

PASTORS TO MAKE PLEA FOR FAMILY CHURCH GOING

Parents Urged to Bring
Their Children With
Them on Sunday.

PASTORS of the city start out the New Year on the first Sunday urging parents not only to attend church services but to see that the entire family is represented.

A greater church attendance is being urged by all ministers of the city. Many churches are planning revivals and a week of prayer this month.

In behalf of this campaign in interest of larger church attendance, the current edition of the Indianapolis Unitarian Bulletin answers the question: "Why Join a Church?"

The answer is printed as follows in the bulletin:

1. The church performs three sacramental offices—Christening, Marriage, Burial. Many prefer, as a matter of self-respect, that these offices be performed by an organization toward which they have a personal rather than a perfunctory relationship.

2. Joining a church gives one a sense of proprietorship. I attended the Unitarian Church in Pittsburgh for two years before I made my decision. After that I felt it was my church—I was no longer a mere visitor.

3. Unititing with a church carries with it not only a sense of one's right, but a wholesome sentiment of obligation. For a person to visit divers churches in order to find one to his liking is quite proper. But "church floaters," those who go from one church to another for years and never unite with any are spiritual parasites; for if all people were "floaters" churches would disappear.

4. It is a gallant thing to make a public avowal of your convictions. To "stand up and be counted" on the side of a cause in which you believe is to choose courage rather than timidity. God never makes himself manifest through cowards."

5. Each year brings its toll of loss through removal or death. Your unititing with the church gives the members and the minister fresh encouragement. Seeing you in the ranks they say inwardly: "The work will go on with augmented effectiveness."

6. Many wish their children to grow up under the influence of the church. When the stormy period of adolescence comes to young people a reasonable and reverent religion is an armor against temptation. The surest way to interest your children in the church is to be devoted to it yourself. Church attendance and membership is the only practical proof you can offer of such devotion.—D. L.

REV. L. C. E. FACKLER of St. Matthew Lutheran Church will preach Sunday morning on "Salvation," and at night on "To Whom Are You Giving Glory?" The vestry will meet Wednesday night at the home of E. F. Herther, 1832 Spruce St. The Ladies' Aid will meet on Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Paul Foerster, 1926 Hoyt Ave.

AT ST. PAUL M. E. CHURCH Dr. Frank L. Howz will preach on "The Panting Soul" in the morning and at night on "The Soul's Escape." Vinson H. Manifold will teach the Other Fellow's Bible Class in the morning.

REV. CHARLES H. GUNSONS will preach Sunday night at the Oriental Spiritualist Church on "If a Man Die Shall He Live Again?"

DR. M. B. HYDE will preach at the Grace M. E. Church at 10:45 a. m. on "The All Inclusive Resolution" and at 7:30 o'clock on "The Price of Opportunity."

DR. EDWIN CUNNINGHAM of the Central Universalist Church will preach at 10:55 a. m. on "Truth Triumphant."

DR. FRANCIS S. C. WICKS announces the following order of service at 11 a. m. Sunday at All Souls Unitarian Church: Andante Religious Hymn..... Merle Dubois First Service Covenant Words of Inspiration Responsive Reading—4th Selection Hymn 178 Notices and Offerings Benediction Postlude Triumphal March Costa

"THE LAND BEYOND" and "A Place for Every Man" will be the morning and evening sermon subjects.

Jack-O'-Lantern
Gardens
Opens New Year
Introducing
JACK WARR'S
"Studio FootWarmers"
The Most Pleasing 8-Piece Orchestra
—Take this from Jack Hammon—He Knows

"I was out last night for the first time in three weeks, being too busy opening the New Jack-O'-Lantern Gardens on 26th Illinois St., to visit the Gardens, and I want to tell you I certainly enjoyed the fireplace and that snappy music. The skating and the foot warmers add a real evening at our winter Gardens. I'm going to have a free evening out here, so everyone may have a chance to see these beautiful snow-clad hills and our 300x150 skating pond."

EVERYTHING FREE
Sunday Afternoon and Evening, January 4th
MAKE UP YOUR PARTY NOW

WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Christ's Triumphal Entry Into Jerusalem

The International Uniform Sunday School Lesson for Jan. 4: Christ's Triumphal Entry—Making Christ Our King. Luke 19:20-40.

By WILLIAM E. GILROY, D. D.
Editor of The Congregationalist.

Soon after the procession that Zachaeus watched from a tree, and that ended so gloriously for him, comes this greater procession that has become known as "the Triumphal Entry," which was to end in tragedy for our Lord.

Jesus had returned from Jericho to Jerusalem. Or at least when this lesson opens He was on His way thither.

He had come near to Bethany where He had restored Lazarus to life, a place that He loved and where He was himself deeply beloved.

It was only natural that the masses of the people should throng around Him and hail Him with joy.

And now a strange thing happens. Jesus who has almost persistently avoided the throng, who formerly has gone off in a boat across the Sea of Galilee to escape the multitude, and who has withdrawn to the mountains or desert in prayer when the people have pressed about Him, deliberately plans to enter Jerusalem in triumph and to accept the homage of the people.

What had brought about this change? We may be sure that it was no change in the heart of Jesus himself. He was still the meek and lowly Jesus. He plans to enter the city upon an ass' colt, and the symbolism of this is explained by reference to the ninth verse of the prophecy of Zechariah. Jesus is not coming in state, but in lowliness and service, and as the bringer of salvation.

He knows that "His hour is come." He knows that the way of seeming triumph will prove a way of sacrifice and suffering.

He has already begun to speak to the disciples of this coming to Jerusalem and of the many things that He must suffer them "of the elders and chief priests and scribes" (Matt. 16:21).

The exultation of the people is for Him subdued, not only by the sense of popular fickleness, but also by the consciousness that He is going the way of destiny—the way of those who have saved others through giving themselves.

But outward homage is not always the evidence of inward devotion.

Did these who acclaimed Him and who spread their garments submit their hearts? Is the Savior to us a name of greatness, or is He likewise our personal Master and Lord? Do we sanctify only our garments, or is our inmost being brought under His sway?

Unless we feel the reality of these questions, and are able to answer them honestly, this lesson has little practical meaning for us.

It is fine to read about Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem as it happened long ago, but of what value is it all unless Christ makes triumphal entry into our hearts?

We ought not to miss that incident in the verse immediately following the text of the lesson: "When He was come near, He beheld the city, and wept over it." That tragedy lay far nearer the heart of Jesus than the consciousness of any outward honor to himself.

While we join the throng that acclaimed Him, let us search our hearts and bring all the soul's allegiance to His feet.

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