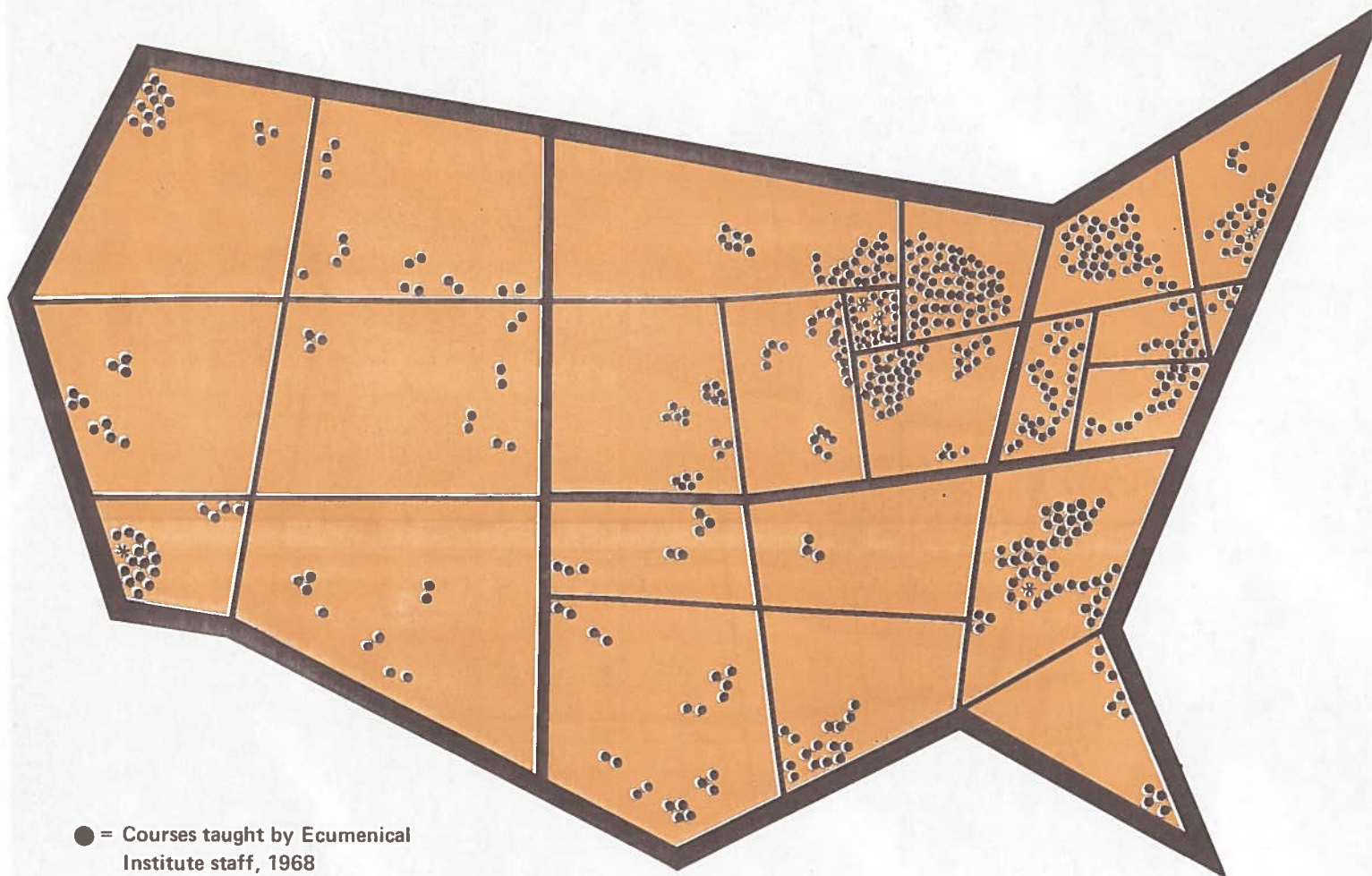


**i.e.**

Volume V Number 1 January 1969 BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE: CHICAGO

**we will create a human world**



- = Courses taught by Ecumenical Institute staff, 1968
- \* = Center with full-time staff, 1968

## in the nation

The need for the creation of a human world makes itself apparent at the national level. Change is possible; new constructs for human community can be built. It is the mission of the church to lead in the creation of the new world. Churchmen throughout the land are seeking tools to accomplish this task.

The Ecumenical Institute has led over thirty thousand persons in seminars on twentieth century urban society and twentieth century theological thought; on community reformulation and church renewal. Such inclusive education of both key clergy and laity creates leadership necessary for the solutions to pressing human problems.

In addition to the twenty-four regional training centers, the Ecumenical Institute has established five centers with full-time staff in Atlanta, Boston, Rockford, Los Angeles, and Chicago (Hyde Park).

# on Chicago's West Side

Coupled with the Ecumenical Institute's national education program is the 5th City Community Reformulation Project on Chicago's West Side. The goal of the experiment is the creation and testing of a model for twentieth century human community that can be duplicated in any city throughout the globe.

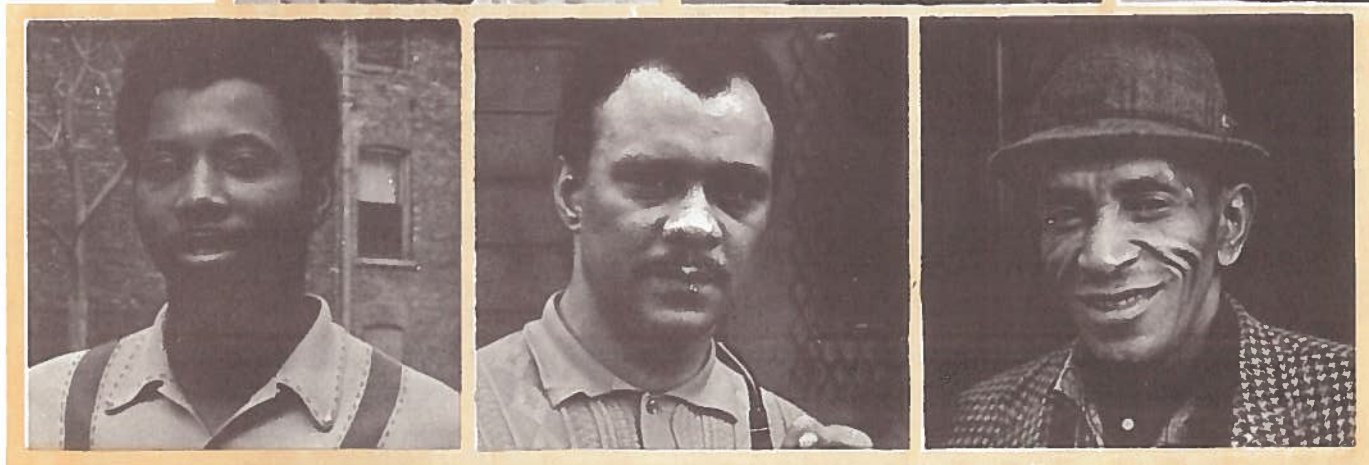


*Any comprehensive approach  
to community reformulation demands*

participation of all people in the gifts and resources of urban civilization. The Ecumenical Institute is sharing in the development of the methods necessary for the residents of a given area to actualize its reformulation on behalf of all communities. In 1968 the Institute enabled the training and employment of nine full-time community leaders as 5th City's Board of Managers. Their work includes the recruitment, training, and coordinating of 180 part-time community volunteers who effectively operate the eighty programs now under way in 5th City.



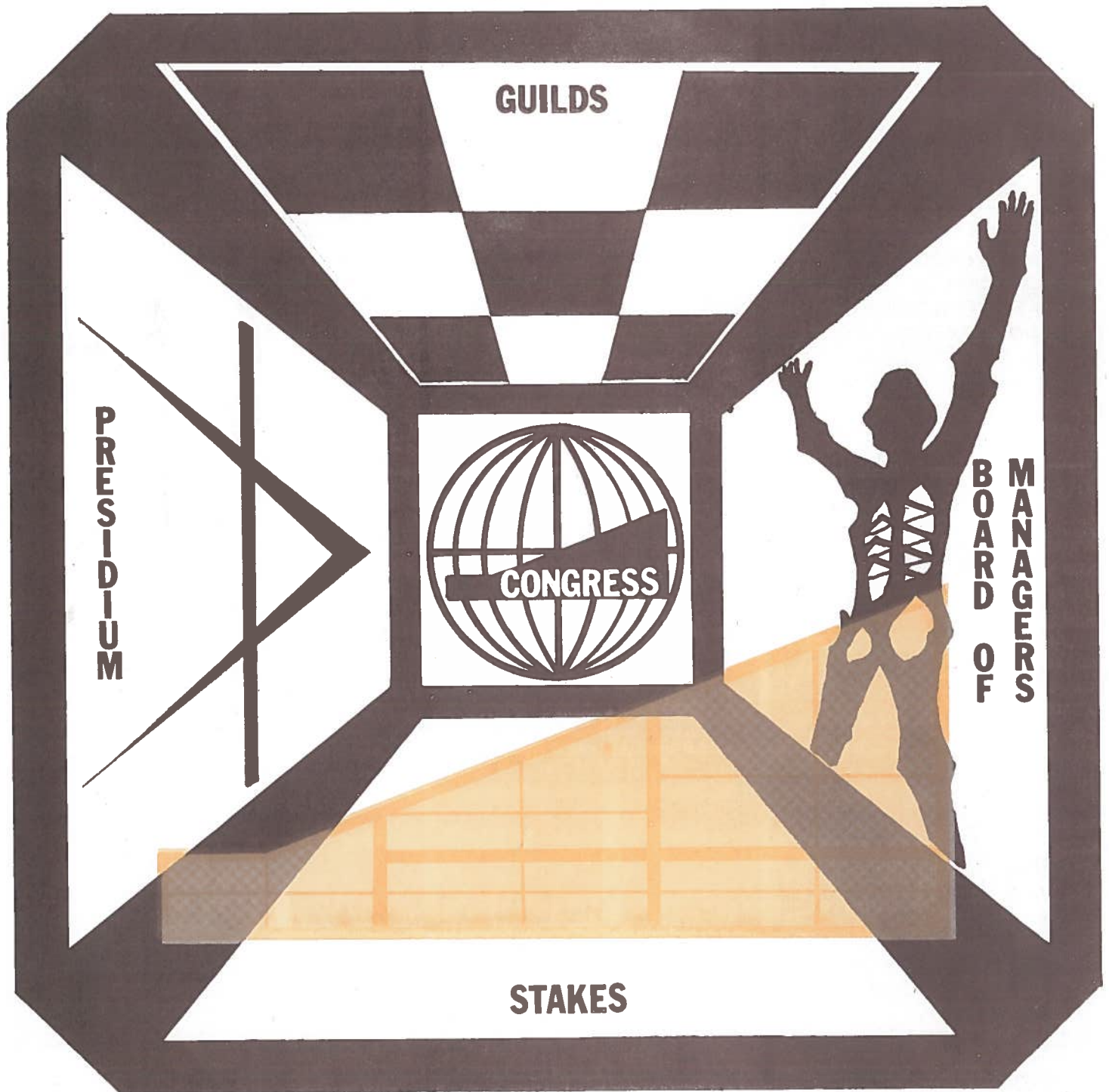
**Charles Churchill**  
**Mary Brown**  
**Leona Sparks**  
**Dawn Hampton**  
**Lela Mosely**  
**Charlie Steward**  
**Tom Lyles**  
**George McNeal**  
**Tom Washington**



# *Working in a delimited geographical area*

reduces the sense of chaos created when one attempts to take on the seemingly impossible complexity of the city at once. Community Reformulation is the rebuilding of those inadequate local structures which most directly affect human destiny.

Guilds create the necessary task teams to expose and solve the particular economic, political, and cultural problems that the community faces, while the Stakes organize the geographical subdivisions of 5th City to enable the care of every 5th citizen.



# *Acting on all the problems*

in a coordinated fashion is necessary because they are all inter-related. Piecemeal approaches never solve the real problems and cannot sustain the citizens' efforts for the time required to meet all the problems. In order to solve one problem it is finally necessary to solve them all, simultaneously. Research in 5th City disclosed 625 separately identifiable social problems. The structures to overcome them are created and maintained by the five Guilds.

## **POLITICAL GUILD HIGHLIGHTS**

- Local Peace Commission (the community watch) organized in every block for reporting crimes
- Legal Aid Clinic continues
- Voter registration and education intensified
- Civil rights association working toward equity in rental fees

## **ECONOMIC GUILD HIGHLIGHTS**

- Health clinic equipped
- 171 housing units approved for rehabilitation
- Urban shopping plaza plans under way
- IBM key punch and training school operating

## **SYMBOL GUILD HIGHLIGHTS**

- 5th City Ensemble and 5th City Players go on national tour
- 5th City Ensemble produce their first record album
- Murals created throughout 5th City reminding all of their story
- Folk arts agency created and sold symbols of blackness

## **STYLE GUILD HIGHLIGHTS**

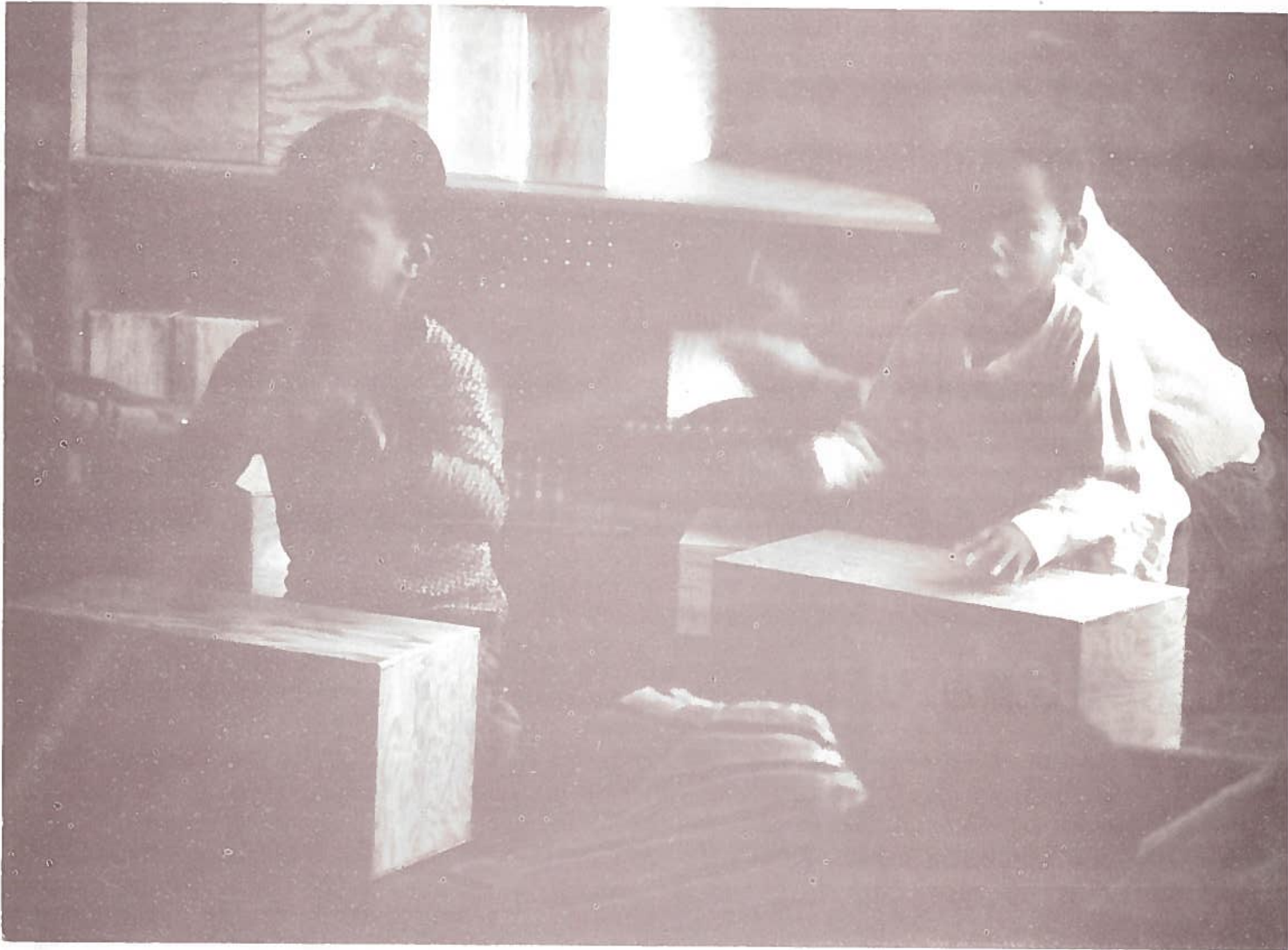
- Grade school children participate in after school Jet program
- Youth gangs motivated to operate youth center, rehabilitate housing units, teach black heritage courses
- Elder citizens teaching black heritage in public schools
- Neighborhood Youth Corps trained

## **EDUCATION GUILD HIGHLIGHTS**

- 215 children enrolled in the preschool program
- Urban Leadership Academy under way
- 5th City youth attending colleges and universities
- 37 high school emissaries in suburban schools throughout the land

# *Involving all age groups*

in a comprehensive approach to Community Reformulation requires a network of interrelated and coordinated programs representing the beginning, rising, emerging, established, and elder generations.



infant school  
mini school  
pre school  
kinder school  
starfire jets  
thunder jets  
sabre jets  
5th City youth set  
high school house  
university guild  
young citizens syndicate  
family services bureau  
community elders union

# *Answering the depth human problem*

at the base of all the problems is fundamental to creating a reformulated community. In 5th City it is the self-reinforcing victim image or the implanted memory that the Black man is a second-class citizen. The economic and political structures can be built, but if the people do not see themselves as significant and creative human beings, the depth problem of the community will not finally be met. 5th City has attempted to transmit new images of significance to explode the possibility of each person's full humanness.

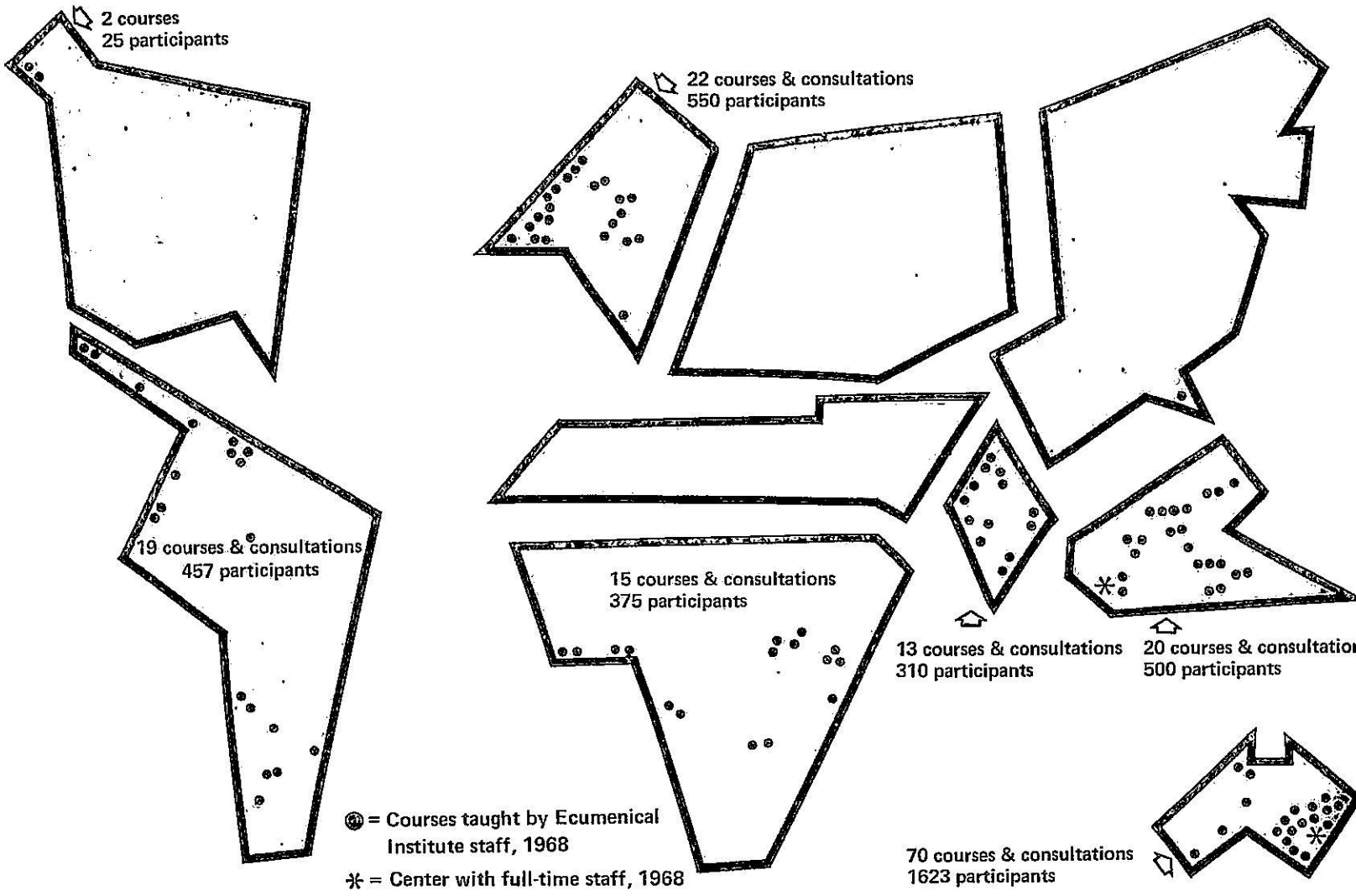




## *Through the intentional use of symbols*

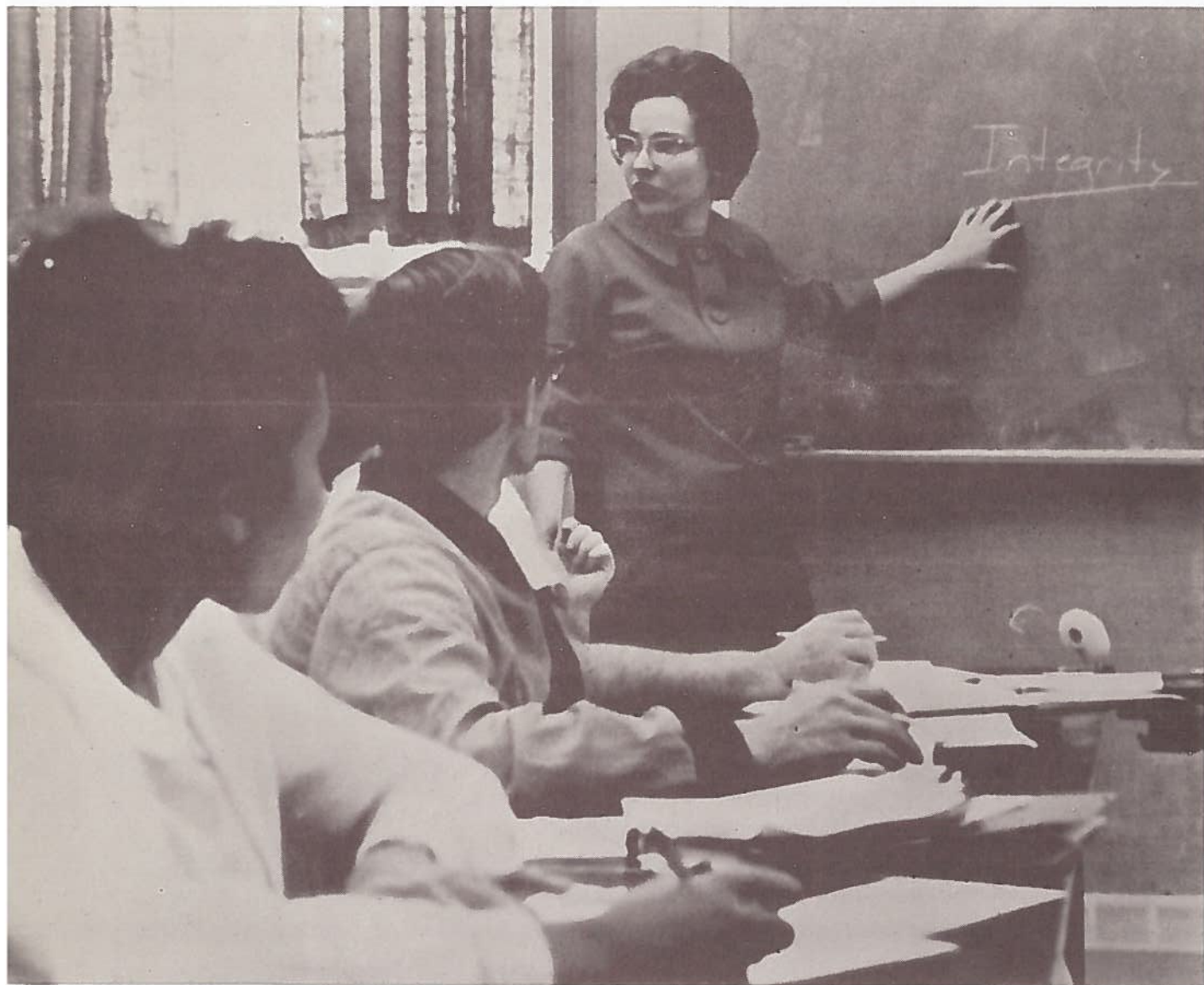
a person or community's self-understanding can be changed. Symbols which create commonness in community effort and vision as well as a sense of individual significance and worth are a primary tool in Community Reformulation. These include songs, celebrations, rites, insignias, murals, and symbols of the area.





# in the world

At the invitation of church leaders across the globe, the Ecumenical Institute has been offering courses and consultations in all of the major continents. Courses have been held in Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, Latin America, and the Islands of the Pacific. Such courses, conversations, and consultations are designed to equip indigenous leaders to assume the responsibility of the church—finding solutions for the worldwide problems which confront mankind. Over ten thousand persons have been directly related to the Institute's international program. Plans call for seminars this coming year in Latin America, Southeast Asia and Pacifica, Sub-Asia, and Western Europe.



## through depth training

The reformulation of community life in the city, the awakening to new images of human dignity, and the retooling of the church so that it can work effectively for human values require a depth training program. The Ecumenical Institute this year has established two academy programs for this purpose. One is the Academy for Parish Leadership Training: an eight-week program for theological, cultural, and practical methodologies designed for lay and clergy leadership in the twentieth century. The other is the Academy for Urban Leadership Training: an eight-week program for understanding the source of urban problems, gaining a comprehensive grasp of cultural trends and possibilities, and achieving proficiency in the practical methods of community reformulation. This program is designed for those who have decided to assume community leadership roles.

**Leader:** Let us come to terms with life

**Stake:** Our life is the city

The city is brokenness

Scattered, burnt pieces

**Leader:** Let us give the broken city to the world

**Stake:** Tomorrow the world is a city

Tall visions rise from the wreckage

Powerful, hard, luminous

# THE DRAMA OF

**Leader:** Let us labor for the renewed city future

**Stake:** Today our life is poured out

The whole world waits for our creation

As we build, shape, construct order

# HUMANNESS

Every man participates in the creation of some future. The Ecumenical Institute's practical approach to church renewal and community reformulation is a significant response to the overwhelming demands that confront every man in the twentieth century. You are invited to join thousands of concerned churchmen across the globe in providing the regular and continuing support necessary for the demanded expansion of the Institute's research and training program. Your gift will be received as a sign of your participation in the renewal of the church for the sake of the world.

(This special issue of *i.e.* is an excerpt from the 1968 Report of The Ecumenical Institute that was mailed to all regular contributors.)

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