

Meet...

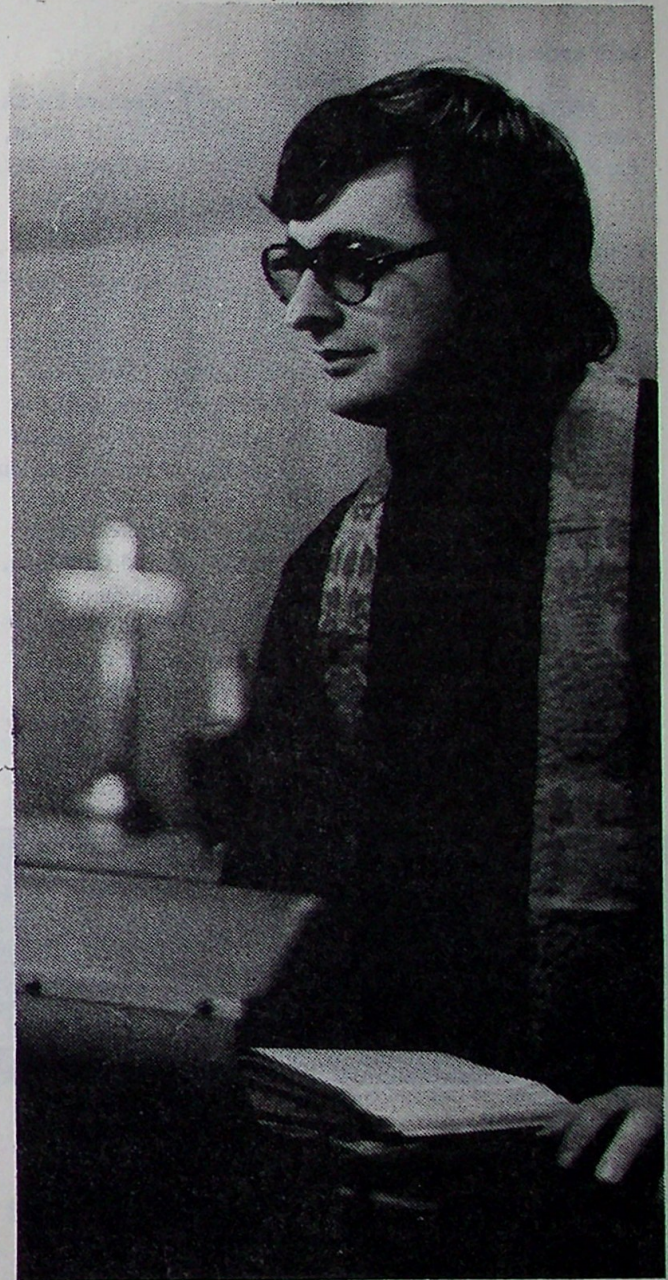
Rev. P. Wayne Trevathan

by Pat Heidenreich

- . . . "He's truly a man of God."
- . . . "When he first came here some of the people changed to another church. I guess they didn't understand him or his ways."
- . . . "He gets involved with the community and the people."
- . . . "He's cool, man. He don't go around praying all day."
- . . . "I wish I had a son like him."
- . . . "I feel fortunate to call him my friend."
- . . . "He smiles alot. And when you look at his eyes you see love."
- . . . "He's brought many back to the church and has given the regular parishioners new inspiration."
- . . . "He always says 'Hi' when I pass him on the street . . . and he always asks how my grandma is . . . she's been sick."
- . . . "When we don't have nutin' to do . . . or if we wanna talk to someone about somethin' that's bugging us, we go down to the church and shoot some pool. Wayne's never too busy to talk to us."
- . . . "He takes time to care."
- . . . "If they haul us kids off for loitering, he'll be one of the first to go. He's always hanging around rapping with us."



There's a lot of talk and many varied opinions floating around Southern Boone County about the Rev. P. Wayne Trevathan, pastor of the Whitestown United Methodist Church and the Salem United Methodist Church (near Zionsville). One of the more popular descriptions is . . . 'a dynamic young hippie minister'.



Rev. P. Wayne Trevathan

When asked if he was aware of this he laughed heartily, blushed slightly and stammered, "I don't know if that's good or bad-and I sure never thought of myself as being dynamic."

The fact remains -Wayne Trevathan has made quite an impression since moving to Whitestown a year and a half ago and beginning his first full charge pastoral duties.

Born in Evansville, Indiana, he celebrates his birthday on February 7th. He keeps his age a secret, however.

"I've had people guess anywhere from 23 to 36," he smiled. "I feel not telling my age helps me relate to

Rev. Trevathan con't.

both generations."

He graduated from Bosse High School and earned his BA degree at the University of Evansville with a double major, English/Journalism and Political Science/American History.

He started out as a copy boy at the Sunday Courier & Press, Evansville and spent eight years working his way up through the ranks writing obituaries, municipal news, features and finally was considered a specialized reporter in law enforcement. Once when he was writing a story on the conditions at the Vandeburgh County Jail, he had himself incarcerated on a felony charge, 2nd degree burglary. He was put in a day cell with 11 other prisoners and remembers one of the men was charged with murder. Others had serious charges too, such as armed robbery and passing bad checks for high amounts. Wayne pretended he had broken into a gas station and robbed the vending machines and telephone. The men were questioning him on how he broke into the telephone and were suspicious when he told them with a screwdriver. They said anyone knows it's easier to rip the thing off the wall. Anyway, after a few days, he got the information for his story and was released under the pretext that someone had bailed him out. The conditions at the jail turned out to be abominable and his story turned out

to be an expose. Public pressure soon corrected the situation.

On another assignment he masqueraded as a clown for a day with the Clyde Beatty-Cole Brothers Circus. He rode



The Whitestown United Methodist Church

on Jumbo the elephant's trunk and was requested by an accompanying photographer from the newspaper to put his head into Otto the Blood Sweating Hippo's mouth. Wayne didn't trust the beast, so only complied with his arm. It was a good thing, because the animal clamped down his jaws and Wayne barely got his arm out in time.

After deciding to enter the ministry, he left his newspaper job and studied at Boston University, receiving a Master of Theology degree. He served as assistant minister

Shop BEN FRANKLIN®

...where your dollars have more cents!

**Boone Village
Zionsville**

5 mi. east of I-65 & SR 334

Charge It!

your **BANKAMERICARD** welcome here

master charge

**OPEN TIL 9 p.m.
WEEKDAYS**

SUNDAY 1 to 5 p.m.



at three parishes, two Methodist and one Roman Catholic, before being assigned as Pastor of the two Southern Boone County churches in June of 1972.

At the Newman Center at Butler University, he met a girl from Pennsylvania, Niceta Bradburn. The couple married in August, 1972. Mrs. Trevathan, professionally known as Dr. Bradburn, is a Junior at the Indiana University Medical School. She also works part time on the staff of the Eli Lilly Industrial Clinic.

One of the ways Wayne has become involved in the community is by forming a high school and a post high school basketball team and securing a gymnasium for them to use. The older team is part of the Indianapolis YMCA league. The teams are called the Big Mugs and the Little Mugs.

"We came up with those names because before they began playing basketball, they mostly hung around the store fronts and adults were saying they were afraid of being mugged by the boys," he explained. "First we thought of The Whitestown Muggers, but then we just went with the Big Mugs and the Little Mugs."

Wayne explains his rapport with the youth as being a natural one. "I guess I just enjoy doing what kids do. I don't have to force myself to play their games, I really like to."

He is presently co-ordinating a church sponsored drug education program for the Whitestown-Zionsville area and spearheading plans for an extensive recreation program in Whitestown this summer. He has been busy gathering equipment for use at a youth center which will be located in the basement of the Whitestown church. So far he has a pool table and a ping pong table, but needs more than one of each and could also use a bumper pool outfit. He acquired equipment for several outdoor games, such as horse shoes. The center will be open to all ages, will be supervised and will offer instruction in arts and crafts as well as recreation. Movies will be shown on Thursday nights. He hopes the program will continue in the Fall with a Family Night once a week.

Not all of his time is spent in the interest of the youth. Twenty or more hours each week are used in adult counseling.

He is under contract to Paulist Press for a book concerning what a small group can do to be effective in bringing change in the Criminal Justice system. He spent the advance royalty check to travel to Washington D.C. and Boston where he did the research and interviews. He figures he needs about a solid week, night and day, of being holed up somewhere to put the book together.

"There just aren't enough hours to get everything done



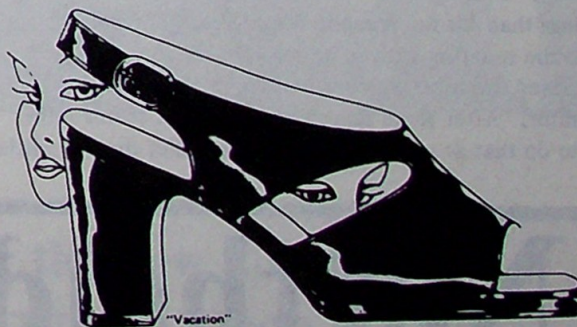
that needs to be done," he said with a sigh.

But from the comments of the people, Wayne is never too busy to listen . . . never too busy to smile . . . never too busy to visit . . . never too busy to play a game with a kid that needs a pal . . . never too busy to care. Maybe that's what being a minister is all about. □



The Colonial Bootery

'Lovely Ladies & Teens Fine Footwear'
55 N. Main St. Zionsville 873-4948



PEEK-A-SHOE!

Beautiful, bare days and nights call for beautiful, soft and bare footwear. Shapely lines make a fashion comeback with a slimmer heel, trimmer looks. In basic and pastel shades: Black, Navy, White, Red, Pink or Yellow, \$18

connie®

