

The United Endeavor

UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH

MARCH 1965

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21224



THE LENTEN CALL

The holy season of Lent begins with the first Wednesday of March, March 3rd. With the coming of Lent there is issued to all who are a part of the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ a Call to intensified concern about the spiritual life. Just as with the coming of Ash Wednesday in New Orleans all the frivolity of the Mardi Gras comes to a conclusion and a season of solemnity begins, so in our individual lives a new approach to a more spiritual life is to be made by each of us.

The Lenten Call would have us Start Right as a beginning of Lent. Let every member, young and old, with whom it is a physical possibility to so do, resolve to attend the first service on Ash Wednesday evening and attend each service on the following Wednesdays and on Sunday mornings in Lent. Let us start as well as end these services with boundless enthusiasm.

The Lenten Call admonishes us further to make the observance of Lent a personal thing, meaningful and contemplative. Make the services of worship take precedence over every other engagement. Put your Saviour, Jesus Christ, and His beloved Church first on your list of engagements. Pray continually for your own spiritual strength, for your Pastor, for the Church and the work it has to do here among men. Read and meditate daily upon the

Word of God, especially the record of our Saviour's life and Passion. Always try to bring someone with you to the services.

Lent has a two-fold object - to strengthen and deepen our spiritual life in Jesus Christ by a special period of emphasis, humiliation and meditation; to focus our thoughts on the love of the Saviour, and his gift of forgiveness of sin, thus drawing us nearer to God and His redemptive love.

Associated with the observance of Lent is the idea of sacrifice, self-denial - giving! Christ gave for us! Lent is the celebration of the sacrifice and self-denial of the Son of God on our behalf. Thus the church asks us to practice self denial and as a mechanism of this denial provides our families with the Lenten Dime-Folder, in which we can daily as a family place our self-denial offering. As a family group, may we want to fill more than one of these if there are more than one of the family working. There are more at the church, or you can put as large an amount as you desire in this one folder, representing the family offering.

The Church, your church, issues the Lenten Call. Will you heed it?



CONGREGATION VOTES RENOVATION

The chief action taken at the annual meeting of our congregation was the unanimous approval of the proposition of our Finance Committee and the Building Committee that an extensive renovation of our Church School building be entered into at a cost of approximately

\$40,000.00.

In more detail the renovation includes a most necessary work on the exterior walls and roof, which has been letting water seep into the inner walls and ceilings for years, causing plaster and wall damage. The surfaces will be pointed up, repaired, refurbished and then waterproofed. Only then can necessary and desirable repairs and renovations occur within the building. These include the possibility of lowering some of the ceilings in certain areas and the installation of acoustical tile on ceilings, to cut down the noise problem; the reworking of the heating and electrical systems; a new floor in the gym to replace the present one which is rotting out; the provision of more washroom facilities in the building the replacing of floor tile, replastering where necessary, and a thorough paint job where needed.

Such a pretentious program is to be paid for in a number of ways - the purchase of bonds (in \$25.00 denominations upwards) which are bearing 4% annually and repayable in five years; the making of definite memorials of money; the presentation of outright gifts to the Building Fund. The bonds will be repaid through a Sinking Fund, which is to be built up through the income of the Spiritual Building Fund envelopes in your packets of envelopes.

Thus, as we begin this program, we earnestly solicit the sale of bonds into your family circle, in as large denominations as you can afford; the giving of gifts to the Building Fund and the constant undergirding of the program by generous contributions to the Sinking Fund.

To make the story complete, let it be said that the segregation of this Sinking Fund away from the General Fund will withdraw several thousands of dollars which ordinarily was received from these envelopes and heretofore flowed into the General Fund. Thus, if our regular budget is not to suffer a deficit in this and future years, we humbly suggest a little larger gift each week in the regular envelopes to meet the difference.

All bond and special gift orders can be sent to the church office and will be turned over to the Finance Committee.

Your Council is beginning this renovation because of congregational approval. Now the Council can only depend upon the individual members to support this program.



EXCERPTS FROM PASTOR'S REPORT

This report in full was presented at the Annual meeting, Jan. 29th Church Services - Total of 117 services, 2 on each Sunday and also upon special occasions, held during the year, with 26047 people in attendance. Slight increase in attendance over 1963. Average attendance at Sunday services across the year was 438.

Church Records - 62 baptisms; 49 weddings; 66 Funerals, of which 17 were of the church, 19 youths confirmed and 24 adults received in to membership. 10 transfers from the church and 104 deletions. Present membership listed at 924.

Membership Study - this has now been completed, after a 2 yr. endeavor by members of the Church Council and its Spiritual Committee. The records are now in order and the membership is classified into categories of active and inactive.

Cognizance of gifts - Appreciation is expressed to all for their loyalty in stewardship to the church in 1963. Also the special gifts received are appreciated and hereby mentioned: the red ecclesiastical drapes over the memorial window and the provision of Pew Bibles and bookmarks for the sanctuary; the new record player and projector. Also the church has received a coat of paint in the past year. Gratitude expressed for the growth in the use of our Memorial folders at time of death and for other memorial and love gifts to the church.

Appreciation - I desire to express appreciation to the many at United who have so loyally given of time, talent and treasure in extra ways - the members of the Church Council, the choirs, the officers and committee heads of organizational groups; the Church School Staff; Mr. Laukeman, our volunteer Parish Visitor, and the staff here at the church.

This is 4th annual congregation meeting we've been together as pastor and people. We have had a wonderful association in the name of the Lord these past three years. May He continue to preserve us to the doing of His Will.



MATTERS OF CONSIDERATION

LAY MINISTERS - The suggestion has come from our Committee on Lay Life and Work that we might bring more laymen (and women) into activity in our services of worship by creating the office of Lay Minister. The lay ministers would receive special training from the Pastor and then participate in the regular services in the conducting of said services, not including the Opening Prayer, the Pastoral Prayer and the Benediction. A corp of these lay ministers, alternating on a regular schedule, would enable many to participate. If interested speak to the Pastor.

CLOTHING FOR WORLD SERVICE - If you have good clothing (men-women-children) which you no longer need, why not bring it to the church and we will deliver it to a pick-up point for World Service, where it will be then sent to needy folk around the world. Warm clothing, shoes (not toeless) blankets, over coats are desired. Clothing must be tied in a box, be clean and be servicable. If you can contribute 8¢ per pound of the clothing given, this is the cost of overseas shipment. Bring money to office.

PICK UP RIDERS FOR CHURCH - Are you amenable to the use of empty seats in your car by others you may bring to church. There are some of our members who would come, but they have no transportation or live too far from a bus. Please call the office and tell us you will do this. Also, if you need transportation, call the office and if possible we'll try to put driver and passenger together.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

This event, postponed earlier because of inclement weather, is now scheduled for Saturday, March 27 from 1 to 6 p.m. Sponsored by our Girl's Guild, this event gives you the opportunity of enjoying a delicious meal. Price, \$1.10 per person

SPRINGVALE TERRACE TO OPEN

The Senior Citizens Home in Silver Springs could not be completed as early as was thought, and the date of dedication is Sunday, March 14 at 3 p.m. This is a wonderful venture of our United Church of Christ and we of United Church here in Baltimore will be proud of this institution. It is hoped a goodly number of our congregation will be attending the dedicatory services.



SYMBOL OF
LENTENTIDE

ONE HOUR OF SHARING

Along with this mailing you receive an envelope and brochure for your family use on Sunday, March 28 when we shall observe the One Great Hour of Sharing. Read the brochure very carefully and you will be convinced of the emergency which still continues as regards our 20th century man. Then, in a prayerful way make your contributions in the white and blue envelope as a family toward this cause, remembering that it is only twice the year when we are requested for this special offering. Whether it is \$2.00 as a family gift or even \$10.00, the money will certainly be used by Protestant World Service to the very best of means to aid the needy of our world today.

DAY OF PRAYER

Protestant women combine efforts each year in the communities of our nation in a World Day of Prayer service on the 1st Friday of Lent.

The date is Mar. 5th and the location of the service is Salem EUB Church, Gough St. 8 p.m. is the time.

CHURCH RECORDS

Marriages

Franklin D. Goff and Dianna E. Szymanowski, on Jan. 26

Louis Rolek and Frances Almsteadt on Feb. 5

Donald G. Knopp and Viola Harpole on Feb. 12.

David R. Head and Elizabeth Ann Kraemer, on Feb. 13.

Funerals:

Mrs. Nettie Rau, member, age 73 on Feb. 1.



HOW TO ENJOY SUNDAY

1. Stay home Saturday night and get better acquainted with your family. Retire a bit earlier than usual.

2. Get up early and both help to do the necessary work as well as take care of yourself. An honest division of labors helps oil the wheels of the household. Husband and wife should both share preparations for the day.

3. Go to Church School as well as Church service. Religious education helps you worship.

4. If you have a neighbor who does not attend church, invite him to go with you.

5. Don't expect your wife to rush home and prepare an extra large dinner on Sunday. Let the meals on the Lord's Day demand a minimum of labor from housekeepers.

6. Read an inspirational book. Write some letters to family, or to someone in the service.

7. Call on someone who has not accepted Christ. Invite them to be come a part of our Christian fellowship.

8. Enter church worshipfully. Get all you can from the services, as a worker or a good listener and doer.

9. Keep thanking God all day that you are able to enjoy the blessing of your life.

10. Close the day with a song and a prayer of thanksgiving. Commit yourself to Christ's way for the days to come in the new week.

taken from 'Messenger' of

St. Peters Church, Cincinnati, Ohio.

HOW DO YOU ANSWER?

Should I force my child to go to Church School? Yes, and with no further discussion about the matter. Are you startled? Why? Think now-ponder this matter!

How about the answer to Junior when he comes to the breakfast table Monday morning and announces he is not going to school. Unless he is sick, you know, Junior goes.

How do you answer Junior when he comes in besmudged, and says, "I'm not going to take a bath." You know, he takes it.

How do you answer when Junior threatened with illness, says, "I'm not going to take any medicine." Does he take medicine or not?

Why all this timidity, then, in the realm of his spiritual guidance and growth? Going to wait and let him decide what church he'll go to when he's old enough? Quit your kidding. You didn't wait till he was old enough to decide whether he wished to go to public school and get an education.....or until he could make up his mind as to whether or not he wished to take medicine or brush his teeth. You didn't let him decide whether he would walk out in the street when a car was coming. You decided for him.

In your home it ought to be that it is the decision of the family that all are in attendance regularly at Church School and church services. Your firmness and calmness as a parent in these matters will be appreciated by your child in later life and will permit him to find a rich and satisfying faith.

taken from the "Tidings" of Union Church, Cheektowage, N.Y.

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