

## RURAL CHURCHES

Union Chapel Church of the United Brethren in Christ. D. H. & Celia Pellett, Pastors

Sunday school 9:30. Thurman I. Drew, supt.

Morning Worship 10:15. Christmas message by the pastor.

Evening service 7:30. Christmas pageant, "He Came to Bethlehem." This service is sponsored

by the Otterbein Guild, and the cast is composed of young people from the church. The public is cordially invited.

Prayer service Wednesday 7:30.

Pleasant Valley Wesleyan Methodist Church Noel H. Winterholter, Pastor

Sunday school 9:30.

Preaching 7:30.

Prayer meeting, Wed. 7:45.

Have Christ in your Christmas this season and worship Him in the Beauty of Holiness on the Lord's Day.

Willshire Circuit U. B. Church L. A. Middaugh, Pastor

9:30 a. m. Sunday school.

10:30 a. m. Preaching service.

7:30 p. m. The Sunday school will give a Christmas program. All are invited.

7:30 p. m. Wed. prayer meeting.

St. Paul 9:15 a. m. Sunday school.

From 11:00 p. m. to midnight December 24th, a service of carols and candles will be given by the young people of the church. All are invited.

7:30 p. m. Tuesday, prayer meeting and Bible study.

Winchester 9:30 a. m. Sunday school.

10:30 a. m. Class meeting.

7:30 p. m. Thursday, prayer meeting.

Rivarre Circuit Gilbert E. Eddy, Pastor

Mt. Victory

Sunday school 9:30 a. m. Cloyce Crozier, supt. Class meeting 10:30 a. m. Gregg Knittle, leader.

Evangelistic services 7:30 p. m. Sermon by Rev. C. W. Van Gundy. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening.

## Pleasant Grove

Sunday school 9:30 a. m. Warren Harden, supt. Worship service 10:30 a. m. Sermon by the pastor. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening.

Fred Bittner, leader.

Mt. Zion

Sunday school 9:30 a. m. Jim Beabout, supt. Class meeting 10:30 a. m. Louise Bunner, leader.

U. B. C. E. services 7:00 p. m. Aldine Beabout, president. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening.

## Monroe Friends

Byron Leaser, pastor

9:30-11 a. m.—A unified service.

9:30-10:30 a. m.—Sunday School.

Wm. Zurcher, superintendent.

Christmas treats will be given.

"God's Gift," the Christmas story, depicted on the "flannelgraph" by the pastor.

7:30 p. m.—A miscellaneous Christmas program and play, "Reuben's Stable." Everyone is invited to attend this service.

Wednesday, 7:30 p. m.—Mid-week prayer service, followed by the monthly business meeting of the church.

Friday, 8 p. m.—Victory prayer band (Dec. 29) at the Winteregg home.

St. Paul

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7:30 p. m. Wednesday, prayer meeting and Bible study.

Calvary Evangelical Church F. H. Willard, minister

Christmas worship, 9 a. m. Election of Sunday School officers.

Sunday School, 10 a. m.

Mid-week service Thursday, 7:30.

Asks Firm Hand

Boston (UP) — Alexander M. Sullivan, business manager of Boston public schools, thinks the use of returning servicemen as teachers in grade schools would curb reported lax discipline and delinquency.

## St. Luke's

F. H. Meckstroth, pastor

The St. Luke's Evangelical and Reformed church at Honduras, will

present a Christmas program next

Sunday evening, December 24, at

7:30 o'clock. The program is as

follows:

Recitation—Herman Dick.

Recitation—Eileen Dick.

Dialogue—Glen Strahm, Norma Jean Fuhn, Robert Dick, Herman Dick, Pauline Seenguth, Carol McBride.

Recitation—Verna Strahm.

Recitation—Harold Dick.

Playlet, "God's Gift" — Junior Bertsch, May Schnepp, Bruce Schnepp.

Recitation—Kay Ratcliff.

Songs—By group.

The young people will also pre-

sent a play, "The Ten Virgins."

The following will take part in this play: Edward Dick, Violet Dick, Mildred Beer, Eleanor Mankey, Ellen Fisher, Doris Dick, Norma Funk, Phyllis Hoffman, Gladys Mankey, Esther Dick, Pauline Seenguth, Aleta Ratcliff, Grace Fisher, Loren Beer, Beulah Bertsch, Alice Dick, Bruce Schnepp.

What would you like for Christ-

mas? Could anything be better than to find for your heart and mind that spiritual safety, certainty, and joy which transforms life? Well, that is exactly what Jesus came to bring mankind. It was the first Christmas gift, and it is the best gift this year.

I. Safety (Luke 2:8-12).

Men need deliverance from their sin. They needed it when Christ came. They need it today. They must have a safe refuge, one in which they may rest secure.

All the efforts of this world to meet man's need are vain. As Joseph Parker put it: "The world did not want an adviser. The world had advised itself almost into hell. The world did not ask for a speculator. Everything that man could do had been done, and man sat in the darkness of their own wisdom. The world did not want a reformer, a man who could change his outward and transient relations, an engineer that would continually devote his time to the readjustment of the wheels and the pulleys and the various mechanical forces of society. The world wanted a saviour."

Jesus came as Saviour. The good tidings revealed to the faithful shepherds were to be of great joy to all people" because they presented the One who could bring them redemption from sin.

That revelation is ready to be made again this Christmas, and as it came to the shepherds at their work in the field, so it may come to you on the battlefield, in camp, in the air, under the sea, in the kitchen, the factory—yes, anywhere. We rightly go to our churches to worship on Christmas Day, but let us remember that Christ is everywhere, seeking each one — yes, knocking at your door. Will you let Him in? Then you will have Christmas indeed!

H. Certainty (Heb. 1:1-4).

God has spoken through the centuries in the messages of many faithful servants. We do well to give heed to God's Word through them.

But after all they were only servants. This message of redemption is so vital and fundamental that God sent His Son, Himself the Redeemer, to declare it.

How final, and definite, and blessed is that truth. The heir of all the eternal glories of God the Father, and Himself the effulgence (or the flashing forth) of the glory of God, has spoken God's last word—His certain word — about redemption from sin.

We all know how full of uncertainty the world is, how our own minds are distressed by the very uncertainty of countless things about us.

What a precious gift from God to realize anew the absolute certainty we have in Christ. He came to save, to satisfy, and to keep us.

Note that He has all the needed authority and power to carry out His loving purpose (v. 3, 4). He who "made purification of sins" for us to believe, is divine. He has all power. He is glorious beyond our ability to describe. He is God. We can rest in perfect assurance in His redemption.

H. Enjoyment (1 John 1:4).

God knew the need of man for real joy if life was to be pleasant and profitable. Being a Christian was never intended to be a somber, doleful business. No, indeed. "These things we write," says John, "that our joy may be made full."

What did he write? By inspiration of the Holy Spirit he wrote of Christ, "the Word of life." He had seen and known Him, the Redeemer. He had fine and uplifting fellowship with Him, and declares that we too (as believers) share in that fellowship.

One of the bright and gladmost

things about the Christmas season

is our fellowship with our family

and friends. It brightens the whole

holiday season. How much more

delightful is the fact that we have

"fellowship with the Father and with

his Son, Jesus Christ."

That fact really "makes" Christ-

mas! Many will be separated from

family and friends this year, but

Christ is there, and they may have

this most precious of all friends with

them. The empty place around the

family table will be filled (if we

wish) by the Lord Himself. Let's

keep Christmas with Him as the un-

seen but nonetheless real Guest. In

fact, let us do even more than that,

let us count Him into the intimate

fellowship of our family circle (and

two can make such a circle). That

is what He wants to be—to you and

to me—this Christmas Day, 1944.

May His joy be yours in full

measure. That is the wish of the

writer of these lines, and it goes

from his heart to the very last read-

er who may be in the uttermost part

of the earth. A blessed Christmas to you!

temperatures low enough to cause slippery and icy conditions on the streets.

These conditions call for the utmost care in walking and driving. Motorists pedestrians—Be careful!

— TRADE IN DECATUR

department and the city catcher all turned out here recently to rescue an alley cat reported hanging by her hind legs from some telephone wires at an intersection. Before the rescue party could arrive, however, someone climbed the telephone pole and carried the crying and frightened animal to safety.

— TRADE IN DECATUR

## Sunday Dinner

Open Sunday and Serving

11 a. m. to 2 p. m.

Food prepared as you like it. Come in Sunday and eat with us.

## Ehler's Restaurant

## Announcement

I wish to announce to the public that I have entered business for myself and have established an office in the

## Graham Building

Second Street—Across From Court House

My services will be available every

## Tuesday and Wednesday

Having served as a Deputy Tax Collector I will specialize in

## INCOME TAX REPORTS and GENERAL ACCOUNTING

I will be glad to be of assistance to you.

Stop in and make your arrangement now.

## CRAVEN EMSHILLER

TAX CONSULTANT.

## It's Expected of Us!

Because of the uncertainty which most of us have experienced during the past year, we find it difficult indeed to carry on our normal way of life. Each

problem as it presents itself seems more unsolvable than the one before.

Let's lay aside those things which are unhappy experiences and look toward the brighter things of life. Let's try to be back to normalcy at least for one day—Christmas. It is expected of us! Those of our loved ones who will not be present would not have it otherwise. Those of us who are at home will gain strength and confidence from the thoughtfulness resulting from observing a normal Christmas season. It will aid greatly in meeting the morrow.

We have our freedom, our way of life, our manner of living, and the opportunity to do the things that we want to do. It is a blessing to be an American and it is a blessing to observe Christmas in a manner suitable to our thinking.

Let's make it a memorable occasion. We promise to do our part!

**Gillig & Doan**  
Morticians  
Marshall St. AMBULANCE SERVICE DAY AND NIGHT. Phones 794 and 1041

**Christmas Greetings**

Once again we greet you at Christmastime. We greet you in a spirit of Good Cheer and of thankfulness. Good Cheer because of the happy associations that have been ours and thankfulness because of loyal support of good friends like you. To you, therefore, we say "May you enjoy a Merry Christmas."

**Walter's Plumbing & Heating**

Season's Greetings