

ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE

Campaign To Increase Church Attendance In Adams County
Sponsored By The Following Advertisers Who Solicit Your Patronage

CHILDREN IN CHURCH

Rev. J. R. Meadows

We are strongly convinced that they should be there. While we claim no special insight into the mind of God, we are quite sure that He is just as happy as we are to see father and mother and children present in church and together worshipping Him.

As soon as a child is old enough to tottle it should learn to direct its steps to Sunday school and church on Sunday mornings. Habits that are formed in childhood are apt to stick for life. Good habits are a valuable acquisition. Church attendance is one that can only be acquired, if parents will only make up their minds that it

can be done

See that your children are in worship services and Sunday school next Sunday, and every Sunday.

THIS WEEK'S BIBLE VERSE

"But Jesus said, Suffer little children and forbid them not, to come unto Me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."—Matthew 19: 14.

ST. PAUL MISSIONARY

2 mi. east, 2 mi. north Monroe
Robert R. Welch, pastor
9:15 a.m., morning worship.
10:15 a.m., Sunday school.
7 p.m., M. Y. F. service.
7:30 p.m., evening service.
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., opening service of revival meetings with Rev. Virgil Tucker. Services 7:30 p.m., nightly, March 4 to 15. Everyone is welcome.

Miller's Grocery

Groceries, Fresh Fruit,
Vegetables, Meat,
Ice Cream
937 N. 2nd St. Ph. 3-3307

The Second best is never

as good as the best.
Try Our Ready-Mix
Dial 3-2561
Decatur Ready-Mix
Inc.

The First State Bank

DECATUR, IND.
ESTABLISHED 1883
MEMBER F.D.I.C.

ADAMS COUNTY

Farm Bureau Co-op
Berne - Williams - Monroe
Pleasant Mills - Geneva

Decatur Music House

Wurlitzer Pianos, Organs
Sales - Instruments - Service
Sheet Music - Records
136 N. 2nd St. Phone 3-3353

PRICE MEN'S WEAR

QUALITY CLOTHING
FOR MEN AND BOYS
101 No 2nd St. Phone 3-4115

LAWSON

Heating - Plumbing
Appliances
Sales and Service
Phone 3-3626 1835 W. Monroe St.

Zwick Monuments

315 W. Monroe St.
DOWNTOWN
Phone 3-3603 for Appointment

Treon's Poultry Market

Fresh Dressed Poultry
Fresh Eggs - Free Delivery
Phone 3-3717

Kocher Lumber

& Coal Co.
The Friendly Lumber Yard
Phone 3-3131

SMITH DRUG CO.

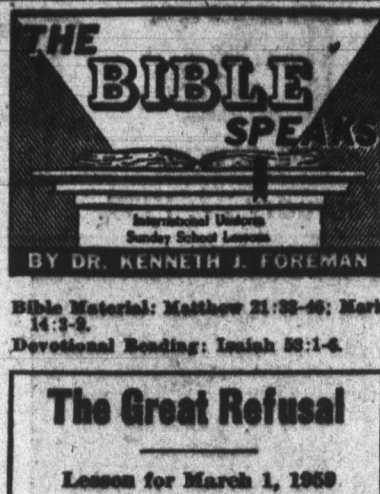
149 N. 2nd St. Phone 3-3614
Your Rexall Drug Store

SMITH PURE MILK CO.

Your Local Milk Merchant
Grade "A" Dairy Products
134 S. 13th at Adams

GERBER'S SUPER MARKET

HOME-KILLED
PORK and BEEF
GROCERIES and PRODUCE
622 N. 13th St.



Bible Material: Matthew 21:33-46; Mark 14:3-8.
Devotional Reading: Isaiah 55:1-4.

The Great Refusal

Lesson for March 1, 1959

A DOUBLE meaning can be found in some of Jesus' parables. A triple meaning, if you include the simple literal words of the stories. For instance, take the parable which in old-fashioned English is called the parable of the Wicked Husbandmen. In more modern English it would be the story of the Wicked Tenant Farmers. The first and simple meaning is just the story. Like so many that Jesus told, this one both sounds as if it might have actually happened, and as if it were too fantastic ever to happen. It is the story of a farm owner who tried to collect from his tenants. But they beat up all his agents, one after another. Finally the owner sent his son. But this only stirred the tenants to murder. If we kill the man's only son, they said to each other, then the vineyard will be ours. So they killed him.

Jesus ended his blunt, ugly tale with a question. What will the owner do next? His hearers knew. The least the tenants could expect would be to lose their places. But more likely the owner would destroy them. Their murder would come back on their own heads.

So much for the story itself. But it was more than a story; that is, there was a meaning under its surface. It is on record that the leading citizen to whom Jesus told this tale of brutality and madness, immediately made plans to arrest him. They saw that Jesus was speaking about them. This was no simple rural Who-did-it. It was a sword-thrust, a stern prophecy, and they did not like it, nor him. These men, you might say, were "parables," parabolas (sic) themselves. They saw in a flash what the Man from Galilee was driving at. The owner of the vineyard was God; the tenant farmers were themselves. The vineyard was the Kingdom of God, with all its powers and privileges. God had entrusted the Jewish people, and especially their leaders and teachers, these chief priests and scribes among them, with his truth, his laws, the knowledge of his will. But instead of blessing the earth with these gifts, they had tried selfishly to keep them for their very own. They had mistreated God's messengers the prophets. Now God's son was in their presence... but murder was in their minds.

One of the most chilling things Jesus ever said was his last word to these men who were plotting his death. "The Kingdom of God will be taken away from you," he said. That was a shocker. Every Jew grew up believing that his people had the exclusive right to the Kingdom and to the favor of God. Gentiles were no better than dogs. But here Jesus pronounced sentence on their failure. Not "—may be taken away," but "—will be taken away." By rejecting him they proved themselves unworthy. But then what? Who would be the Bearers of the Kingdom? It will be given, Jesus said, "to a nation producing the fruits of it." What nation? Rome, the British Empire, the United States? One thing is clear: No race and no nation have any exclusive rights to the Kingdom; no exclusive right to be the Headquarters of God?

The Tragic Pattern

But with this last word of Jesus a third depth of meaning in this parable comes to light. Jesus was not only predicting his own death at the hands of those who should have made him most welcome; and not only predicting the passing of the Kingdom of God out into the world. He was suggesting a tragic pattern which has been repeated over and over again in history. Those wicked tenants are not merely certain priests in long-ago Jerusalem, they are the Refusers of God everywhere and at all times. God gives to man so much, and demands (comparatively) so little; like the owner in the parable. But man, confronted by God, makes over and over again the Great Refusal. Man wants the earth for himself; he does not want to share it even with the Creator. But men who refuse God are in reality not destroying him; they are destroying themselves.

WINCHESTER

C. N. Van Gundy, pastor
Morning worship, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school, 10:15 a.m.
E. E., 7:30 p.m.
Evening worship, 8 p.m.
Prayer meeting Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

ADAMS COUNTY
TRAILER SALES, Inc.
New and Used Trailers
Decatur, Ind.

GERBER'S
SUPER MARKET
Home Killed Pork & Beef
Groceries and Produce
622 N. 13th Street

Rose Hill Dairy, Inc.
BUY THE GALLON
AND SAVE
351 N. 10th St. Decatur

Roop's Grocery
Washington St.
FRESH MEATS & GROCERIES
Phone 3-3619

ST. PAUL'S
Evangelical Lutheran
1 mi. north, 1/2 mi. west of Freble
L. W. Schulenburg, pastor
Worship service with communion, 8:45 a.m.
Lenten worship service, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
Kingdom Hall
Corner Monroe and Ninth
Sunday, 2:30 p.m.: Watchtower Bible study and discussion on the subject, "Paradise." One of the scriptures for consideration will be Luke 23:42, 43. New World Trans., "Jesus, remember me when you get into your kingdom." And he said to him: "Truly I tell you today, you will be with me in Paradise."

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L. W. Schulenburg, pastor
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Lenten worship service, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

ST. JOHN
Evangelical and Reformed
Huber, pastor
Mt. Zion
9:30 a.m., Sunday school.
10:30 a.m., class meeting.
7 p.m., Christian Endeavor.
7 p.m., Monday-evening, the W. M. A. will meet in the home of Mrs. Samantha Maulder.
7 p.m., Wednesday, mid-week prayer meeting.

U. B. RIVARRE CIRCUIT
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Pleasant Grove
9:30 a.m., Sunday school.
10:30 a.m., worship service.
7:30 p.m., Wednesday, mid-week prayer service with an administrative board meeting following the prayer service.

1 p.m., Thursday, the W. M. A. will meet in the home of Mrs. Annie Grote.
A special evangelistic campaign will be held at the Mt. Zion church March 15-22-7:30 nightly, with Jim Gahelen, youth director of Van Wert in charge of the first week of services.
We invite you to attend any of our services. There will be classes for all in our Sunday schools.

WREN CIRCUIT E. U. B.
A. N. Straley, pastor
Bethel
9:30 a.m., Sunday school, Lesson: "God's Love and Man's Refusal."
10:30 a.m., morning worship. Sermon: "What God Hath Done."
Thursday, 8 p.m., prayer meeting.

WOOD CHAPEL
9:30 a.m., Sunday school.
10:30 a.m., morning worship.
Rev. Raymond Jewell, guest minister.
7:30 p.m., evangelistic services.
Rev. Raymond Jewell, evangelist, with Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Reichard, song leaders.
Monday through Friday, 7:30 p.m. at Wood Chapel church. Evangelistic services with Rev. Jewell and the Reichards.

MONROE METHODIST
Willis Gierhart, minister
9:30 a.m., morning worship. Theme: "The Crowd That Watched Him Crucified."
10 a.m., missionary band.
10:30 a.m. Sunday school.
7 p.m., M.Y.F.
7:30 p.m., evening service with Rev. Mark Blasing speaking.
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., W.S.C.S. executive.
Wednesday, 7 p.m., choir practice. 7:45 p.m., mid-week Lenten service with Rev. John Hunt speaking.
Thursday, 6:30 p.m., family-night carry-in supper. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Kinsley of Berne will give a program.
Friday, 7:30 p.m., Scout training.
Saturday, 6:30 p.m., Builders class dinner.
The Harvester's quartet of Asbury college will be with us next Sunday, morning and evening.

Rural Churches

UNION CHAPEL

Evangelical United Brethren
Emmett L. Anderson, pastor
Warren Nidlinger, supt.
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.
Morning worship, 10:20 a.m.
Evening worship, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday is cash day. The people of the church are reminded to bring either their contribution or pledge and place it in the morning offering.

Monday evening our youth revival begins. Ehrhardt Lang, a student at United Theological Seminary will be the speaker. The youth are in charge and they welcome everyone.

The council of administration will meet and have their election Monday, March 9, at 7:30 o'clock in the evening.

The annual congregational meeting will be Wednesday, March 11, 7:30 p.m. This meeting is held annually to review the past years work and to hold election of officers.

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7 p.m., Christian Endeavor.
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7 p.m., Wednesday, mid-week prayer meeting.

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Church Mergers Show Christian Unity Move

By LOUIS CASSELS

United Press International

America's newest major religious body symbolizes, in its name and history, the powerful drive for Christian unity that is gradually breaking down the ancient barriers of Protestant denominationalism.

Its name is the United Church of Christ. It was formed on June 25, 1957, by the merger of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

When the merger is completed, the United Church will have a membership of about 2,100,000, and will be the nation's seventh largest Protestant body.

Although many congregations have begun using the new name, no local church is legally affiliated with the United Church of Christ at present. It will exist only in spirit and on paper until a constitution, now being drafted, is completed and approved.

Some local Congregationalist churches have served notice they will not affiliate with the United Church. They have formed the National Assn. of Congregational Christian Churches. This organization reports a membership of 171 local churches, out of a total of 5,544 congregational Christian churches in the nation.

File Court Suit
Four of the dissident Congregationalist churches and 10 individuals have filed a suit in the federal district court of New York challenging the legality of the merger. An earlier legal test, in New York state courts, resulted in a clear-cut victory for the pro-merger forces.

Despite these birth pains, the United Church is already regarded by students of church history as a tremendously significant milestone in the ecumenical movement which seeks to draw together the divided Christian family.

Unlike other church mergers of recent years which have united Methodists with Methodists, Presbyterians with Presbyterians and Lutherans with Lutherans, the United Church represents the confluence of two entirely distinct streams of Protestant Christianity.

Congregationalism, which came to America aboard the Mayflower in 1620, is an offshoot of the English Reformation. The Puritans felt that the ecclesiastical hierarchy of the Church of England was stifling true Christian faith, so they established in New England a new kind of church in which each local congregation was completely free to manage its own affairs. This emphasis on congregational autonomy remains until this day a distinctive feature of Congregationalist Churches.

Product of Reformation
The Evangelical & Reformed Church is a product of the Congregationalist and Martin Luther. It came to America with the first German and Dutch immigrants to Pennsylvania. Like other churches of the Calvinist tradition, it has a representative system of government (called the Presbyterian polity) in which regional bodies called synods administer many church affairs.

Working out a compromise between these different ecclesiastical structures is the main problem confronting the constitution drafters of the United Church. There are no major doctrinal issues to be resolved, because both denominations eschew official creeds and leave the individual believer free to work out his own understanding of the Bible within

Household Scrapbook
By ROBERTA LEE

Cleaning Windows
Add a little kerosene to the water used for washing windows and a brilliant polish will be the result. It is especially good in winter, as the oil prevents the water from drying before the cloth can be brought into play.

Easily Identified
Write the names of your children on the insides of the overshoes in indelible ink, so they can readily identify them at school.

Frozen Paint
Do not allow cans of paint to stand where the temperature drops to freezing, as this will ruin the paint.

Modern Etiquette
By ROBERTA LEE

Q. What is a suggested "thank you" not for a bride to write for a wedding gift received?
A. "Dear Betty: It was more than sweet of you to send us such a lovely (whatever it was). Thank you very much, and I know that Jack and I are going to get a lot of enjoyment out of it. Hoping that we shall be seeing you very soon, Sincerely."

Q. My boy friend has the habit of leaving me alone at our table in a nightclub while he visits around with friends at other tables. I think this is rude. What do you think?
A. I agree with you. He should ask you to accompany him on his "table-hopping" tours.

Q. Is a guest privileged to arrive at and depart from a cocktail party at whatever time he wishes?
A. Yes, within the stated time of the party.

PLEASANT DALE
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
John D. Mishler, Pastor
9:30 a. m. Sunday School with Mr. Russell Baumgartner as superintendent and Mrs. Anoli Mann as Children's Director. Assistant teachers will serve this Sunday.

10:30 a. m. Morning Worship. The theme of the service will be "Seven Great Facts in the Life of Jesus."

7:30 p. m. Evening Worship. The pastor will bring the message "Jesus, the Minister."

8:30 p. m. CBYF will meet. The film "Going Steady" will be shown and "Mr. Don Yager, youth counselor, will lead the discussion following.

Monday at 7:30 p. m. the Pleasant Dale Cemetery Association will meet at the church.

Wednesday Bible study and prayer service at 7:30 p. m.