The Abbe's Work Goes On

Christendom Prays for Unity

By GEORGE W. CORNELL
Of the Associated Press

He lay on his death bed, a small, frail Roman Catholic priest. Nearby lay his white cshasuble, given to him by Anglicans. On a table were mementos from Lutherans and Presbyterians. On the wall were many crosses, Latin and Orthodox, some Russian icons and above his head, a "Week of Prayer" picture poster.

It showed the allegorical figure of Humility, whose delicate hand moved among brambles and reptiles to "open the ways that are barred."

This was the scene, as described by visitors, in a small apartment on the Rue du Plat in Lyon, France, when Abbe Paul Couturier died on March 24, 1953, at the age of 71.

Today, the work that he carried on, and which made him a friend and confidant of many kinds of Christians in many countries, has swelled into a worldwide enterprise, involving Protestants, Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholics.

Friday, millions of members, of all three branches of the faith, joined in a week of special prayer for a cause expressed by Abbe Couturier in these words:

"That the unity of all Christians may come, according to Christ's will, in his way, in his time."

It was this approach concentrating on Christ himself as the nub and nexus of unity, rather than on any one ecclesiastical extension of Him, that has facilitated parallel participation by different churches.

Generally in Roman Catholic observances in the past, and still in some of them in this country, the specific intention of the week's special prayers has been for "return" of other Christians to the Church of Rome.

Members of other churches could not consistently join in that specific plea.

But this year, for the first time in the annual observance, the same prayers, scriptures and meditations are being used by the World Council of Churches and the Catholic Christian Unity Assn. of Lyon founded by Abbe Couturier.

Their mutual theme, from Ephesians 2:14 — "He (Christ) is our peace."

Both organizations have issued identical materials for services during the eight-day observance. In countlesss Protestant, Orthodox and Catholic Churches, members are uttering the same litanies and petitions, including:

"O God of peace . . .give us penitence for our divisions, wisdom to know Thy truth, courage to do Thy will, love which shall break down the barriers of pride and prejudice and unswerving loyalty to Thy holy name."

The Faith and Order Commission of the World Council, which includes most major Protestant and Orthodox denominations, says it has distributed about 2 million copies of the prayer week materials, far more than ever before.

The National Catholic Welfare Conference's information bureau circulated announcements of the joint program.

In some communities, such as Columbus, Ohio, Catholics and Protestants are coordinating the timing and topics of services, for Bible vigils and prayers. Elsewhere, there will be joint retreats, study, meetings.

The Rev. Roswell Barnes, executive secretary of the World Council's American Conference, said in a year-end report that "mutual interest" in unity has become "pervasive among Christians." He said various decisions and events in 1962 including the Second Vatican Council, enhanced the trend. He added:

"The most significant development has been the change in attitude. . ."

Distinct from the common Protestant - Catholic prayer program, however, is an older observance, the "Chair of Unity Octave," sponsored since 1908 by the Friars of the Atonement, of Graymoor, N.Y., with prayers for "return" to Rome.

This year is the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Graymoors' founder, Father Paul Wattson, a Maryland Episcopal clergyman turned Roman Catholic. While he urged "return," as do Octave prayers, a Graymoor spokesman, Father Titus Cranny, said:

"Perhaps 'reconciliation' might be a better word.

Interestingly, the annual period set by the Graymoors for the observance, Jan. 18-25, was adopted by Protestant leaders in 1940, shifting from a spring unity observance so it would be simultaneous with that of Catholics.

Also, it was Abbe Couturier's interest in the Graymoor-initiated octave that led him to launch his own movement, with its modified approach, thus providing means for both timing and content to be meshed this year in all branches.

Abbe Couturier, often called the "Apostole of unity," once said:

"Christian unity is not purely and simply coextensive with the idea of a 'return' because history is irreversible, and one can never again place oneself at the point of separation; its movement is rather one of maturity from within. . ."

Christian reunion, he said, "will be a stupendous miracle of the mercy of God, and this miracle must be asked for by all Christians, for all are guilty, more or less, of the sin of separation."

The week's meditations, for both Catholics and Protestants, include these words:

"Only Christ can heal the deepest scar. This is why we seek unity in Him alone. And while we all come closer to Him, we are united ever more closely in His peace."

PROF. G. B. CRANE
Ordained Methodist Minister

Study Series Planned Here

Gertrude Boyd Crane, retired professor of Pacific University at Forest Grove and an ordained Methodist minister, will be in Eugene Jan. 27-30 to conduct a series of programs, a "spiritual life study," on prayer.

Her lectures will be given at First Methodist Church, Eugene, and will be open to the public.

Now a resident of Willamette View Manor, Portland, since her retirement, she has conducted a number of similar studies throughout the Northwest.

The Eugene program will be based on the book, "Dimensions of Prayer," by Douglas Steere.

Eugene lectures will begin Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m., and will be held at 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday. A discussion and resume period is scheduled Jan. 30 at 9:30 a.m.

Nursery facilities will be provided during the daytime sessions. A registration fee of $1 will be charged for the course. Mrs. Robert Kingsbury and Mrs. Glenn Gordon of Eugene are in charge of arrangements.

Methodists Take Fresh Look at IQs Of Their Children

By DORMAN CORDELL
Of the Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — The high intelligence of today's children, a subject of intensive study by the nation's educators, has not been overlooked by the churches.

Next year, the Methodist Church, second largest Protestant body in the United States (after Southern Baptists), will become the first denomination to take wholesale action in the matter.

The Methodists will discard all lessons and teaching materials now used in their weekly church schools—some denominations call them Sunday schools — for children from birth through the sixth grade.

They will introduce a new curriculum, acknowledging the advanced intelligence level of children and presenting broad theological themes at an earlier age.

"The Gospel hasn't changed, but the depth into which the child will be introduced to the Gospel has been changed because of the changes in the abilities of children and the opportunities of children," says Edward C. Peterson, editor of children's publications for the church.

"The child is asking theological questions earlier and he is able to explore theological ideas earlier than his older brother could — or at least earlier than we had thought his older brother could."

The new curriculum will be designed to encourage research by the children, Peterson said in an interview during the biennial meeting of executive secretaries of Methodist conference boards of education, where the new curriculum was discussed.

"Theology is meaningful to them only as they see its relationship to themselves," he said. "Our purpose is not to tell them, but to lead them to explore until they find answers which satisfy them."

In an article he wrote for a Methodist publication to explain the forthcoming curriculum, Peterson said:

"The new curriculum materials are being designed to help children explore life's big questions and problems, acquire understandings, and have experiences through which they may enter knowingly into a redemptive fellowship (within the church's fellowship) with God. It will emphasize faith, hope, and love.

"The problem of sin, death, disappointment and tragedy will be recognized, but not apart from salvation, resurrection and faith in the final triumph of goodness."

The 3.5 million children in Methodist church schools will begin to use the new curriculum in September, 1964.

Opening Set For School In Leadership

Sessions will begin Monday at 7 p.m. in the annual Leadership Training School sponsored by the Eugene Council of Religious Education.

Registrations for the school will be taken at the first session, and the registration fee is $2. All sessions will be at Central United Presbyterian Church, 1475 Ferry St., Eugene. The public is invited to participate in the non-denominational program.

Classes will be held Monday evenings through Feb. 25.

The five courses offered this year will be:

- Supervision in Christian Education.
- Creative Activity in Christian Education.
- Working With the Pre-School Child.
- Church Leadership.
- Adult Workers With Youth.

One course, Adult Education, has been eliminated from the curriculum due to "lack of leadership," leadership school officials said.

Teachers for the courses have been selected from various Eugene area churches, from Northwest Christian College and the University of Oregon and from church-related organizations.

Theme of this year's school is "Unto the Fullness of Our Task." Dean of the school is L. M. Bixler, professor of Bible and Christian education at Northwest Christian College, Eugene.

The Rev. Kenneth Wieg, Lutheran pastor to students at the University of Oregon, will present a series of Bible messages on the school's theme, and Charles Palmerlee, director of the University of Oregon YMCA, will lead the worship.

First Baptist Church Names Its New Minister for Youth

DUNCAN FERGUSON
1959 UO Graduate

First Baptist Church, Eugene, announced this week that Duncan Ferguson, a 1959 graduate of the University of Oregon, has been selected as minister of youth.

Ferguson, son of Mr. and Mrs. James R. Ferguson of Eugene, will begin his duties next week.

He is from Menlo Park, Calif., and first came to Eugene to attend the University of Oregon. While at the university, he was active in campus politics, religious groups and activities, and was elected to serve as student body vice president during his senior year.

He majored in history at the university. Following graduation, he attended Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif., and also served on the staff of Lake Avenue Congregational Church in Pasadena as a Christian education worker. For two summers, he served as assistant to the director of Mt. Herman Christian Conference Grounds near Santa Cruz, Calif.

Last summer he began several terms of graduate study in philosophy at Stanford University, Palo Alto, Calif.

Ferguson and his wife, Judy are living at 631 E. 15th Ave., Eugene.

Pastor's Work To Be Played For Concert

First Christian Church, Eugene, will hold a public program Sunday at 7:30 p.m. featuring musical compositions by the church's pastor, the Rev. Carlton Buck.

There will be no admission charge for the program.

The Rev. Buck, a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and the Hymn Society of America, has had a number of his compositions recorded or published in sheet music form. A display of these will be featured at a reception in the church dining room after the program.

He has written music and lyrics, in addition to poetry, for many years, and church officials said that only a portion of the minister's compositions will be on the program.

One of the minister's better-known works, "I Believe in Miracles," will be on the program, and will be performed by the church's Sanctuary Choir.

The Sanctuary Choir will also sing "He Came Redeeming" and "Come Now to His Table," a hymn written in collaboration with S. Clarence Trued of Roseburg.

Others of the Rev. Buck's compositions will be sung by primary children of the church; Linda May Bussell, a soloist in the church's Junior High Choir; a sextet, male chorus and women's trio; Mrs. Buck, Arthur Bailey, and the Rev. and Mrs. Sydney Carnes.

Bailey is the director of the Sanctuary Choir, and Mrs. Dean Morrow is director of the children's choir. Nell Murphey Dickson will be accompanist.

Family Life Institute Begins Here

Sessions began Saturday morning at Springfield Christian Church, 418 A St., in a Family Life Institute.

The program will continue tonight, Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the church. All sessions are open to the public, and further information is available from the church, RI 7-7113.

Conducting the program will be Lawrence M. Bixler, professor of Bible and Christian education at Northwest Christian College, Eugene. Bixler, who teaches a number of courses related to Christian family life, will be the featured speaker at a number of the institute programs.

Tonight's program, titled "Why Don't You Grow Up?", will be for parents and members of Chi Rho, a church youth group.

Sunday, Bixler will speak at 8:30 a.m. on "As for Me and My House," and at 9:45 a.m. on "Why Christian Family?"

His topic for the service at 11 a.m. will be "God's Concern With Family." This service will be followed by a coffee hour.

At 6:45 p.m., discussion groups are scheduled for various age groups.

Tuesday's program will feature Bixler as speaker at an all-church dinner at Springfield Junior High School. The dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. On Wednesday, a women's luncheon is scheduled at noon at Springfield Christian Church. There, Bixler will speak on "Trapped Housewife?"

Workshop in Evangelism Scheduled to Open Friday

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 255 Maxwell Rd., Eugene, will hold its three-day evangelism workshop, starting next Friday.

The workshop, first to be held by the church, will be directed by the Rev. Delbert Zier of Coquille and Mrs. Walter Samuelson of Roseburg.

On the opening day, Friday, the program will start at 6:30 p.m., when the church has scheduled an "evangelism fellowship dinner." At 8 p.m. Friday, a film, "Just a Stranger," will be shown.

Sessions will be held Jan. 26 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the Rev. Zier and Mrs. Samuelson meeting with church organizations to discuss the organizations' role in evangelism.

There will be a youth banquet Jan. 26 at 5:30 p.m., with the junior and senior league of the church. The Rev. Ziel will be the featured speaker.

On Jan. 27, the program will feature discussion at the adult Bible Class and at the church school. The Rev. Ziel will speak at the morning worship service, beginning at 11 a.m.. At 3:30 p.m. on Jan. 27, lay visitors will meet with the evangelism board. At 7:30 p.m., the workshop director will report on the program at the evening vesper service.

Baha'is to Mark Annual Events

Eugene's Baha'i members, Sunday will hold their annual observance of World Religion Day at 8 p.m. at the Eugene Hotel.

Speaker for the evening will be Mrs. Helmer Lindstrom of Astoria, whose topic will be "Discovering Unity in Religion."

The program will be open to the public. A reception will follow the lecture Sunday at 341 E. 12th Ave., and this too is open to the public.

Further information or transportation is available by calling DI 2-1060.

World Religion Day, Baha'is in Eugene said in a press release, was established by the faith's National Spiritual Assembly in 1949 to "gain public recognition of religion as the motivating force for world peace in a society now hovering on the brink of nuclear war."

On Tuesday, the Baha'is held a special prayer meeting for three Baha'is in Nador, Morocco, who recently were sentenced to death for practicing their faith.

United Church Women Here Sponsoring Study Series

"Rim of East Asia," the 1962-63 foreign mission study theme for a number of church organizations and denominations, will also be the theme for a four-part study series sponsored by the Christian World Missions Department of the Eugene Council, United Church Women.

The series will begin next Friday, and continue for three successive Fridays, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 166 E. 13th Ave., Eugene.

Sessions are scheduled from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

The opening program will feature a film, "Rim of Tomorrow," and an introductory talk on Christian concerns in Korea. The speaker will be Mrs. H. A. Bork, who lived in Korea for more than a year.

Topics for the other three meetings will be "Challenging Glimpses of Korea and Okinawa," Feb. 1; "Whither Christianity in Taiwan," Feb. 8, and "Christian Concerns in Hong Kong," Feb. 15.

Study leader will be Mrs. Wayne Stauffer of Eugene, who represented the Eugene Council at the Pacific Northwest International World Mission Conference at Tacoma, Wash., last August. Mrs. Stauffer also served as leader for the council's home mission study series last fall, which involved 123 participants from a number of Eugene-Springfield area churches.

Assisting Mrs. Stauffer in arrangements for this year's conference are Mrs. Lloyd R. Stamp, chairman of the Christian World Missions Department; Mrs. George Blinkhorn, literature and visual aids; Mrs. E. E. Gray, St. Mary's Church; Mrs. Frank Pattison, devotional leaders and registration, and Mrs. Hubert F. Willoughby, exhibits.

Nursery care will be available for pre-school children during the session.

Evangelistic Program To Close Sunday

William Orr, teacher of a radio Bible program in California and former vice president of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, will close an evangelistic program Sunday at Bethel-Danebo Baptist Chapel, 1600 Taney St., Eugene.

He will speak tonight at 7 p.m. On Sunday, he will speak at 11 a.m. at the morning worship service, and again at 7 p.m.

Both services are open to the public.

Orr will open a week-long lecture program Jan. 27 at First Baptist Church, Eugene.

Medical Class

CRESWELL — Medical self-help classes will start Jan. 21 at 7:30 p.m. here at the high school. Instructors will be Mrs. Harmon Webb and Mrs. Donald Drake.

Church Classes to Continue

Schools of Missions are continuing this week at a number of churches in the Eugene-Springfield area.

Among the programs planned for the coming week is a discussion of "Psychology for Juveniles," part of Wesley Methodist Church's program on "Arm of Compassion."

The Wesley program is scheduled at the church Sunday at 6:30 p.m. Instructor will be Wayne Paxton, a psychologist with the Lane County Juvenile Department. The public is welcome at the program.

Trinity Methodist Church, 440 Maxwell Rd., Eugene, is holding its sessions Sundays at 6:30 p.m. The theme there for adults is "Responsible Adults for Tomorrow's World."

Both churches plan fellowship dinners or "light lunches" at 5:30 p.m. to precede their study session.

"The Church's Mission and Persons of Special Need" is the topic at Emerald Baptist Church, 19th Avenue and Patterson Street, Eugene.

Sessions there are held Sundays at 5:45 p.m., and the public is welcome.

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11 a.m. Worship Service and Church School
"The Awful Truth"
Rev. Carl Nelson

GOD SEEKS YOU
A Merciful Father sent His Own Son to bring you into His fold . . . He is constantly seeking you, eagerly awaiting you, anxiously urging you to come.
FIND PEACE IN HIM
—SUNDAY—
9:45 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship
★ ★ ★
5:30 P.M. Pre-Church Groups
7:00 P.M. Evening Service
★ ★ ★
—WEDNESDAY—
7:30 P.M. Mid-Week Service
Church OF THE OPEN BIBLE
3195 HILYARD STREET
Rev. and Mrs. W. C. Cole, Pastors

Unity Church of Eugene
1215 OAK STREET
Service and Sunday School 11.00 A.M.
"BLESSED ARE THE MEEK"
Rose Elaine Lightburne Minister
Study class Tues 8 p.m.
Healing Service Thurs. 8:00 p.m.
Affiliated with Unity School of Christianity
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Phone DI 5-9913

COMMENT
by R. L. McGaffey

THE MACHINE AGE
Not long ago we saw a small news item that gave us quite a lift in this era of automation. Out at Vandenberg AF Base in California, a Discoverer rocket was scheduled for launching. The countdown started — and stopped, frozen with 30 seconds to blastoff time.
Two cars then drove out onto the launching pad. An air force sergeant got out of one car, a safety technician carrying a wrench. He went over to the rocket's hissing base at the lower stage and removed a switch. Then the cars drove off. Thirty seconds later, after the pad was clear, the rocket blasted off. What we like about the story is that, with all our marvelous machinery and awesome achievements in science, switches still get stuck. And there are still a few things a man can do with a wrench.
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WORSHIP SERVICE
11:00 a.m. and 7 p.m.
11:00 a.m.
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Midweek Service 7:00 p.m. Thursday
"Declaring the Whole Counsel of God"

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✓ Liberal in Love
✓ Conservative in Convictions
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"Love's Load"
7:00 P.M.
"Cowed by the Crowd"
Nursery at every Service

WORLD RELIGION DAY
A National Baha'i Event to spread the knowledge of...
THE ONENESS OF RELIGION
HEAR
Ethlyn Lindstrom
speaking on
"DISCOVERING UNITY IN RELIGION"
Sun., Jan. 20, 8:00 p.m.
Rosewood Room,
EUGENE HOTEL
Public Invited

MODERN MESSAGES from MATTHEW!!
11 A.M. "The Wrong Order of Right Things"
— KASH BROADCAST
7 P.M. "The Two Ways"
— A Great Musical Night —
BIBLE STANDARD COLLEGE CHOIR
under direction—Wayne Poplin
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Dr. Wm. Orr — Los Angeles
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Dr. Vance Webster, Pastor Broadway-High

First Christian Church
"The Church With the Chimes"
1166 Oak Street
9:30 a.m.
CHURCH SCHOOL
10:45 a.m.
"SEEK GOD & LIVE"
Dr. Carlton Buck, Minister
7:30 p.m.
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