

Ministers Hear of AA Program; Officers to be Elected in June

Three representatives of the local group of Alcoholics Anonymous spoke at the Tuesday morning meeting of the Medford Ministerial association.

The men reviewed the program of AA mentioning that a major portion of it is of a spiritual nature. It was also stressed that alcoholism is a disease, the fourth ranking killer in the United States today.

It was also mentioned that the majority of the people coming into AA today are younger people, persons in their twenties and thirties, while in California there are groups for teenagers.

Many helped

"God has certainly saved a lot of people through AA," one of the representatives said.

He explained that very few people who follow the beliefs of AA and are honest with themselves fail to overcome the disease. He added that in the program a person is never told that they have to do something.

It was mentioned that persons wishing to contact a representative of the Medford AA may call the Nurses' Registry for information.

Election Set

Officers will be elected at the June 9 meeting of the Ministerial Association at the Congregational church. The business meeting will be held during the morning with a picnic scheduled later in the day.

A need for knowledge of available housing in the valley for tourists during the Centennial year was announced at the meeting. The Rev. Tom McCamant asked that churches obtain lists of persons in their congregations who would have overnight accommodations available for paying guests.

It was stressed that there is a shortage of tourist accommodations in the area and with the anticipated number of tourists arriving this summer, overnight lodging may not be available.

Commercial First

Ernie Hood, coordinator for the Jackson County Centennial association, added that the private homes would be used only when commercial facilities are filled. He said that the association is currently working out arrangements with the local motels and hotels to contact the local Centennial headquarters at the Stockade on Siskiyou summit when their accommodations are full.

The ministers also suggested worship services be held at various churches throughout the summer with a Centennial theme. The services would be staggered so no more than one would be held on a particular Sunday.

1957 Award of Merit Winner

CHURCH NEWS
National Religious Publicity Council

Christian Science Has Distinctive Teachings on Health

By LOUIS CASSELS
United Press International

One Thursday evening in February, 1866, a frail young widow named Mary Baker Eddy was seriously injured by a fall on an icy sidewalk in Lynn, Mass.

She was carried unconscious to a nearby home. For two days she remained in critical condition and her friends despaired of her life. Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Eddy asked for a Bible. She read in the ninth chapter of Matthew the account of Christ's healing of a man with palsy.

Although she had read the familiar passage many times before, Mrs. Eddy found in it, on this occasion, a new significance. After a brief prayer, she closed the Bible, arose from bed, dressed herself and walked into the parlor to greet her startled friends.

Out of this event, and Mrs. Eddy's subsequent reflections, grew one of America's major religious demonstrations—The Christian Science church. Formally established in Boston in 1879, it now has more than 3,200 branches in 48 countries. In keeping with Mrs. Eddy's wish, the church does not publish membership statistics, but it is known to have several hundred thousand adherents.

Christian Science is usually identified in the public mind with spiritual healing. But the church's distinctive teachings about health can be understood only in the context of its basic theology, which is outlined in Mrs. Eddy's book, "Science and Health, with Key to the Scriptures."

Concept of Reality

Christian Scientists believe that God is "infinite good" and that all "reality" in the universe is necessarily good, because God created it.

The evil, sickness and death which men think they see in the world could not have come from God; hence they must be "unreal." They afflict men only so long as "erring human belief" causes them to seem real. When men achieve true "spiritual understanding," the "illusions" of sin and sickness vanish, just as a bad dream evaporates when the dreamer awakens.

Christian Scientists say that thousands of people have been healed of every kind of disease and ailment, from cancer to broken bones, by the application of this insight. They do not regard these healings as "miracles" but as the natural working of divine laws which are impartially available to all men.

It should be emphasized that, in Christian Science teaching, the "healing" that flows from apprehension of spiritual truth is not confined to physical illness, but also applies to family and business problems, social injustices, psychological tensions and "moral confusion," the Christian Science synonym for what other churches would call human sins.

When Christian Science denies the reality of sin, it parts company with the main stream of Christian tradition. This holds that evil, however it got into God's creation, is a very real thing, and that Christ's mission on earth was to deliver men from its bondage and enable them to enter into a new relationship of love with God and each other.

Views on Christ

Although Christian Scientists acknowledge Jesus in their formal creed as the Son of God, their favorite term for him is "The Wayshower." They believe that Christ saved men, not from their sins but from their misconceptions, but demonstrating in his healing ministry and in his resurrection "the allness of soul and spirit and the nothingness of matter."

The Christian Science church has no ordained clergy. The healing ministry is entrusted to "practitioners," men and women who are licensed for this service after careful examination of their understanding of Christian Science doctrines.

In local churches, all of which are branches of the original "Mother Church" in Boston, Sunday worship services are conducted by "readers" elected by the congregation. Passages from the Bible and from Mrs. Eddy's "Science and Health" are read at every Sunday service. At mid-week on Wednesday evening, Christian Science churches conduct testimonial meetings at which persons healed of illness tell of their experiences.

Most churches also sponsor one or more "reading rooms" at which any interested person may find extensive literature on Christian Science.

Workshop Set Saturday At First Baptist Church For Area Youth Leaders

Keith Smith, Northwest representative for Christian Service Brigade, will conduct a workshop at First Baptist church, North Central ave. at Fifth st., Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

Youth leaders from other churches are invited to attend the instruction session concerning the Brigade, which is an inter-denominational organization. Mr. Smith will also speak to the adult department of the Sunday school, Sunday at 9:40 a.m.

The Christian Service Brigade program for boys from 12 to 18 years of age has been in operation at First Baptist for two years. The program combines camp life, manual crafts, and interest activities with a Christian emphasis. Regular meetings are held each Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m., at the church.

Sermon Subject

The Rev. James W. Neely, pastor of the church, will speak at the 11 a.m. worship hour Sunday on the subject, "Compelling Men." He will also bring the message at the 7:45 p.m. service.

One of the three regular business meetings of the church held each year will be conducted at the church Wednesday, May 20 at 7:45 p.m.

Vacation Bible school for pre-schoolers from three to six years of age will continue each week day through Friday, May 22, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. A demonstration program for parents and friends will be given Friday, May 22 at 11 a.m.

Honor Day Planned Sunday at Church

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In keeping with the theme in Sunday school the pastor, the Rev. W. Elwood Irby, will speak on "The Reward of the Faithful."

The Assembly of God church is located at Fifth and Blackstone sts., Jacksonville.

Eastwood Baptist Announces Events

The Rev. Richard M. Jones, pastor of Eastwood Baptist church, North Keene Way dr. at Ridgeway ave., will speak on "Written in the Heart" at the 11 a.m. service Sunday.

Mrs. Jones will lead the chancel choir and nursery care is provided. Following the hour of worship there will be a fellowship hour in the education annex for all attending the service.

The young people of the church meet at 6 p.m. for Dine-A-Mite and the Baptist Youth Fellowship groups.

At 7:30 p.m., the second presentation will be given of the lay day development program. This session will be led by J. T. Johnson and will deal with the work of the boards of finance and trustees in relation to the total church program.

Eastwood Baptist church is located north of Hedrick Junior High school and is affiliated with the American Baptist convention. Visitors are invited to any of its services.

Baptist young people from American Baptist churches in the Rogue River association will meet tonight and Saturday at Eastwood Baptist church for a faith retreat.

Featured speaker for the conference will be the Rev. Charles Moore, pastor of the Emerald Baptist church, Eugene. Serving on the planning committee are Weston Dugan, Sandra Heidemann, Julia Parrish, Mike Miller, Gary Johnson, Wayne Kay Fields, Larry Tuttle, Carol Anderson, Dorene Duggan, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Anderson and Mr. Jones.

Whitsunday To Be Observed Sunday

Whitsunday will be observed with the celebration of holy communion at St. Peter's Lutheran church, 1020 East Main st., Sunday, at 11 a.m.

Sermon topic by the Rev. John E. Simon, pastor, is "The Pentecost Miracle—Then and Now." The choir will sing under the direction of Al Huntmann. Sunday school for all age groups begins at 9:30 a.m.

Miss Martha Boss, missionary of the church in Hong Kong, will be a guest at the church on Thursday, May 21, at 7:30 p.m. All members and friends are invited to hear her speak about her deaconess work in that British Crown colony. She works in Hong Kong with Miss Gertrude Simon, a sister of the local pastor.

Plans for the annual vacation Bible school at St. Peter's are now underway. The school will be held from June 8 until 20.

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Medford Pathfinders, who have been meeting on Monday nights will meet in their clubhouse at 7 p.m. on Tuesday night this next week.

WATCHTOWER TOPIC

"Identifying the True God" will be the subject of the public talk Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 2402 Jacksonville highway. It will be followed at 7:15 by a Watchtower study on "Kingdom Missionaries, the Bringers of the Best News" and "Missionaries of God's Kingdom That Rules."

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Ascension Lutheran Schedules Service At 10:45 a.m. Sunday

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The trustees will meet at 7 p.m. and the official board will meet at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday, May 19. This will be a quarterly conference meeting. The Methodist men will meet Thursday at noon for regular luncheon. The men will hold an oyster and clam chowder stew Friday, May 22 at 5:30 to 7 p.m. to which the entire membership and friends are invited. There will be features of music and skits for entertainment in the evening.

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MEDFORD CHURCH DIRECTORY

"A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion." Proverbs 18:2

ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH
West Jackson and Welch sts., near Holly st.
Mrs. Gertrude Shide, minister

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Church school 11 a.m.—Church worship 6:30 p.m.—Junior fellowship meetings
Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.—Bible study and prayer service

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

Sunday: 9:05 a.m.—Radio broadcast KMED 9:30 a.m.—Sunday school 11 a.m.—Church worship 6:30 p.m.—Young people's meeting 7:30 p.m.—Evangelistic service Tuesday & Friday: 8 p.m.—Evangelistic services.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH
2501 Barnett rd.
Elvin S. Tollefson pastor

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday school 10:45 a.m.—Divine worship 1