



World Planning

Lesson for October 4, 1953

THE man who invented the word "Utopia" knew what he was doing. Sir Thomas More first used the name as the title of a book in which he described the island of Utopia, a place where everything is perfect—climate, laws, schools, people, everything. But Sir Thomas was having his little joke, for "Utopia" comes from two Greek words meaning No Place. He knew there is no real place in this world where everything is perfect; being a saint and a sensible man he suspected there never would be. No Christian has ever expected to see a perfect place this side of heaven.

Why Christians Plan

Nevertheless, Sir Thomas More lived an active life, working hard to make the England of his day more like the Utopia of his dreams—or rather, more like the heaven of which Utopia might have been a suburb. For he was a Christian, and Christians, at their best, do plan for a better world. Christians at their worst do not. At their worst, Christians either accept the world as it is and imitate it, or even defend it against all critics; or they run away from it, shutting themselves away from it, leaving it to dirt, disease and the devil. (It might be asked, are such persons Christian at all? That is another question.) Almost all Christians plan on a small scale. Most of us live in a rather small world, and in the tiny world of our daily life we like to make plans that are Christian—in the home, for example: an unplanned home, higgledy-piggledy, with everything in a continual uproar, is not the kind of home we want to live in. Christian young people plan to make their marriage and their home as neat like heaven as they can—and that takes planning and hard work too.

Widening Circles

Are we of today better Christians than our ancestors were? John Baillie asks the question in his "The Belief in Progress." His answer is No, if you mean by the question: Are Christians today more devoted, more saintly, than eight or eighteen centuries ago? If we have advanced beyond our forefathers, it is not in being better men personally. But John Baillie thinks, and it is a thought worth pondering, that we can and sometimes do have a wider view of the area of Christian action. Let us ask the question: Are we cleaner than our ancestors were? No, if you mean devotion to the ideal of "cleanliness next to Godliness." But while the citizen of 1800 was personally as clean as the soap of those days would permit, his kitchen and his streets and his water supply were not clean by our standards. Now planning for cleanliness includes such things as mosquito extermination and bonds for a sewer system. So it is with Christian planning. If you want to keep your home Christian you will need to do some thinking about all those wider circles that affect the home, schools, government, business life, war and peace.

Suppose We Don't Plan? A Christian who wants a Christian home but will not join nor work in his local P.T.A. is missing one of his best chances to work toward the home he wants. If you want a Christian home and take no interest in politics, you may by your very neglect be turning over the control of your community to crooks and exposing your children to the kind of community that crooks operate. If you want a Christian home but think that government is no concern of yours, you may find your congressman voting for measures and policies that produce or hasten war, and you know very well that war can break up homes faster and more painfully than any other thing unless it is liquor. We must never forget that the devil is planning all the time, and his henchmen are planning. If Christians do not do some counter-planning, we are fools. Furthermore, and most important, we must remember that God has a plan for this world which he made and loves and has not forsaken. The Bible gives us the lines along which God's servants have always worked.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

The Methodist Church

Worship Service 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Nightengale Choir Rehearsal, Thursday, 7 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:45 p.m., Thursday. W. NOBLE GREENE, Minister. Christian Koher, S. S. Supt. Blair Laughlin, Chancel Choir Director. Mrs. Fletcher Marsh, Chancel Choir Organist. Miss Jean Connell, Nightengale Choir Director. Mrs. Harry Appenzeller, Nightengale Choir Organist. L. Paul McClamrock, Official Board Chairman. Paul Lantz, Trustee's chairm'n. Noble C. Blocker, Church Treasurer. Mrs. Orval Carr, W. S. C. S. president. Robert McClinton and Joe Bushong, Church receptionists. Willmet A. Jones, Jr., Head usher. Mrs. Vera Brinkman, Supervisor of Children.

Worship Service and Holy Communion at 10 a.m.

The sermon: "How May I Be Prepared for Holy Communion?"

The Chancel Choir will furnish special music.

Sunday School with a class for every age at 11 a.m.

Methodist Youth Fellowship meets at the Syracuse City Park at 4:30 P. M. sharp for a weiner roast. Baked beans, potato chips and apple cider will be furnished. Each young person is asked to bring his or her own weiners and buns, paper plate, napkin, cup and spoon.

First Quarterly Conference, on the group level, will be held at the New Paris Methodist Church at 7:30 P.M. All members of the Conference are urged to go.

Calvary Evangelical United Brethren Church

K. E. Fouke, pastor. Rally Day in Sunday School, Chas. Garner, Supt. at 9:45. Church Worship at 10:45 a.m. Worldwide Communion.

Choral selection: "God So Loved the World."

Sermon: "Spiritual Enthusiasm."

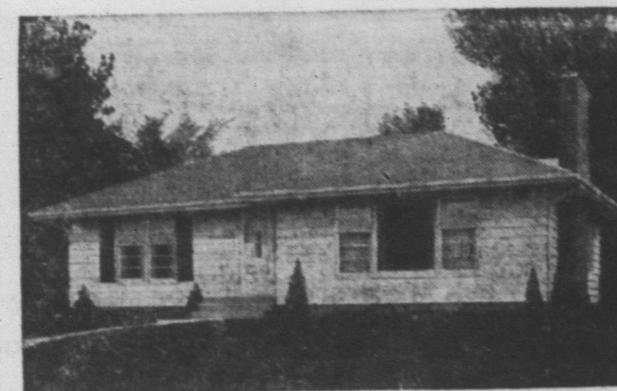
Junior League 6:00 p.m.

Mr. John Lamey, ex-alcoholic, now a representative of the Indiana Temperance League, Inc., will speak in the evening service at 7:30 p.m. Hear this man's challenging message as he tells the story of his own personal experience, rising from the gutter to victorious Christian living, through faith in God.

The fall institute of the WSWS will be held on Tuesday, October 6th, at the Elkhart Castle EUB at 9:45 a.m.

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Church of The Brethren

Worship Service 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Miss Gertrude Bleede, R.N., from Sierra Leone, Africa, will be the guest speaker.

Midweek Service on Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. Come and join our Bible study group each week. Interest and attendance has been on the increase.

Choir rehearsal at 8:30 p.m.

Of all Sunday's in the year, Rally Day affords you one of the finest opportunities to get started to Church. If you want to get a sparkle, a buoyancy, a gaiety back into your life, then be sure that you are on the Christian way. Someone has put it this way: "If we do not have that which is above us, we will soon yield to that which is around us." How true! Start to Church this Sunday!

Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Carl Sorensen, pastor.

9:45 The Church School at study with a class for you.

10:45 Divine Worship, Holy Communion — World Communion Sunday. "The Bible — The Miracle Of The Ages."

Thursday 7:30 p.m., Senior choir practice.

Friday after school, Cherub choir practice in the church.

You will always find a warm welcome in our friendly family church and receive a spiritual informing message.

The first Sunday in October is the beginning of a new church year. Classes having been promoted with new subjects for study. The church is always anxious to increase and broaden the religious education with its youth and adults. This year the Bible will be studied with the aim of a fuller knowledge of Scripture and use in daily life. The intermediate and senior group will open their class discussion with "The Background of the Bible, and the Making of the Book." Each person together with the adults are asked to bring their Bibles with them. The church school is growing in numbers and interest. These Bible discussions will enrich your spiritual knowledge.

The Junior group—with Mrs. Sorensen, will also begin with God's plan and His word, and into a deeper appreciation of what God has done, and the home love we have from our parents.

ZION CHAPEL

Quarterly conference at Indian Village Oct. 3-4. Business meeting Saturday 7:30 p.m.

Worship service with Communion Sunday 10:45 a.m. Rev. A. E. Stucker of Blissfield, Mich., in charge.

Sunday School at Zion at 9:45 a.m.

ATTEND NORTHERN CONFERENCE MEETING

Samuel W. Longenecker, Elder. Rev. Clayton J. Mock and Rev. Lovan Symensma, resident ministers.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. C. J. Mock, Adult Supt.

Vivian Kern, Elementary Supt.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Noble Bowman will bring the morning and evening meetings.

Adult Bible Study 6:45 p.m. C. B. Y. F. 7:00 p.m.

Evening Service 7:30 p.m.

Revival services will begin on October 19. Rev. J. E. Smeltzer, Akron, Ind., will be the evangelist.

Solomon's Creek E. U. B.

Rev. John Schroeder, Pastor.

Worship Service 11 a.m.

Mr. John Darr, Supt.

Worship Service 7:30 p.m.

Bible Study Wednesday, 7:30.

Burr Oak E. U. B.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Mr. Raymond Baker, Supt.

Worship Service 7:30 p.m.

CONCORD E. U. B. CHURCH

Rev. Ed Cornelius, pastor.

Mrs. Kenneth Baker, S.S. Supt.

Sunday School 9:30 A. M.

Preaching at 10:30 A. M.

Story of India Reviewed

By Goshen W. S. C. S. Member

Mrs. W. R. Westervelt of the First Methodist Church of Goshen W. S. C. S. spoke at a recent meeting of the local WSWS organization.

Mrs. Georgia Miller presented the speaker, who had chosen as her subject a review of India entitled "House Of Earth," by Dorothy Clark Wilson.

It was an appealing narrative of Ro Shan, son of Anand and wife Yusha, his childhood and through his sister's betrothal, and his own marriage and birth of a son.

The speaker told of many customs and ceremonies of India which affected the lives of Ro Shan and others and to where they eventually found that "to conquer, one must love," and finally became Christians.

Circle One was hostess, and Mrs. W. Noble Green served coffee. Refreshments of gingerbread with whipped cream, salted nuts and mints were served.

Smallest Republic

San Marino, the oldest and smallest republic in the world, is about one-tenth the size of New York City. It is surrounded by Italy.

The Rev. Kenneth Foulke of Calvary E. U. B. Church had charge of afternoon devotions using "For their sake, I sanctify myself" as his subject.

The installation of officers was conducted by Mrs. Gallatin.

Reports were given by the various committees.

The memorial services conduct

During the business session the following officers were elected:

President, Mrs. J. H. Whiteman of Winona, who previously served the county as president from 1936 to 1944; vice-president, Miss Margaret Wertz, Winona; Corresponding secretary, Mrs. Lulu Snellenberger, Warsaw; treasurer, Mrs. S. A. Bauer, Syracuse; recording secretary, Mrs. Glen Morehead, Milford; chorister, Mrs. Eston B. Clayton, Syracuse; pianist, Mrs. Walter Hunter, Leesburg; L. T. L. director, Mrs. Barbara Popenfoose, Leesburg; and Y. T. C. director, Mrs. Joe Barrett, Warsaw.

At noon a co-operative dinner was served.

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