

will the church library relate to other institutions and libraries in the area? The answer to this will vary with the size and location of the church. A large church in a busy metropolitan area, especially an inner-city church, will find many opportunities in a reading room ministry. Some church libraries are able to relate to college students by offering material not found in abundance in state-supported libraries.

A church in a rural or small community may be the only library available to residents of the area. In other locations the church library can make known its willingness to work with small public libraries in meeting requests not usually directed to public libraries.

The church is primarily interested in meeting the needs of individuals. The church library is the means of providing the resource material which will meet these needs most effectively. The material may be used to train workers, to extend the teaching-learning process beyond the classroom, or to offer helps in meeting everyday problems of church members. A church that cares will provide through its church library materials to match the multiple needs of its people.

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## TWO THESES WRITTEN AT UNC

Two theses treating church libraries in depth have been written by students in the School of Library Science at UNC in Chapel Hill since the opening of the School in 1931.

The authors and titles of these theses are as follows:

1. Durrance, Joan C., *A Survey of Church Libraries*.
2. Whitehurst, Lillonteen, *A Survey of the Purposes and Trends of Church Libraries in the Southern Baptist Convention in North Carolina*.

Both theses were written in 1964.

The major portion of the study by Mrs. Durrance is devoted to a discussion of the 22 church libraries in the cities of West Palm Beach and Lake Worth, Florida as revealed through questionnaires and interviews. The writer attempts "to present an overall picture of the church library" coupled with "a picture of denominational church library service and its influence on and relationship to the local church library." In the final chapter of this thesis, the writer raises the question, "What is the responsibility of the library profession toward the church library?" Her answer is "the dispensing of accurate information both through professional literature and on the local level concerning the church library." She contends that "the professional librarian should become familiar with the materials and services made available to the local church library by the denominational church library departments."

The Whitehurst study is an analysis of the responses to a questionnaire sent to 83 church libraries which are members of the Southern Baptist Convention in the Tar Heel state.

In her thesis, Miss Whitehurst describes "the purpose of these libraries, their organizational framework, qualifications of the librarians, the nature and size of the book collections, and the preparation, organization, and use of the book collections in 32 of these churches." She concludes her study by offering suggestions "in an attempt to delineate the

unique purposes of the church library and to relate these purposes to the facilities and services which this type of library should provide."

Both theses are available to librarians through Interlibrary Loan from the School of Library Science at UNC.

In addition to the two theses described above, three other theses relating to church libraries were listed in *Library Literature* during the period January, 1957-June, 1966.

## GREENSBORO LIBRARIAN IS AUTHOR

Miss Alice Straughan, librarian of First Baptist Church in Greensboro for the past twenty years, is the author of a book entitled *How to Organize Your Church Library* published by Fleming H. Revell Company in 1962.

Approximately 5,000 copies of this 64-page book were sold. The book is currently out of print, and no plans for reprinting it have been announced.

Miss Straughan has assisted in the organization of more than 100 libraries in churches of all denominations.

## NORTH STATE NEWS BRIEFS

### MEMBERS APPROVE DUES CHANGES

By a margin of 7-1, NCLA members approved a change in the association's dues structure effective January 1, 1967. The vote, taken by mail ballot in the fall of 1966, was 657 for the changes proposed by a special study committee and 94 against.

The new dues are as follows:

Individual members—\$5.00 per year.

Retired librarians, trustees, "Friends of Library" members, library school students, and other non-librarians—\$3.00 per year.

Institutional membership (based upon operating income):

Under \$50,000 annual income—\$5.00; \$50,001-100,000—\$10.00; and \$100,000 up—\$15.00.

Subscription to NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES for non-members of NCLA — \$3.00.

A special study committee chaired by Dr. Merrill G. Berthrong, director of Wake Forest College Libraries, recommended the dues increase, and the NCLA Executive Board endorsed the recommendation at its October meeting.

### TAR HEEL LIBRARIANS REPRESENTED AT SELA

Several Tar Heel librarians participated in section and committee meetings as well as general sessions at the Southeastern Library Association conference held at the Marriott Motor Hotel in Atlanta October 26-29.