

The Farmington Enterprise

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EDITORIALS:

It's Our Opinion

The Christmas Story . . .

in all its simplicity and beauty has been told over and over again for thousands of years and yet with each passing season it seems to become more full and significant.

The story of the birth of Christ with its joy, its gifts and its promise lives in the hearts of all Christians today as it will live for thousands of years to come. Here is the true spirit of Christmas told in word and song from one corner of this earth to the other. From a faint but sturdy light it has grown to a magnificent beacon, lighting the way to new hope and faith.

Indifference to our fellowmen, the magnitude of our worldly problems, hatreds and disbeliefs seem to fade before the words and music of this beautiful story. We look with love and happiness upon our community and the world. We lose our callous shell and join together one and all in singing praises to the new born King. We happily, yes even eagerly, lend a hand in helping our less fortunate neighbors so that all may have real reason for rejoicing.

How great, how moving can a story be? We have had many great authors and many great stories. They have moved nations and peoples . . . they have incited conflict, inspired strength and given comfort. But none have reached into man's soul and transformed his spirit as thoroughly or as effectively as this simple and beautiful Christmas Story.

It is not only our greatest story . . . it is our greatest hope for universal Peace On Earth, Good Will to All Men!

This Year's Christmas . . .

is once again sobered by the realization of the Korean conflict and the general tension throughout the world. As a result of these conditions, many Americans are spending Christmas in remote corners of the world far from their homes and families.

As in the years gone by we are once again engaged in a major crusade against those who neither believe nor want anyone else to believe in the spirit of Christmas and what it stands for. They are afraid of the power and strength of this faith. They believe that they can destroy it forever and substitute in its place a false and materialistic symbol of despotism. It has been tried many times before and has always failed and it will fail again.

A spirit which has grown and flourished through thousands of years can not be destroyed overnight. It is more than mere words on a sheet of paper or musical notes from an organ . . . it is a faith that lives in men's hearts. It is a belief that overshadows all wild dreams of world conquest and enslavement.

Tonight Americans are standing on the outposts of freedom in defense of the Spirit of Christmas. They, like all of us, are celebrating the birth of Christ and are finding new strength and courage in its meaning. The right for man to believe, to have faith, to be free, will live just as the story of Christmas has lived — now and forever.

Farmington Can Be Proud . . .

of the many service and civic organizations which are doing so much this year to insure a real Christmas for everyone.

For the past several weeks we have received an ever-increasing number of reports about groups and organizations contributing to needy families of the community. Some are donating badly needed food and clothing, others are staging Christmas parties for less fortunate youngsters, while others are taking gifts to hospitals and children's homes.

It is this wonderful spirit of giving and of helping others that makes Christmas really worth while. It is also this same spirit that makes us proud of the people who are our neighbors, and of the community which we all like to call our own.

GO TO
CHURCH
THIS WEEK

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
2600 Grand River Avenue
Early Service, 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Late Service, 11 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Middlebelt at Eight Mile Road
Sunday School 9:40 a.m., nursery to senior departments.
Divine services at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.

Lutheran Hour broadcast at 8:30 p.m. Sunday over CKLW and at 3:30 p.m. on WXYZ.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
Grand River and Warner Avenues
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning worship, 11:15 a.m.
Youth Fellowship, 6:30 p.m.

LIVONIA METHODIST CHURCH
W. 7 Mile, E. of Farmington Rd.
9:30 a.m., Church School.
10:45 a.m., Morning Worship.
10:45 a.m., Nursery, Kindergarten and primary Sunday School.
W. S. C. S. on second and fourth Thursday of each month at 1 p.m.

FARMINGTON ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Grand River at Middlebelt
Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service, 7:30 p.m.
Friday Prayer Service, 7:45 p.m.
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Young People's meeting.

CLARENCEVILLE METHODIST CHURCH
Cambridge and Grand River
10:00 a.m., large, enthusiastic Sunday School.

11:15 a.m., the Morning Worship.
6:30 p.m., the Intermediate Youth Fellowship, the Wesley Adult Fellowship.
7:30 p.m., the Evening Service.
7:45 p.m., every Wednesday evening, the Prayer Service.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST
Morning Worship at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School at 11:00 a.m.
Youth Fellowship at 6:30 p.m.
Evening Service at 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Midweek Services at 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Senior choir rehearsal at 8:30 p.m.

WEST POINT PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST
Bible Study at 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Prayer Meeting, 8 p.m.

SALEM EVANGELICAL CHURCH
A nursery department is maintained during the Morning worship.

Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m.
Church School, 11:15 a.m.
Youth Fellowship, Sunday evenings.

FOREST HILLS UNITED MISSIONARY CHURCH
Stanbury and 12 Mile Roads
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Evening Service, 7:30 p.m.
Youth Fellowship, 6:45 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service, at 8 p.m.

OUR LADY OF GORROWS
Sunday Masses: 7:00, 8:30, 9:45, 11:15 and 12:30.
Holy Day Masses: 5:30, 7:00, 8:00 and 9:00.
Daily Masses: 8:30 and 8:00.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
Grand River at Oxford
Sabbath School 9:30 a.m. Saturday.
Church 11:00 a.m. Saturday.
8 p.m. Wednesday, prayer meeting.

"Faith for Today" telecast 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Channel 7.
"Voice of Prophecy" WXYZ Sunday 9:30 a.m., CKLW Sunday 10:30 a.m.

SOUTHFIELD COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2122 Indian Road
10:00 a.m. Bible School.
11:15 a.m. Worship.
Nursery provided.
7:30 p.m. Evening Prayer.
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Prayer Fellowship.
Five Youth Clubs weekly.
For free transportation phone SO. 5872.

CHURCH OF GOD
20341 Shiloh at Middlebelt
10 a.m. Sunday School.
11 a.m. Morning Worship.
8 a.m. Evangelistic Service.
8 p.m. Wednesday, Hour of Prayer.
8 p.m. Saturday, Young Peoples Service.

ORCHARD METHODIST CHURCH
13 Mile Road at Greening
10:00 a.m. Church School.
11:00 a.m. Christmas Worship Service.
Sermon theme: "The Unbelieved Report".
6:00 p.m. Christmas program and treat.

NOVI BAPTIST CHURCH
10:30, Morning Worship service.
Special music by the choir. Illustrated children's message.
11:30, Sunday School: Bible study in classes; classes for all ages. During Sunday School hear the Junior Choir will practice.
7:30, Evening Worship service.

Man With a Mission!



Farmington Area Residents Invited To Join In Citizens League Program

Reasons for existence of a citizens league in Oakland County are outlined in a brochure just published by the Oakland County Citizens League, non-partisan county-wide organization with headquarters in Pontiac. Copies of the new brochure are being distributed throughout the county to service clubs, civic organizations and groups.

Under the title of "George Can't Do It Alone . . . Neither Can You," the leaflet states that the Oakland Citizens League was founded in 1937 "to do a job for you and other citizens of Oakland County who can't individually do much about the quality of government," but collectively can assure that voters have better knowledge of candidates and issues as well as problems.

The brochure outlines activities of the League, such as the current study being made of the Southern Oakland County garbage and sewage disposal problems, transportation and parking problems, investigations into over-crowding voting precinct and school district lines, and the annual meeting of the League, which is held in the County Courthouse. It also lists the qualifications of candidates for public office at all elections involving county or state officials.

The Oakland Citizens League has two fact-finding organizations, the Citizens Research Council and the Citizens Research Council of Michigan. The Citizens Research Council of Michigan investigates all levels of government and is closely associated with other groups doing governmental research.

Currently, the Citizens League has embarked on a project to determine qualifications for county officers and establish a set of standards against which future candidates for office will be screened, in order to obtain better men in public office.

The new brochure outlines how the Citizens League functions and contains an invitation for citizens to participate in its program. Copies may be obtained through the Oakland Citizens League headquarters, 503 Community Bank Building, Pontiac, Michigan.

FREE WILL BAPTIST
Grand River at Middlebelt
10:00 a.m., Sunday School.
11:00 a.m., Morning Worship.
7:30 p.m., Evening Service.
7:30 p.m., Thursday, prayer service.

MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Services at the Middlebelt School
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Youth meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Mid-week prayer service in the home of the Pastor at 21996 Tullane Thursday at 8:00 p.m.

Gaylord Baptist Church
19188 Gaylord Road
Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11:15 a.m.
B. Y. F., 6 p.m.
Evening Service, 7:30 p.m.

Season's Greetings

The Christmas greetings we send to you, hold every good wish for a Joyous Holiday Season.

SALEM EVANGELICAL and REFORMED CHURCH
OAKLAND AVENUE at GRAND RIVER
FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN



By GENE ALLEMAN

Some 22 months ago a nervous and confused young father touched a match to a pile of maps and started the \$1,500,000 state building fire.

Michigan's state government is just beginning to recover from the holocaust.

In the last few weeks the Insurance, Agriculture and Public Service departments have moved into the top floor of the building, and by January the top three floors will be occupied.

The young father is in Jackson State prison, divorced from his young wife and baby. It all began February 8, 1951, on a cold, quiet afternoon. Richard C. Shay, a plump, smooth-faced minor employee of the state highway department, was worried about his draft status. Shay, then 19 years old, had a pretty blond wife and a seven-months old daughter.

"I was afraid to go to war," he said afterwards. "I just didn't see any reason for spending two years in training."

He planned to start a small fire where he worked on the mezzanine floor and later confess to it. "I thought if I admitted it I'd be placed on probation and wouldn't have to go in the army," he told detectives.

The young man touched off a map in one of the storage bins of the highway department. Then he went to lunch.

Fifteen firemen were injured in the spectacular blaze and Shay's match set of a chain reaction that partially paralyzed state government.

Most of the 1,300 employees were at lunch when the fire began. They returned to pick up papers, typewriters and anything else they could lay hands on and retreat from the smoking building.

The fire didn't look like smoke at first, just a few spirals of smoke from the mezzanine floor — which actually was a floor between floors. Before it was over fire rages from Flint, Jackson, Battle Creek and Grand Rapids had answered emergency calls.

"We could smell the rubber burning on our coats," a fireman said. "We could stand the smoke but not the terrific heat."

Millions of gallons of water were poured into the building to cascade from the top floors to the basement, causing untold damage (\$250,000 alone to the state library on the ground floor). Two days later the fire was declared under control but for five days (Continued on Page Three)

Looking Back Through
The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (December 22, 1927)

Christmas carols as of old will be heard in Farmington on Saturday evening. Girl Scouts of Farmington will devote the hour between six and seven o'clock to going through the residential section singing Christmas songs. Residents who wish the Girl Scouts to call for them are asked to place a candle in their window.

New Minister
Rev. A. A. Schoen preached his first sermon at the Salem Evangelical Church in Farmington last Sunday. The church was filled and Rev. Schoen's sermon was very well received. The church has recently purchased a large pipe organ, which will be installed, it is hoped, by the time Rev. Schoen takes active charge of the Farmington church.

Remember This Team?
The champions of old will meet the championship aspirants of today next Tuesday night on the basketball floor in the Farmington High School gym. On that night the championship basketball team of 1921, probably the best Farmington ever had, will gather for another game. Members of the team are: forwards, Donald Banfield, Russell Catterman and Lester Harger; guards, Fraser Staman, Harry Catterman and Clinton Treadway; centers, Dallas Harger and Armin Roth.

TEN YEARS AGO (December 24, 1942)
Christmas Party
The effects of gasoline rationing are carrying far, even to the annual Kiddies Christmas party, which the Goodfellows put on at the Civic Theatre. About 200 children were in attendance at the party Tuesday afternoon, rather than the overflowing crowd that has attended in other years.

In Service
Auxiliary Barbara Ryall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Ryall of Farmington, was a member of the first company to leave the Staging Area at the First Women's Army Auxiliary Corps Training Center for service in the field.

Congress Delegate
Joyce Hart, daughter of Mrs. Jennie Hart of Vista Villa Farms, Farmington, a junior at Marygrove College, will attend the Catholic Collegiate Congress in Cincinnati December 27 through December 30 as representative of the Detroit region.

FIVE YEARS AGO (December 23, 1947)
House To House
The City of Farmington will have door-to-door mail delivery beginning July 1, 1948, it was announced by Norman C. Lee, Farmington Postmaster. Two mailmen will be added to cover the routes.

Falcon Lost
Farmington's Falcon quintet journeyed to Wallied Lake Friday night only to drop a heart-breaker 27 to 23 in the closing minute of play after leading the Wallied Lake five all through the game. Ernie Tyler, Falcon center, was high point man for Farmington with nine points.

Babson's Outlook
Roger W. Babson's "Business and Financial Outlook for 1948" will appear in the Thursday, January 1, issue of The Farmington Enterprise. Babson's score for 1947 was 93 per cent accurate.

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Joy... Peace...
at Christmas

Once more we pause to welcome to our hearts the spirit of this blessed season.

May it renew the great warmth of reverent love in the hearts of all men, and may this Christmas Day herald the fulfillment of all our prayers for joy and peace to all our brothers throughout the world.

FARMINGTON DAIRY
PHONE 0135