

Church Balance Sheets Show 1957 Assets and Liabilities

By LOUIS CASSELS
United Press Correspondent

If churches drew up a year-end balance sheet on religion in America, they could report impressive growth in assets during 1957.

Records were set in virtually every field of religious activity that is subject to statistical measurement.

But the statement of condition would also show formidable liabilities. There are still many areas of U. S. life in which church leaders find it difficult to detect any evidence of a genuine religious revival.

On the credit side of the statements would be such facts as these:

Church membership soared past the 100 million mark and

continued to grow at a rate of 3 per cent a year—nearly double the rate of population increase . . . Sunday school enrollment hit an all-time high of more than 40 million.

Building Boom

Spending on church construction climbed to \$70-million dollars, an increase of \$5-million over 1956 . . . more than 3,000 new congregations came into being.

Contributions to religious bodies totaled about \$3,500,000,000, an increase of nearly 7 per cent over last year . . . the number of missionaries in foreign service rose to 22,680—twice as many as U. S. churches sent abroad twenty years ago . . . the bible dwarfed all other best-sellers, with estimated sales of 8-million copies.

On the debit side, church leaders might record another array of statistics which are hard to square with the picture of a nation on its knees:

Americans spent three times as much on alcoholic beverages as they gave to their churches . . . the number of alcoholics, like the number of church members, reached an all-time high of 5-million.

Narcotics addiction, the national divorce rate, the highway death toll and juvenile delinquency arrests rose to record levels along with Sunday school enrollment.

Facts Are Baffling

Pornographic literature flooded the country . . . and a scandal sheet racked up the latest newsstand sales of any magazine.

At first glance, the balance sheet may seem completely baffling.

On one side is clear evidence of a strong and growing public interest in religion. On the other, the symptoms of a sick and immoral society.

Many clergymen believe this paradox simply demonstrates that Americans are responding in two radically different ways to the experience of living in an era when the shadow of the H-bomb and the intercontinental missile hangs over every tomorrow.

Some people are turning to religion to find a meaning for life which transcends the anxieties of an uncertain earthly existence.

Others are seeking escape from the same anxieties in the age-old philosophy of "eat, drink and be merry."

Oregon-California Baptist Youth Unite For Service

A meeting of the Conservative Baptist youth of southern Oregon and northern California will be held New Year's Eve and New Year's Day at the First Baptist church.

On Dec. 31, the young people will attend a banquet and watch night service in the church. The following day there will be a skating party, followed by luncheon and a devotional period, at the First Baptist church, Ashland. The arrangements for the youth meet are being made by Miss Alpha McMahon. The decorations, based on the theme, "Winter Wonderland," are being planned by Miss Leone McPherson.

The adults of the church will have their watch night service on New Year's Eve, beginning at 10:45 p.m. Three members of the board of deacons, Kenneth Raymond, John Roelfs, and John Luttrell, will bring short talks on the past, present, and future work of the church. The last moments of the old year and the first moments of the new year will be spent in prayer.

Sunday the Rev. James Neely will direct the morning worship hour. His subject will be, "Redoubled Effort Cannot Replace Forgotten Aims." At 6:30 p.m. the youth of the church will see a film, "The Great Light." At 7:45 p.m., a baptismal service will be held in cooperation with the Berean Baptist church, at White City. The Rev. Haddon Robinson will bring the evening message.

Watch Night Service Planned

The Medford First Church of the Nazarene will be among the 4,500 congregations of the international Protestant church that will pray at special Watch Night services on Tuesday, Dec. 31, opening the denomination's golden anniversary year.

The First Church of the Nazarene, located at 520 North Holly st., will observe communion at a special service to begin at 11 p.m. The moments preceding midnight will be spent in prayer around the church altar.

Featured in the service will be brief talks by three laymen. There will be speeches concerning the heritage, the achievements, and the vision for the church. A roll call of departments and supervisors with representatives from each of the departments responding. At midnight, the burning of "the failures" will take place when the failures of 1957 and resolutions of 1958, previously written on slips of paper, will be burned as the congregation prays. Included in the service will be a brief memorial for church members who have died.

Mr. and Mrs. Breese Honored At Farewell Party Held In Ashland

Members of Valley View and Ashland Seventh-day Adventist churches met Dec. 15 held a farewell social for Pastor and Mrs. Floyd Breese, who left last week for Grants Pass. The event was held in the Ashland Women's Civic club hall.

During October Mr. Breese entered full time evangelism for the Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. He had served as pastor of the Ashland and Valley View churches for the past 13 months. From Oct. 6 until Dec. 8 he held an evangelistic series in the new Adventist church in Ashland. The series was concluded by a baptism on Dec. 13 at which time the baptistry in the new church was used for the first time.

Mr. Breese will conduct another series in Grants Pass after the first of the year.

SERMON TOPIC

"Christian Science" will be the subject of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, sermon at 11 a.m. Sunday. The public is invited to attend all services.

Week Services Told For First Christian

"The Open Door" will be the sermon subject of the Rev. William C. Piper at the morning service at the First Christian church. This sermon is in preparation for the universal week of prayer, Jan. 5 to 12 and also the observance of family month during the month of January.

Special music at the morning service will be by a mixed quartet composed of Mrs. Ralph Matlack, Mrs. Robert Reeves, Neal Curry, and Marge Olson. A coffee hour will follow in Fellowship hall.

In the evening Mr. Piper will preach on the subject "Many Things that are Indestructible."

The Christian Youth fellowship will have a New Year's Eve party in Fellowship hall Tuesday evening beginning at 8:30. College students home from the holidays will be special guests. Saturday evening the Chi Rho Fellowship will hold a party in Fellowship hall starting at 7:30.



"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. John 14:27."

APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH
North Central ave. at Third st.
Loyce Carver, pastor

Sunday: 8:15 a.m.—Radio broadcast KMED 9:30 a.m.—Sunday school 11 a.m.—Morning worship 3 p.m.—Young peoples meeting 7:50 p.m.—Evangelistic service Tuesday: 8-12 midnight—Watch night service Friday: 8 p.m.—Evangelistic service

BETHLEHEM ASSEMBLY OF GOD
1729 North Riverside
L. D. Krause, pastor

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school 11 a.m.—Worship service 6 p.m.—C. Youth service 7 p.m.—Evangelistic service

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
608 North Central ave.
Dexter Williams, minister

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school 11 a.m.—Morning worship 6:30 p.m.—Study classes and youth meeting 7:50 p.m.—Evangelistic service

CHURCH OF CHRIST
106 Court Street

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.—Radio program, KMED 10:30 a.m.—and 7:30 p.m.—Worship services Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.—Services

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
(United Church of Christ)
300 Oakwood dr.
(1 block south of East Main on Grove land ave.)
Thomas McCann, minister

Sunday: 9:45 and 11 a.m.—Sunday school 9:45 and 11 a.m.—Church worship 7 p.m.—Pilgrim fellowship

FAITH ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1320 Saling ave.
Fred Lee, Minister

Sunday: 10 a.m.—Sunday school 11 a.m.—Worship hour Wednesday: 7 p.m.—Prayer meeting

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
West Main at Laurel st.
George G. Roseberry, George Trough, ministers

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.—Church school, four adult classes 9:30 and 11 a.m.—Morning worship 11 a.m.—Senior and Junior high church school, kindergarten, nursery primary church 3:30 p.m.—Junior Hi MYF 7:30 p.m.—Senior Hi MYF

Tuesday: 8:30 p.m.—Senior MYF party and youth night service Thursday: 7 p.m.—Church choir rehearsal 8 p.m.—Chancel choir rehearsal

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
(Conservative)
North Central at Fifth
James W. Neely, pastor; Haddon Robinson, assistant

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school 11 a.m.—Morning worship with sermon 6:30 p.m.—Baptist youth leagues 7:30 p.m.—Adult Bible study 7:45 p.m.—Evening service Tuesday: 10:45 p.m.—Watch night service

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
100 Windsor ave.
(1 block south of East Main st.)

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Church service 11 a.m.—Sunday school, nursery available Sunday and Wednesday meeting 8 p.m.—Testimonies of healing 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.—Daily (except Sunday and holidays)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Eighth and Holly sts.
D. Kirkland West, pastor
John O. Reynolds, assistant

Sunday: 9:45 and 11 a.m.—Church school 9:45 and 11 a.m.—Worship service Tuesday: 9:30 p.m.—midnight—Watch night service Thursday: 7:30 p.m.—Chancel choir rehearsal

FREE METHODIST CHURCH
1294 South Peach st.
J. M. Root, pastor

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school 11 a.m.—Worship service, 6:30 p.m.—Family hour 7:15 p.m.—Evangelistic service Tuesday: 8 p.m.—Watch night service

Central Point Church Plans Watch Night Service for Tuesday

Central Point—A Watch night service will be held at the Community Bible church, Central Point, for members and friends of the church.

The evening activities will be divided into three periods. From 9 until 10 a devotional hour will be held with a message by the pastor, the Rev. Paul O. Kroon. During 10 until 11 a social hour will be held with refreshments served in Fellowship hall which will be followed by an hour of testimony and prayer.

CENTRAL POINT SERMONS

Central Point—"The Greatest Business in the World and the Labor Shortage" will be the worship service topic at Church of Christ, Central Point, Sunday at 10:45 a.m. The Rev. Mr. Jean M. Shelley will speak. "He Cometh Forth You" will be the topic for the 7:30 p.m. evangelistic service.

Adventist Youth Give Two Gifts at Service

Kindergartners in the Medford Seventh-day Adventist church remembered the Christ whose birth is celebrated around the world at this season, by presenting Him with two gifts during the Sabbath school hour last Saturday.

At the beginning of the session they placed a special cash offering in colored bags resembling Christmas ornaments on a small tree in their division room to be added to that taken throughout all divisions of the Sabbath school for the building of the first Seventh-day Adventist chapel in Greenland.

After the money was removed they made their second gift. As they sang, "Take All of My Heart," each child placed a red paper heart, centered with a picture of Christ, on the tree signifying his desire to have Christ in his heart, and to give that heart completely to Him.

Nazarenes To Hold Annual Service Of Old Things

Pioneer members of the Nazarene church will be honored in the annual service, Dec. 29, dedicated to the past. Special recognition will be given to the oldest members and the oldest Christian present.

A large display of old things will be available for the public's inspection. Among the articles of religious interest is a complete set of the official church manuals. Members and friends are urged to bring anything old of religious significance, such as Bibles, hymn books, and art objects.

The congregational singing will feature the old Christian hymns. Members of the congregation have been voting the past two weeks for their favorite.

A choir of persons 60 years of age or older will be singing a special song under the direction of W. Lee Mansfield, minister of music. The public is invited to participate in this annual service by bringing items for the display and attending the special services.

Grange Notes

Central Point Grange

A Christmas party was given for members of the Central Point Grange and their invited guests last Friday night.

A potluck dinner with turkey furnished by the Home Ec. ladies was served at 7 p.m. Mrs. Marshall Weidman and Mrs. Herald Gebhard were in charge of the serving.

Following dinner the group enjoyed a trip thru the Holy Land with Dr. Bert Elliott showing the slides and Mrs. Elliott telling the story of the Christ child, including all the different events as they tied in with the pictures taken by the Elliots when they visited the land where Christmas began.

Two Christmas carrolls were sung by Mrs. Effie Kurtz. Mrs. Arnold Bohnert who was in charge of the group singing, divided the members into two groups, one at each end of the hall, the lights were turned out, and carrolls were sung by flash light, as each group serenaded the other.

Santa then entered and each one received a bag of candy and nuts. Square dancing followed. The display table held Christmas decorations.

The Juvenile Grange held a short business meeting before the program began.

Roxy Ann Grange

Roxy Ann Grange met in regular session Dec. 20. Opening time was delayed due to the program at Lone Pine School.

Roscoe Roberts reported insurance rates are the same and no raise in sight.

Frances Moffatt said there are mice in orchards in the valley. Orle Moore reported there is little man can do to stop the mice with poison or traps. Left alone nature kills them with disease.

Mrs. Stevie McMahan, who has been living in California the last two years told us how they conduct meetings in California. She attends a fisherman's grange and they have had trouble with Japanese tuna selling lower than American fishermen can.

Charlie Hoover and Mrs. Hoover, also Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bitterling were visitors from Eagle Point. They came to tell us of the project they have started to reactivate Camp White hospital. They announced there are eight buildings in perfect shape just waiting to be used. They each gave a short talk on the subject. Hoover said they would like to have 400 beds.

Roxy Ann approved a motion to help reactivate Camp White hospital.

May Dalton reported Laura Whitcher is ill and Mr. Rushton is improving.

R. J. Ritchey thanked officers for support while he and Iris were assistant and lady assistant stewards.

Willette Sims reported 53 were at the HEC party Wednesday Dec. 18. There will be no HEC meeting Jan. 1. Next meeting will be Jan. 15.

The next Grange meeting Jan. 3 will be the birthday party. Those having birthdays in the last six months of the year are to bring cakes and serve.

All the new officers were installed at Eagle Point last Sunday.

Potluck refreshments were served. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dalton, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hall, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Pfister helped with the serving.

There will be a New Years

Stassen Pressing For New Proposals On Disarmament

Washington — (U) — Presidential disarmament adviser Harold E. Stassen is pressing the administration to make new disarmament proposals to Russia, informed sources said today.

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, on the other hand, is reported skeptical about the likelihood of reaching an acceptable agreement with Russia in the near future.

Thorough Review Seen

Officials predicted that the apparent disagreement will get a thorough review early next month by President Eisenhower and the National Security Council. The outcome may determine whether the U.S. makes a serious effort to open new disarmament negotiations.

The U.S., Russia, Britain, France and Canada, all members of the old UN Disarmament subcommittee, tried without success last summer to negotiate an agreement in London. The Soviets rejected comprehensive NATO-supported western proposals for ending the arms race. New Efforts Suggested

At the recent Paris conference, the 15 NATO partners suggested new efforts to break the deadlock either through the expanded UN Disarmament commission, now a 25-member body, or a foreign ministers' meeting.

The Russians have rejected both those ideas and countered with a proposal for special UN assembly or a big international conference on disarmament. U.S. officials rejected both of these Moscow suggestions.

Stassen, like some Western European leaders, is understood to feel the stakes are so high that the U.S. must never give up an active search for a fool-proof disarmament pact.

Portland Gets 15th Straight Day of Rain

By UNITED PRESS

It rained for the 15th straight day in Portland today and the weather man said above-normal precipitation was in store for Oregon for the rest of the year. Another storm, milder than the damaging Christmas blow, hit the state this morning. A new storm was due Saturday with heavier rain and stronger winds than today's.

The five-day outlook called for rainfall totaling from 1 1/2 to 3 inches in western Oregon with heavier amounts along the coast. Snow is expected to fall east of the mountains with the total precipitation from 1/4 to 1/2 inch.

Southeast storm warnings continued to fly off the coast. Little change was expected in the next day or two in Portland district streams. The Willamette was down .1 of a foot at Corvallis this morning but was up .6 of a foot at Albany. It was still about six feet under flood stage.

The Santiam at Jefferson was 11.8 feet today, 1.2 feet under flood stage.

Dallas Integration Delayed by Court

New Orleans — (U) — The Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled today that the public schools of Dallas need not integrate in January, as a U.S. district judge in Dallas had ordered.

A ruling came at the request of the Dallas School board which contended District Judge William T. Atwell went beyond his authority when he issued an integration order this year.

The appeals court said the Dallas School board is still under orders to end racial segregation "with all deliberated speed." But Judge Atwell's mid-term deadline was overruled and no new deadline was set.

party at the Grange Dec. 31, at 8 p.m. There will be cars, dancing, games and fun for all. Potluck refreshments. All grangers and their friends are invited.

UNITY CENTER

of Medford
Affiliated with Unity School of Christianity, Lee's Summit, Mo.
Sunday Devotional Service
Pythian hall, 11 a.m.
No weekly classes the weeks of Christmas and New Years
Center Open Daily 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday
HOLLY BUILDING
Katherine Bosworth, Leader
Office SP 2-6902, Res. TA 6-2098

Presbyterians Tell Topics For Sunday Sermons

Central Point — Dr. Norman K. Tully, pastor, First Presbyterian church, Central Point, will speak on "Hitherto Hath the Lord Helped Us" at the 9:45 a.m. service Sunday.

Starting Sunday, Jan. 5, the church worship service at the Central Point church will change to 11 a.m. with the church school meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Phoenix — The Rev. John O. Reynolds, assistant pastor, Medford First Presbyterian church, will speak at the 11 a.m. worship service Sunday at First Presbyterian church, Phoenix. Communion will be observed at the service.

Sunday, Jan. 12, a covered dish dinner and congregational meeting for the election of officers will be held at the church.

A large crowd was reported at the Sunday school annual Christmas program last Sunday. Included in the program was the introduction of teachers and jobs that had been done by various committees.

Each department of the Sunday school presented a part of the program. The Christmas tree was decorated by the Westminster fellowship group and was donated to the church by Ed Caldwell. At the close of the program treats were given to each child by Santa Claus.

Ashland — "The Essence of Christianity" will be the topic Sunday at both the 9:45 and 11 a.m. services at First Presbyterian church, Ashland.

Medford — Dr. D. Kirkland West will preach on "Present Tense—Future Perfect" at both the 9:45 and 11 a.m. worship services Sunday at First Presbyterian church, Medford.

Tuesday a Watch night program will be held at the church starting at 9:30 p.m. During the first hour films will be shown during a social hour followed by refreshments. From 11 until midnight the service will be held including the serving of communion.

Jacksonville — "Toward the Sunrising" will be the sermon by the Rev. Robert T. Bridge Sunday at First Presbyterian church, Jacksonville, at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 28 at 6:30 p.m. the church fellowship potluck supper will be held at the church.

Medford Adventists Elect Church Officers

Medford Seventh-day Adventist church officers elected recently to serve the church for the year of 1958 include: F. V. Cook, F. E. Beverly, Dr. Bernard Thompson, Forrest Bigger, and Eli Davis, elders; Mrs. Kenneth Kamberg, clerk, and Gilbert Buck, treasurer.

Roy F. Martin, Robert J. Gregg, Dr. A. E. Merkel, Kenneth W. Kamberg, Don Amundson, Dr. Virgil Mohr, C. R. Helms, and Merlin L. Dewey, will serve as deacons, with Mrs. Roy Martin, Mrs. F. E. Beverly, Mrs. B. F. Blank, Mrs. Delbert Hill, Mrs. Keith Bristlin, Mrs. Ross Painter, Mrs. Malcolm McCarty, Mrs. Louis Corwin, and Mrs. Clyde Melvin, as deaconesses.

Other church officers will be held by Curtis Beverly, Keith Bristlin, Clarence Hayward, Elbert Davis, James Woods, and Malcolm McCarty, ushers; Louis Corwin, missionary leader; Mrs. Frank Archer, and Mrs. S. C. Lindgren, missionary secretaries; L. J. Yost, and James Kempster, choir directors and Mrs. Harold Yost and Mrs. Frank Archer, organists.

GUEST SPEAKER

Elder W. E. Atkin, guest speaker at the 11 a.m. worship hour in the Medford Seventh-day Adventist church Saturday will continue the Christmas season theme as he tells a story of American travelers in the Holy Land.

MEDFORD CHURCH DIRECTORY

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. John 14:27."

MT. PITT AVENUE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
1332 Mt. Pitt ave.
Dwayne Bachelor, pastor

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school 11 a.m.—Morning worship 6:30 p.m.—Evangelistic service Tuesday and Friday: 7:30 p.m.—Midweek services

PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH
East Jackson and Bessie sts.
Sherman Moore, pastor

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school 11 a.m.—Morning worship 6:30 p.m.—Young peoples service 7:30 p.m.—Evangelistic service Tuesday: 10 p.m.—Watch night service

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
320 South Oakdale ave.
Priests: Fr. Carl Mai, Fr. John A. Ig. Fr. William McLeod

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.—Mass 7:30 p.m.—Rosary and benediction Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.—Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Corner Edwards and Beatty sts.
John Trude, pastor

Saturday: 9:30 a.m.—Sabbath school 11 a.m.—Worship hour Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.—Senior dorcas 7:30 p.m.—Prayer meeting

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Missouri Synod)
1020 East Main st.
Kenneth F. Korb, pastor

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.—Sunday school and Bible study 11 a.m.—Worship with sermon and holy communion Monday: 8 p.m.—Adult instruction class Wednesday: 10 a.m.—New Year's day service with sermon and holy communion Thursday: 8 p.m.—Adult instruction class Friday: 7:30 p.m.—Christian fellowship meeting

Saturday: 9, 10, 11, 11:50 a.m.—Children's catechumen classes 10 a.m.—Cherub and junior choirs

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1111 St. and North Oakdale ave.
George R. V. Bolster, rector

Sunday: 8 a.m.—Holy communion 9:30 a.m.—Church school family service 9:30 and 11:45 a.m.—Nursery school 11 a.m.—Morning prayer with sermon 12:30 p.m.—Coffee hour Friday: 7:30 a.m.—Holy communion

THE AQUARIAN HALL OF TRUTH
1701 West Main st.
Miss Alice Cook and Miss Flora Hara, pastors

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Bible service 7 p.m.—Worship service

UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP
(Second and Fourth Wednesdays)
Room 2, 229 North Bartlett st.
(For information Murdoch 2-7927)

Saturday: 8 p.m.—Holiday party. Kreisman home, 111 Bush st., Ashland

VALLEY VIEW SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
South State rd.
C. E. Wimer, pastor

Sunday: 10 a.m.—Sabbath school 11:30 a.m.—Worship hour Wednesday: 7 p.m.—Teachers' meeting 7:30 p.m.—Prayer meeting

WEST MAIN CHURCH OF CHRIST
1701 West Main st.
Rosie V. Long, minister

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Bible classes 10:45 a.m.—Morning worship 6:30 p.m.—Evening worship Wednesday: 7 p.m.—Midweek Bible study Thursday: 1:30 p.m.—Ladies Bible class

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, ULCA
Fourth and Oakdale
G. Herbert Hillerman, pastor

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school 11 a.m.—Worship service Monday: 7:30 p.m.—Special church council meeting Thursday: