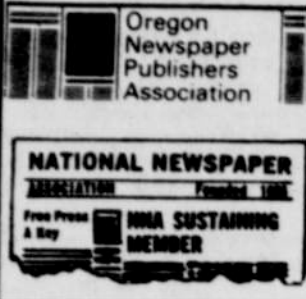


Nyssa Gate City Journal

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The Good News of Christmas

Be not afraid, for behold I bring you good news of a great joy which will be to all people, for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:10-11)

This is the message of the angel of God as told to the shepherds announcing the birth of Jesus. And the words the messenger chose to announce—that birth are indeed meaningful, "good news," and it is good news.

We are so accustomed to hearing bad news, the war in Angola, escalates, terrorists take over hotel, twenty people die on nation's highways, infant found dead, airline strike continues and we could go on and on, bad news surrounds us every day of our lives.

And besides the bad news that we hear, and see daily, we also are confronted with our own sinfulness, that we are not the person we could be or more importantly, that God expects us to be. It would have been easy for God to forget about mankind, to let us suffer through our sin, but our God is not that type of God. He is a loving, caring God. And what better way for God to show His love than by becoming like one of us.

Some people find it hard to believe in the incarnation, that God would become man, but by becoming man, through the birth of Jesus Christ, God can talk to us on our own level and He can tell us about His love and concern for us. But Christ went beyond mere words. He also spoke through his actions, through His acts of kindness and mercy, even to the outcasts of society, and of course He speaks loudest in His death and resurrection.

The coming of Christ is good news, because as the messenger said, this Christ is the Savior, He is the Lord. The Old Testament spoke of one to come who would save his people from their sins and from eternal death, this child born of the virgin Mary is the fulfillment of that promise, Christ has come.

That is why at this time of the year our thoughts go back to that lonely stable in Bethlehem; one might think that the Son of God would be born in a castle, with an aristocrat for a mother instead of a young peasant girl who was forced to give birth to God's Son in a stable and to use a manger for His bed because there was no room for them in the inn.

But our God is a humble God, He is powerful and mighty and loving, yes, but He also is humble, that is why He was willing to become mere man so that man might be saved.

This is good news, the best news, God has kept His promise to send a Savior and that Savior is Jesus Christ. "Christ the Savior is born," "Joy to the World, The Lord is Come," "G come let us adore Him Christ the Lord," our popular hymns ring out the good news. The Savior of the world is born, our Savior is born, the messenger of God was right, it is Good News.

May the peace, joy and salvation of the Christmas event be with you and yours.

God's Blessings,
Pastor Walter A. Schmidt,
Faith Lutheran Church

OBITUARIES

Billie J. Kinkade

Services for Billie J. Kinkade, 30, rural Nyssa, who died Thursday, December 18, 1975 at home, were conducted at 2 p.m., Tuesday at Lienkaemper Chapel, Nyssa. Interment was in Nyssa.

She was born November 29, 1945, in Nampa. She married Pete Kinkade, December 3, 1960, in Elko, Nevada.

Surviving are her husband, of Nyssa; two sons, Edward and John, Nyssa; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Norris, Wilder; and two sisters, Mrs. Bill (Velda) Simpson, Nampa, and Mrs. Frank (Neoma) Donica, Caldwell.

Fonda G. Armstrong

Services for Fonda Glee Armstrong, 49, Nyssa, Ore. who passed away Thursday morning, December 18, 1975, in a Caldwell hospital, were conducted at 2 p.m., Monday December 22 at the Nyssa L. D. S. Church.

She was born February 24, 1926, in Ashland, Oregon. She married Ralph James Armstrong, January 24, 1943 in Kemmerer, Wyoming.

They spent 20 years of their married life in Opal, Wyoming until 1966, when they moved to Nyssa.

Fonda was a member of the L.D.S. Church and she and her husband had their vows solemnized at the Idaho Falls Temple in 1965.

Surviving are her husband Ralph James Armstrong, Nyssa; three daughters, Linda Kay Woodie, Nyssa, Sharon Lee Seward, Parma, and Brenda Jo Scott, Grandview, Idaho, a son Randall James Armstrong, Parma. She had nine grandchildren. She was preceded in death by one daughter, Toni Ranae Armstrong on September 18, 1975.

Memorials may be given to the cancer fund.

William Hipp

Funeral service arrangements for William Hipp, 86, longtime Nyssa resident, were pending at the Lienkaemper Chapel in Nyssa at Journal press time Tuesday.

Mr. Hipp passed away Monday, December 22, 1975 at Holy Rosary Hospital in Ontario after suffering an apparent heart attack.

Edna Norman

Funeral service arrangements for Edna Norman, Apple Valley, were pending at the Lienkaemper Chapel in Nyssa at Journal press time Tuesday.

Mrs. Norman succumbed in Parma, Monday.



SANTA CLAUS passed out Candy Canes to members of Mrs. Mitchell's Kindergarten Class, Monday after they sang some carols for nursing home residents.

Card of Thanks

We are sincerely grateful to friends and neighbors for their kind acts of sympathy during our sad bereavement. A very special thank you to Malheur Memorial Hospital and staff and to Dr. Ken Kerby for their excellent care, and to all who brought food, flowers, cards and the many kindnesses shown to us at this special time. Our appreciation cannot be adequately expressed.

Mrs. Iona Greig and family
Mr. and Mrs. George Coffman and family
Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Coffman and family

CARD OF THANKS

The kindness and sympathy of neighbors and friends in our recent sorrow will always remain with us a precious memory. We wish to extend a special thank you to Dr. Ken Danford and Dr. David Sarazin, Pastor Walter Schmidt, the Rebekah Lodge, the American Legion and all who sent cards, flowers, food and other many kindnesses. Our sincere thanks and gratitude for all of these comforting acts.

Wilma Ostrom,
Mr. and Mrs. Bart Ostrom
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ostrom
Mr. and Mrs. A. Boe

Card of Thanks

We wish to thank our many friends for the kindnesses shown Dick while he was in the hospital in Boise. Thanks for the phone calls, cards and flowers.

Sadie and Dick Butcher

Professional Directory

Physicians & Surgeons

K.E. Kerby, M.D.
K.A. Danford, M.D.
T.J. Fuson, M.D.

Physicians & Surgeons
Dial 372-2241
HOURS: 9 to 12 noon &
2 to 5 p.m. Monday thru
Friday, 10-12 Saturday.

David W. Sarazin, M.D.
Physician & Surgeon
HOURS: 10-12 noon &
2-5 p.m. Monday, Tues-
day, Wednesday, Friday
10 to 12 Saturday.
Phones: Office 372-3809
Residence 372-3173.

Optometrists

Dr. John Easley
387 S.W. 4th Ave.,
Ontario, Oregon
Phone 889-8017

Dr. A. N. Bonde
7 North 2nd Street,
Nyssa, Oregon
Phone 372-3747

Veterinarians

TREASURE VALLEY
ANIMAL HOSPITAL
Phone 372-2251
Dr. B.E. Ross
Nyssa, 372-5257
Dr. Robert Derby
Parma 722-6537

CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAUL'S



at St. Paul's

Christmas will be ushered in at St. Paul's Episcopal Church with a festive celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 11 p.m., Christmas Eve, December 24. The Rev. James More of Emmett will be celebrant, while the pastor, the Rev. Letitia Croom, will be deacon at the service.

The Christmas observance will continue with a Sunday morning service of Holy Communion at 11 a.m. on December 28. Then on Sunday, January 4, the Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ will be observed at joint services with Holy Trinity, Vale, at which a group of teenage singers calling themselves 'Genesis' will lead the congregation in the final celebration of the Christmas season.

United Methodist

The United Methodist Church and the Rev. Jim Monroe welcomes you to all church activities.

Wednesday, December 24
Candlelight Worship Service.
Community Welcome, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 28 -
Prayer Service at the Church,
9 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service message,
"Herod's Heritage," by the
Rev. Jim Monroe.

Tuesday, December 30 -
Sermon Study Group, 4 p.m.

THANK YOU!

We wish to thank the City Council for accepting our bid for the garbage disposal contract. We will be doing business under the name of S and S Disposal, P. O. Box 2429, Nyssa, telephone 372-5222. We have no definite routes set up, but will schedule routes after January 1, which we will publish.

We deeply appreciate the kind welcome from our many friends and the citizens of Nyssa and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Finley and Marge Shuster

Nazarene Church News

Sunday, December 28,
Morning Prayer at the
Church 7 a.m.
Christian Education classes,
9:45 a.m.
Children's Church, 11 a.m.
Worship Service with mes-
sage by Pastor Russell, 1
a.m.
Evening Gospel hour, 7:30
p.m.

Wednesday, December 31,
Zone New Year's Eve Service
to be held at Weiser Church
of the Nazarene with all eight
churches on the Zone Plan-
ning to participate, 9:00-
12:00 midnight.

May you have a Happy
1976 Year. God has included
you in His plans. Have you
included Him in yours?

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH NOTES

Wednesday, December 24-
Candlelight Christmas Eve
Service, 7 p.m.

Sunday, December 28.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship service 11 a.m.
Student recognition Sun-
day where our college stu-
dents will be helping with the
service.

Wednesday, December 31-
New Year's Eve Vesper
Service, 7 p.m.

AND THE WORD BE-
CAME FLESH AND DWELT
AMONG US, FULL OF
GRACE AND TRUTH; WE
HAVE BEHELD HIS GLORY
GLORY AS OF THE ONLY
SON FROM THE FATHER.
JOHN 1:14

We do not know how cheap the seeds of happiness
are, or we should scatter them oftener.
Lowell



GREETINGS

for a
Christmas filled with happy moments
shared with loved ones. Thanks to all.

Treasure Valley
Animal Hospital

Merry Christmas



As families come together in love and
warmth, we wish you and yours a most
joyous Christmastide... hoping every
delight of the Holiday Season will be yours!

Gate City Journal

Pat Savage
Lucille Callahan

Dirck Nedry
Margaret Nedry

Ruth Klinkenberg
Rene Van Biljouw

Christmas Under Attack

by John F. McManus

Belmont, Massachusetts — Christmas is not celebrated in Soviet Russia. Nor is this greatest of days commemorated in Communist China, Communist Cuba, or any other Communist nation. The message of Christmas, obviously, is incompatible with the tenets of totalitarianism.

What is that message? Among its many parts are these: that Christ, not man or government, is the hope of the world; that each human being, regardless of station, has infinite worth, far more than any government; that God's law should never be suspended by man's; that, in eternity, good will be rewarded and evil punished; and that true peace will reign only when mankind abides by the message of Christmas. Communism cannot coexist with any of that, so Christmas in Communist lands is taboo.

Christmas Under Attack

But the true meanings attached to Christmas are also under attack here in the United States. Seventeen years ago, United Nations partisans unveiled a plan to substitute promotion of the world body for traditional Christmas decorations. The well-organized campaign scored a success when Bamberger's department store in Newark, New Jersey, substituted various UN symbols for reminders of Christmas. In 1969, other stores were planning to follow suit. And plans to alter the religious or patriotic significance of Easter, the Fourth of July, and other holidays were about to be implemented as well.

The whole project was stopped cold, however, through a letter-writing campaign led by members of The John Birch Society. An impressive volume of carefully reasoned protests persuaded store owners to reject the substitution of the UN for Christmas. Before another year had passed, this whole package of subversion had been discarded.

The war on Christmas, unfortunately, has proceeded on other fronts. Only a few years ago, Court rulings banned anything of a religious

nature from Christmas celebrations in the public schools — even when taxpayers' funds were not involved. Snowmen and reindeer are still permitted, but the Babe in the manger is not.

ACLU, the Courts, and UNICEF

In the Fall of 1973, a U.S. Court of Appeals ruled that the traditional Nativity scene could no longer appear at the national Christmas pageant adjacent to the White House. A suit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union had scored one more victory over Christmas.

Another brazen perversion of Christmas is the continuing promotion of UNICEF cards in place of traditional Christmas cards. The U.S. Postal Service gives this campaign a boost by permitting UNICEF partisans to sell their cards in Post Offices throughout the land. UNICEF, of course, repeatedly chooses Communists and fellow-travelers (such as Pablo Picasso, Karel Svoboda, Lajos Vincze, and Jean Lucrat) to design the cards, which it then sells to unsuspecting Americans. And most UNICEF cards are devoid of the true meaning of Christmas.

What of the Future?

Most Americans would never have thought that one day Christmas would have to be defended in the United States. But that day has come and our nation is not a better place because of it. Christmas has always been a part of our national tradition. The day became a national holiday because of its profound religious meaning. And our nation is free, in large part, because of the strong Christian beliefs of our forefathers. The drive to supplant Christmas with atheistic and materialistic substitutes portends a future for our nation not unlike that of other lands where Christmas and freedom are both gone.

We wish for our country nothing but the best at Christmas and throughout the year. And we send to men of good will everywhere our hope for an abundance of Christmas blessings.

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