

Christmas Observances To Feature Talents Of Young Church Members

To herald the approach of Christmas, many churches in the Klamath Basin have scheduled traditional religious programs featuring the younger members of their congregations.

This Sunday a host of young people will have an opportunity to take an active part in the Christmas observance by emphasizing the beauty and significance of the season through beloved carols, recitations, and plays.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
The Youth Fellowship of the Community Church of the Brethren will present a Christmas play, "The Empty Room," by Dorothy Clarke Wilson, on Sunday evening at 7 o'clock. Music for the opening portion of the program will be provided by the children's choir. All members and friends are invited.

MT. LAKE PRESBYTERIAN
The annual Sunday School Christmas program at the Mt. Lake Presbyterian Church this Sunday at 7 p.m. will include musical selections by the adult choir. The youths have prepared a variety of choral and Scriptural readings, as well as Christmas-themed memory verses to blend with the music.

KLAMATH LUTHERAN
The Christmas season at Klamath Lutheran Church will begin Dec. 22 at 4 p.m. when the lower grades of the Sunday School stage their Christmas program.

The unique program this year will consist of the Nativity Story told in carols and colored slides featuring the children costumed to portray the various characters of the story. The barn and animals of Herbert Riggs were used to create an authentic setting for the slide presentation.

On Dec. 23 at 9:30 a.m., the Sunday School will see the color film, "O Holy Night," to help summarize and point up the message of Christmas which the children have been studying in their classes.

BONANZA COMMUNITY
Rev. Carl Smith of the Bonanza Community Church has announced that the annual Christmas program will be in the form of a pantomime, with the primary, junior, and intermediate Sunday School classes participating. There will also be special music.

MALIN PRESBYTERIAN
The Malin Community Presbyterian Church will present a Christmas pageant on Sunday at 6:30 p.m. The program will feature members from all the Sunday School classes and is open to the public.

ST. BARNABAS EPISCOPAL
The annual Sunday School Christmas program of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church will be held Dec. 22 at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Martin Gift and Mrs. Mike Dearborn are directing the production entitled "Come Sing About Christmas."

Following the program, there will be a Christmas party and social hour for those attending. Santa Claus will appear to present special treats to the children.

LORELLA FULL GOSPEL
Mrs. Dick Smith is in charge of the Lorella Full Gospel Church Sunday School Christmas program, with Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Meng directing the music. Slated Sunday at 7 p.m., the program will include recitations, skits, and vocal selections.

All classes of the Sunday School, the church choir, and the orchestra will take part in the annual production.

MARINERS OF MALIN ELECT, PLAN NEW YEAR'S PROGRAM
MALIN—Two groups within the Malin Presbyterian Church, the Ancient Mariners, met recently to organize future activities.

Election of officers for the coming year was the main order of business at the Malin Mariners meeting hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Phil Blohm.

Mr. and Mrs. Hab Wilson were elected skippers, with Mr. and Mrs. Gerry Brown, first mates; Mr. and Mrs. Francis Street, log keepers, and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Will, pursers.

Mrs. Blohm was presented with a gift by the members for her work in compiling the group's cook book which went on sale Dec. 14 at the Women's Association Bazaar. In other business, it was voted to change the meeting date from the second Wednesday to the fourth Monday of each month, with the Jan. 27 potluck dinner scheduled at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. Merle Loosley served as hosts for the Ancient Mariner meeting when plans were made for New Year's Eve. Following a dinner at the church, arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Hays, the group will attend the New Year's services and then adjourn to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Laddie Rajnus for a party.

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In Our Churches

HERALD AND NEWS, Klamath Falls, Ore.

Friday, December 20, 1963

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'Living Nativity' Ends Tenth Season Tonight

The final performances of the annual "Living Nativity" will be given Friday night on the front porches of the First Christian Church at Ninth and Pine streets.

Yule Tree Origin Told

The Christmas tree, popularly believed to be a pagan symbol, is entirely Christian in origin, the Catholic Digest reports.

In medieval days, a favorite pre-Christmas pageant was a mystery play about the fall of Adam and Eve, the promise of a Saviour, and the birth of Christ.

A fir tree hung with apples represented the Garden of Eden, and the symbol soon found its way into homes on the feast day of Adam and Eve, once celebrated on Dec. 24.

Those words were written in the 19th century by the Unitarian theologian, James Martineau. They describe a condition that is painfully familiar to every pilgrim.

St. Teresa called it "the dark night of the soul." Other saints, less poetic, have referred to it simply as spiritual dryness.

Their testimony is unanimous that the darkness is apt to fall, suddenly and unpredictably, on those who have walked for years in the light of faith, as well as on those who have only recently set their feet upon the pathway.

Why does God let this happen to those who love him? Is it punishment for spiritual pride, a way of reminding us that we can never be good on our own, that we cannot be faithful and loving for a single hour unless He gives us the grace to do so? Some of the saints have thought so.

Sometimes, also, "dryness" may be brought on by sheer fatigue — including the emotional fatigue which results from caring a great deal about others.

The New Testament records that Christ Himself frequently found it necessary to disengage from the rat race of daily life, and withdraw into a quiet place for a spell of battery-recharging. If the most self-giving person who ever lived could not go on indefinitely without running dry of feelings, it is surely presumptuous for the rest of us to expect to do so.

The 12-minute pantomime has become a Christmas tradition for the church as well as the community. It was started 50 years ago by Arlene Skougset, the former Christian education director who resigned in August to accept a position in Roseburg. Each year additional props and costumes have been acquired, adding new touches to the presentation.

This Christmas the plans for the pantomime have been carried out under the supervision of the Cornerstone Class, and the High School Class has assisted by providing the 16-member cast. Many others work behind the scenes to set up the lighting and sound effects.

The "Living Nativity" is presented in five short acts with a taped monologue and music background. Four continuous performances tonight, from 7 to 8 o'clock, will conclude the 1963 presentation which opened Tuesday night.

OPEN HOUSE SET
The annual open house held by Rev. and Mrs. Quinn Hawley for members of the Congregational Church is slated Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. at the parsonage, 2154 Garden Ave.

Dark Hours Come To All

By LOUIS CASSELS
United Press International

"In every earnest life there are weary flats to tread, with the heavens out of sight — no sun, no moon — and not a tint of light upon the path below; when the only guidance is the faith of brighter hours, and the secret Hand we are too numb and dark to feel."

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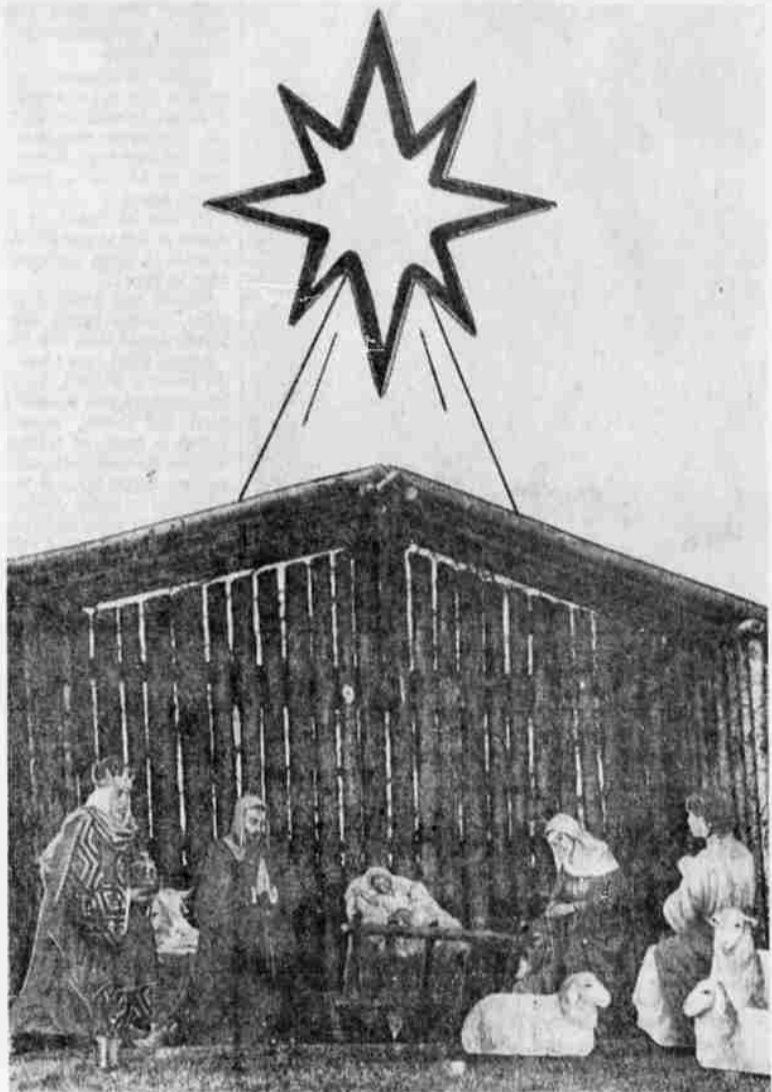
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Mariners Of Malin Elect, Plan New Year's Program

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Members also discussed a

ham dinner they will sponsor in March and made initial plans for a scrap drive.

Youth Play Fills House

"The Case of the Unspeakables," a play presented by the MIA of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Wednesday evening, Dec. 11, drew a capacity crowd of more than 300 persons.

The cast consisted of 35 young people between the ages of 12 and 21, who were directed by Ruth Harroun, Carolyn Metler, and Dale Roberts.

The performance opened unexpectedly with Roberts donating his belt to repair the curtains which refused to open, while Terry Hymus entertained the audience. Following the delay, the actors returned to the play's script which concerned the broken down communications in the world of today.

The Klamath Falls MIA, an auxiliary youth organization of the Mormon Church, meets every Wednesday under the supervision of Beth Anderson and Barry Stewart.

Choirs To Tell Birth Of Jesus

The birth of Christ will be revealed in word and song this Sunday evening by the choirs of First Christian Church. The Christmas cantata, "Miracle at the Inn," will be presented at 7:30 in the sanctuary.

'Star' Theory Questioned

"For we have seen his star in the East and have come to worship him."

The star over Bethlehem which the Magi followed has long caused controversy. Many Biblical scholars believe it could not have been in the East; it would have led the Magi in the wrong direction, since they were journeying from beyond the Syrian desert.

SALARIES STUDIED
The average annual salary of pastors in The American Lutheran Church is \$6,221, according to a survey recently completed by the denomination's Board of Pensions. A total of 4,423 active pastors were included in the study which revealed the highest average salary, \$7,113, appears in the 45-49 age group.

Churches Reopen

Two Baptist churches near Madrid, Spain, recently received permission from the Franco government to reopen, but neither is allowed to display a sign indicating that it is a church, stated a Religious News Service report. Some 13 churches have reopened this year.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight." (Ps. 119:35).

We ought not to ask the Lord to do for us what we can do for ourselves. We need not only to know the way to go, but a heart to walk in it. We must have the inclination to want to go in His paths, but not in a passive sort of way. It is not enough to know truths, unless we embrace and pursue them.

Our faithfulness as Christians will be evident by the height at which we perform and the joy we manifest in doing it. As individuals endowed with life, reason, will and active powers, we should be willing and able to go of ourselves if once made to do so.

C. WAYNE LOWE, Evangelist
CHURCH OF CHRIST
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You Are Cordially Invited To Worship With Us

Assembly Of God To Present Play

A play entitled "A Son Is Given" will highlight the Christmas observances planned by the Assembly of God Church, 746 Oak Avenue. It will be presented on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 7 p.m.

The five-act Christmas production has a cast of 30 characters, with the young people of the church assuming the roles. Mrs. Lloyd Fosner, wife of the minister, is both the writer and director.

The primary characters include a family of four, Eileen Mocabee and Dennis Foster portray the mother and father; Billy Bard, the son; Ruben; and Mary Nealy, the daughter. Deborah Kelllogg has the role

of Mary, with David Mocabee as Joseph; Frank Crowe as Zacharias; and Mrs. Frank Crowe as Elizabeth. Earl Thompson is cast as the angel Gabriel.

Special music, including solo, duet, trio, and choral arrangements is interwoven with the drama. The choir is under the direction of Mrs. Forrest Bard, and Mrs. J. Scott is the organist.

Rev. Lloyd Fosner extends an invitation to the public to view the Christmas offering.

Vesper Service Readied By 3 Presbyterian Choirs

The essence of Christmas will be interpreted through choral music at the annual Christmas Vesper Service of Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church. This year the community service will be held on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 4 p.m.

Three choirs will present the traditional anthems and hymns of the Yuletide observance; the Senior Choir under the direction of Elton Geil, the Junior Choir directed by Eva Mueller, and the Primary Choir directed by Debra Burleson.

Selections by the Senior Choir will include "Did Mary Know," "Jesu Bambino," "Hodie," "Carol of the Bells," and "And the Glory of the Lord," from Handel's "Messiah."

Two numbers will be presented by the Junior Choir, "Star Lullaby" and "Little Christ Child, Sweet and Holy," with the Primary Choir singing "Blessed Baby Jesus," "Christmas Star," and "The Shepherd's Story."

The youngest choral group will also provide a quartet to sing "Silent Night," and "Christmas Roundelay." To round out the musical program, a Christmas reading will be given by Rebecca Shogren.

UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP
11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 22
Children's Christmas Party
PINE GROVE MEETING HOUSE
(Next Meeting, Sun., Jan. 5)

Kingsley Men Aid Army

Kingsley Field officers and airmen of the base chapel contributed their efforts toward the Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Appeal by volunteering for bell-ringing duties on Nov. 20.

Those participating were T.Sgt. Theodore P. Bartok, S. Sgt. Harry T. Bushnell, S.M.Sgt. Jack J. Curry, Capt. Norman A. Gosch, Lt. Thomas G. Honlin, T.Sgt. Charles G. Harder, CWO John F. Hartnoll Jr., A.3.C. William O. Hudson, A.3.C. Roy M. Jimenez, T.Sgt. John E. Pilgrim, Capt. Frank L. Shogren, A.2.C. Jerry F. Sterba, and Chaplain William A. Thoresen.

THE THREE KINGS
The word "Magi" is not used in the Bible, the Catholic Digest finds.

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Annual Christmas
Program
Sun., Dec. 22
7:30 P.M.

The young people are presenting the play, "THE FIRST CHRISTMAS PRESENT," and the Sunday School students will give RECITATIONS. There will be Christmas treats for all the children after the program. Everyone Welcome

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Suburban Christian Sets Christmas Cantata Date

"Love Transcending" is the title of the cantata to be presented by the choir of Suburban Christian Church on Sunday evening, Dec. 22, at 7:30.

Written by John W. Peterson, the cantata tells the story of Christmas through music and scripture narration. Charles Uhlig is the director.

The choir is accompanied at the organ and piano by Mrs. Fred Peters and Mrs. Charles Uhlig. Ray Lasnievski is the narrator for the program, with

Geanne Fraley, Vivian Lehmann, Steve Peters, Bob Memering, and Jack Zirkle having other special parts.

Rev. Leo Shafer invites the public to attend the service and share in the festival of Christian music.

First Church of Christ, Scientist
A Branch of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Mass.
10th and Washington
Services:
Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Testimony Meeting 8:00 O'Clock
Lesson-Sermon Subject, December 22, 1963
"IS THE UNIVERSE INCLUDING MAN, EVOLVED BY ATOMIC FORCE?"
Golden Text: Psalms 86:9, 10. All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name. For thou art great, and dost wondrous things: thou art God alone.
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