

Forward Movement Publications

MEMBERSHIP

Forward Movement Publications is an agency of the General Convention, under the direction of the Presiding Bishop. Its mandate has been renewed by each Convention since 1934. An outgrowth of what was originally a Joint Commission on the Forward Movement of the Church, it has been governed since 1940 by an Executive Committee appointed by the Presiding Bishop. The present membership of the committee is:

The Rt. Rev. John M. Krumm, Tustin, California, *Chairman*

The Rt. Rev. Edward W. Jones, Indianapolis, Indiana, *Vice Chairman*

Mr. N. Beverley Tucker, Cincinnati, Ohio, *Treasurer*

The Rev. Charles Henry Long, Cincinnati, Ohio, *Secretary*

Mr. Glenn A. Biggs, Cincinnati, Ohio

Mr. James Lied, Ft. Thomas, Kentucky

Mr. Paul D. Myers, Cincinnati, Ohio

Mrs. Naomi Stoehr, Cincinnati, Ohio

Dr. Long is also Editor and Director of Forward Movement Publications with general oversight of both the editorial and business offices. Mrs. Jean Scott is Business Manager and Assistant Treasurer.

The editor is assisted in the selection of manuscripts and in the development of editorial policy by an Advisory Board of men and women from different parts of the country with skills in communications and a wide acquaintance with the needs of the Church. He is assisted also by a Consultant Editor (the Rev. Robert Horine) and a Consultant for Marketing (Mrs. Fran Cummins), both serving on a part-time basis.

During the past triennium, Mr. Charles Powers resigned from the Executive Committee after six years of service. New members of the committee are Mr. Lied and Mrs. Stoehr.

THE PAST TRIENNIUM

By the grace of God and the generous support of the Church, our work has continued to prosper. The circulation of *Forward Day by Day* continues to grow and now exceeds a million copies a year. Several recent issues have sold out completely for the first time in memory. We continue to emphasize the use of the Prayer Book Lectionary, and a surprising number of lay people are using *Forward Day by Day* as the foundation for their daily devotions together with the daily offices of the Prayer Book. To help them we have published a four-volume commentary, *The Daily Lectionary*, by Joseph Russell, and several guides to developing a personal rule of life.

Annual editions of the *Anglican Cycle of Prayer* have increased in circulation by nearly 60% over the triennium. Now in use in every part of the world, this calendar of intercessions has become one of the chief "bonds of affection" which holds the Anglican Communion together and, week by week, educates the membership about the scope and needs of the whole Church.

Sales of miscellaneous literature now amount to another million copies a year in addition to the sales of *Forward Day by Day*.

During the triennium we have published 12 issues of *Forward Day by Day*, at 96 pages each; 3 annual editions of the *Anglican Cycle of Prayer*, 128 pages each; no less

than 96 new pamphlets, booklets and paperback books on a wide range of subjects; we have acted as distributors for 41 books published by others, including the preparatory studies for the Lambeth Conference and important documents of the ecumenical movement, for a total of 137 new titles added to our catalog. This does not include the revision and reprinting of many old favorites and the preparation of new catalogs and mailing pieces four times a year to the clergy and others on our mailing list.

Such a volume of work by a small staff would not be possible without the efficiency and cooperation of many persons. In particular, the editor would cite the great contribution of his chief assistant, Marge Bowdon, who retires this year, and the whole flock of "angels" in the business office under the direction of Jean Scott. Two of their number, mother and daughter, were tragically murdered in 1987 and two others retired during the triennium. They have had to cope not only with these losses but with the computerization of the office and the largest volume of sales in our history. And they have done so with unflinching mutual support and cheerfulness. Marge Bowdon has coordinated all manuscript editing and production, been the one chiefly responsible for the *Anglican Cycle of Prayer* and still managed to find time to balance the roles of wife-mother-daughter and grandmother, to serve as warden of her parish, and to be both a skilled cellist and a champion swimmer. A lay ministry extraordinary!

Nor do we forget the generosity of our many authors, who contribute their work in most cases without compensation or royalties and in many cases anonymously. The Forward Movement from the beginning has been intended to service as a means by which those who have the gift of writing well would have opportunity to share that gift for the benefit of the whole Church. Among our contributors in the past triennium have been the following bishops, priests, and lay persons:

Bishops:

C. FitzSimons Allison, Frederick Borsch, Allen W. Brown, John M. Krumm, Paul Moore, Jr., Henry Okullu;

Other clergy:

Clifford Atkinson, Benjamin Axelroad, Jr., David Baumann, Michael Becker, Donald Bitsberger, Richard Bolles, John Booty, Sandra H. Boyd, Benjamin Campbell, Carl G. Carlozzi, Edward Chinn, Maurice A. Coombs, Barbara Crafton, Hugh Dickinson, Joe Morris Doss, Travis DuPriest, Tilden Edwards, Thomas L. Ehrich, Ronald S. Fisher, Joseph W. Goetz, Peter Gorday, David Gracie, John W. Groff, Jr., Conrad Grosneck, Denise Haines, Ralph Harper, Bert Hatch, Charles R. Henery, Robert Horine, Alan Jones, Frederick W. Kates, James W. Kennedy, William J. Lunny, Geddes MacGregor, James McReynolds, Charles Meyer, Albert S. Newton, Ellwyn Nichols, William A. Norgren, Henri Nouwen, Cora Partridge, Norman Pittenger, Charles P. Price, William D. Roberts, John H. Rodgers, Joseph P. Russell, Carroll Simcox, William Swatos, Beverley Tucker, Paul VanBuren, Ann Weatherholt, Charles F. Whiston;

Lay persons:

Jack Abell, Owanah Anderson, Philip Burton, Katherine Culkin, Verna Dozier, Joy G. Evans, Harry Griffith, Jean Haldane, Val Hillsdon-Hutton, Kristen Johnson Ingram, Janet Irwin, Harriet Kaufman, Roy Larson, Marianne Micks, Frank J. Mulligan, John D. Pettus, E. Ashley Rooney, Barbara Sadtler, parishioners of St. Stephen's, Wilkes Barre, Pa., Ilene Smith, David Sumner, Fredrica H. Thompsett, Lydia T. Wright;

Others:

Sister Josephine, C.H.S., Brother Andrew Marr, O.S.B., Sister Mary Michael, S.S.M.

A growing concern has been to find more effective ways to bring new resources published by the Forward Movement to the attention of the Church's lay and ordained leadership. Surveys indicate that 90% of our congregations use and distribute *Forward Day by Day*, but the distribution of other titles is spotty and varies widely from one parish to another. The greatest demand remains for titles that were popular 20 years ago. Although Bishop Krumm's sermon on AIDS sold more copies than any other pamphlet in 1987, new titles often do not get the trial use they deserve. Notices are mailed regularly to the clergy, but lay people often tell us they "had no idea" that such resources were available for their use.

One approach to the problem has been to arrange Forward Movement exhibits at General Convention and at as many national church meetings as the editor can attend. The editor visits every seminary in the United States and Canada to acquaint graduating seniors with these tools for their ministry. In addition, a portable, self-tending display has been designed and is available to be sent to diocesan conventions and other meetings, where lay people can see samples of new publications and obtain order blanks and catalogs. We would welcome suggestions of other ways to improve our marketing. One suspects that "word-of-mouth" is the best advertising of all.

During the triennium, the editor has worked with the Presiding Bishop and his staff in a review of communication agencies and policies in the Episcopal Church. As a result, the Presiding Bishop has given communications a high priority in his plans for the future and a number of proposals have been made for reducing wasteful duplication of efforts and improving the coordination of planning and sharing of responsibility for publications and communications, in print and other media, among both official and independent agencies. Preparations for the Lambeth Conference have also meant an additional responsibility for the Forward Movement as a member of the newly organized Anglican Publishers' Consortium.

FINANCES

The Forward Movement has not in the past received any subsidy from General Convention and does not request one now. The support of the Church is in the form of the purchase and use of the resources we have been asked to prepare. The support has enabled the Forward Movement to achieve new records during the triennium in both dollar volume and volume of sales. In three years we have had a substantial gain in assets which will insure our ability to continue and expand our work as a non-profit agency. As an agency of the General Convention, we are not separately incorporated but submit audited annual reports to the Presiding Bishop and Treasurer of the Executive Council.

Most of our assets are in the form of inventory and a revolving fund from which we pay the cost of printing new materials. In addition there are two special funds built up by contributions and bequests from our readers over many years: The Forward Movement Braille Fund provides braille editions of *Forward Day by Day* (free) and the Prayer Book (at nominal cost) to any blind person and subsidizes large print editions of other works. The Henry Wise Hobson Trust was established in memory of the founder and chairman for forty years of the Forward Movement. The fund now amounts to approximately \$115,000, and the income is used to provide free literature for the use of

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chaplains in prisons and hospitals and for others who are unable to pay. The trustees keep this fund separate from other Forward Movement accounts and would be pleased to receive further donations and bequests.

GOALS

1. To continue to do what we have done well in the past as well as we can in the future.
2. To make selected titles more widely known to the specific readers and users for whom they are intended.
3. To expand the list of publications available in large print editions and, if possible, in Spanish.
4. To cooperate more closely with other agencies of General Convention and departments of the Episcopal Church Center in joint planning for new publications related to the priorities of the next triennium and to seek the most economical and efficient means for their distribution.
5. To explore with other publishers within and for the Church avenues of greater cooperation and collaboration to meet the Church's communication needs in print and other media.

RESOLUTION

Resolution #A081

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, **That the Presiding Bishop be authorized to continue Forward Movement Publications under his supervision, and to appoint such staff members and committees as may be required to maintain its work.**

The Rev. Charles Henry Long
Director and Editor