

# Church of the Brethren to Celebrate 14th Anniversary

The Medford Church of the Brethren will celebrate the 14th anniversary of its founding Sunday morning. The Rev. Escil Hiser, pastor, will speak on "Except the Lord Build the House."

The church was organized in 1944 under the pastoral leadership of the Rev. Stanley Keller. Services were held in the present building at 345 Mary st. on the first Sunday in September of that year.

To mark the beginning of the 15th year the fellowship evangelism committee will be installed. Charles Nelson will represent the Deacon's commission, Mrs. Alvin Birman, adult department, Mrs. Ernest Bolz, children's departments, Miss Deloris Pool, youth fellowship, and Miss Sandra Phiester, junior high fellowship.

The Medford church is part of the Church of the Brethren which celebrated the 250th anniversary of its founding in Schwarzenau, Germany, this summer. The church was organized in 1708 by Alexander Mack. In 1719 and again in 1720 most of the Brethren migrated to America and settled in and around Germantown, Penna., later following the migrations of pioneer settlers across the country.

From its earliest days the church has had no fixed creed and accepts the New Testament as the rule of faith and practice. The Church of the Brethren is one of the "historic peace churches," the other two being the Mennonites and the Quakers.

The Brethren believe in trine immersion in baptism, and in their early days were called "Dunkers." The Brethren still hold Love Feasts in celebrating communion. After the Brethren wash one another's feet following Christ's injunction "If I your Lord and Teacher have washed your feet, you ought also to wash one another's feet," they all sit around a plain supper table with simple but nourishing food being served. After this meal of fellowship they partake of the communion of the bread and the cup.

The church of the Brethren is engaged in four major areas, foreign missions, home missions, brethren service and Christian education. One of the better-known activities of the church is its Brethren Service projects, such as its

participation in the distribution of heaters to needy families abroad. Since 1944 some 10,000 head of cattle have been sent to 34 countries.

The church is a member of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and of the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland.

1957 Award of Merit Winner



## CHURCH NEWS

National Religious Publicity Council

### Quiz Team Members Return from Trip

The young people of Free Methodist church, Medford, who are members of the championship quiz team in the Oregon Conference of the church and traveled to Winona Lake, Ind., returned to the valley late last month.

The team members participated in the international championship contest while in Indiana and were defeated in the play off for the Western

### Fall Schedule To Start Sunday

The fall and winter schedule for the Ascension Lutheran church, 2501 Barnett rd., has been announced by the pastor, the Rev. Elvin S. Tolleson.

Sunday school rally day will be held at 9:45 a.m. with promotion and perfect attendance certificates being presented to the children. New students will be registered at this time. At the same hour will be the adult Bible class taught by the pastor.

Mr. Tolleson will speak on "The Healer and Prophet Deified" at the 11 a.m. divine worship service which will include infant baptism.

Sunday at 2 p.m. a congregational fellowship and Sunday school picnic at the Huener brothers ranch will be held. Persons attending are asked to take a potluck lunch. Beverages and cake will be furnished.

The church council will meet at 8 p.m. Monday and the senior choir will practice weekly at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays.

The adult class preparatory to church membership is scheduled for 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, and the confirmation classes will be held on Saturday mornings. The first year group meeting at 9 followed at 10:15 by the second year group.

Sunday, Sept. 14, there will be adult confirmation and reception of new members at the 11 a.m. worship. The Luther League will meet at 7:30 p.m.

### Assemblies of God To Hold Fellowship

The monthly Fellowship meeting of Assembly of God churches in the Rogue valley section will be held Monday at the Assembly of God church in Rogue River, according to the Rev. Robert E. Cull, sectional presbyter.

The Fellowship will start with a 2:30 p.m. service followed by a meeting at 6:30 p.m. for reports by the Women's Missionary Council and Sunday school activities.

The evening service will be held at 7:30 featuring musical selections and a guest speaker. Representatives from 22 churches in the section plan to attend. The Rev. and Mrs. Ernst Haverman are co-pastors of the Assembly at Rogue River.

### Plans for Rally Day To Be Made

Members of the church school board and Sunday school cabinet of the First Church of the Nazarene will meet with the pastor, the Rev. R. W. Hurn, and the Sunday school superintendent, William Brewster, this evening to lay plans for the fall Sunday school rally.

Sunday will be Promotion Sunday in the Sunday school. All school age children will be promoted to the class corresponding with his grade in school.

Plans have been made for the "visitation dinner" meetings to resume for the fall. First of these meetings will be held Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 5:55 p.m. in the activity building.

### Church School Opens Fall Term

St. Marks church school will open the fall term Sunday with registration for all classes starting at 9:30 a.m.

Children between the ages of three and eight years should be accompanied by one or both parents to assist them in registration. For children from three to five years of age registration will be on the ground floor of the new church school building; and from six to eight years in the Guild hall adjoining.

For the convenience of the parents of these groups registration will commence at 9:15 a.m., enabling them to attend the 9:30 a.m. service. The senior department, beginning with fourth grade, will attend the 9:30 a.m. service, but will retire before the sermon to their classrooms for registration. Parents of this group also are invited to join their children in worship.

In the afternoon the traditional "John Mann Day" picnic will be held at the Black Oaks Conference center on the Rogue river starting at 2:30 p.m. Parents and other members of the congregation may join the children. Families should bring the foodstuffs they desire, and ice cream and beverages will be provided by the school.

To reach the picnic site follow the "Black Oaks" arrows from Bybee bridge to Black Oaks. Organized games, swimming, and a hay ride will form part of the program. All members and prospective members of the church school are invited.

### BROADCAST PLANNED

The morning worship service of the First Church of the Nazarene, 520 North Holly st., will be broadcast over station KDOV, Sunday. The Rev. Raymond W. Hurn, pastor, will speak on "Life Without Love," first in a series from First Corinthians 13. Mrs. Mildred Lindell will sing "A Heart Like Thine".

### Church Yearbook Shows Religious Facts and Figures

By LOUIS CASSELS United Press International  
The perils of drawing sweeping conclusions from church membership statistics were illustrated dramatically this week.

The National Council of Churches published its annual "Yearbook of American Churches" giving facts and figures about 255 U. S. religious bodies.

As usual, news stories about the yearbook dwelled mainly on its grand totals, which indicated church membership has grown to a new all-time high of 104,189,678 persons.

Closer study of the yearbook yielded two other figures which would be extremely significant—if true.

Taking the yearbook's figures at face value, it appears church membership rose last year by 0.9 per cent, while the total U. S. population rose 1.7 per cent.

Figures misleading  
This is the first time since World War II the growth in church membership, as reported in the yearbook, has failed to keep pace with the growth in population. Last year, the yearbook showed church membership growing nearly twice as fast as the general population.

Still more startling are figures in the new yearbook which indicate the number of Protestants in the United States actually has declined in the past year. The 1958 yearbook shows a total of 59,832,777, an apparent decrease of 316,203.

But these figures are grossly misleading and the conclusions drawn from them are false. Here's why:  
The yearbook does not count church members on its own. It simply compiles reports submitted by the individual denominations.

In 1953, it received a report from a Protestant body called "Christ Unity Science Church, Inc." with headquarters in El Paso, Tex. It claimed 4,481 local congregations with a total of 1,581,286 members.

The yearbook editors then checked the report insofar as their limited staff and research funds would permit. Ministers of other denominations vouched for the existence of the "Christ Unity Science Church" and said its leaders in El Paso were reputable men. So the yearbook accepted the report as authentic and included the alleged membership in its totals.

Although no reports have been received from the "Christ Unity Science church" since 1953, the yearbook continued to list its claimed membership in each edition up to and including last year's.

This year, after trying in vain to find any trace of the organization at El Paso or elsewhere, the yearbook dropped the listing and quietly subtracted 1,581,286 persons from its figures on Protestant membership and its grand total on membership of all faiths.

It was this belated "correction" that caused the apparent slowdown in church membership growth this year. When the subtraction is taken into account, it appears bona-fide denominations have actually continued to grow during the past year at a rate at least as great, and perhaps greater, than previous years.

### Ministers To Hold First Fall Meeting Tuesday

Dr. Tom Goff, clinical psychologist for the Southern Oregon Child Guidance and Mental Health clinic in Medford, will speak at the first fall meeting of the Medford Ministerial Association Tuesday, Sept. 9.

The meeting will be held at 10 a.m. in the Medford First Presbyterian church fellowship hall. Prior to the business meeting which will precede the program coffee and doughnuts will be available for members and guests.

The association is open to ministers of all denominations and churches in the area. Meetings are held monthly during the winter on the second Tuesday.

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### Valley Presbyterians Announce Sermon Topics

"What Does Christ Expect From His Church?" will be the sermon topic of Dr. D. Kirkland West at both services of the First Presbyterian church Sunday.

At the 9:30 a.m. service, the Westminster choir, under the direction of Lynn Sjolund, will sing "Rise, Arise." Mr. Sjolund will also direct the chancel choir at the 11 a.m. service in the anthem "Be Thou Near Me, Lord." Soloist for the morning will be Otis Swisher, who will sing "Brother James Air."

A new series of churchmanship classes for prospective members will begin Sunday at 4 p.m. Dr. West will teach the class for adults and the Rev. John Reynolds will teach the class for junior high and senior high young people. These classes are open to any interested individual without obligation to join the church. They will cover basic Christian beliefs, the Christian life, the theology of the church, and background of the Presbyterian denomination.

Several youth meetings will be held Sunday evenings. The Junior High Fellowship will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Hawthorne park, after which they will hold a discussion meeting at the home of Miss Billie Wood, 112 South Keeneway dr. The Freshman Fellowship will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Jacl White, 531 Palm st., to plan a series of fall meetings.

Westminster Fellowship will meet at 7 p.m. at the church for an opening worship service which will be followed by a meeting entitled "Faith Healing," led by Ruby Rowan. Fireside will be held at the home of Gary Milne, 220 North Keeneway dr. Geneva Fellowship for post-high young people will meet at the home of Laura Williams, 116 Black Oak dr., at 7:30 p.m. After swimming, a meeting entitled "How Can a Good Person Become a Living Christian?" will be led by Denise Bruning.

Central Point—Dr. Norman K. Tully, pastor of First Presbyterian church, Central Point, will speak on "An Expectant Faith" at the 11 a.m. service Sunday.

Thursday, Sept. 11, the chapter of Presbyterian Men of the church will meet at 7 p.m. They will have their charter ceremony with the session meeting immediately following the event.

Phoenix — The adult class will be in charge of the opening exercises Sunday at 9:45 a.m. of the Sunday school at Phoenix First Presbyterian church.

Sam Harbison, member of the Presbyterian Men's club of the Medford First Presbyterian church, will speak at both the 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. services at the church Sunday.

The officers and teachers of the Sunday school will meet for at 7:15 p.m. at the church. Plans will be made for rally day and the close of the Sunday school fiscal year.

Last Sunday Mr. Harbison also spoke at both services assisted by Fred Fry.

Ashland—The Rev. B. J. Holland, minister of First Presbyterian church, Ashland, will speak on "On Meeting Temptation" at the 9:45 and 11 a.m. worship services Sunday.

Jacksonville — The Rev. Kenneth Jones, South Pasadena, Calif., will speak at the 11 a.m. worship service Sunday at First Presbyterian church, Jacksonville.

Following the service a potluck luncheon will be held and a congregational meeting.

The youth fellowship hour for young people from the eighth grade through high school will meet at 7:30 p.m.

### Zion Lutheran Tells Of Planned Events

"Take Jesus Seriously" will be the sermon topic Sunday by the Rev. H. C. Covert, pastor, at Zion Lutheran church. The sacrament of holy baptism will be included in the service.

The Intermediate Luther League will meet at the home of Loretta Turman at 5 p.m. Sunday. Games will be played and duties assigned for the winter season.

The council of the church will meet Tuesday, Sept. 9, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, a chili feed for the men of the church will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the church. Plans for the building program will be discussed.

### Gideons-Auxiliary Elect New Officers

E. N. Nelson was elected president of the Rogue Valley Gideons at their annual meeting recently. Also elected were auxiliary officers with Mrs. Lucile Monroe president.

Other Gideon officers included E. J. Neumann, vice president; George W. Swinney, secretary; Allen Curry, treasurer; and Hubert H. chaplain.

Auxiliary officers include Mrs. Lester Wilcox, vice president; Mrs. A. B. Wenzel, secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. George Swinney, chaplain.

### 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.  
9th and Oakdale • Medford, Ore.

### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ  
Groveland Ave. and Oakwood Drive  
NOTICE  
Worship Service and Church School  
10 A.M. ONLY

### Methodist Men Attend Third Annual Assembly

Three hundred men are expected to attend the Third Annual Methodist Men's Assembly on the campus of Willamette university, Salem, today through Sunday. The Methodist men attending from Medford are Dr. Eugene Ray, Dr. John Dickson, Melvin Ward, Charles H. Thompson, Dr. George H. Roseberry, Charles Adamson, Bob Bayley, Everett Faber, Walter Higgins, John Kent and F. K. Waters.

Howard B. Somers, the conference lay leader, is chairman of the program. The featured speakers of the program will be Dr. R. Marvin Stuart of Palo Alto, Calif.

Bishop A. Raymond Grant of Portland will give the Assembly sermon on Sunday morning at First Methodist church. Everett E. Faber will have charge of the discussion on "The Church in My Life." Dr. Roseberry will be a resource person in the study of "Church Stewardship and Financing."

Dr. Roseberry will preach on "Living With a Purpose" Sunday at the two worship services at the local First Methodist church. The anthem for the 11 a.m. service will be "O Rest in the Lord." The soloist for both services will be Mrs. Jack Harris who will sing "The Lord's Prayer."

### Inquirers Class Set by Catholics

The fall classes of instruction into the fundamental beliefs of the Catholic religion will begin Sept. 24, at St. Mary's high school at 8:15 p.m.

Inquirers and other interested persons who do not belong to the Catholic church are welcome. Their attendance through four months of instruction will constitute no obligation to membership. The classes will be aimed at knowledge of the principles of the Catholic church.

Priests in a wide variety of parishes in all sections of the country have found the "inquiry class" is the best method of instruction of interested persons. It is an adaptation of the catechumenate, a procedure almost as old as the church, and employed universally in the foreign missions.

These classes, in which the "Catechism for Inquirers" by the Rev. Joseph Malloy will be followed, will be conducted by the Rev. John A. Iig. The subject to be covered will include, God, Sin and Redemption, the Church of Christ, the Sacraments, the Commandments of God and the Church and Future Life. For further information contact the Rev. John A. Iig, S.P.Ring 3-1913.

### Pastor Returns From Vacation

The Rev. and Mrs. Thomas McCamant and Robert returned from their California vacation and Mr. McCamant will return to the pulpit of the Congregational church Sunday at 10 a.m. The sermon topic will be: "Do Not Lose Heart."

By vote of the congregation the church will continue on the summer schedule with the church and Sunday school both meeting at only one hour. For the time being this hour will be 10 o'clock. Later in the fall the plan calls for a shift to the 11 a.m. hour.

Sunday also marks the beginning of the regular classes in the church school. The new superintendent of the school is Mrs. Elton Waldron. Mrs. Richard Travis recently resigned after serving as the superintendent since the beginning of the church school in November, 1953.

### Central Point Topics Announced for Sunday

Central Point—Mr. Jean M. Shelley, pastor of Church of Christ, Central Point, will speak on "America at the Gate Beautiful" at the 10:45 a.m. Sunday service. At 7:30 p.m. that day he will speak on "Ants."

The Bible school picnic will be held in the Central Point park Sunday immediately after the morning service.

### First Christian Announces Sermon

"He Shall Prosper" will be the topic of the sermon by the Rev. William C. Piper at the First Christian church Sunday morning. A trio composed of Miss Sara Hinkle, Miss Priscilla Shafer and Miss Julie Latham will sing a special number. Evening services will be resumed again and the sermon will be on "Pardon."

The Christian Youth Fellowship will meet at 6:30 Sunday evening for a study and devotional period. Miss Oveta Walden will lead the study on the subject "School Spirit and a Christian Witness." Miss Jan Edwards will have charge of the devotional period. On Wednesday, Sept. 10, the Youth Fellowship will have a "back-to-school" party in Fellowship Hall.

TO WORKSHOP  
Talent—A group of the Senior Methodist Youth Fellowship of the Talent Methodist church are attending the Methodist Youth Fellowship workshop at Dead Indian Soda Springs today and Saturday.

CHURCH EDITOR KILLED  
North Sioux City, S. D.—(AP)—The Rev. Robert H. Duffy, 41, editor of the Roman Catholic weekly "The True Voice," was killed Thursday night in a car-truck crash north of here.

### NEW AGE CHURCH

Dr. Dell E. Millard will speak on "Will Science Discover the Secret of Physical Immortality?" at the Sunday 2:30 p.m. lecture at New Age church. Prior to the lecture an organ and piano concert will be held. The public is invited to attend.

### MEDFORD CHURCH DIRECTORY

"Make your ear attentive to wisdom and incline your heart to understanding." Proverbs 2:2.

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 people's meeting  
7:30 p.m.—Evangelistic service  
Tuesday and Friday: 8 p.m.—Services

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2501 Barnett dr.  
Elvin S. Tolleson, pastor  
Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school and adult Bible class  
11 a.m.—Morning worship  
2 p.m.—Church and school picnic  
Hueners ranch  
Wednesday: 8 p.m.—Adult church membership class  
Thursday: 7:30 p.m.—Senior choir  
Saturday: 9:45 a.m.—First year confirmation class  
11 a.m.—Second year confirmation class

BETHEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD  
1701 West Main st.  
L. D. Krause, pastor  
Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school  
11 a.m.—Worship service  
7 p.m.—Youth choir  
7:30 p.m.—MIA  
Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.—Primary

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN  
245 North Mary st.  
Escil Hiser, pastor  
Sunday: 10 a.m.—Church school  
11 a.m.—Worship  
7:45 p.m.—Youth choir  
7:30 p.m.—Youth fellowship  
8:30 p.m.—Youth recreation hour

COMMUNITY CHURCH  
West Main at South Orange  
Joseph A. Bowdoin, pastor  
Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school  
11 a.m.—Morning service  
7:45 p.m.—Evening service  
Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.—Prayer meeting and Bible study

EASTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH  
(American Baptist)  
North Keene Way dr. at Ridgeway  
Richard M. Jones, pastor  
Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Church school  
11 a.m.—Morning worship  
Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.—Hour of prayer  
Thursday: 7:30 p.m.—Choir rehearsal

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD  
1108 West Main st.  
Robert E. Cull, pastor  
Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school  
11 a.m.—Worship  
6:15 p.m.—Christ Ambassadors  
7:30 p.m.—Evangelistic services  
Wednesday: 7 p.m.—Prayer meeting  
Thursday: 7:45 p.m.—Midweek service

UNITARY CENTER  
of MEDFORD  
Affiliated  
Unitary School of Christianity,  
Lee's Summit, Mo.  
203 Holly Bldg.  
Regular Sunday  
Devotional Services—11:00 a.m.  
As usual  
at  
PYTHIAN HALL  
5th and Grape Sts.  
All weekly classes and Study  
Groups will be recessed during  
August.  
Center Room Open Daily  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
For Further Information—Call  
Katherine Bosworth, Minister  
Residence TA 6-2098  
Office SP 2-6902

### Saint Mark's Episcopal Church School

Fifth and Oakdale  
Registration Day, Sunday, September 7th  
Registration from 9:15 a.m.  
For Fall and Winter Terms  
Classes for All Age Groups  
3 Years and Up  
Newcomers  
and  
Those Without Other Affiliation  
Are Cordially Invited.  
For Further Information  
Phone SP 3-3111  
Rev. George R. V. Bolster  
Rector  
A. Douglas Roach  
General Superintendent