

a conservative treatment of the subject...Mickey is one of the leaders in conservative Methodism today; and Tuttle: JOHN WESLEY, HIS LIFE AND THEOLOGY for a better understanding of Wesley and his ideas.

(6) There is an evangelical core in Methodism that seeks to make a renewal. We will discuss it later in our work when we look at reactions to modern unbelief.

b. The United Church Community

The United Church of Christ is a more recently formed religious community although its roots go back very deeply into the American past. It is a composite body that has succeeded in some extent to bridging opposed polity and doctrinal structures in that it grew from a merger of the Evangelical and Reformed church with the Congregational Christian Church in 1957...both of the merging bodies being products of mergers as well.

(1) Notes on historical background.

(a) Congregational history...our background notes are on page 34 and following...

/1/ the New England settlement

/2/ Unitarian inroads

/3/ The Kansas City "Confession"

/4/ Educational institutions. In this regard the work of Ernest Gordon: THE LEAVEN OF THE SADDUCEES, an account of the liberal takeover of Andover Seminary, is very much to the point.

(b) Reformed church background (not previously noted in detail)

/1/ Group history: The Evangelical and Reformed church merged Lutheran and Calvinistic German bodies in 1934...the Lutheran bodies being the old Evangelical Synod and not so strongly committed to the classical Lutheran statements. The merged body was essentially composite and accepted the Heidelberg Catechism as well as the Augsburg Confession and Luther's Catechism for theological foundations. The group was strong in the middle states although having some strength in the midwest as well.

/2/ The Schaaf/Nevin contribution is of considerable interest in the background of this body. Both were theologians of the older German reformed (Schaaf, d. 1893, Nevin d. 1886). Both were ecumenically minded and served their church in