

INCORPORATION AND THE CHURCH ARE PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

Historically, the church has always been concerned with the spiritual and physical well being of its members. Increasingly since the Civil Rights struggles of the 1960's, the church has assumed an important place in the educational, economic, and political aspects of community life.

On 2 April 1983, representatives of all faith met for a round table discussion on incorporation. The ministers wanted to take the incorporation message to their parishioners. Over breakfast, a lively and informative discussion followed.

Charles Price, Chairman of East Palo Alto Organizations for Independent Government, hosted the breakfast. Isaac Stevenson, emceed the event and thrilled the attendees by a beautiful rendition of The Lord's Prayer.

Dr. F. Omowale Satterwhite, Chairman of the San Mateo Planning Commission and a candidate for the new city council led an indepth discussion on the fiscal implications of incorporation.

All of the ministers joined in the discussions asking questions, volunteering their own answers along the way. Scare tactics used by the opposition surfaced, particularly the "lose your home" scare. most homeowners know better. They know that they will not lose their homes as a function of incorporation. They know that proposition 13 only permits a 2% raise each year in property taxes. People have to vote by a 2/3 majority to raise property taxes or other taxes.

Several candidates for the new city council were present. They added their views on the viability of incorporation. All earnestly support incorporation.

The outgrowth of the meeting was the compiling of the fact sheet "What People Want To Know About Incorporation - Twenty Two Key Questions.

Ministers in attendance were: Elder W. L. Bains, Rev. Charles L. Barnes, Rev. Edward Butler, Rev. Johnny Cooksey, Rev. James E. Due, Sr., Rev. C. Fontenot, Rev. J. W. Fort, Rev. Joseph Green, Rev. Lyrtee B. Gulley, Rev. T. J. Hill, Rev. James Lutcher, Rev. H. C. Macklin, Rev. Henry N. Milton, Rev. B. T. Washington, Rev. Albert Williams, and Rev. Huey P. William.

Copies of Twenty Two Key Questions may be obtained from EPACCI at 321 Bell Street, East Palo Alto, CA 94303