

Christmas Season Starts With Programs Scheduled

Traditional Christmas services will start Sunday with the local churches planning programs that will be scheduled this week and until Christmas day.

The first program scheduled is at the First Methodist church, Sunday, Dec. 16, at 5:30 p.m. It will be given by the church choir and be the Christmas pageant.

Children's choir and choruses, together with the girls' and boys' trio, will supply the musical background for the telling of the Christmas story by the shepherds.

The song of the angels, "Gloria in Excelsis Deo," will be interpreted by the rhythmic choir.

as the children's choir sings. Fifty children will take part in the program besides the 85 voices of the combined choir and choruses.

The pageant is directed by Mrs. W. R. Peabody with Mrs. George Sloniger and Mrs. Milton Snow directing the music.

The annual presentation of the Christmas Story will be held Tuesday, Dec. 18, at the Apostolic Faith church.

The Christmas story in music will be told by 250 children and young people using nine different background scenes.

The facilities at the church have been enlarged with the addition of a new 174-seat balcony so more may attend the program.

The Friends Church will present a program, "The Three Gifts of Christmas," Tuesday, Dec. 18, at 7:30 p.m. in Harmony hall. The program will be given by the Sunday school department.

Friday evening at 8 p.m. the First Assembly of God church, 1108 West Main st., Medford, will present a three-act Christmas play, "Mine Eyes Have Seen." It will be given by the Christ

Friends Church Hosts On Weekend To CE Officials

The Christian Endeavorers of the Friends church will host Saturday and Sunday to presidents, Quentin Nordyke and other officers of the Friends Yearly Meeting, C. E. Union who will meet at Medford from George Fox college, Newberg.

A special is planned for the Senior Christian Endeavorers at the parsonage Saturday at 7:30 p.m., with the guest speakers giving information about the Mid-Winter convention to be held Dec. 28 to 30 at the Gairton Beach Bible Conference grounds of the Northern Oregon coast. It is hoped that a bus can be chartered to take the Medford young people to the convention.

Sunday, Quentin Nordyke will bring the message at the 9:45 a.m. worship hour and a girl's trio from the college will speak to the Intermediate and Junior groups and their sponsors, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Langston and Eunice Jones. Boys and girls of the three Christian Endeavor societies are selling "share at 50 cents apiece to interested adults in order to help with the financial expense of the Mid-Winter convention.

Pastor Clayton Crisman will speak at the 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. worship hours. The visiting girl's trio will sing for Sunday school opening assemblies and for the morning services.

At 5 p.m., a dress rehearsal will be held for the Sunday school Christmas program, "The Three Gifts of Christmas," which will be presented Tues. December 18, at 7:30 p.m. in the church's Harmony hall.

Variety of Services Continue at Eastwood

The Rev. Richard M. Jones, pastor of the Eastwood Baptist church, North Keene Way dr. at Ridgeway, will bring the second in a series of Christmas sermons Sunday morning on "World Unaware."

The Chancel choir will lead in the worship. Nursery care is provided for both cribs and toddlers.

At 5 p.m., a baptismal service will be held at the First Christian church. The pastor will speak at this service.

The evening worship service will be a continuation of the series on Christian Brass Tacks centering on the life and ministry of Jesus. The service begins at 7:30. A filmstrip "The Parables of Jesus" will be shown as part of the Inspiration Time to close the evening.

Eastwood Baptist is affiliated with the American Baptist convention and is located just north of the Hedrick Junior High school.

CHRISTMAS PARTY
The home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy McLaughlin, Old Military rd., will be the scene of the all church Christmas party of the Eastwood Baptist church, Tuesday, Dec. 18, 8 p.m. The Women's Mission society and the Homebuilders class of young adults will be hosts for the party. Mrs. Richard M. Jones is planning the program for the evening. There will be a gift exchange as well as the giving of toys for the nursery of the church. All members and friends of the church are invited.

ORGAN RECITAL
An organ recital will be held Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at the Church of the Brethren, 345 Mary st., Medford, by Loran Minear of Ashland. The program will include a selection of Christmas carols, hymns of the church, and semi-classical music. Following the program a fellowship hour will be held in the basement of the church.

First Services Told For Lutheran Church
Permission has been granted for the use of the Pythian building, Grape and Fifth sts., Medford, for worship services of the Ascension Lutheran church congregation. The first service will be held Jan. 6, 1957.

The Rev. Elvin Tollefson, who arrived in Medford on Nov. 15, has been directing the work of organizing the new congregation. A preliminary house to house survey in the area to be served by the new church is being conducted by Miss Ruth Zacher, parish worker.

The new church location will be on Black Oak dr., at Barnet rd. The parsonage is now located at 317 Black Oak dr. Funds for construction will be made available by the Department of Home Missions of the E.L.C. as soon as necessary arrangements have been made with builders.

Young People Plan Join Meeting Sunday

The Young People's fellowship of St. Mark's Episcopal church will be hosts at a joint meeting with the Young People's fellowship of St. Luke's Episcopal church of Grants Pass Sunday at 7 p.m. The program will start with Evening Prayer conducted by the presidents of the two groups, and will be followed by an open discussion on what the Church means by infant baptism.

The evening will conclude with game and an informal dance. Refreshments will be furnished by the St. Mark's group.

Two Parties Planned For Tonight And Saturday by Baptists
Baptist Youth fellowship of the Eastwood Baptist church, North Keene Way drive at Ridgeway, will have their Christmas party tonight at 7:30 p.m. The evening will be spent in games, trimming the Christmas trees, and singing carols. Refreshments will be provided by Gary, Wayne and Kay Fields. All Junior High young people in the Hedrick Junior high school area are invited.

Saturday afternoon the annual Christmas party of the church school of the Eastwood Baptist church will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Children will play games, have refreshments and receive a sack of candy and a popcorn ball to take home. A rehearsal will be held of the Christmas pageant, "What Can I Give Him?" which will be presented on Dec. 23.

CHRISTMAS DISPLAY
The outdoor Christmas display at the Apostolic Faith church will be lighted Saturday evening and may be seen until New Year's Day.

Adventists Church Elects New Officers for 1957

Eagle Point — Officers will take office at the Eagle Point on January 1. Members voted Saturday on names nominated by the church nominating committee.

Heading the list of 1957 officers is the lay elder, W. E. Atkin, 20 Washington st., Medford. Other elders are Herschel M. Harper and Dr. Howard M. Ferguson.

Eight deacons and deaconesses were elected to serve for the coming year. Head deacon will be Ernest F. Lesser, Camp White, and head deaconess will be Mrs. Tom Campbell, Lake creek. Other deacons and deaconesses are Frank Arnold, Lowell Barber, Raymond E. Cash, Roy L. Clark, Mrs. Theo Klein and Mrs. Frank Arnold.

Church treasurer for 1957 will be Delmer V. Logan, Shady Cove, and church clerk, Mrs. Roy Swan, Eagle Point.

Leading in the Sabbath school work of the church will be Victor H. Bartholomew, Eagle Point; Sabbath school superintendent, Roy L. Clark; social committee chairman Mrs. Klein.

for the coming year are: press secretary, Mrs. Roy Swan; Civil defense director, Mrs. Ernest F. Lesser; religious liberty secretary, C. A. Planer; chorister, Theo Klein; assistant chorister, Mrs. W. E. Atkin; pianist, Mrs. H. C. Chilson; assistant pianist, Mrs. Adrian Pittsley; Dorcas welfare leader Mrs. Herschel M. Harper; assistant Dorcas leader, Mrs. Elmer Estelle; Dorcas secretary, Mrs. Frank Arnold; school board member, W. E. Atkin; temperance secretary, Frank Arnold; health education secretary, Mrs. Raymond E. Cash; florist, Mrs. Martha Bishop; assistant Sabbath school superintendent, Mrs. Tom Campbell; Sabbath school secretary, Mrs. Lowell Barber; assistant Sabbath school secretary, Carol Pershall; cradle roll and kindergarten, Mrs. Earl Farlow.

Other officers include Junior-Primary leader, Mrs. Theo Klein; assistant Junior-Primary leader, Mrs. Harper; Home Missionary leader, Irvin Pershall; Home Missionary secretary, Mrs. Ray Barrow; investment secretary, Roy L. Clark; social committee chairman Mrs. Klein.

First Christian Church
The Friendly Church
Welcomes YOU TO ALL SERVICES
Bible School — 9:45 a.m.
Morning Service — 10:50 a.m.
Youth Meeting — 6:30 p.m.
Evening Service — 7:30 p.m.
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PASTOR RETURNS—The Rev. Haddon Robinson, assistant pastor of the First Baptist church, returned this week from a month of evangelistic campaigns in the United States and Canada. After conducting services in Toronto, Ontario, he then went to Columbus, Ohio, for a campaign in the Calvary Bible church. While there Mr. Robinson spoke to student groups from the Ohio State university. In Medford he primarily works with the youth of the church.

Ministers Hear Two Speakers

The monthly meeting of the Medford Ministerial association was held Tuesday morning at the First Presbyterian church.

Following a short business meeting Mrs. John Ousterhout, chairman of the local Great Decisions committee, spoke on the Great Decisions program to start Jan. 20. She explained how the local churches could participate in "Great Decisions . . . 1957," and that the eight-weeks scheduled program was to inform the public on key foreign policy issues through participation of small, informal discussion groups.

Mrs. Ousterhout said that the fact sheets for the discussion groups would be made available after the first of the year.

Also speaking at the meeting was Walter Higgins, executive director of the proposed Rogue Valley Manor which is a retirement home planned for Medford.

Higgins explained the membership qualifications for the home, physical layout of the building and financing of the program and building.

Five Bennet Paintings Given to Local Church

Five paintings of Jacksonville scenes by Eugene Bennet have been given to St. Mark's Episcopal church by Mr. and Mrs. John S. Day, Mr. and Mrs. Howard A. Frame, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Parsons, and Reginald Parsons. They were given in memory of Mrs. Reginald B. Parsons by her children.

Bennet a former resident of Medford is now a professional artist in Chicago. The paintings have been hung in the Markade.

Central Point Church Announces Evening

The time of the evening worship service has been changed to 7 p.m. at the Pilgrim Holiness church, corner of Pine at Sixth st., Central Point.

The Rev. H. James Kreider, pastor has reported that the time change will affect both the Sunday evening and Thursday services. The services will continue to be held at 7 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m. through the winter months.

There will also be an added service to start Sunday, Dec. 16, for the Junior young people. This service will be held each Sunday evening at 6:30. Mrs. H. James Kreider will be in charge.

Food and Toys Asked For Christmas Baskets

Members of the church school of First Presbyterian church, Phoenix, are asked to take food and toy gift for the Christmas baskets to the 10 a.m. church school Sunday. The distribution of the gifts will start Dec. 21.

At the 11 a.m. worship service the Presbyterian men's club of Medford will sing "The Lord's Prayers."

Saturday at 3 p.m. junior highs, and the high school group will rehearse the Christmas pageant.

Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. the Christmas tree will be decorated.

MEETING DAY CHANGED

Prayer meeting and choir practice at the Advent Christian church, West Jackson at Welch sts., will be held Tuesday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. The groups formerly met on Wednesdays.

'Radio Church' Heard in Korea

Thousands of soldiers of the Republic of Korea on the uneasy armistice line above the 38th parallel go to church each Sunday morning by radio, reports a Korean army chaplain. The troops hear Christian worship services beamed out from the 5,000-watt transmitter of station HLKY in Seoul, a station sponsored by several Korean Christian churches.

Chaplain Sang Chan Lee of the ROK 27th Infantry Regiment reports that "even non-Christians listen to the 'radio church.' They attend 'services' holding their rifle in one hand and the Bible in the other and wearing heavy helmets on their heads."

RAVEMCCO, an interdenominational agency of the National Council of Churches, promotes the use of radio and other mass communications for overseas evangelism. The station began broadcasting at Christmas time in 1954 and carries music, educational programs and the Christian message to both North and South Korea.

"May the blessings of the Lord rest upon HLKY, the Christian broadcasting station," says Chaplain Sang. "This is the front line above the 38th parallel. We are surrounded by thick woods and high mountains and just in front of us is the Chinese Communist army. It is our greatest pleasure that even in such a dangerous place God's words are to be heard."

"More than half of our officers have their own radio sets and when their drilling for the day is finished, the soldiers gather before the radios to listen to the programs which enable them to relax and hear the news from the rear. When they listen to the radio, they forget all their weariness."

"I am sure no one listens to the Sunday morning 'radio church' from your station with more attention than the ROK soldiers along the front lines. Here on the top of the mountain, each outpost is responsible for a wide sector and the distance between outposts is very far so the chaplains find it almost impossible to visit each of them to lead them in a worship service on Sunday morning."

"Since the soldiers must always be on the alert against sudden enemy attack, they are not allowed to gather in one place for church services. But here through radio they can have a fine worship service. They listen to HLKY on Sunday morning at 7:30 and the music and the message give them much inspiration. In the dugouts along the front lines radio is a more effective evangelist than any chaplain."

American Churches Begin Religious Crusade Against Death on the Highways

By LOUIS CASSELS
United Press Correspondent
Washington — (UP) — American churches are beginning to wage a religious crusade against death on the highways.

They are telling their members that reckless driving is not merely dangerous — it is a grave sin.

And that having the brakes of your car checked is just as truly a moral obligation as staying sober when you get behind the wheel.

Churches of all denominations are joining in the campaign to bring Christian conscience to bear on the traffic safety problem. Pope Pius XII and many Protestant leaders, including evangelist Bill Graham and presiding Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill of the Episcopal church, have strongly endorsed it.

The movement is still too young to have much effect on the highway carnage that doubtless will accompany the approaching holiday season. But its long-range effect on the appalling toll of traffic fatalities could be considerable.

Ned H. Dearborn, president of the National Safety council, told the United Press he is "greatly encouraged by the increasing efforts of churches to stimulate their members to become more conscious of their social and moral obligation behind the wheel of a car."

"There is no place where religion is more practical than in the driver's seat of an automobile in modern traffic," Dearborn said. "There, of all places, everyone literally should be his brother's keeper."

Sermon Theme
In the past, church concern with auto safety has been largely confined to pulpits strictures against drunken driving. And the immorality of slowing down your reflexes with alcohol when you are in control of a 200-horsepower car is still an important sermon theme.

But lately there has been growing recognition by clergymen that drunks are not the only bad drivers. Plain carelessness by "good people" is the new target of the churches' moral condemnation.

One of the most ambitious efforts to point up the religious issues involved in driving safely was made this fall in Greenwich, Conn. For five Sundays, beginning Sept. 30, the ministers of all Greenwich churches emphasized in sermons that one of the quickest ways to reduce the traffic toll would be for all professed Christians to start exercising the qualities of love, courtesy and consideration of others when driving a car.

They also pointed out that the Fifth Commandment — "Thou shalt not kill" — is not restricted to deliberate murder, but also may be violated by the kind of gross carelessness which results

in "accidental" highway deaths.

One sign that the churches mean business about the campaign is the emphasis they are placing on specific, positive applications of these overall doctrines.

For example, the Methodist church has approved for use in all Methodist Sunday schools a special series of lessons for young people on how to drive safely.

The Christian Herald, widely circulated Protestant magazine, asks its readers in its current issue, "Are you a Christian at the wheel?"

The article said that "un-Christian attitudes" — anger, impatience selfishness, a desire to get ahead or show up another driver — are a major cause of accidents.

It also noted that "the sin of neglect" is involved in many highway tragedies. Therefore, it said, frequent and careful inspection of your car's safety features — particularly brakes, tires and headlights — is a moral obligation in the same sense as attending church and reading the Bible.

22 New Members To Join Church

The First Presbyterian church will welcome 22 new members Sunday at both worship services. Eight young people who have been attending classes taught by the Rev. John Reynolds, will be welcomed at the first service. Fourteen adults will also join the church Sunday. They have either been attending church-membership classes taught by Dr. D. Kirkland West or are transferring their membership from other churches.

At both services Dr. West will preach on "A God Who Cares." The Westminster and chancel choirs will sing Christmas anthems, and the women's triple trio will give a number, "There Were Shepherds Abiding in the Field." The triple trio is directed by Mrs. Harvey Field and accompanied by Mrs. Chandler Drew.

The Westminster choir, composed of high school young people, will meet with the Westminster fellowship at the church at 6:45 p.m. Sunday to go to the Central Point Presbyterian church, where it will give a Christmas choir concert. Young people will conduct the entire service and Joyce Oregon and Bruce West will speak on "What Christmas Means to Me."

New Catholic Book Tells Of Church Changes in USA

By LOUIS CASSELS
United Press Correspondent
Washington — (UP) — America's 32 million Catholics are unlike any other Catholics in the world. In their long struggle for "acceptance" by a predominantly Protestant culture, they have "taken on the color and habits" of American life to such an extent that their Catholicism now is "quite different" from that of Europe and Latin America.

This conclusion is expressed by a Jesuit scholar, the Rev. Gustave Weigel, in a new book, "The Catholic Church, U.S.A.," to which 24 other prominent Catholic writers contributed. The book records the growth of the Roman Communion from a small and often harassed minority to the largest single religious body in the United States, comprising one-third of the total church membership.

Weigel, theology professor at Maryland's Woodstock college and a leader of the Catholic intellectual movement, emphasized that the "differences" of American Catholics do not involve doctrine.

"American Catholicism, first of all, is Roman Catholicism, with no desire to be anything else," he said. Its differences from European and Latin American Catholicism "do not imply non-identity of faith . . . They are explained by differences of history and cultural background."

Here are some of the "overall traits" which Weigel said "distinguish American Catholicism from Catholicism elsewhere."

"The American Catholic has explicitly chosen to be a Catholic and the religion was not thrust upon him by a culture." If he chooses to become a Protestant or a non-church member, "no social condemnation will fall upon him." Unlike the Catholic of Ireland, Spain, Italy, France or Brazil, the American is under no "pressure" from his cultural environment to "retain a thin, nominal allegiance to Catholicism."

"The American Catholic is much more tolerant of non-Catholic religions than members of European communities where only one religion is effectively present." He accepts America's "religious pluralism as an obvious fact" and is not "scandalized" by it. "It is impossible for him to entertain fantastic notions concerning Protestants; he knows many" and "his own love of religion makes him prefer to have his neighbor in some church

rather than in no church at all."

The American Catholic regards religion primarily as "something to do rather than something to think about." Activity — in form of good works and moral endeavor — is more congenial to him than contemplation.

Antiericism — the suspicion of and hostility toward the clergy which is marked in some Catholic countries — is notably absent in America. The typical American priest finds his office no bar to warm, friendly relations with his parishioners and "the people are glad to have him around."

Weigel says this has one serious disadvantage — Catholic laymen have become "weak in initiative" and are "too prone" to leave to priests tasks of planning and organizing which laymen properly might undertake.

American Catholics, reflecting the mores of their community, regard it as "bad taste to flaunt" their piety in public "or even to discuss religion in ordinary social or business situations. The American Catholic's devotion to his faith is usually expressed in the place he considers most appropriate for it — in church."

Weigel deplores in American Catholics one trait which Protestant clergymen have often criticized in their own flocks — a tendency to compartmentalize religion as a "Sunday affair" and wall off its teachings from everyday business life.

"Many Catholics, though quite strict in matters of domestic morality . . . will in professional life be unscrupulous," he says.

"The Catholic has striven so hard and so long to be accepted by the American community that he has taken on the color and habits of the general environment, keeping his piety well out of sight. Now that he is unquestionably accepted, he is very loath to do anything which would isolate him from his group, which in its outlook is not Catholic."

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Regular Church Activities:
Thursday Midweek Service 7:30 p.m., Friday morning Study Class Class 9 a.m.
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