NEWS DIVISION OF INFORMATION

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THE FOLLOWING RELEASE IS ISSUED JOINTLY BY THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND THE UNITED STATES CATHOLIC CONFERENCE.

CHARLESTON, S.C. -- The Roman Catholic - Presbyterian and Reformed Consultation Group will hold its ninth meeting here May 21-23.

The group has met twice yearly since 1965. Its chairmen are Catholic Bishop Ernest L. Unterkoefler of Charleston and the Rev. William Ward of Eastminster Presbyterian Church in Columbia, S.C.

The discussions are sponsored by the Catholic Bishops'
Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs and the North
American Area of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches.

The consultation group will discuss two concerns during the May meeting. The Life and Workshop section will consider the "Sacred Character of Marriage" and the Theological section will discuss "Patterns of Ministry".

In previous meetings the group has discussed the questions surrounding marriages between Catholics and members of Protestant churches. They will now dicuss the theological character of marriage itself.

The discussions on the ministry will focus on New Testament descriptions of persons who serve the church in a special ministry.