

# 'Five More Giving Days This Year' Churches Should Remind Taxpayers

By LOUIS CASSELS  
United Press International  
If churches operated like department stores, they would run ads in the papers today pointing out that there are "only five giving days left before the new year."

This is the time of year when foresighted taxpayers begin to brood about the fact that they will soon have to render an accounting to the Internal Revenue Service of their income—and their deductions—for 1958.

Gifts to churches are tax deductible. They come under a special provision of the internal revenue laws which permits deductions of up to 30 per cent of adjusted gross income for contributions to churches, schools or hospitals.

No one is likely to give to a church solely for tax purposes. Giving always costs something, no matter how high your tax bracket. But the tax deductibility of religious contributions is an added inducement for anyone who feels like making up with a year-end check, for some of the Sundays when he put nothing in the collection plate.

# Church Membership Hits Peak But Genuineness is Questioned

Boom conditions prevailed in 1958 in all areas of American religious life that can be measured by statistics. Church membership rose to a new high of 104 million persons, 61 per cent of the population. Sunday school enrollment, Bible studies and contributions to religious causes set new records. Church building snapped back from a brief recession to equal 1957's breathtaking outlay of \$865,000,000.

Not all church leaders found these figures comforting. Some felt, with the Christian Century magazine, that America's popular piety was superficial and self-centered, that it was often no more than a vague "faith in faith."

But an increasing number of clergymen saw a genuine quest for ultimate truths by millions of people who no longer believe that science has all the answers, or that material prosperity is all you need to be happy.

Despite the external evidences of a continuing revival, few church leaders were ready to say that America had already become a "nation under God." For 1958 also witnessed outbreaks of hatred and violence, a rising incidence of crime, divorce and alcoholism, and other symptoms of moral deterioration in American society.

Most disturbing development of the year, to many churchmen, was a sharp rise in racial tensions. Leaders of every major denomination expressed concern about the ugly passions aroused by the school desegregation dispute. They appealed to church members to work calmly and courageously for a Christian solution.

This attempt to carry out a "ministry of reconciliation" in the racial crisis is likely to be a major preoccupation of the churches in the coming year.

For America's 35 million Roman Catholics, 1958 was a year of bereavement. Samuel Cardinal Stritch of Chicago died of a stroke soon after he had been called to the Vatican as the first American prelate to hold a high post in the Roman Curia. Pope Pius XII, revered by millions of Christians as well as Catholics, died in October. Edward Cardinal Mooney of Detroit suffered a fatal heart attack while preparing to attend the conclave at which a new pope was elected.

But there was good news, too. Pope John XXIII, the former Cardinal Ruffini of Venice, quickly won the affections of American Catholics by his easy manner and common touch, and by the vigor with which he set about reorganizing the Vatican's neglected administrative machinery.

At a Dec. 15 consistory, Pope John created 23 new cardinals, including Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Philadelphia and John O'Hara of Philadelphia.

Protestants also got new leaders. Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, a St. Louis Baptist pastor, took over as president of the National Council of Churches. Another St. Louis clergyman, the Rt. Rev. Arthur C. Litchinger, was elected Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. Mrs. William Sale Terrel of West Hartford, Conn., was elected President of United Church Women.

The church unity movement continued to make slow but steady progress. The Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. and the United Presbyterian Church formally merged in colorful ceremonies at Pittsburgh to form the nation's third largest Protestant denomination. Lutherans reached major agreements looking toward a four-way merger in 1960. Methodist and Episcopal negotiators came up with a long-range program for moving toward inter-communion and exchange of clergy.

The November elections provided strong evidence that religious prejudice is a diminishing factor in American politics. A number of Catholic candidates won major offices in predominantly non-Catholic states, and a Jewish candidate ran up the biggest gubernatorial plurality in the history of his state.

As usual, the churches stood together on some issues, and split sharply on others. The strongest unity was evident on the moral necessity of sharing America's abundance with less fortunate people abroad. Church leaders of all faiths urged Congress to approve an expanded U.S. foreign aid program. On their own, religious organizations sent overseas nearly \$300,000,000 worth of food, clothing and other private relief.

The sharpest division appeared on the issue of birth control. Protestants and Jews lined up against Catholics in a heated New York City quarrel over the right of a doctor to prescribe a contraceptive device for a Protestant woman patient in a city-owned hospital. The bishops of the Anglican communion issued a firm endorsement of planned parenthood which drew widespread praise from Protestants and sharp criticism from Catholics.

The coming year may see a sharpening of this conflict. Many Protestant leaders believe the time has come to present a positive case for birth control as a "Christian responsibility" in a world whose population is growing explosively. Catholics are standing firm on the teaching that all "artificial" methods of birth regulation are contrary to natural law and therefore sinful.

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# Mid-Winter Concert Planned At Local Church

The Annual Mid-winter concert of the Apostolic Faith church, will be presented by orchestra and choruses of the church at North Central ave. at Third st., Tuesday, Dec. 30, at 8 p.m.

# Valley Presbyterians Tell Activities for Week Ahead

At both morning services of the First Presbyterian church Sunday, Dr. D. Kirkland West will preach on the subject "Present Tense, Future Perfect". The chancel choir will sing the anthem "And The Glory of the Lord" at the second service and Miss Janet Jamison, junior student at Willamette university, will be the soloist at both services.

# First Baptists Schedule Watch Night Service

The annual Watch Night service at First Baptist church will begin Wednesday, Dec. 31, at the church. Included on the program will be a "get-acquainted" time with new members who were received into the church during 1958.

# 1st Christian Tells Sermons

"Frontiers of Faith" is the title of the sermons to be given by the Rev. William C. Piper for both services at the First Christian church Sunday morning.

# Service of Old Things Planned

Members of the First Church of the Nazarene will participate in the annual service honoring elderly people Sunday at 7 at the church located at 520 North Holly st.

# Student Recognition Sunday Scheduled

Student Recognition Sunday for all college and university students will be observed in each morning service at First Methodist church.

# 'The Road Ahead' Sermon at Eastwood

"The Road Ahead" will be the title of the New Year's Sunday sermon by the Rev. Richard M. Jones at the Eastwood Baptist church, North Keene Way dr. at Ridgeway at the 11 a.m. service Sunday. Mr. Jones will also sing a baritone solo.

# Central Point Group Plan Watch Night

Central Point - The Community Bible church, Central Point, will hold a Watch Night service at the church New Year's Eve beginning at 9 p.m. A full program is being planned with the young people and adults taking part.

# Ministers Exchange Pulpits for Sunday

Guest speaker Sunday at Central Church of Christ will be John Bigham, minister of the Church of Christ in Crescent City, Calif. Mr. Bigham and Dexter Williams, local minister of the church, will exchange pulpits for both services.

# ASHLAND SERMONS

Ashland - The Rev. E. Paul Riedel, pastor of Grace Lutheran church, Ashland, will speak on "We Are More Than Conquerors." At the New Year's Eve communion service at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday he will speak on "Taking Spiritual Inventory."

# Valley Presbyterians Tell Activities for Week Ahead

Westminster Fellowship for high school youth will meet at 7 p.m. for an opening worship service which will be followed by a panel discussion entitled "Christianity on the College Campus". David Frohmyer, Myrna Callaway, Pat Rushton, John Jones and other graduates of last year at Medford Senior High school, will for a panel. Fireside will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Turpin on the Old Military rd.

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# MEDFORD CHURCH DIRECTORY

"And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them." Luke 2:20.

**APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH**  
North Central ave. at Third st.  
Joyce Carver, pastor  
Sunday: 9:05 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: 8 p.m.—Evangelistic service  
Wednesday: 8 p.m.—Watchnight service.  
Friday: 8 p.m.—Evangelistic services

**ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
2301 Barnett dr.  
Elvin S. Tollefson, pastor  
Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school  
11 a.m.—Divine worship

**GETHSEME OF GOD**  
1225 East McAndrews rd.  
L. D. Krause, pastor  
Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school  
11 a.m.—Morning worship  
6 p.m.—C.A. youth service  
7 p.m.—Evangelistic rally

**CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
608 North Central ave.  
Dexter Williams, minister  
Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Bible school  
11 a.m.—Morning worship  
6:30 p.m.—Study classes  
7:15 p.m.—Evening evangelistic service  
Wednesday: 8 p.m.—Watchnight service.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
458 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.—Bible study

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS**  
648 South Ivy st.  
D. E. Nelson, bishop  
Sunday: 9 a.m.—Priesthood  
10:30 a.m.—Sunday school  
11 p.m.—Sacrament meeting

**CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**  
348 North Main st.  
Escil Hiler, pastor  
Sunday: 10 a.m.—Church school  
11 a.m.—Worship  
7:30 p.m.—Youth choir; adult study and children's Bible hour  
7 p.m.—Youth fellowship, CBYF and Junior high fellowship  
Friday: 8 p.m.—Booster class watch party.

**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  
6:30 p.m.—Junior and Senior high Baptist youth fellowship  
Wednesday: 8:30 p.m.—New Year's eve watch-night party and communion.

**CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
(United Church of Christ)  
300 Oakwood dr.  
(1 block south of East Main on Groveland ave.)  
Thomas McCamant, minister  
Sunday: 10 a.m.—Sunday school  
10 a.m.—Church worship  
7 p.m.—Pilgrim fellowship.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
(Conservative)  
North Central at Fifth  
James W. Neely, pastor  
Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school  
11 a.m.—Morning worship with sermon (KMOV)  
6:15 p.m.—Combined Baptist leagues  
7:30 p.m.—Adult Bible study.  
7:45 p.m.—Evening evangelistic service.  
Wednesday: 8:30 p.m.—Watchnight service and fellowship.

**FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
(United Church of Christ)  
Ninth at Oakdale  
William C. Piper, minister  
Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school  
8:30 & 10:35 a.m.—Morning worship  
10 a.m.—Christian youth fellowship.  
Monday: 7 p.m.—Youth fireside  
7 p.m.—Boy Scouts  
Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.—Choir rehearsal.

# UNITY CENTER of MEDFORD

995 S. Oakdale  
Affiliated  
Unity School of Christianity,  
Lee's Summit, Mo.  
Regular Sunday  
Devotional Services—11:00 a.m.  
As usual  
PYTHIAN HALL  
5th and Grape Sts.  
All weekly classes and Study Groups will be held at the Center, 995 S. Oakdale.  
Center Rm. Open Daily  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
For Further Information—Call  
Katherine Bosworth, Minister  
Office SP 2-8902.

# Annual Mid-Winter Concert

Presenting a Varied Concert of Music and Song by . . .  
• Orchestra of 36 Pieces  
• Mixed Chorus of 50 Voices  
• Male Chorus of 22 Voices  
Concluded with the well-loved Halleluiah Chorus  
By Handel  
**Tuesday, Dec. 30, 8:00 P.M.**  
EVERY SUNDAY

Radio Broadcast, KMED . . . . . 9:05 a.m.  
Sunday School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship . . . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Young People's Meeting . . . . . 1:00 p.m.  
Evangelistic Service . . . . . 7:50 p.m.  
Wednesday, December 31, Watch Night Service, beginning at 8 p.m. and continuing until 12 midnight.  
**APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH**  
Joyce C. Carver, Pastor  
Phone SP 2-2757 3rd and Central, Medford



William C. Piper, Minister

**First Christian Church**  
"The Friendly Church"  
Welcomes You TO ALL SERVICES  
Two Morning Services  
8:30 a.m. and 10:55 a.m.  
Bible School—9:45 a.m.  
Christian Youth Fellowship—6:30 p.m.  
No evening service  
9th and Oakdale • Medford, Ore.