



The United Endeavor

MARCH - APRIL 1969
UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH BALTIMORE, MD. 21224



**LENT
BRINGS
ONE HOUR
OF
SHARING**

**PLANS FOR
LENT-EASTER
IN
YOUR HANDS**



The 'One Great Hour of Sharing' is your 'direct line' to the body and soul of the starving child in Asia, to the eager lad in Africa who wants books to learn from, the child in the refugee camp who does not possess a pair of shoes, to the widow mother and fatherless child from China who fled after the husband and father was killed. The outlook for misery in our world is indeed foreboding. Experts predict even more hunger and misery. Yes, by your offering in our denominational One Great Hour of Sharing, you can help in this time of need. Please notice the envelope sent you with this issue of The Endeavor for your family offering. God has given us plenty to eat, a home in which to live, medicine and care when we are in need. Can we do otherwise but give our love gifts for the folk of the world who need our help so much? The money given through this offering does get through to those who need it, for we have representatives throughout the areas of need who personally see that the food, clothing, other articles get through to the right place and people.

Will you please bring your family offering for the 'One Great Hour of Sharing' to the service on Sunday, March 16. Thank you so much. If you need more than one envelope for family members, these may be found in the pamphlet rack in Narthex.

It is hoped all have saved the specially printed announcement leaflet sent into each home with the Lenten mailing. This contains the full plans for all the services of the Lenten and Easter season. Since we have plenty of these at the church, wouldn't it be a good idea for you to take several copies and distribute them to some neighbors or friends you know who go nowhere to church. Better yet, invite them here, and bring them with you when you come.

Services each Wednesday in Lent are called to your attention, beginning at 8 p.m. and followed each evening by a Fellowship Hour and Bake Sale, the sale by one of our organizations. On Wednesday, March 26th, our choir will present the grand music of Handel in his work, "The Passion of our Lord according to St. John." This will be a wonderful service and we urge all to be here.

Services on Sunday are at the regular hours until we get close to Easter, when, on Presentation Sunday, Mar. 23; Palm Sunday, Mar. 30 and Easter, April 6, the late service will begin at 10 a.m. on Easter we shall have a 6 a.m. service instead of the 8 a.m. usual service

Presentation Sunday features the presentation of the 1969 Confirmation class of approximately 20, each of whom will present an original paper on a subject assigned to them.

On Palm Sunday this group will be confirmed and admitted into membership with the church at the 10 a.m. service. At both services the palm branches will be distributed to all worshippers, and the Palm Sunday message will be highlighted in word and music.

Holy Week brings services on Wednesday, Thursday and Good Friday. On Wednesday our men will again present the dramatic production of the Lord's Supper, an outstanding feature of our annual Lenten season. On Thursday, Maundy Thursday, the service of Tenebrae (the lowering of the light) includes the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Good Friday brings 2 communion services, at 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. with messages by Pastor Weisser at each.

A further feature in the community 3 hr. Good Friday service, this year being held at Abbott Memorial Church from 12 noon to 3 p.m. Pastor Rasche will be presenting the 6th Word of our Lord from the Cross, and our choristers will bring the music of that period. The service is divided into 8 periods, with an intermission between each, for those who must come and go and cannot remain for the whole service.

Easter climaxes the entire season with the Sunrise service at 6 a.m. and the Festival service at 10. Communion will be offered at each service after the service has been concluded, thus making it convenient for folk to come to the Easter services after having received The Holy Communion earlier in the week. At the 10 a.m. service the Memorial Easter Lily service will be included, as will the other Easter features.



SUNDAYS AFTER EASTER

For the early disciples, those close friends and co-workers of Jesus, Easter was a turning point for them, for from the fact of

Christ's Resurrection their faith was essentially strengthened, and they went on to labor valiantly in the inauguration of the Christian Church, and the propagation of the faith in Christ to the folk of their day. From this after-Easter strengthening of the faith came the Christian tradition which has been given to us.

For us, too, Easter ought to be the incentive for further growth and maturity in the matters of the faith. To give point to the possibility of this in our lives, Pastor Rasche will lead us in thinking on the question, "How Do We Advance in Faith?" Services will be at the regular hours of 8 and 10:15 a.m.

MORE EASTER INFORMATION



HOME COMMUNIONS - The Pastor offers the Sacrament in the home for all who are shut-in and cannot get to service because of disability or illness. The proper place to receive the Holy Communion is at the altar, and all who possibly can get to the church are expected to be at a Communion service here. But for those unable, if a request for the Sacrament is phoned to the office, the Pastor will bring the Sacrament to the home. The home communions will be made during the week of March 23, so be sure to have the requests phoned in early. When Holy Week arrives the schedule is too full to permit extra Communions, except on an emergency basis.

MEMORIAL GIFTS AT EASTER - The envelope is included with this mailing for Easter Memorial gifts. These must be in the church office by March 30 so that time can be given to include them in the Easter Memorial Gift brochure which will be prepared. The Easter Memorial Service will be included in the 10 a.m. Easter service, as per usual.

DIME FOLDERS TO BE RETURNED - The Lenten Dime Folders sent to your family ought to be returned during Holy Week or on Easter. It is the hope of your Church Council that all our families are participating in this special offering.



MARYLAND COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN DISTRESS

ELMHURST COLLEGE CHOIR, HERE - TUES. APRIL 22 8 P.M.

The 35-40 voice Concert Choir of our own Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Illinois will be appearing in concert here at United Church on Tuesday, April 22nd at 8 p.m. This choir will be on tour at this time and will sing here in Baltimore after presenting concerts in Pennsylvania and elsewhere, and will go from here to Washington, D.C. This is the Alma Mater of both Pastor and Mrs. Rasche and the college of which Dr. Weisser was formerly a member of the faculty.

This concert is being sponsored by all our United Churches of Christ in the larger Baltimore area and promises to be a very fine musical treat. There will be no admission charge, but a free-will offering will be received. Through the churches, 'patron cards' are being offered for \$1.00 donation, this card to be placed in the offering plate at the concert in lieu of a cash offering that night. In this way we desire to underwrite the cost of this concert to a large extent prior to the concert itself. Pastor Rasche has a number of these 'patron cards' which he desires to place within your hands and will appreciate your asking for them.

It is not often that the musical groups from our colleges and Seminaries are brought into our area, and it gives us the extreme opportunity of not only hearing this wonderful group of college boys and girls sing, but to get to know them also. So, please save this night, Tues. April 22 and be here at the church for the concert at the hour of 8 p.m.

Back in November we brought to your attention the annual appeal of the Maryland Council of Churches for support from our congregation. Mrs. May Getz has been our appeal chairman. I must now report that the financial situation with the Council is at a precarious state, and emergency plans are being formulated to meet the situation. The support from the churches of the city and state has fallen short of the annual needs. This reminder is brought to your attention - if you have not given Mrs. Getz your annual gift for the Council, will you please do so soon, for the deadline with the Council, before it possibly curtails staff and takes other remedial measures, is April 15. Any funds from our congregation should be given earlier than that, so Mrs. Getz can make remittance to the Council also. Thank you for any consideration you can give this very worthwhile cooperative venture of Protestantism in our city and state.

CHURCH RECORDS

Baptisms -

Theresa Maria, daughter of Joseph and Mary Ratajczak on Jan. 26

Stacy Lynn, daughter of Vernon and Linda Clarkson, Jr., on Feb. 9

Dawn Marie, daughter of Robert and Patsy Dopkowski, Feb. 16

Thomas Myron, son of Leroy and Joyce Winters, on Feb. 16

Weddings -

Louis J. Smith and Mrs. Lillian Single, on Jan. 26

Paron A. Kesner, Jr. and Beverly Davis on Feb. 1

George J. Kues and Mrs. Sharon Williams on Feb. 1

Fred Klingelhofer and Mrs. Helen Wilson on Feb. 18

Jerry Allred, Jr. and Ida D. Ruth on Feb. 16

James R. Herald and Linda K. Elliott on Feb. 22

Funerals -

Charles J. Weber, member, age 73 on Jan. 30

Mrs. Sadie Gurney, age 73, on Jan. 31

William M. White, 53, graveside service, on Feb. 3

Charles J. Trager, Jr., age 61 on Feb. 3

Mrs. Amalie Dimick, member, age 73, on Feb. 11

Henry Mack, Sr., member, age 81 on Feb. 14

Mrs. Emma R. Rauck, age 79, on Feb. 22

Mrs. Helen Lockwood, age 58, on Feb. 24

Mrs. Catherine Morgan, member, age 83, on Feb. 24

Percy N. Holston, member, age 64, on Feb. 25

New Members -

On January 26

George J. Myrick, by reaffirmation
George C. Green, by letter of transfer.

Mrs. George C. Green, by letter of transfer.

On February 23

Mrs. Ethel E. Langdon, by letter of transfer.

NOTES FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Beginning with 1969 only two financial reports will be sent our members, rather than four, one coming after June, and the annual report on the giving through your envelopes after the end of the year.

You are each reminded to mark each envelope you place on the offering plate with the amount you have enclosed. If envelopes are properly marked there is much less opportunity for mistakes in recording your giving on the church records. Please fulfill this request.

The boxes at each entrance of the sanctuary, and at the foot of the stairs to the balcony are now tabbed "Hoffman Home Boxes", and your extra contributions each week as you come to the services will assist us in meeting the \$2000 we have pledged we would seek to raise annually for three years for the capital funds program of this Children's Home of our church near Littlestown, Pa. Also the quarterly envelopes we send to you are for this purpose.

We maintain a church-time nursery during the 10:15 a.m. service each Sunday, for care of children from walking until age of 5.

FOR MEDITATION

"Lent has a double character, both negative and positive. It makes stern demand; but it also offers rich reward. We are called to mourn and to repent, to give up something we value. We may a little resent this if we forget that our repentance is but a plain and sober realism about ourselves, our self-denial an obvious means of devotion to the God whom after all we value far above what we give up for his sake. But, positively, this discipline is the gate, narrow indeed, but opened by grace to abundant joy ... God is gracious and merciful. There is nothing for us better, nothing more joyful and rewarding, than the perfect remission and forgiveness which God offers to the truly repentant. Our painful and disciplined turning to him become in the end a matter not of long faces but of joy, for the heart is finding and being found by Christ, its truest treasure."

"Ye are light, says St. Paul, in the Lord; let it shine brightly so that men may see what being in the Christ means. The unclean spirits of self-love, self-trust and self-dependence have been cast out of us as out of the man's house; we are to be swept and granished, ready for the Guest. The Light that shined in the world, that shines in our hearts, that Light is coming to give himself to us. Our guest is coming to stay with us. Let us arise then from the sleep of self-concern and self-worry; arise to meet him in eagerness, in awe, in obedience, in self-giving, that we may live and receive his blessings"

THE

UNITED ENDEAVOR

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by

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United Church of Christ

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