmington
Raleigh, North Carolina
14. Beryl Ramsay (W)
Union Theological Seminary, N.Y.
Den: United Presbyterian, U.S.A.
The Rev. Robert E. Foster
Community United Presbyterian Church
801 Tazewell Street
Portsmouth, Virginia
15. Russell E. Richey (W)
Union Theological Seminary, N.Y.
Den: Methodist
The Rev. James Costen
Mt. Pisgah United Presby. Church
312 Park Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina
16. Ken Rupp
Mennonite Biblical Seminary
Den: Mennonite
The Rev. John L. Pharr
St. Paul United Presby. Church
210 Fourth Street
High Point, North Carolina
17. James H. Russ (W)
Union Theological Seminary, N.Y.
Den: United Church of Christ
The Rev. Ralph Abernathy
W. Hunter Street Baptist Church
775 Hunter St. N. W.
Atlanta, Georgia
18. Thomas L. Scott (N)
Interdenominational Theological
Seminary
Den: Christian Methodist Episc.
The Rev. T. Guthrie Speers
First Presby. Church of New Canaan
210 Oenoke Ridge
New Canaan, Connecticut
19. Gam Seng Shae (Burmese)
Colgate-Rochester Divinity Sch.
Den: Baptist
The Rev. John L. Glenn
St. Luke C. M. E. Church
2519 Meharry Blvd.
Nashville, Tenn.
20. Garlan L. Springer (N)
Virginia Union University
Den: Baptist
Felix Morales
Lafayette Methodist Church
260-268 Grove Street
Jersey City 2, New Jersey
21. Luther E. Sturtevant (W)
Drew University
Den: Methodist
The Rev. F. Perry Metz
Zion-Olivet United Presbyterian Church
134 Cannon Street
Charleston, South Carolina
22. Herbert M. Thompson (W)
Boston Univ. School of Theology
Den: Methodist
The Rev. William F. O'Neal
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
1330 Pine Street
Columbia 4, South Carolina

23. Paul Valliere (W)
Williams College
Den: United Church of Christ
The Rev. Charles McCreary
Calvary Baptist Church
218 Holbrook Street
Danville, Virginia
24. Murray L. Wagner (W)
Bethany Theological Seminary
Den: Church of the Brethren
The Rev. James W. Smith
Seventh Street Presbyterian Church
Corner Seventh & College Sts.
Charlotte, North Carolina
25. James Lynwood Walker (N)
Duke University Divinity School
Den: Baptist
The Rev. Tom McCormick
High Point Christian Church
6558 35th Avenue, S.W.
Seattle 6, Washington
26. Malcolm George Walters (W)
Southeastern Baptist Seminary
Den: Baptist
The Rev. J. Oscar McCloud
Davie St. United Presby. Church
Corner Davie St. at Person St.
Raleigh, North Carolina
27. Darrell L. Walton (W)
Yale Divinity School
Den: Methodist
The Rev. Julius R. Douglas
St. James United Presby. Church
820 Ross Avenue
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28. William C. Whit (W)
Andover-Newton Seminary
Den: United Church of Christ
The Rev. David R. Hedgley
First Baptist Church
Seventh St. & Highland Avenue
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
29. Ronald J. Young (W)
Wesleyan University
Den: Community Church
The Rev. James Lawson
Centenary Methodist Church
878 Mississippi Blvd.
Memphis 6, Tenn.
30. The Rev. John T. Porter
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1531 Sixth Avenue South
Birmingham, Alabama