

KOINONIA PARTNERS

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Americus, Georgia 31709

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

July 1971

(EDITOR'S NOTE: THE COTTON PATCH EVIDENCE is off the press!! Copies have been mailed to everyone who ordered. Unless your order was placed within the past two weeks, you should have already received your copy by now. If you have not ordered, you may still do so at the pre-publication price of \$4.95 each. After August 1, the price per copy is \$5.95.)

In our last newsletter we told you about the crisis in our county public school system. To this date, one hearing has been held in Federal Court relative to the case but no decision has been handed down. We should be able to tell you more in the next newsletter. The wheels of justice grind exceedingly slow.....

The weeks since we last wrote have been full and busy ones. Summer has brought us warm sunshine and plentiful rain the corn rises 9 ft. or more to the sky and the ears are long and fat. New farming partners Bessie Thomas and Jan Carlson have completed a good squash harvest over five tons per acre..... and their seven acres of okra are now ready for picking. Will Wittkamper's organic vegetable garden has put plenty of fresh strawberries, snap beans, carrots, beets, turnips, sweet corn and tomatoes on community tables at lunch time, and in the canning cupboards for the coming winter.

Our peanuts are growing too, and so are the weeds. Heavy rains have kept the tractors out of the fields the peanuts have only been cultivated once and weed growth is thick. Coffeeweed, ironweed and morning glory vines threaten to choke the young peanut plants and cut yield by as much as 50%. So for the last few weeks, the whole community has pitched in to help the farmers, and every day but Sunday begins at 6 a.m. in the peanut fields with two hours of pickin' and pullin'.

The Summer has also brought us several new partners to enlarge the Koinonia family. Ron and Etta Ruth Savage moved to Koinonia with their three children in late June from Tullahoma, Tennessee. Ron will be working with Bill Londoree as a partner in the new Sewing Industry, and his skills and years of experience in electrical engineering will be a tremendous asset to our newest rural industry. Etta Ruth also expects to be working in the Sewing Industry, when she is not busy taking care of the children, Diana (7), Deborah (5), and Timothy (8 months).



Bessie Thomas, a new farming partner, heads for the okra patch

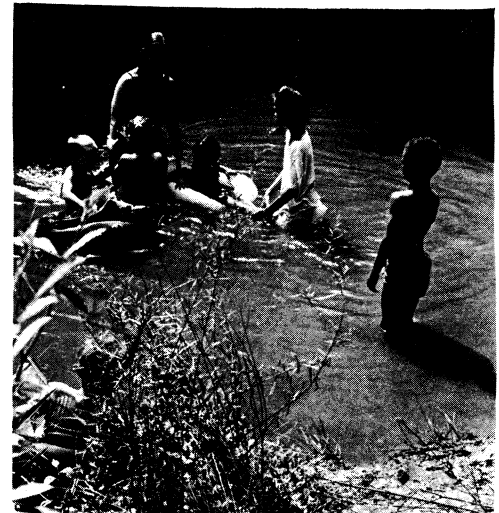
Etta Ruth will be getting help with some of the children for the summer at least, due to the arrival of another new partner, Joanne Abel, from Atlanta, Georgia. Joanne is a recent graduate of Georgia Southern College in Statesboro, Georgia, and she plans to teach in one of the county public schools this Fall. September is two months away, however, so Joanne has started her own school for the summer a morning Bible School for children, 3-12 years old, from the Koinonia Community and Village, and from the surrounding area of Americus. There will be three complete, two week sessions of the School, with a capacity for 30 kids each session activities include games, singing, stories and crafts. We have just recently purchased a 12 passenger van, which should enable us to provide transportation for many more children in the outlying areas. Joanne is being helped in this ambitious effort by Debbie Boggs, who came down to share our way of life in mid-June, after graduating from Syracuse University with a degree in Special Education. Along with her present involvement with the Bible School, Debbie has assumed responsibility for directing the operation of the new Child Development Center for pre-school children 3-5 years old. Construction of temporary quarters for 1971-72 continues to move ahead at a steady rate at the building site in Koinonia Village.....supplies have been ordered and are on their way and our dream will soon become a reality for the pre-school aged children of the area.

Summer is a time of visiting God has guided many new friends to the farm to share fellowship with us and several Koinonia Partners have been travelling as well. Florence Jordan visited her daughters, Eleanor and Jan, in Elkhart, Indiana, for two weeks in July, and her son Lenny is doing volunteer work at the Forest River Hutterite Colony at Fordville, North Dakota for the whole summer. (Lenny completed his first year of college at Mercer in June.) Will and Margaret Wittkamper spent about three weeks during July with their two sons, Greg and David, at Friends World College in New York. (David was married to Kathy Crawford at Koinonia in June in a beautiful lakeside ceremony, performed by David's father, Will.)

AIN'T THAT GOOD NEWS is now available for shipment. This is a 33 1/3 rpm stereo recording of Negro spirituals sung by Bennye Terrell Milton. The price is \$4.98. Songs included in this record are: "Mary Had A Baby", "Were You There", and "In Bright Mansions Above".

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a price list for pecans and other farm products. NO SHIPMENTS OF FOOD PRODUCTS WILL BE MADE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 20TH (shipments are made throughout the year on books, records, tapes, pamphlets and clothing items.) You will notice that most prices have increased. We regret this, but all our costs have gone up. Last season, we failed to break even on pecan products at the old prices.

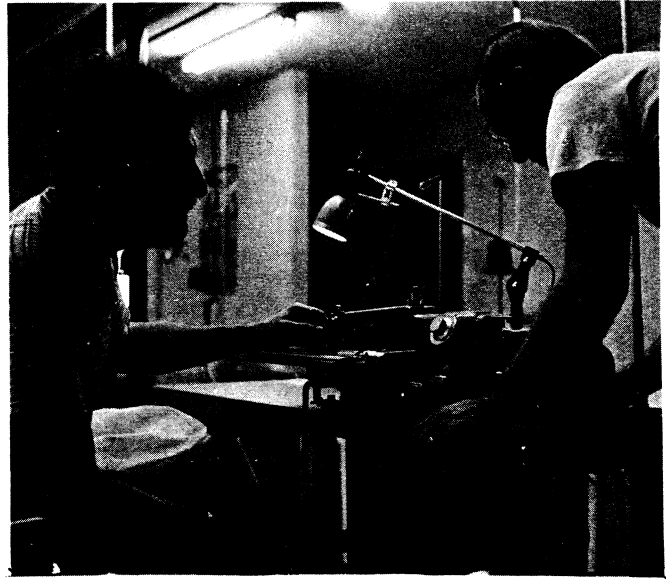
We would appreciate it if you could place your early Fall orders now, to give us an idea of what volume of sales we can expect for the coming season. We will ship your order on the



On the hottest days, those of us who can go swimming.

date you indicate. And remember now is the time that many groups plan their Fall fund-raising programs. Keep in mind that Koinonia products are excellent choices the food products are of the highest quality and the pecan cookbook is a great gift idea. You will find our quantity prices set forth in the enclosed price list.

Note especially, too, the single sheet enclosed about Koinonia Handcrafts. Carol Brink and Laurie Fuchs are carrying on with this "pioneer" partnership industry while the original Koinonia Sewing Industry is blossoming under the leadership of Bill Londoree. Production got under-way in mid-July on double-knit ladies pants. These will be sold in department stores beginning in the Fall. This new partnership industry is giving employment to twenty people and this number will increase as time goes along. On both of these industries—Koinonia Handcrafts and Koinonia Sewing Industry—profits, above a modest living allowance for the partners, go into the Fund For Humanity, to build homes for families and to carry on the total work of Koinonia. Other money for the Fund comes from tax-deductable gifts and non-interest loans from concerned persons and churches throughout the country.



Dave Waldner and Ron Savage keep the machines turning in our new Sewing Industry.

Suruban Partners is a new community of Christians in Durham, North Carolina, founded this year by a group of young people who have been close spiritual friends of Koinonia. They live in a transitional neighborhood in inner-city Durham, and they take the Durham - Raleigh - Chapel Hill area as the focal point for their community service efforts. Suruban Partners also shares in the work of Koinonia Partners, with their pledge to finance the construction of one of the houses in the Koinonia Village. To this date, they have raised \$3,500 toward this goal.

In order to finance their community and its work, Suruban Partners has opened a craft shop and started a clock industry. The latter keeps several people busy assembling and finishing 12" diameter wall clocks. These battery-operated (permanent magnet) clocks are enclosed in Philippine mahogany with a hand-rubbed finish. They come round or octagonal in a choice of five stains. If you are interested in supporting this new community, you may order a clock for \$19.95 (including shipping costs) from Suruban Partners, 704½ 9th Street, Durham, North Carolina, 27705. When ordering, please indicate desired shape and choose among walnut, maple, red mahogany, French Provincial, and Jacobian (dark) stains. These partners have taken some serious steps in faith, and we ask you to pray with them for God's guidance.

Earlier this month Millard Fuller spoke to a group of community leaders in Columbus, Georgia. The scripture he used on that occasion, we feel, is not only appropriate and good advice for the people of Columbus, Georgia, but also for the people of Columbus, Ohio and other cities and towns throughout our land. So, we want to share it with you:

So then, if you've been given new life in Christ, go after the things of the New Order, in which Christ rules with God's authority. Set your hearts on the ways of the New Order, not on those of the world...Quit playing false with one another, since you have shucked off the old man and his habits, and have put on a new one which is constantly being re-made to the specifications of its Creator's pattern. The pattern for the new man is the same for a Negro and a white man, a church-member and non-church-member, foreigner, Mexican, employee, employer, but Christ is everything in everybody.

Wear the clothes, then, that will identify you as people whom God has selected and dedicated and loved. Your outfit should include a tender heart, kindness, genuine humility, loyalty, persistence. Put up with one another, and freely forgive each other if one has a gripe against somebody. You all forgive as freely as the Lord forgave you. Over all these things wear love, which is the robe of maturity. And let Christ's peace, into which you were called as one fellowship, order your lives. And be thankful for it. Let Christ's nature find abundant lodging among you. Teach and correct each other with great wisdom. With joy in your hearts sing hymns and songs and spirituals to God. And no matter what you're doing, by word or deed, let everything be in the name of the Lord Jesus, all the while giving thanks through him to the Father-God.

LETTERS TO GOD'S PEOPLE IN
COLUMBUS (COLOSSIANS)
From Chapter 3
COTTON PATCH VERSION