

Popularity of Religious Cards For Holiday Noted

New York - The increasing awareness of the religious significance of Christmas is reflected in recent appraisals of the growing popularity of religious Christmas cards released by The Greeting Card Association.

The association states that whereas the percentage of truly reverent religious Christmas card designs was as little as 5 per cent of the total output 12 or 15 years ago, it is estimated that today over 25 per cent of all Christmas cards are entirely religious in character. Thus, of the estimated \$2,630,000 Christmas cards that will be mailed this year, a very sizable proportion will be religious in the designs and sentiments they carry.

Council Request
Much of the progress that has been achieved in securing wider use of religious Christmas cards is traceable to a formal request that was made to the Christmas card publishers by the National Council of Churches in 1947. At that time the Council suggested that if greater varieties of reverent and appropriate religious Christmas cards were made available, the Council would be glad to cooperate by informing its 38,000,000 constituents of the need to place more emphasis on the true significance of Christmas by sending cards that more fully express the holy spirit of Christmas.

Each Summer the Greeting Card Association conducts a survey of Christmas cards for the coming holiday season to determine which religious designs will be the most popular.

In 1959, as in many past years, the survey reveals that depictions of the Madonna will by far be most in demand.

Next in popularity are the Three Wise Men, followed by beautiful renditions of the Holy Family, illustrations of churches, manger scenes, cherubs, the shepherds, the Christ child, church windows and angels.

Many of this year's religious Christmas cards reflect the rich traditions of classical art, along with modern conceptions of all phases of the well loved story of Christmas and all that it means.

Today some of the Christmas card publishers provide special albums entirely devoted to displays of religious Christmas cards, thus giving the public a much wider choice of appropriate and reverent greetings for personal name imprints.

Ministers Hear Talk On Russian Churches

Dr. Leonard Mayfield, superintendent of the Medford school district, spoke on religion and the churches in the Soviet at the monthly meeting of the Medford Ministerial association Tuesday.

Dr. Mayfield explained that religion was practically non-existent in the Soviet but mentioned the Baptist services. He also mentioned attending two church services while in Moscow. He added that the choirs were excellent.

In concluding, the local educator mentioned the Museum of Religious History viewed in Russia which includes paintings and displays that put religion in an unfavorable light.

A report was given during the business session which was held at Zion Lutheran church on the Union Thanksgiving service. A check for \$54.50 was presented by the association to a representative of the Jackson County Board of Christian Education representing half of the offering at the service.

Progress reports were given by several committees. The next meeting will be held Jan. 12 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Luke's Methodist church.

WITNESS TOPICS

"Is Jesus Christ the Promised Messiah?" will be the subject for the public talk Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Kingdom hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 2402 Jacksonville highway. At 7:15 p.m. the study topic will be "Keeping Clean from the Blood of All Men."

SERMON SUBJECT

"God the Preserver of Man" will be the sermon subject Sunday at First Church of Christ, Scientist, 100 W. Isor ave. The service is held at 11 a.m. and all are welcome to attend. Young people up to the age of 20 are invited to attend Sunday school.

1957 Award of Merit Winner



CHURCH NEWS

National Religious Publicity Council

Local Presbyterians Tell Pre-Christmas Activities

The Rev. G. Robert Jacks will give a Christmas message, "No Room in the Inn," at the First Presbyterian church Sunday at both the 9:30 and the 11 a.m. services.

Otis Swisher, tenor, will sing, "Sweet Little Jesus Boy" at the early service with the Westminster choir singing, "Behold That Star." At the second service the chancel choir will present two anthems, "Wind Through the Olive Trees" and "Night Journey of the Wise Man."

At 5 p.m. Sunday a new churchmanship class will be received by the session. This will include adults who have been attending churchmanship classes for the past few weeks and also a large group of youth who are members of a communicant class taught by Mr. Jacks. The parents of all youth who are to be received are invited to attend the reception of the children into the church.

Junior High and Westminster Fellowship will meet Sunday at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary to lead a vesper service for all young people of the church and their families. The Westminster choir will sing, Junior High Fellowship will present a choral reading of the Luke's Christmas story, and the kindergarten, primary, and junior groups will each present songs as part of the program.

Those attending may take a gift of canned food as a Christmas offering. These gifts will be used to make Christmas baskets for needy families. Fireside will follow at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Pierce, Pierce Heights.

Westminster Fellowship will be held at church on Wednesday beginning at 6 p.m. Potluck supper will be followed by devotions and church practice at 7:15 p.m.

Geneva Fellowship members meet every Friday at 6:30 a.m. at the Jacks home, 649 J St. All post-high school young people are invited.

Westminster
The Westminster Presbyterian church will meet Sunday for worship at 11 a.m. in the auditorium of the Hoover Elementary school on Siskiyou Blvd.

Children from the ages of five through ten will sit at the front of the church and will hear a children's sermon before they adjourn for their separate Children's church. In line with Sunday's observance of Universal Bible Sunday, the Rev. John Reynolds will preach on the subject "The Everlasting Light." The church choir will sing.

Church school classes for all ages are held at 9:30 a.m. in the homes of church members. Those who desire to know where a particular department is meeting, may call Mrs. A. J. Johansson at SPRING 2-2618 for information.

The Junior High Fellowship will meet at 6 p.m. Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cunningham, 24 North Groveland ave. The young people will begin gathering staple foods for a Christmas basket and will also decorate pine cones to be given to homes when they go Christmas caroling. A study and discussion on the subject "God Speaks" will be led by the young people. All youth of junior high age are invited to attend.

The 7:30 p.m. praise and worship hour will feature a carol sing and Christmas message by the pastor.

The Junior C. E. group will have as guests their mothers and grandmothers for their Christmas meeting at 6:30 p.m. The children will present a program. Young people are selling Christmas trees and candy to help pay the expense of chartering a bus to go to the Mid-Winter C. E. convention at Tillamook Air Base Dec. 29 to 31. Their group and the Intermediate C. E. will also meet at 6:30 p.m. Sunday.

Zion Lutheran Tells Sunday Sermon

"John the Baptist - You and I - Today" will be the sermon subject at the Zion Lutheran church, Fourth st. and Oakdale ave., Sunday by the Rev. H. C. Covert.

The Junior Luther League has invited the Senior Luther League to a Christmas party Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

The Children's Sunday school Christmas program will be on Dec. 20 at 4 p.m. Also that Sunday the Senior and Intermediate Leagues will go Christmas caroling. They will meet at the church at 7 p.m.

Christmas eve service will be held at 7:30 p.m. The senior choir will present a concert.

ASHLAND SUBJECT

Ashland - "Christ's Second Coming - Signs Preceding It Have Been Fulfilled and So We Should Be Prepared" will be the 11 a.m. worship service topic Sunday by the Rev. Albert Nickodemus, pastor of Grace Lutheran church, Frances lane. The choir will sing.

ARCHBISHOP DIES
Fulda, Germany - (UPI) - Roman Catholic Archbishop Johannes Baptist Dietz, 81, died Thursday after a long illness.

Apostolic Faith To Give Christmas Program Tuesday

The Christmas story, "The Birth and Life of Christ," will be presented by the children of the Apostolic Faith church, North Central ave. at Third st., Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m.

The program will feature nine scenes with musical background by choruses, quartets, and soloists in costume, including one of the Wise Men, guided by the star, as they come on camels to the house in Bethlehem where they find Jesus and worship Him.

Miss Linda Carver will be piano accompanist, and scripture readings will be by fourth and fifth graders, Stephen Jones and Suzanne Carley.

The program is planned and directed by Mrs. Hazel Withrow and Mrs. Glorene Bailey. The public is invited and there will be a treat for every child.

The Rev. Loyce C. Carver, pastor announced that in addition to the usual Sunday morning and night services opening the Christmas week, the musicians and singers of the church will give a concert at 2:30 p.m. Dec. 20 at the Camp White Domiciliary. The week will include an evangelistic service on Tuesday at 8 p.m., a devotional service Christmas at 10:30 a.m., and an annual evening of music on the following Tuesday, Dec. 30, at 8 p.m.

Sermon to Include Illustrations in Song
Gold Hill - "Music and Worship" will be the sermon topic by the Rev. O. L. Kendall, pastor of the Gold Hill Community Methodist church, Sunday at 11 a.m. The congregation and choir will sing the illustrations of the sermon. Mrs. John Bruce will be organist.

Intermediate Methodist Youth Fellowship group will meet immediately following the morning worship service, Mrs. Kermit Bickell reported. A potluck dinner will be given after church Sunday honoring long time workers of the church. The Rev. Loren Messenger has been invited to speak and James Coward will be master of ceremonies. Mrs. C. Norman Gail will be in charge of songs at the table.

Edward Griggs, leader of the newly organized Senior MYF group of the church, and a teacher at Crater High school has been invited to speak on the value of the church as he sees it reflected in students of the public school system.

The second worship service will be held at 7:30 p.m. The lesson will be on the third chapter of Hebrews with James Coward in charge.

Society to Benefit From Collection
Universal Bible Sunday will be celebrated at the First Church of the Nazarene, 520 North Holly st., Dec. 13.

The Rev. Harold M. Sanner will speak on "The Miracle of the Book." During the Sunday 7 p.m. service the annual offering for the American Bible Society, sponsored by the local young peoples groups, will be received. Each year at this time the entire denomination of the Church of the Nazarene receives an offering for the work of the Society.

During the service Christmas carols and music will be presented. Mr. Sanner will give a pre-Christmas message on the subject, "The Name of Christ."

The annual Christmas programs will be given in the First Church of the Nazarene on Dec. 20 with the morning service and the Sunday school being combined. The sanctuary choir will present a Christmas cantata during the 7 p.m. service.

St. Peter's Plans Annual Voters' Meet
St. Peter's Lutheran church, 1020 East Main st., will hold its annual voters' meeting Sunday at 2:30 p.m. New officers will be elected, the budget for 1960 adopted, and several new members accepted by transfer.

The Stewardship Visitors will meet for a potluck dinner Sunday at 6 p.m.

The church service Sunday will begin at 11 a.m., with the Rev. John E. Simon, pastor of the church, continuing an Advent sermon series. Sunday school begins at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday service will conclude a series of three mid-week Advent services, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited.

'Thaw' Reported in Christian Cold War

By LOUIS CASSELS
United Press International

Controversy makes headlines. Conciliation doesn't. That's a good thing to bear in mind in reading reports of the current religious dispute over birth control.

It would be easy to get the impression from the sound and fury of this dispute that Catholic-Protestant relations are badly strained.

Actually, in spite of occasional noisy collisions over specific issues, the two great branches of the Christian family are getting along better today than they have for centuries.

On both sides of the Reformation chasm, men of good will are earnestly trying to build bridges of understanding, forbearance and mutual respect. The results so far are not spectacular, but from the long view of history, they add up to a persistent and highly significant trend.

New Day Dawning
A thaw has set in in the cold war among Christians, the Protestant magazine Christian Century observed recently. And the Catholic magazine America editorially agreed that "a new day has indeed dawned."

The Christian Century credited Pope John XXIII with an important contribution to "the warming of attitudes which is taking place between Protestants and Roman Catholics."

"The image of the Roman Catholic church as projected by its new Pope is definitely a more friendly one," it said. "By many gestures such as changing Catholic liturgy so that Protestants are referred to as 'separated brethren' rather than 'heretics' the Pope has made clear his desire for reconciliation."

From the Protestant side, European Lutherans have taken the initiative in sponsoring "ecumenical institutes" at which leading Catholic and Protestant theologians explore together basic questions of Christian faith. The idea was imported to America last month when 135 Protestant and Catholic clergymen met at Toledo, Ohio, for a frank and friendly discussion of differences.

Writes Understanding Book
A brilliant young Protestant theologian at the University of Chicago, Dr. Jaroslav Pelikan, did his part for the growing dialogue with a book entitled "The Riddle of Roman Catholicism." Pelikan tried to go beyond "slogans and slanders" and help Protestants understand the real nature of Catholicism. Although he took issue with many aspects of Catholic dogma and practice, his book has been warmly praised by Catholic reviewers for its objective and sympathetic tone.

Non informed persons on either side believes that such efforts will lead to organic unity in the foreseeable future.

Protestant - Catholic differences are too real and too deeply rooted to be resolved without a very long period of patient, mutually responsive discussion. What the ecumenists are trying to do is to get that discussion going -- in

an atmosphere of genuine Christian charity.

Cites Progress Made

Fr. Gustave Weigel, the leading U. S. Catholic authority on church unity, points out that all Christians are bound by Jesus' explicit command to "love one another." Simple obedience to this commandment is therefore the first, all-important step toward reunion.

In its relatively short history, the ecumenical movement has broken down the rancors of centuries," Fr. Weigel said. "The different churches do get along better today than they did 50 years ago."

"We recognize one another; we see good will in each other; we hold converse with each other. We still feel some irritation, but we are manfully and not without success trying to overcome it."

Eastwood Baptist Announces Events

The annual Christmas program at Eastwood Baptist church will be held Sunday, Dec. 20, at 5 p.m.

The program will feature a pageant, "The Star Shines," under the direction of Bill Russell, with casting director, Dean Anderson, superintendent.

At the Sunday morning services of the next two Sundays, the Rev. Clifford Young will speak on Christmas. Dec. 13 the message will be "God Becomes Flesh" and on Dec. 20, "The Dispossessed Possessors." The chancel choir will feature Christmas music at both services.

A service, suitable for home use on Christmas Eve, has been prepared and will be distributed.

Wednesday, Dec. 23, instead of the customary mid week service, a service centered around a Christmas meditation will be given.

At the Sunday evening service, the pastor will continue his discussion on "The Holy Spirit" with the message, "The Power of the Holy Spirit."

At the mid week service of Dec. 16, the pastor will conclude his study of the Book of Jonah, entitled "The Sin of Bitterness."

The Baptist Youth Fellowship of the church is selling hanging baskets and aprons suitable for Christmas gifts. Proceeds will be used to assist in the financing of a trip to visit Mexican Mission Fields this summer.

Sunday's Activities Told; Choir Formed

Universal Bible Sunday will be observed Sunday morning at the First Christian church. The Rev. William C. Piper will preach on the subject "The Greatest Book in the World" at both the morning services.

At the first service the youth choir will sing "Sun of My Soul." At the second service Mrs. Steven J. Dodge will sing "The Holy City" and the chancel choir will sing the anthem "Today There is Ringing." The Junior department will be honored at the worship services and will attend in a group.

There will be a coffee hour following the second service. Evening services will be held at 6:30 o'clock with a Bible study. The Chi Rho Fellowship will study "The Meaning of Christmas" with Paul Branchfield as leader. The worship will be led by Miss Carolyn Bailey.

Miss Sara Hinkle will be in charge of the hour-long worship service for the Christian Youth Fellowship. The Youth Fireside will meet at the home of Gary Myers.

A new youth choir for children from the first through the fourth grade is being organized. They will meet for their first practice Saturday at 10 a.m. Mrs. Glenn McKerrrow will direct it.

DEVOTIONAL TOPIC
"The Word Was Made Flesh" will be the devotional subject at the Unity service at 11 a.m. Sunday at the Pythian hall, Fifth and Grape sts. The Rev. Katharine Bosworth, minister, will speak and communion will be served.

Christmas Festival Planned Sunday

The Congregational church will hold an all-church Christmas Festival at the Red Cross building Sunday from 3 to 7 p.m.

The program will be in three parts. First there will be a workshop in which families and other groups will make decorations and other things for Christmas. This will be followed by a supper, and the program will conclude with a worship service which will recall the nativity story with a tableau and music. This is for all families of the church or church school and interested individuals.

Those attending the supper are to take French bread or salad. Other things will be furnished. Families are free to take materials for the workshop, or they may make use of materials which will be available there. The Pilgrim Fellowship is participating in the workshop as a group.

The sermon by the Rev. Thomas McCamant at the service at 10 a.m. Sunday will be on "The Word of God." The choir directed by Carroll Graber will sing "Christmas Hymn." New members will again be received.

Choirs to Sing at First Methodist

"The Book of Consequences" is the title for Universal Bible Sunday sermon at First Methodist church by Dr. George G. Roseberry.

The worship service will be in keeping with the third Sunday in Advent with the youth choir singing "In Bethlehem's Lowly Manger." Everett Strickner will have the solo part in this 9:30 a.m. anthem. Mrs. Howard Buckner will sing "Little Lordeen" in each of the services. The chancel choir will sing "Sing Ye Noel - XVII Century Melody."

The commission of finance will meet Monday at 7:45 p.m. at the church. The nominations committee will meet 7 p.m. Tuesday just before the official board at 7:45 p.m. The Methodist Men will hold their pre-Christmas meeting Thursday noon at the church with the Rev. Herschel Hall, Ashland, giving the message.

The Methodist Youth Fellowship will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the youth chapel. The Junior MYF will start with a social hour at 5:30 p.m. and the OYF will meet at the church 6:30 p.m.

Church of Christ Tells Service Topics

Central Point - "The Head and the Body" will be the Sunday 10:45 a.m. worship service by Mr. Jean M. Shelley, minister. Church of Christ in Central Point. At 7:30 p.m. he will speak on "The Mirages of Hell."

Each Bible school class is continuing to work towards 100 per cent active members in the church. The 12 captains are working to get the total membership to all Sunday worship services. At the present time Mrs. M. Federick leads with 76 points at the halfway mark.

St. Luke's Church Tells Sunday Topic

Universal Bible Sunday will be observed during the 11 a.m. worship service at St. Luke's Methodist church. The Rev. Melvin Dixon, minister, will preach on the sermon theme "The Word that Never Dies."

Church school meets at 9:45 a.m. with classes for all ages. The Methodist Youth Fellowship will meet at 7 p.m. The commissions on Christian missions and membership and evangelism will meet at the respective times of 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. Tuesday at the church.

St. Luke's is located at 2940 Siskiyou Blvd. across the street from the Hoover Elementary school. The public is invited to its services.

UNITY CENTER
OF MEDFORD
995 South Oakdale

Affiliated
Unity School of Christianity,
Lee's Summit, Mo.

Midweek Devotional and Healing Service - every Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Study class every Friday - 11:00 a.m. at 995 So. Oakdale.

Regular Sunday Devotional Services - 11:00 a.m. Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at PYTHIAN HALL, 5th and Grape sts.

Center Open Daily 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Prayer Ministry and Counseling by appointment.

Rev. Katherine Bosworth, Minister
Office SP 2-6902

Fellowship Meeting Scheduled Monday

The monthly Fellowship meeting of Assembly of God churches in the Rogue valley section will be held Monday evening at the Shann Creek community church west of Grants Pass according to the sectional presbytery, the Rev. R. E. Cull.

A ministers' meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m. followed by a coffee hour. Guest speaker for the 7:30 p.m. service will be Evangelist Louie Nelson.

Presbyterians Tell Topics; Events

Ashland - The Rev. B. J. Holland, pastor of First Presbyterian church, Ashland, will speak Sunday at both the 9:45 and 11 a.m. services on "The Most Important Thing in Christianity."

Phoenix - Dedication Sunday will be held Sunday at Phoenix First Presbyterian church. All members and friends of the church will take their pledge cards to the service.

Speaker for the event will be the Rev. Bruce Weber, minister of the Central Point Presbyterian church. The choir will sing the anthem "Starlit Road" and Mrs. Richard Harrison will sing the solo "The Star of the East."

The Christmas program will be given at the church at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 20.

Jacksonville - Sunday at 9:45 a.m. at First Presbyterian church, Jacksonville, the second of three instruction classes for new members will be held in the room adjacent to the sanctuary.

The Jacksonville Westminster Fellowship will meet at the church at 7 p.m. From there they will travel to Medford where they will visit the Medford Gospel Mission. All high school students are welcome to attend.

The Junior High Fellowship group will meet Monday at 7 p.m. in the home of Carla Matheny on Huener lane. Jacques Long and Sue White will be in charge of the evening's discussion. Plans will be discussed for the Junior High Christmas activities.

This Sunday the Rev. King K. Jones Jr., minister, will preach the second in a series of Christmas sermons entitled "Born Crucified." The choir will sing the anthem "Great and Marvelous" and Mrs. Dave Allen and Mrs. Melvin Hall will sing a duet, "The Birthday of the King."

Central Point - The Rev. William Saladin, pastor of the Phoenix First Presbyterian church, will be guest speaker at the Sunday 11 a.m. worship service of the First Presbyterian church, Central Point.

Mr. Saladin will moderate the congregational meeting to be held immediately following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to concur with Rev. Bruce J. Weber's resignation as pastor of the Central Point church to be effective Dec. 31, 1959.

Mr. Weber will conduct the Sunday worship service in the Phoenix church in place of Mr. Saladin.

The Westminster Fellowship will attend the presentation of "The Messiah" Sunday afternoon and will meet at the church at 5 p.m. to practice for the church Christmas program.

SUBJECT
"The Space Age" will be the service topic Sunday at 7:30 p.m. by Jerrie Dole, counselor, at the Home of Esoteric Science, 826 South Central ave. Music will be included in the service.

Why You Should Choose a Hammond Organ

When you are ready to choose an organ, remember that a Hammond Organ offers your church the best value.

Over 40,000 churches have chosen a Hammond Organ because only a Hammond Organ has:

- A far greater range of true church tones than any other organ.
- "Living" cathedral-like tones for any enclosure.
- No tuning expense - only a Hammond can't get out of tune.
- Easy to play.
- Rich percussion effects of chimes, bells, celestes, merrimbs, and others.

The Hammond Organ
*Spirit, Home, Church and Concert models. Adapt for Solo Pedal Unit of Concert Model.

PURUCKER Music House
111 No. Central
Ph. SP 2-5702

COME AND SEE!
250 Children of the Apostolic Faith Church presenting 9 scenes of "The Birth and Life of Christ" in colorful costumes and joyful songs
TUESDAY, DEC. 15, 7:30 P.M.

A Treat for Every Child - Supervised Nursery
Sunday: Radio Broadcast, KMED 9:05 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning worship 11:00 a.m.
Young People's Meeting 3:00 p.m.
Evangelistic Service 7:50 p.m.
Tuesday: Sunday School Program 7:30 p.m.
Friday: Evangelistic Service 8:00 p.m.

APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH
Loyce C. Carver, Pastor - 3rd & Central, Medford
Phone SP 2-2757

First Presbyterian Church
Eighth & Holly • Phone SP 2-2830
Dr. D. Kirkland West, Pastor

A cordial welcome awaits you Sunday morning.
Services 9:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Church School classes for all ages 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.