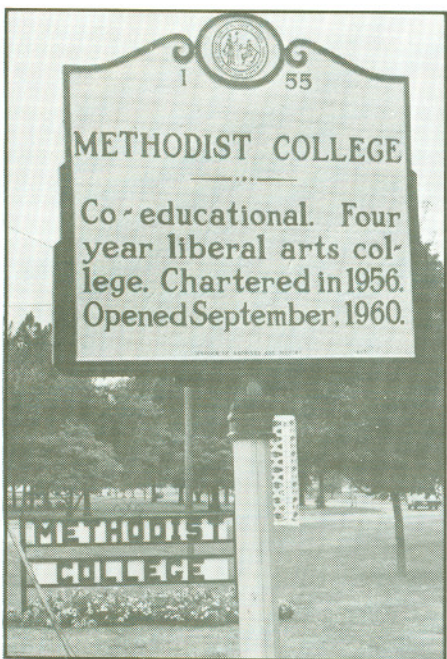




Dr. M. Elton Hendricks



## FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .

In January 1989, the Board of Trustees of Methodist College approved A *Strategic Plan for Methodist College: 1989-1994*. The introduction to the Strategic Plan recognized the important contributions of the early years of the college in helping to create the unique "Methodist College" style which is at the same time a present reality as well as an ongoing goal. Methodist College has always been and intends to be a special kind of place. Any plan for the future which is congruent with the past must seek to continue and to develop this special character which is a blend of academic excellence and moral nurture.

One of the reasons for planning is the recognition of the changing environment within which our special kind of education is done. The introduction notes that the ideals that are the essence of Methodist College must now be implemented in a new and different kind of world.

### INTRODUCTION TO STRATEGIC PLAN

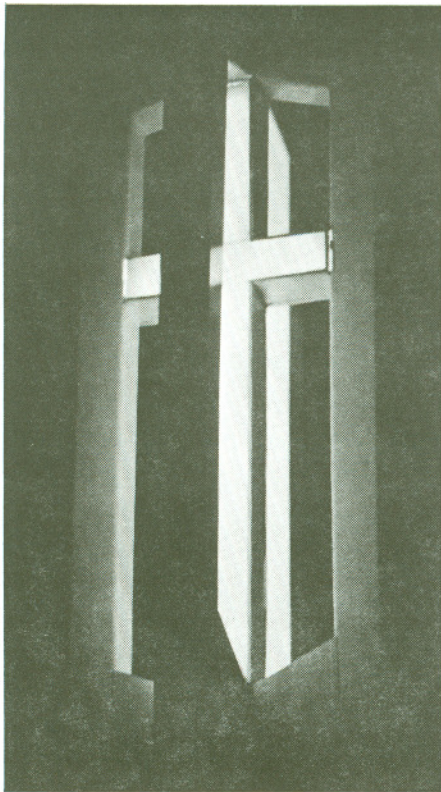
"Chartered in 1956, Methodist College is now entering the middle third of its first century. The vision, energy, and sacrificial service of the trustees, faculty, and staff of the early years created an almost pioneer spirit on the campus. With few resources, but with uncommon commitment to a vision of academic excellence and creative student development, the college has made great educational strides. No plan for the future of Methodist College could properly ignore our deep debt to the past. From that past comes the vision of a special kind of college. Methodist College today finds itself with a short but rich and noble heritage. It has a promising future, although a thoroughly challenging one.

No longer able to call itself a young college and not yet able to speak of even half a century of service, Methodist College enters a new phase--the middle third of its first century. As a college, it has "come of age," having achieved much but not having completely fulfilled its manifest destiny.

Methodist College now needs to plan for a new stage of development. Buttressed by its somewhat improved financial strength, its larger and academically stronger student body, and its expanded visibility and reputation, it has the opportunity in the years ahead to improve its service and enhance its institutional effectiveness. With good planning and hard work, it can provide a significant educational service to Cumberland County, North Carolina, and the eastern United States.

The fundamental vision of Methodist College has not changed in thirty years, but the world in which it operates is different. Thus we need to plan for the implementation of this continuing vision within a changing world. The purpose of this strategic plan is to suggest goals and courses of action that, over the next five years, will make Methodist College more effective in achieving its institutional mission. The goals specified in this plan will contribute to a college more able to provide appropriate academic programs and a student development environment more conducive to the college mission.





Of course, no long-range plan can provide a firm blueprint for the future. Our vision and information at the present time are imperfect. Very likely, unexpected contingencies will develop over the next five years that cannot be anticipated now and thus are not reflected in the plan. Therefore, this long-range plan cannot be viewed in any sense as a final and an absolute model for the future. Rather, it is a collective view of directions, programs, and, especially, goals that hold promise for increasing the effectiveness of Methodist College.

The strategic plan for Methodist College involves three parts:

1--An Education and Student Development Plan, which lists specific goals to be achieved in the period 1989-1994.

2--A Fiscal Plan, which uses the 1987-88 audit as a base and projects income and expenses by broad categories through 1994. The projections are based on certain stated assumptions.

3--The Physical Resources Plan, which identifies major physical improvements needed, provides a rough estimate of the cost of each one, and outlines a completion date for some projects.

The educational and student development goals are not the last word; rather, they are a foundation from which to develop new goals and plans."

The *Plan* establishes specific institutional goals for the next five years that have as their purpose the significant improvement of the overall educational program and effectiveness of Methodist College. In the eighteen months since it was approved, considerable dialogue has occurred in the college community concerning the future direction of the college and the best means of achieving our mission. Some of this dialogue was stimulated by the *Plan*, some by the once-a-decade self study that was completed during this period, and some by the comments of visiting review teams from the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges, the University Senate of the United Methodist Church and the Board of Higher Education and Christian Ministry of the North Carolina Conference. Some of the salient ideas and goals of the *Plan*, as well as the dialogue surrounding it, are indicated below.

## FACULTY

The heart of a college is its faculty. All programs and activities exist to bring students into contact with strong faculty in an environment that supports education. The idealized faculty at Methodist College individually will differ widely in style and methodology but they will all share two common features: They will be excellent teachers and they will be concerned about the wholistic development and nurture of students. The *Plan* is concerned with attracting and retaining such a strong faculty. It recognizes that attracting a good faculty requires competitive salaries, and the availability of support facilities that faculty use such as library, laboratory equipment, and good buildings.

## FACILITIES

In 1990, Methodist College completed the March F. Riddle Center, the first new building since the Hensdale Chapel was opened in 1969. (The football locker room completed in the Fall, 1989, was built as an addition to the





## REPLY FORM FOR HOMECOMING 1990

You are cordially invited to  
**HOMECOMING 1990**  
October 19, 20, 21  
and the following class  
reunions:

**Class of '65 - 25th**

**Class of '70 - 20th**

**Class of '75 - 15th**

**Class of '80 - 10th**

**Class of '85 - 5th**

Holiday Inn/Bordeaux at  
Owen & Village Drives will  
offer special rates to MC  
alumni. Call (919) 323-0111  
or 1-800-325-0211 and tell  
the reservations clerk you are  
coming for the Methodist  
College Homecoming.

**Friday, Oct. 19**

**9 P.M.- Midnight - Party for Classes of '64 - '75.** Holiday Inn/Bordeaux.  
Names of those attending (\$7 per person): \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, Oct. 20**

**11 A.M. - Alumni Basketball Game** (For Former Varsity or J.V.Players.)  
Names of those who wish to play: \_\_\_\_\_

**6 P.M. - Babysitting Service.** Names and Ages of Children : \_\_\_\_\_

**6:30 P.M. - Alumni Dinner, Student Union** (\$6.50 per person) Names of  
those Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Please total costs and make your check out to **Methodist College Homecoming.** Return with this form to Office of Alumni Affairs, Methodist College, 5400 Ramsey St., Fayetteville, NC 28311 by October 10th.

**Note to Alumni:** The March F. Riddle Physical Activities Center will be dedicated at 10:30 a.m. Saturday. For a complete schedule of homecoming activities, please consult the brochure that was mailed to you in August.

METHODIST COLLEGE  **TODAY**

**Vol. XXXI, No. 3 September 1990**

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