

motive

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JUL 30 1969

SANDY LUNGERSHAUSEN



LITHOGRAPH: ABERRATION #1



7 July 1969

Dear motive subscriber:

The General Secretary of the United Methodist's Division of Higher Education on June 24 announced his decision to cancel the May, 1969, issue. We strongly disagree with his decision, which was made personally and without consultation with our committee, the Committee on the Future of motive (CFM).

At the same time, we are convinced that motive has an exciting future ahead of it. We have the greatest confidence in the newly elected editorial leadership which we nominated and the Division of Higher Education elected: Robert Maurer as editor (from the editorship of Christianity and Revolution and the staff of the National Citizens Committee Concerned About Deployment of the ABM) and James Stentzel as managing editor (from the editorship of the Union Seminary Quarterly Review and the civil rights movement in Mobile, Ala.).

We feel that you, the readers of motive, deserve an explanation of the magazine's present situation. By knowing the facts, we hope you will join us in shaping a new future for the magazine.

Last September, B.J. Stiles submitted his letter of resignation as editor of motive. In late March, 1969, after completing work on the May issue, he left for the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Foundation.

Last November, we were jointly appointed to the CFM by the Board of Education and our respective constituencies (listed below). Our tasks were to advise the publisher on the choice of a new editor and to recommend new directions for the magazine's future, including its policy and its publisher. The CFM worked on these tasks from December through May.

The women's liberation issue stirred a wide controversy in the Methodist Church. Objections were made not only to "four-letter words" but also to discussion of such topics as lesbianism in a church publication. The criticism reached a peak in May. On May 22, the May issue was removed from the presses.

We were led to believe, as were you, that the General Secretary had "temporarily postponed" the issue until the magazine's continuation was affirmed at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Division of Higher Education on June 23.

In a June 24 press conference, the General Secretary announced that the May issue would "never be printed." We regret his decision because we think it reflects the church's nervousness about speaking forthrightly to the issues of our day. Further, we apologize to you for the June 16 letter, in which we honestly stated that we thought the May issue to be "temporarily postponed."

Nonetheless, we want to affirm the future of what we consider a crucial magazine. We are hopeful because the publisher (the Board of Education in general and the

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Dear Mr. [Name]

The report of the [Committee] on the [Topic] was received on June 24 and the [Committee] met on June 25 to discuss the report. The [Committee] was very pleased with the report and the [Committee] will be recommending the [Committee] to the [Board] on the [Topic].

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Last November, we were jointly appointed to the [Committee] by the Board of [Institution] and our respective constituent [Institution]. Our tasks were to [Task] and to recommend new directors for the [Magazine].

The [Committee] has been very successful in its work and we are very pleased with the results. The [Committee] has been very successful in its work and we are very pleased with the results.

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General Secretary in particular) has given every indication that motive's freedom will be intact. These indications are: (1) approval of our nominees for editor and managing editor; (2) approval of plans for an ecumenical publisher; (3) refusal to institute prior censorship of future issues, despite heavy pressure to do so; (4) approval of the CFM as the Interim Editorial Board of the magazine; and (5) the authority given to the Interim Editorial Board and the staff to strike out in new directions--to make the magazine more probing, more incisive and more relevant as it digs into and moves along the revolutions of the 1970s.

We share, along with the Board of Education, full confidence in the new editor and his staff. We assume our duties as the Interim Editorial Board with equal confidence. However, it is utterly clear that we also need your confidence and support--not just in terms of reading motive. We need your support through active participation in suggesting articles, themes, and art work, in circulating the magazine among friends and in writing directly to us and the editor about your visions for the magazine's future.

Sincerely,

Dennis M. Campbell; Chairman, National Council of the Methodist Student Movement.
A. Myrvin DeLapp; Administrative Secretary, United Ministries in Higher Education.
H. Lynn Jondahl; Director of Resources, Christian Faith and Higher Education Institute;
Member, Executive Committee of the National Campus Ministry Association.

Samuel M. Kirk; Assistant Director, Department of Campus Ministry of the United Methodist Church.

J. William Morgan; Member, Board of Education of the United Methodist Church;
Member, 1968-69 motive Editorial Board.

Eugene A. Ransom; Director, Department of Campus Ministry of the United Methodist Church.

Charlotte Bunch Weeks; Member, Executive Committee of the World Student Christian Movement; Editorial Consultant, March-April issue of motive.

NOTE: The above are seven of the eight members of the Committee on the Future of motive. The continuing editorial staff--Alan D. Austin, Dennis Akin and Joanne Cooke, concurs with the above statement.

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- A. Myrtle DeLoach; Administrative Secretary, United Ministers in Higher Education.
- M. Lynn Jondahl; Director of Resources, Christian Faith and Higher Education Institute.
- Member, Executive Committee of the National Campus Ministry Association.
- Samuel M. Kirk; Assistant Director, Department of Campus Ministry of the United Methodist Church.
- J. William Morgan; Member, Board of Education of the United Methodist Church.
- Member, 1968-69 motives Editorial Board.
- Eugene A. Ransaw; Director, Department of Campus Ministry of the United Methodist Church.
- Charlotte Busch Weeks; Member, Executive Committee of the World Student Christian Movement; Editorial Consultant, March-April issue of motives.

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ROBB



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OR
LEAVE IT!

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