

# Come to CHURCH on CHRISTMAS

## Covenant on Open Occupancy Slated for Livonia Congregation.

Early next year members of congregation of Livonia's St. Paul's United Presbyterian Church will be confronted with an individual decision of conscience when the Church and Society Committee distributes a Covenant of Open Occupancy with the Church Bulletin.

Mr. Thomas W. Estes, Associate Pastor of the Church, said that the Covenant is part of an educational program on the question of racial opportunity which was begun about eight months ago by the Church Session.

The Session is the governing body of the Church and the Church and Society Committee is a standing committee of the organ.

Members of the Committee in stating the reasons for such a Covenant at St. Paul's state in a recent issue of the "St. Paul's Spotlight":

"Housing is the key to racial integration. There is a crucial shortage of decent housing for Negroes . . . Why is a Covenant necessary in our communities? We are segregated, not in theory but in practice. The Negroes of our cities like Detroit are concentrated in ghettos. As they rise socially and economically they seek to escape the ghettos. The only place to go is into the white suburbs which are engaged in a last-ditch fight to stop them.

"The battle for justice must be fought everywhere.

"If we, at St. Paul's, with our high educational standards and our proven Christian concern for our communities, cannot do something constructive about the situation, who can?"

Members of the Committee are: Elder Robert Beckwith, Orville Searcy, Robert Turner, Marilyn Shaw, Phil Mann, Jr., Robert Dresher, Donald Harris and William Warren.

At the close of the news article, which the Committee says was written "with the hope that it will be of help to you in facing this crucial issue — to stimulate your thinking and, frankly, to unsettle your conscience as a Christian," the Committee offers this thought:

"Our Session has approved a new Covenant of Open Occupancy and has referred it to our Church and Society Committee for distribution. The Session, in doing so, is

urging members of our Church to subscribe to the Covenant.

"The Session speaks as the ruling body of the Church, but in this instance it speaks for our Church as a corporate body and not necessarily for the individual Church member. The action of the Session is binding upon the individual only in so far as it is right and just and can move the individual conscience."

### Lutheran Study of Youth Slated for Area Next Year

A study of Lutheran youth of high school age in Metropolitan Detroit will be made during February, 1965, according to an announcement by Dr. Ronald L. Johnstone, of the Concordia Seminary Research Center in St. Louis. Dr. Johnstone is the director of research and this study's project director.

The research will be conducted in cooperation with the Detroit Lutheran High School Association, the Lutheran Central Detroit, the Detroit Lutheran Pastoral Conference, and the Michigan District's Board of Education. The project has been made possible through a fraternal benevolence grant from Aid Association for Lutherans, Appleton, Wis.

The Detroit youth study is the second of a two-stage study begun in St. Louis. The data for the St. Louis phase was gathered in early 1964, and the results are being analyzed at the present time, Dr. Johnstone stated.

The two sets of data he said, will provide basic information which members of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod can use in evaluating the present impact of their system of secondary education as well as in planning for future strategies in the sphere of the Christian education of their youth.

Dr. Johnstone said the purpose of the study will be to cover the qualities needed to help Lutheran youth to develop into effective members of the church and society, and to assess the factors of home, congregation, and the Lutheran elementary and high school in producing knowledgeable and committed Christian young people.

He said that approximately 250 Lutheran students, selected at random from Lutheran and public high schools in the Detroit area, will be interviewed by a staff of experienced, professionally trained interviewers.

The results should reveal a fairly inclusive picture of the attitudes, behavior, and concerns of Lutheran youth. More important, Dr. Johnstone stated, we will be able to trace sources of different-

### Lutheran Clergy Send Greetings To Service Men

In the United States, Christmas is celebrated in many ways. Sending greeting cards to friends and loved ones at this time of year has become a tradition.

One widely-used card has special meaning. It is sent by Lutheran ministers over the nation to their church members in military service far from home. For the past eleven years the practice has been carried on with more than 800,000 of the annually designed Christmas Cards sent out.

Made available by the National Lutheran Council's Division of Service to Military Personnel, these cards are actually 12-page booklets. They not only tell the story of Christmas, but also enable the servicemen to receive them to have their own private Christmas devotionals wherever they may be stationed.

Strangely illustrated, the pages of this year's card contain such features as the story in words and pictures of the birth of Christ, lyrics and music to "Silent Night" and "O Little Town of Bethlehem," and scenes of a modern Christmas as well as prayers. On one page pastors write personal messages to their members in uniform.

This year, according to the National Lutheran Council, more than 70,000 of these Christmas cards will be mailed.

### Christmas Events

History sometimes adds its drama to the secular Christmas Day in 1492, Columbus, en route to the New World, lost one of his ships, the Santa Maria. On Christmas, 1863, Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. For Christmas in 1943 in Germany, Hitler issued a printed prayer asking for God's blessing and for courage "to do right and never to sway or shrink from any power or danger."



"Hark! The herald angels sing. Glory to the newborn king!" Young voices raised in song, young faces alight with the wonder of Christmas recall to all of us the manifold joys and blessings of this holy time. May the spirit of Christmas fill your heart and enrich your life, always.

## Was Star of Bethlehem Real? Astronomers Say It Was Planets

Was the Star of Bethlehem a real star? Probably not, according to an article prepared by astronomers of the Adler Planetarium and Astronomical Museum in Chicago and published in Christianity Today.

Most probably it was an unusual grouping of planets, the article says.

Astronomers note that on December 4 of 7 B. C. Jupiter crossed Saturn three times within a few months. And in the spring of 6 B. C. Venus crossed both planets, "forming another close and unusual grouping in the sky."

Significantly, the consensus of historians is that Jesus was probably born in 7 or 6 B.C.

"Thus the Wise Men saw a star and, to them, very significant events taking place in the House of the Hebrews (as the ancient astrologers called it)," the article declares, "and suggests that the unusual event in 6 B. C. 'may well have' started the Magi on their way."

"But there is another possibility, or perhaps it would be better to say another point of view. Many of us believe the Star to have been a miracle, and thus utterly incapable of explanation. The important thing is not the explanation of the Star but the Christmas story itself, and the simple truths it presents."

The article was originally issued in pamphlet form by the Adler Planetarium and Astronomical Museum.

## Special Film To Be Shown At Assembly

John Barton, presiding minister of the Livonia Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, has announced that a free two-hour color film will be presented Saturday, Dec. 26 as a special feature of the three-day assembly of Jehovah's Witnesses scheduled for this weekend at the Franklin High School Auditorium.

The film is entitled "Proclaiming Everlasting Good News Around the World."

According to Mr. Barton, the film was produced by the Watch Tower Society as part of the around-the-world series of assemblies held from June 30 to Sept. 8, 1963. More than 580,000 persons from 161 lands attended the 24 conventions in principal cities of the U.S.A., Europe, Asia, Australia and the Islands of the Pacific.

"This film is not just a travelogue," Mr. Barton said, "it's theme draws on the basic influence of work on our modern civilization that are undermining the morale and spirituality of people in all nations and all walks of life."

The film will be shown at 7 p.m. Franklin High School is located on Joy Road just east of Merriam in Livonia.

## Christian Healing Theme of Services

Christian healing will be the theme of a Bible Lesson to be presented in all Christian Science churches this Sunday. The subject is "Christian Science."

Included in the Scriptural readings are the words of Jesus: "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14:26).

Mr. Burke, a native of Toronto, Ontario, was involved in the conflict concerning the creation of the nation of Israel.

The small minds that run in the same channel often get stranded at the same bar.

## Harold Burke To Speak Dec. 25

Mr. Harold S. Burke, a staff member of the Jewish Welfare Federation, will speak to the Livonia Jewish Congregation Friday, Dec. 25.

He will speak on the Current Developments in Israel.

The services will begin at 8:30 p.m. at the Synagogue building on Seven Mile Road at the corner of Osburn in Livonia.

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**EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
14560 Merriam Rd.  
Rev. William Nelson, 246-254  
8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service  
Special music at each service

**Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
30650 West 6 Mile Rd.  
—Livonia—  
Christmas Eve—Dec. 24  
8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service  
11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service with Holy Communion  
Christmas Day—Dec. 25  
10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion  
Special music at each service

**FAITH LUTHERAN Church and School**  
(Missouri Synod)  
at 30000 S. Mile Road,  
West of Middlebelt  
GL 1-7249  
The Rev. Ronald C. Stenrook  
Pastor  
December 24  
7:00 p.m.—Christmas Eve  
Family Service with  
Parish School  
11:00 a.m.—Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service with  
Communion Service  
December 25  
10:00 a.m.—Christmas Day  
Festival Worship Service  
December 31  
7:30 p.m.—New Year's  
Eve Communion Service

**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
16360 HUBBARD RD. (between 5 & 6 Mile)  
CHRISTMAS/TIDE SERVICES  
Christmas Eve—December 24th  
7:30 p.m.—Family Festival Holy Eucharist  
(Music by the Youth Choir)  
11:30 p.m.—Midnight Festival Holy Eucharist  
(Music by the Chancel Choir)  
Christmas Day—Dec. 25  
11:00 a.m.—Festival Holy Eucharist  
(Music by Choristers and Boys Choir)  
"Unto us this day is born a Saviour—  
O come let us adore Him"

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RISEN CHRIST**  
Missouri Synod  
41233 Ann Arbor Trail  
Plymouth 453-5252  
Rev. David F. Remberg  
Dec. 24th, 7 p.m.—Christ-  
mas Eve—Candle Light  
Carol Service  
Dec. 25th, 10 a.m.—Fest-  
ival Worship Service  
Dec. 27th, 9:30 a.m.—Sun-  
day School and Bible  
Class  
Dec. 27th, 10:45 a.m.—  
Worship Service.

**ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL**  
West Outer Drive at Lehar  
CHRISTMAS SERVICES  
Christmas Eve—7:30 and 11:00 P.M.  
Christmas Day—10:00 A.M.  
December 26—10:00 A.M.—Communion  
December 27—8:00, 9:30 and 11:15 A.M.  
New Year's Eve—10:00 A.M.

**FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH**  
701 Church Street  
Dr. Henry J. Welch, Minister  
Rev. Edward W. Cestmer, Associate Minister  
Thursday, 24th—7:45 p.m. Communion  
December 25—10:45 a.m. Communion  
Sunday, Dec. 27—8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship and Church  
Tuesday, Dec. 28—6:00 p.m. Homecoming for Graduates  
January 3—6:30 p.m. 12th Night Service

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**  
39020 Five Mile Rd.  
464-0211, 464-0621  
Rev. W. Koening  
Dec. 24 7:00 p.m.—Chil-  
dren's Christmas  
Eve Service  
11:00 p.m. Christ-  
mas Eve Candle-  
light Service  
Dec. 25 9:30 a.m. Christ-  
mas Eve Festival with  
Holy Communion  
Dec. 31 7:30 p.m. Worship  
with Holy Communion

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
574 Sheldon Road  
Plymouth  
Christmas Eve Services  
7 P.M.—Carols and Fam-  
ily Eucharist  
11 P.M.—Carols and Holy  
Eucharist  
Christmas Day Service  
10 A.M.—Holy Communion

**CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH LCA**  
9300 Farmington Rd.  
Rev. Kenneth D. Larkin  
7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Festival Service  
11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service  
10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Festival Service

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**  
12 Mile at Farmington  
CHRISTMAS EVE  
Candlelight Service  
7:30 p.m.  
MID-NIGHT SERVICE  
11:30 p.m.  
CHRISTMAS DAY  
10:30 a.m.  
Reverend Carl Mehl

**GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH OF LIVONIA**  
Sunday School, 10 a.m. Morn-  
ing Worship, 11 a.m. Youth  
Meeting, 6 p.m. Evening Ser-  
vice, 7 p.m. Midweek Service.  
Meetings in Adams Elementary  
School, 2200 Livonia, Livonia  
REV. TROY B. HULL, Pastor

**ST. ELIZABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
26431 W. Chicago, Redford  
Rev. R. L. Morell, Vicar  
KE 7-1182  
Thursday, December 24  
9:00 p.m.—Christmas Eve  
Choral Communion with  
Hallelujah Chorus by  
Choir.  
Friday, December 25  
10:00 a.m.—Festival Christ  
Communion  
Sunday, December 27  
8:00 a.m.—Holy Commu-  
nion.  
11:00 a.m.—Family Com-  
munion Service  
Presentation of Crosses

**WISCONSIN SYNOD LUTHERAN CHURCHES**  
"We invite you to join us in our festival  
worship of the Christchild"  
**LOLA PARK EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
14750 Kinloch (5 bks. So. of Fenkell)  
Redford Township, Michigan KE 2-8655  
Edw. Zell, Pastor  
December 24—7:30 p.m. Annual Christmas Eve Children's Service  
December 25—10:00 a.m. "O Come Let Us Adore Him"  
December 27—8:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Regular Worship Services  
Sunday School  
December 31—8:00 p.m. New Year's Eve Communion Service

**PEACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Merriam at West Chicago  
Livonia, Michigan GA 2-6930  
R. Mueller, Pastor  
December 24—7:00 p.m. Christian Day School Children's Service  
December 25—10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Festival Services  
December 27—8:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Regular Worship Services  
December 31—8:00 p.m. New Year's Eve Communion Service

**ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
15218 Farmington Rd. (just off Fenkell)  
Livonia, Michigan GA 1-8518  
W. Koelpin, Pastor  
December 24—7:30 p.m. Annual Christmas Eve Children's Service  
December 25—10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Festival Services  
December 31—7:30 p.m. New Year's Eve Communion Service

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
26212 W. Six Mile Rd. at Kinloch  
8 p.m.—11 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
10 p.m. 11:15 New Year's Eve Service and Holy Eucharist  
8 a.m.—11 a.m. Regular Worship Services every Sunday  
9:15 a.m. Sunday Church School.

**"Shall we not observe the Child's birth  
in His Father's house?"**