

The United Endeavor

UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH

DECEMBER 1963

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21224

ADVENT THE HOME AND THE CHURCH

Advent is a time of preparation, a time of looking forward, a time of coming. That is what Advent means, "the coming," "the coming of the Lord Jesus." This first season of the new Christian Church Year brings to our concern the preparation for, the looking toward, the coming of Christ, of Christmas.

In one way these two aspects are identical, for Christmas concerns itself with the coming of Jesus to the world of men as a baby, the birth of Jesus the Savior unto the sons of men. And Advent is a time of preparation for this event.

But in another way we think of Christ's second coming to the world not as a Babe in a Manger, but as a Judge of all men. This will be as real a coming as was His first coming. We need to prepare for this event even as we need to prepare for Christmas. Thus Advent is a season of penitence as well as a season of happy expectation. Thus we have the purple hangings on the altar, signifying a season of penitence, even as is the Lenten season. Thus many of the Advent hymns speak of the second coming of the Lord,

and our preparation for this "coming in glory."

In the home this dual aspect of Advent is to receive expression, even as it does in the church. By the beneficial influence of the church and home our lives are to be made even holier. Your church will seek to fulfill its duties at this point and will seek to aid you in so ordering your home life so that there also the blessed aspects of Christian living may be manifest.



ADVENT CEREMONIALS, SERMONS AND MUSIC HEIGHTEN SEASON

We shall again seek to dramatize the movement of the Christian thru Advent to Christmas by the use of our Advent ceremonials. All these ceremonials will be features of the 10:15 a.m. service, though the 8:00 a.m. services each Sunday will also

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be Advent services with an Advent message (the early service on Dec. 1 will be at 7:45 a.m.)

The Ceremonials

- Dec. 1 - Hanging of the Greens
- Dec. 8 - Ceremony of the Creche and the Wreaths
- Dec. 15 - Ceremony of the Poinsettia
- Dec. 22 - Ceremony of the Christmas trees

We further point up this movement in the music of Advent, the wonderful advent hymns and choral and organ music. As we draw nearer to Christmas the Christmas carols will delight us, as will a special musical presentation by our choirs at the 10:15 a.m. service on Dec. 22nd. The pastor used the theme: "The Advent Journey," for the messages, speaking on the subjects:

- Dec. 1 - The Invitation of Advent
- Dec. 8 - Our Response to Advent
- Dec. 15 - Journey Instructions for Advent
- Dec. 22 - The Journey Completed, Christmas.



TINSEL DAY A FAMILY DAY

Tinsel Day comes on Sunday, Dec. 15 this year, and is for individuals as well as family groups. It is a day when we remain after the morning services to have our dinner at the church and then spend the afternoon in various activities of interest and fun.

Following the dinner the children and their teachers go to their departments to decorate the trees of the department, while the older youth are decorating the trees in the sanctuary. The adults will assist in the cleaning up of the dinner dishes and then participate in several activities, helping to pack the "white gifts," and/or working at a project of making some article for the home - a table centerpiece, or a wreath, or some other article the committee will have available for construction.

At about 4 p.m. all gather again in Friendship Hall for our "party"

for baby Jesus, Christmas being His birthday, to sing the Christmas carols, and have a piece of birthday cake.

To expedite the events of the day, please note and cooperate in the following: Meat, butter, bread beverage and a green salad will be provided for the dinner. Families, or individuals, are requested to bring a covered dish (casserole or vegetable, potato salad or family favorite dish) Bring food in sufficient quantity to feed family attending. Dessert provided.

Will you be so kind as to inform the committee of your attendance, so that adequate provisions may be made. In addition to our church families, we are particularly interested in having families of our Church School members who may not be actually in membership with the church.

The events of the afternoon will conclude about 4 p.m. or a bit later.



BRING WHITE GIFTS FOR OTHERS

A "white gift" is a special gift we give through our Church School and church for others in need. The "white gifts" may be more than one, combining into a wonderful outlay of gifts for those in need.

The cause for which we shall be invited to give this Advent is the United West Side Parish, a work our denomination is doing on the Westside of New York City, among the poor of that area. We are gathering a quantity of gifts together during the Advent season, and on Tinsel day will pack all these and get them into the mail, to arrive prior to Christmas, a gift from the folk of United Church of Christ to those in need not too far away. In the Church School and through the congregation all families and individuals are asked to participate, to bring as many of the articles below as possible, putting them in boxes at the entrance of the sanctuary or given through the departments of the Church School

Nov. 24 - Children's books

Dec. 1 - Dolls and doll clothes

Dec. 8 - Toys and games

Dec. 15 - Puzzles and games.

May we request that these materials be new materials and not used, unless they are in exceptional condition. These materials will be distributed through the "church center" to boys and girls who ordinarily would not get such items. They will not necessarily be Christmas gifts but will be used in the ongoing work of the United Parish.



CHURCH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE SUNDAY, DEC. 22 - 6 P.M.

The Church School Christmas Program and Service will be held on Sunday, Dec. 22nd at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary. Members of the Church School (formerly known as the Sunday School) will participate in the service and program, being arranged by the committee in charge. Parents of folk in the Church School ought to make special effort to attend, for it will be delightful and enjoyable. You will be receiving more information about this service directly from our Church School.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Two services are being planned for Christmas Eve, the first at 8 p.m., which will be a preaching service, with Christmas music and the Christmas Scripture. The second service at 10:45 p.m. will also include the pulpit message and many other lovely features.



SUNDAY, DEC. 29 AND NEW YEAR'S EVE

On the Sunday after Christmas we shall maintain our regular schedule of services, at 8 and 10:15 a.m. Pastor Rasche will bring a post-Christmas message.

On New Year's Eve an 8 p.m. service brings the old year properly to a close. Plan to attend these final services of the year 1963.

POINSETTIA FUND, OTHER ITEMS



You are invited to contribute to our Poinsettia and Wreath Fund, to be used to help defray the expense of these Advent decorations which we use in our sanctuary. Gifts may be given to any usher or put on the offering plate in a marked envelope. They can be memorial gifts. Our poinsettias and wreaths are purchased at one time in conformity to our needs, thus cash gifts are desired.

The pastor is ready to make home communions at Christmas, upon request from family members or aged or sick person himself. Phone the church office BR 6-0393, or put the request in writing. Don't expect the pastor to remember a verbal request.

If you desire to help in the provision of food (or cash with which we can buy food) for our Christmas baskets, please have your donations here no later than Sunday, Dec. 15th.

Memorials at Christmas will be announced only at the services on Sunday, Dec. 22nd.

PLEASE REMEMBER

A newspaper drive will be conducted on Sat. Dec. 7th by our Cub Pack. If you have papers and desire pickups, please call 288-4335.

The Maryland Council of Churches is conducting its annual financial drive. This was pointed up at one of our services, and contributions from our folk requested. Please contact Mrs. May Getz.

CHURCH RECORDS

Baptisms

John Edward, son of Richard and Maureen Medlar, on Nov. 17

William Edward, son of George and JoAnna Watts, on Nov. 17

William Jon, son of Jon A. and Gurleen Congdon, on Nov. 17

Anna Marie, daughter of Erbert and Margaret Locklear, on Nov. 17

Marriages

Charles O'Brien and Barbara Jennings, on Nov. 2

Clarence Staigerwald and Linda Rexrode, on Nov. 7

Charles Fultz and Sarah Vincent, on Nov. 9

Walter Raynor and Valeria Ochlech on Nov. 9

Funerals

Mrs. Louisa Ruppertsberger, age 92, member, on Oct. 23

Louis Adams, age 55, on Nov. 4

Wm. Hodges, Sr., age 45, on Nov. 8

Mrs. Caroline Groom, age 72, member, on Nov. 13

Donald R. Tagg, age 72, on Nov. 13

Capt. John Sachs, age 76, member, on Nov. 16

Eugene E. Knight, age 46, Nov. 18

Transfers Out and Commendations
Mrs. Doris Chlan, to St. Luke Lutheran, Harford Rd.

Mrs. Mary Wehner, commended to Protestant Com. (United Ch.) of Middle River

Mrs. Robert Rosenberger, commended to Overlea Meth. Church

Mrs. Eliz. Heath, transferred to Prince of Peace Luth.

Russell Deppish, commended to St. Timothy Evang. Church

New and Returned Church School Folk

New: Bonnie Woodworth, Mrs. Geraldine Morris, Dorothy Crusse, Kim Wirth, Rose E. Kodetsky, Michele Weglein, Mrs. Marie O'Donnell, Mrs. Joyce George, Donna Hall, Mrs. Charlotte Weglein, Denise George, Mrs. Carolyn Noteware, Mrs. Margaret Hall, Robert McBride, Karen Reif, Debbie Reif, Marvin Hubbe, Brett Koblisch, Robin McBride.

Returning scholars: Leonard Savage, Mrs. Grace Fader, Robert Logue, Mrs. Esther Leader, Mrs. Elnora Bosse, Mrs. Marilyn Eberhardt, Craig Cumberland, Sandra Scheuerman, Kenneth Walton, Dennis Logue, Mrs. Patricia Jenkins

CHURCH FINANCES

Church Council has requested the monthly financial report be in each Endeavor, in abbreviated form. The following is for October, as reported in Nov. meeting.

Receipts

Regular envelopes \$3493.00

Spiritual Envelopes \$ 364.00
World Service 216.00
Other receipts 322.00
Total receipts \$ 4395.00

Expenditures

For local needs \$ 2631.00
Benevolences 1100.00
Total \$ 3731.00

Received thus far in 1963 \$39,105.00

Expenditures over receipts thus far in year \$1988.00
Memorial Fund bal. \$1973.00

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

The official name of the teaching arm of our church is the United Evangelical Church School, rather than Sunday School. This change was made to the School constitution at its last staff meeting.

Officers of the Church School for 1964 are:

Mr. John Bond, Sup't.

Mr. Paul Bauersfeld, Ass't Supt.

Mr. Brian Becker, Treas.

Mr. Clarence Rowell, Ass't Treas

Miss Bonnie Bauersfeld, Corres. Sec'y

Mrs. Marg. Schultz, Rec. Sec'y

Our Church School is growing, as the record of new and returning scholars indicate. This requires more teachers. If you have concern that the Word of God be taught through our Church School, will you not volunteer to be a teacher. A word to the pastor will help. At present we need 2 teachers in the Beginner Dep't; 2 in the Jr. Dep't and 1 in the Jr. Hi. dept. The new curriculum is proving to be very satisfactory. Our two youth divisions are having exciting times.



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