

Church Concentrating on Fiji's

Changes Taking Place

By PEPPER BERKELEY
Of the Register-Guard

Turn your world globe slowly and tilt it up so that the Fiji Islands of the South Pacific come into view. In these islands, the work of the church—Methodist, in this case, is self-supporting. And throughout the Fiji Islands, and the many thousands of islands and island groups throughout the South Pacific, a number of changes important to the growth of Protestant work in the area are taking place.

These changes and the causes and developments behind them are now being studied at the Institute of Church Growth, the graduate section of Northwest Christian College where a group of missionaries are studying the growth of churches.

At the Institute, the South Pacific expert is the Rev. Alan R. Tippett, who has spent 21 of his 27 years in the ministry as a missionary in the Fiji Islands. Before coming to NCC, he was head of a theological seminary in Suva, in the Fiji Islands.

The Reverend Tippett, who will be the featured speaker Sunday at a sunrise service on Decker Hill, Cottage Grove, at 5:30 a.m., was sent to the Fiji Islands in 1941 by the Methodist Church of Australia.

He worked first in the field, and after nine years in this work, spent two years in Fiji cities, working to combat juvenile delinquency and other problem of city churches. Then, he spent four years in charge of a seminary where catechists—trained lay workers of the church—were prepared for their work.

Then he was appointed to the theological seminary. To an American accustomed to hearing about mission fields where the people have little say in their church affairs, the church organization in the Fiji Islands appears to be very advanced.

The Reverend Tippett said that the present self-supporting, independent church in the Fijis is partly a result of World War II. During the war, he said, there was a shortage of "foreign" missionaries in the Fijis—and gradually, native Fijians were needed to fill vacancies caused by retirement or death.

In 1946, the native Fijians were given a majority vote in the church in the islands, and, according to the Reverend Tippett this led to "some very interesting changes."

One of these, he said, was an awakening of "life and vitality" in the Fijian church.

Under an agreement of many years, the South Pacific area is divided among the various Protestant missionary societies for missionary work. The Methodist Church, then, was allotted the Fiji Islands, and, at the present time, the island's natives are about 85 per cent Methodist, about 10 per cent Roman Catholic, and only about one per cent non-Christian. The other sections of the native population are members of other denominations.

These 150,000 Methodist Fijians are now served by some 130 native ministers, an even larger number of native catechists and only a handful of "foreign" missionaries, who work mainly in theological education and with the island's large numbers of Indians, who are of Moslem, Hindu and other faiths.

The Fiji Church is entirely self-supporting, the Reverend Tippett said, and has progressed to the point where native Fijians are being trained and sent as missionaries to other Pacific Islands and to Australia, where they work with the aborigines.

Now, the really important development in the South Pacific area is the plan for the establishment of an inter-denominational theological seminary, which will be located in the Fiji Islands, the Reverend Tippett said.

This seminary, which has developed out of years of planning by the native churches and missionary societies working in the large islands area, will be of a "higher level" than the present South Pacific seminaries, and is planned in order to give prospective native ministers the "right orientation" to work with their own people.

At the present time, the Reverend Tippett explained, these ministers who wish higher training than that now provided in the area must go overseas—Australia, England or the United States. But the work they have overseas does not necessarily pertain to the problems and needs of their area. The new seminary would be oriented to the South Pacific.

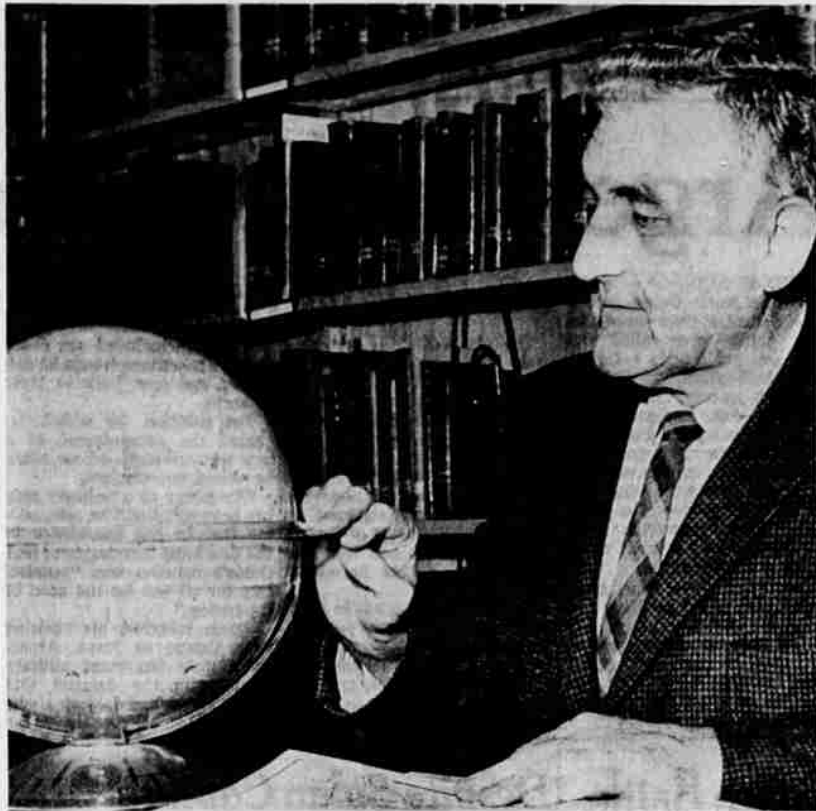
This seminary, the Reverend Tippett said, "would be the biggest thing in Pacific missions ever," and would serve more than a million persons.

Now, the missionary-educator is studying the "why and how" of the forces that lead people to become Christians, and along "what lines they move into Christianity."

He has found "some very definite patterns" in the conversions in the whole of the South Pacific area, even when different denominations are concerned, and these conclusions will be examined in a book which he is writing and which will be published next fall.

The importance of these studies, the Reverend Tippett said, cannot be over-emphasized. "We know," he said, "that within the next 20 years, a definite number of Animists (a religion where objects and forces are given religious significance) peoples will become something. They may become Christian. On the other hand, they may become Moslem or Communists or just secularists."

The Reverend Tippett, and the others at the Institute, are working to help missionaries and churches bring these people the Christian faith.



THE REV. ALAN R. TIPPETT
Fiji Islands His Special Field

On Easter Sunday

New Church Buildings to Open

COTTAGE GROVE—Two Cottage Grove congregations will have their first services in new church buildings on Easter Sunday.

First services at the new Cottage Grove Free Methodist Church, South Sixth and Harrison streets, will begin at 9:45 a.m., when the congregation and friends meet in the old chapel for a brief service. A ribbon-cutting ceremony opening the doors to the new sanctuary will follow.

Easter services in the new sanctuary will include a musical program and narrations by the Junior Choir, a ladies' trio and an organ solo. The Rev. Herbert Hansen, pastor of the church, will speak at 11 a.m.

Designed by Pastor

The Rev. Hansen designed the new sanctuary, which will seat 240 persons with a glass-enclosed overflow room with special sound equipment for an additional 40 persons. This room is especially designed for worshippers accompanied by small children.

Native woods—unsanded fir plywood, Douglas fir, native cedar and other materials—have been used throughout the sanctuary. Windows are of stained amber glass, and laminated arches, mahogany and paneling of other woods are featured in the construction.

The sanctuary's highlight is a 10-foot mahogany cross, hung against a curtain of gold cloth.

End of First Phase

Completion of the new sanctuary marks the end for the first phase of the church's building program. Remodeling is now scheduled on the original building, and future construction

plans include the building of a new pastor's study, church offices and prayer chapel.

Much of the church's construction was done by volunteers from the congregation.

While the Free Methodists are moving into their new building, members of Cottage Grove's Church of the Nazarene will be worshipping in their new building for the first time.

The new building is located on the corner of M and Bryant streets in Cottage Grove's Oak Park addition.

Exterior finish of the new church is of pumice block, stained glass windows and stained brown board and batten. This church too has an overflow room, a d.j.a.c. to the sanctuary, and separated by glass windows. The sanctuary, finished in mahogany paneling, seats 175 persons.

The building also includes four Sunday school classrooms,

one designed for multi-purpose use.

Labor Donated

The congregation's new building was designed by Carl Rich of Cottage Grove Construction Co. and by Louis Bonson, with the church's minister, the Rev. Arlie B. Conner, acting as builder and contractor. Much of the construction labor was donated by members of the church, and with the inclusion of the church property, the church now is valued at \$40,000.

Services Sunday in the new church will include Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., Easter worship at 11 a.m., a young people's meeting at 6:30 p.m., and an evangelistic service at 7:30 p.m. Weekly prayer and praise services are scheduled Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Women Plan Luncheon For May 4

Eugene Council, United Church Women, will hold its annual May Fellowship Luncheon on May 4. This year's theme is "One Family Under God: Who is My Family?"

The luncheon, scheduled to begin at noon, will be held at the First Congregational Church, 1050 E. 23rd Ave., Eugene. Tickets will be on sale this week only, and may be obtained from church offices in Eugene or by calling Mrs. Charles Childs at DI 4-2568.

This year's program will include a showing of the film, "Breakthru," at 11 a.m., also at the church.

Mrs. Melvin Moore of Eugene is general chairman for this year's luncheon. Other committee chairmen are Mrs. Clarence Forsberg, program; Mrs. Barry Laue, hospitality; Mrs. John Stamm, luncheon; Mrs. Lyn Gheen, decorations; Mrs. W. L. Rush, dining room; Mrs. Lester Murphy, kitchen; Mrs. Walter Hertzman, cleanup; Mrs. Charles Childs, tickets; and Mrs. R. M. Blemker, publicity. All are Eugene residents.

Speaker for the luncheon will be Mrs. Arthur Flemming, wife of the president of the University of Oregon.

Young Organist To Give Concert

Two young concert organists—17-year-old Tessa Wagner and 14-year-old George Wagner—will be featured in a dual concert Wednesday at First Congregational Church, 1050 E. 23rd Ave., Eugene.

The concert—one of the church's annual organ concerts—is scheduled for 8 p.m., and is open to the public. No admission charge will be made, and no offering taken. A reception will follow the concert.

Miss Wagner and her brother have studied organ for nine years, and have given a number of concerts in Olympia, Wash., their home. They have appeared throughout the Northwest, and at events in Eugene, including a concert for the Hammond Organ Society of Eugene.

Wednesday's concert will follow the church's regular fellowship dinner, scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

Southern Baptist Churches Welcome You

EUGENE
FIRST SOUTHERN
2520 Harris St.
Rev. Robert W. Smith

FAIRFIELD CHURCH
3991 Elmira Rd.
Charles E. Bush, Pastor

SPRINGFIELD
TRINITY
12th & B Streets
Buren Higdon, Pastor

EASTER SUNDAY

SPECIAL SERVICES

9:45 SUNDAY SCHOOL
EASTER PROGRAM

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP
RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

5:30 PRE-CHURCH GROUPS

7:00 BAPTISMAL SERVICE

Church of the Open Bible
3185 Hilyard Street
REV. & MRS. W. C. COLE, Pastors

"Christ The Lord is Risen Today... Alleluia"

You are invited to

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICES

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

18th and Potter—Eugene
Rev. Olaf A. Anderson, Pastor

2 Identical Services
9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sermon Theme:
"SOME EASTER ASSURANCES"

Special Music by the Senior Choir and the Junior Choir at both Services

Heated Buildings

Georgia has more than 2,000 electrically-heated commercial buildings (more than any other state in the Union) and the number is increasing at a rate of about 55 per month.

Church of Christ
One Assembly
As the Scriptures Teach
235 Kourt Dr.
(out River Rd.)

WORSHIP:
Sun. 10:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Wed. 7:30 p.m.

Congregational Singing
Saturdays 7:30 p.m.
Phone DI 4-1052

YOUTH for CHRIST

Rally
Tonight at 7:30

See
"THE POWER OF THE RESURRECTION"
(In color)

Church of the Open Bible
32nd and Hilyard

Church of Christ
288 W. 6th

"Come Thou With Us and We Will Do Thee Good"

Wed., 7:30 P.M.
Sun., 10-12 A.M.
Sun., 6:30 P.M.

Choice L. Bryant
Evangelist

EMERALD BAPTIST CHURCH

American Baptist Convention
19th Ave. & Patterson St.

"A church with a warm heart and a world vision"

9:45 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship
and Junior Church
7:00 P.M. Worship Service
Rev. Edgar A. Woliam
Interim Pastor

First Christian Church
"The Church With the Chimes"
1166 Oak Street

9:30 a.m. CHURCH SCHOOL

TWO SERVICES 8:15 and 10:45 a.m.
Dr. Carlton Buck, Minister
Speaker at Both Services

"TRUTH ABOUT THE RESURRECTION"
7:30 p.m.
Film: "The Meaning of Easter"

Jacob worshipped at **BETHEL** (Gen. 28)
Why Not You?

CHILDREN'S EASTER PROGRAM
DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR

A full Gospel Church Proclaiming JESUS as Savior—Healer—Baptizer—The Coming King

Bethel Assembly of God

Rev. C. K. Barnes, Pastor—Phone RI 6-6432
21st and K Streets
Springfield, Oregon

Your **EASTER EXPERIENCE**

The resurrection of Christ gives man hope of victory over death.

WORSHIP WITH US ON EASTER

"ROAD TO CALVARY"

6:30 A.M. 9:00 A.M.
11:00 A.M.

7:00 P.M. REVIVAL TIME

"SIGNS THAT THREE WORLDS WERE THERE"
WEDNESDAY - 7:30 P. M. MIDWEEK SERVICE
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COLLEGE CHOIR

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
1330 MADISON
M. W. McLEES, Pastor

Three Wise Men

According to one tradition, the names of the three wise men who brought gifts from the East to the infant Jesus were Melchior, Balthasar and Gaspar.

Nursery at Every Service
12th and Chambers

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

LIGHTHOUSE TEMPLE
12th and OLIVE ST.

9:45 A.M. Children's Program
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship
7:00 P.M. "Easter Musical"

EVERYONE WELCOME
HERB BRADSHAW, PASTOR

Easter Services
at 8:15, 9:30 and 11 a.m.
First Methodist Church
Eugene, Oregon

"The Light at the Top of the Stairs," sermon by Dr. Forsberg

MINISTERS:
Kenneth S. Simons, Sr.
Robert G. Gingsburg
Clarence J. Forsberg

Salvation Army Divisional Chief to Conduct Services

Easter services at the Salvation Army in Eugene, 707 Pearl St., will be conducted by the Army's divisional commander for Oregon and southern Idaho, Lt. Col. John Y. Erickson of Portland.

Erickson will conduct an enrollment of new Salvation Army soldiers Sunday in the 11 a.m. service, and will also conduct the Sunday school hour at 9:45 a.m. At 7 p.m., Erickson will receive the Eugene congregation's "self-denial" check—\$3,200 designated for Salvation Army world-wide missionary work.

Erickson had his first contact with the Salvation Army at 14 when his parents became members. He served in the Hartford, Conn., Corps as a bandsman and young people's secretary until 1922, when he attended the New York Training School for Officers. After graduation from the school, he commanded a number of corps in the Army's Eastern Scandinavian Department. In 1941, he was appointed leader for the Scandinavian Division in the Western Territory, and in 1950, when the Scandinavian work in the Western Territory was merged with other division operations, he became divisional commander for the Intermountain Division of the Corps.

He has held his present rank since 1951, the same year that he was selected as a delegate to the International Staff College for Officers in London, England.

JOHN ERICKSON
To Conduct Services

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
"Lutheran Brethren"
1482 West End, Eugene
Robert Otergaard, Pastor
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
7:00 p.m. Evening Fellowship
Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.
Prayer and Bible Study