

'Back to Bible' Is Theme Of Church of Christ

By Jerry Wendt, Church Editor

They were a hunted, persecuted group. Their leader had been put to a horrible death. A similar fate waited in the wings for them. They had no property, no following, no protection. Yet they kept on because they believed they had a special destiny to fulfill.

They met by night, in small out of the way places, by streams, by temples, and in homes. If they saw each other in the market places, they drew close together and lifting up the hem of their long robes, they traced the outline of a fish in the sand with their fingers. Quickly the church of Christ rubbed it out before they were apprehended.

When they did meet, they discussed the meaning of the messages their leader had left them. They passed on his words to other people. Eventually all of them died the cruel death, yet their preaching as a church changed the destiny of the world.

These men were the early Christians, disciples of Christ. Their church was formed in 33 A.D. Today's Church of Christ is based on those early doctrines, and is kept as closely to the Bible as it can be.

J. Herb Dean is the minister of the Church of Christ in Meridian Rd. in Livonia. He does not use the title of Rev. or pastor because it cannot be found in the Bible and the Bible dominates both his life and the life of his church.

Dean is a happy man and he radiates the joyousness of a man who has found his niche in life. There are the usual pressures and distinctions with his job but he long ago found a solution. "I believe that God is the one person I am responsible to," said Herb Dean. "When I am worried or upset, I ask myself if I have done the will of God for me. If the answer is in the affirmative, I turn the matter over to him."

The Observer was interested in the fact that the Church of Christ has no governing council

and no denomination, and interviewed Dean on the subject.

He willingly traced the history of the Church of Christ for us. "Nearly all the problems in the church are man-made," said Dean. "Every split in the Church has come about through council discussions, or differences in administration."

"The various reforms were wrought some changes," he continued, "but the big movement began in 1809 in the State of West Virginia, by Thomas Campbell and his illustrious son, Alexander Campbell. They contended that nothing should be added to the Bible as a matter of doctrine which is not as old as the New Testament."

These men did not advocate the starting of a new church, but rather a return to Christ's church as described in the Bible. Members of the Church of Christ do not excommunicate themselves as a new church but rather the whole aim is to reproduce in contemporary times the church originally established on Pentecost, A.D. 30.

The Bible is the stronghold of the Church. They do not have a central governing body, or a council. Nor do they have sermons prepared by men. Each minister draws directly from the Bible, and states whatever comments he may feel are pertinent. The churches of Christ are autonomous.

A cappella singing is the only music used in the worship. This singing, unaccompanied by mechanical instruments of music, conforms to the music used in apostolic church for several centuries thereafter.

As we were leaving, J. Herb Dean gave us one of the best quotes we have ever had. "The word of Christ made enduring Christians out of men nearly 2,000 years ago when they had to face crucifixion, burning, and burning. Why can't the same teachings make good Christians today?" Why not indeed?

Thoughts from here and there—a fact a day keeps ignorance away.



J. HERB DEAN, minister of Church of Christ in Livonia, reads his Bible which is the cornerstone of his church.

Plymouth Church Begins Lenten Services Feb. 23

The First United Presbyterian Church, 701 Church Street, Plymouth will conduct the annual Lenten School of Religion on its Wednesday evenings during Lent, beginning tonight, Feb. 23. Following a pot luck supper, adults will join one of three discussion groups as follows.

"The Arts and the Christian Faith"—Led by Dr. Henry Welch, Pastor of the First United Presbyterian Church and a member of the church choir will present a special program of Lenten music under the direction of Fred Nelson.

Thomas T. Adams assisted by Dr. John Waser, Rev. William Whitledge, Dr. N. Patrick Murray and Rev. Peter Lindell, ministers from the metropolitan Detroit area. In these classes the leaders will bring the thoughts of the ministry on the meaning of the Confession of Faith for church members.

On the sixth Wednesday of the series, March 30, the church choir will present a special program of Lenten music under the direction of Fred Nelson.

"The Secular City"—A panel discussion will be presented by a sermon by the Rev. Richard Markham, on Friday evening, Feb. 25.

Rev. Markham has served as minister of Farmington Methodist Church for the past eight years, and prior to that time for eight years in Algonac. A graduate of Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill., he was a chemical engineer before deciding to enter the ministry.

World Day of Prayer Will Be February 25

Church members in Garden City will join their counterparts across the nation and around the world Feb. 25, in the annual observance of World Day of Prayer.

World Day of Prayer is 80 years old and is observed in 125 countries and on six continents around the globe. It is sponsored in the U.S. by the United Church Women's Council. It is always observed the first Friday in Lent. The First Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman Rd., will be host church this year. Four area churches will take part in the service: Garden City Presbyterian, Good Hope Lutheran, First Baptist, and the First Methodist Church.

Mrs. Willoughby from Mt. Olivet Methodist Church in Dearborn will be guest speaker of the evening. Mrs. Claude Byrum of Garden City, chairman of the United Church Women's Council, invites all interested to attend this special service.

Methodist Church To View Film Feb. 23

As Wednesday Service will be held in the sanctuary of Newburg Methodist Church in Livonia on Feb. 23 at 8 p.m. Special music will be provided by the Church choir and a solo will be given by Clyde Fink.

Mrs. Wilfred Trembath will speak on the topic, "What Is Ash Wednesday?"

Immediately following the service, Holy Communion and a Sacrificial Meal will be given in the fellowship room of the church. During the Holy Communion, a film "The Lord Is Risen" will be shown to the children in the sanctuary.

Observer CHURCH PAGE

Page 6-B (F, GCN 4-B) February 23, 1968

Plymouth Churches Observe World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer will be observed Friday, Feb. 23 at the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Schoolcraft at Brainerd Rd., Plymouth at 1:30 p.m.

The 1968 service, based on the international theme: "You are My Witnesses" was prepared by women of the church of Scotland. Observed in 125 countries each year on the first Friday in Lent, World Day of Prayer is truly worldwide in character. For 80 years this unique day of prayer for peace and brotherhood has united women across personal, national and racial barriers in a solemn act of rededication to their common mission throughout the world.

There will be no children's service this year. Men also are invited to attend. The following local churches sponsor the United Church Women in Plymouth: Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; Assembly of God; Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Epiphany; First Baptist, First Methodist; First United Presbyterian; Salvation Army; St. John's Episcopal; Mrs. Blaine Little is President of United Church Women. Mrs. Gerald Fitch is chairman of World Day of Prayer.

Good Counsel Holds Evening of Reflection

The Christian Family Movement hosted the parishioners of Our Lady of Good Counsel at an evening of reflection on Friday, Feb. 23. Refreshments were served later in the Church Hall. The evening began with an 8 p.m. Mass given by Father Leonard R. Poiry, SS, from St. John's Ministry.

Over 50 people were in attendance. Following the service Father Poiry spoke to the group on "The Church in the Modern World," bringing God and the Church into our everyday lives; showing our Christianity by our actions and related to the statement by Joan of Arc, "that God and the Church are the same."

GOLDEN RULE FUNERAL SERVICE

The wisest choice at a time when understanding attention is the only answer.

THE HARRY J. WILL Funeral Home, Inc. 25450 Plymouth Road KE 5-3722 4412 Livernois Avenue TA 5-5757

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH of Plymouth Sunday School—9:45 Worship Service—11:00 Services in Massie Temple Bldg., 730 Penniman Rev. Keith Somers, Pastor GL 3-0279

GRACE BAPTIST of LIVONIA 3540 Lyndon between Intersect Midfield Blvd. Rev. Troy S. Hull Church 425-0131 Parish 425-0234 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship: 7:00 p.m. Midweek Service: Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH of Farmington 33112 Grand River GR 4-4372 Worship Church School, 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Rev. Richard T. Markham Rev. David R. Stone

ST. ELIZABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 3441 W. Chalmers Southfield Rev. R. L. & J. A. Viner RE 7-7182 Sunday Service 11 a.m. Morning Prayer 11 a.m. Church School Nursery and Kindergarten VISITORS WELCOME

ST. MARK'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 26701 Jay Road Worship and Church School 9:30 and 11:00 Youth Program 5 p.m. Rev. David L. VanWinkle CR 6-9240

ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 27410 Five Mile Road GA 2-1470 "Everyone Welcome" Rev. William P. Whitledge Rev. Arnold Dorsett Rev. Thomas W. Egan Worship and Church School 9:30 and 11:00

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 9 and 11 Richard C. Dunkelberger, D.D., Sr. Pastor Arthur Beumler, Jr., Associate Pastor William T. Lovick, Minister of Education GARFIELD 2-6494

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 4150 E. ANN ARBOR TRAIL, PLYMOUTH, MICH. "The Church Where All The Family Attend" SERVICES: 9:45 a.m.—Sunday School Hour 10:45 a.m.—Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.—Church School 7:00 p.m.—Evening Service 7:30 p.m.—Midweek Service 7:30 p.m.—Rev. U. B. Goddard, Minister

Universalist-Unitarian Church of Farmington The Church of the Inquiring Mind Warner at Thomas to Farmington The Rev. Robert M. Edy Sunday, Church 10 a.m. Lecture and Discussion Groups 11 a.m. TOPIC: "What It Means to Be Human, II"

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH 30900 SIX MILE ROAD (East of Merriman) Methodist Episcopal Union Brotherhood Worship Services at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School at 9:30 (All ages—free care) 11:00 a.m. (Nursery thru 5 years old) Rev. John Greenleaf, Jr.—Pastor—Rev. James A. Lange 427-1286 Church Office 425-0231 425-1046

CHURCH OF THE SAVIOR Reformed Church in America Daniel Wood Memorial Church 37505 Livonia 425-0300 Church Office 425-0300 425-0301

Worship Here AT THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS WEEK

The Northwest Area's Most Complete Church Directory

NANKIN HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH 25301 Five Mile Road Rev. Arnold H. Jahn, Pastor Office 16447 Yale PH 3-45418 Worship (Nursery Care) 11:00 A.M.

OPEN BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH Invites You to Come Open Your Bible With Us Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morning Service 11:00 a.m. Evening Service 7:00 p.m. Community Holding Service at the First United Presbyterian Church, 701 Church St., Farmington. Rev. Fred Schneider, Pastor Home Phone FA 4-0032

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RISEN CHRIST 41233 Ann Arbor Trail Pastor: Dr. J. A. Schumacher 425-3352 8:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:45 a.m. Christian Education Sunday School and Teenage of Allen School, Hogarty Rd. Adult Class of Chapel 11:00 a.m. Worship Service Nursery provided.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH 14350 WEDMER Looking for a Friendly Church? Pastor Rev. C. Breira KE 4-8744 8:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Nursery for all pre-school children

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN Church and School 14350 Wedmer Middlebelt at S. Mile Rd. 474-0475 W. P. Rutkowski, Pastor J. Weithers, Principal Services 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. (Nursery Provided) Sunday School and Bible Classes 9:40 a.m.

TRINITY CHURCH BAPTIST 14800 Middlebelt just South of S. Mile Road 9:30 a.m.—Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.—Youth Fellowship, 6:00 p.m.—Family Worship Hour, 7:15 p.m.—Worship Fellowship, "Nursery at All Services." Rev. Lyle M. Adams, Pastor NE 3-4473

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 16340 Hubbard Rd. 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Sermon 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Sermon (Holy Communion 2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month) 11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Sermon (Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the Month) Church School for Nursery through 8th Grade at 9:30 and 11 a.m. Services.

MT. HOPE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 30330 Schoolcraft Rd. 425-7480 Sunday Services at Roosevelt Elementary School Lyndon & Henry Ruff Roads Adult & Senior 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Minister Rev. Robert T. Simpson

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH United Church of Christ 34075 W. SEVEN MILE ROAD, LIVONIA James W. Schaefer, Minister Worship Services—9:30 & 11:00 a.m. Church School—9:30 & 11:00 a.m. 68-0379

TRINITY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN 37300 W. Chicago at Intersect Rd. Rev. Wm. Harold Garner 425-4788 Church School (all ages) 9:45 A.M. Worship (Nursery Care) 11:00 A.M.

CLARENCEVILLE METHODIST CHURCH 20315 Middlebelt Livonia Morning Worship—10 a.m. Sunday School—10:15 a.m. Youth Groups—4:30 p.m. Evening Service—7:30 p.m. The Midweek Prayer Service 7:30 p.m. Rev. Elmer A. Jones Pastor 21540 Collingham Farm.

KENWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST 19481 Middlebelt Rd., Livonia Phone 424-0248 Sunday Bible School—9:45 a.m. Morning Service—11:00 a.m. Evening Service—7:30 p.m. Youth Groups—7:30 p.m. Wed. Youth Group 8:30 p.m. Leo Bellini, Minister Pastorate Phone 474-7084

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH of LIVONIA (Independent Baptist) 5400 Five Mile Rd., W. 1/2 West of Farmington Rd. 427-2998 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morning Service 11:00 a.m. Youth Groups 7:30 p.m. Evening People Mitz. 8 p.m. Evening Mitz. 7:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Hour 7:30 p.m. Dr. Bert C. Kessler, Pastor 361-0833

LIVONIA BAPTIST CHURCH Affiliated with Southern Baptist Convention 22540 Schoolcraft, 2 1/2 M. E. of Farmington Rd.—425-3743 Rev. Elmer C. Paster 474-1873 Sunday School—9:45 a.m. Morning Service—10:45 a.m. Evening Service—7:30 p.m. Evening Worship Hours 7:00 p.m.

MAIN ST. BAPTIST CHURCH Affiliated with Southern Baptist Convention 5401 S. Main St., Pk. PH 423-4783 W. B. Smith, Pastor—FA 24254 Sunday School—9:45 a.m. Morning Service—10:45 a.m. Evening Service—7:30 p.m. Youth Groups—7:30 p.m. Evening People Mitz. 8 p.m. Evening Mitz. 7:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Hour 7:30 p.m. Dr. Bert C. Kessler, Pastor 361-0833

CHURCH OF GOD Plymouth & Newburgh Roads Livonia, Mich.—464-0990 Rev. J. Clifford Thor, Pastor

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL 30000 Five Mile Road, West of Middlebelt The Rev. Ronald C. Stenroos, Pastor Sunday Services, 8:35 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class at 9:50 a.m. Parish School Principal Mr. Bernard J. Geyer The church of "The Lutheran Hour" and "This is the Life"

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Sunday School—9:45 a.m. Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Rev. W. Koenig, Pastor Office Phone 464-0211

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL 13218 Farmington Rd. just South of S. Mile Rd. Livonia's First Lutheran Church Building started the cross for 85 years Sunday Services: 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class: 9:45 a.m. Rev. William A. Koenig, Pastor School Office GA 2-4111 Christmas Day School, Grades K-8

ST. TIMOTHY Presbyterian Church Meeting at Herbert Hoover School, Lyndon Road at Lafayette and Church School 10:00 a.m. Rev. Carl A. Gunderson 422-1470 464-1354

WEST UNITARIAN 41000 W. 14th Ave. Use Evergreen Road only 10:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Sermon Children's Worship 584-5423

LIVONIA CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ) Summer Schedule Church School and Worship Service at 10 a.m. Pioneer Elementary School 32123 Five Mile Road Livonia John Buritt, 425-7945 for more information

NEWBURGH METHODIST 24500 Newburgh Road Farmington Church: GA 2-0108, Sec: 425-3973 Pastor: Rev. J. A. Schumacher 425-3973 9:30 a.m. Worship Service and Church School 11:00 a.m. Worship Service and Church School thru 8th Grades.

ST. LUKE'S METHODIST CHURCH 5 Mile at Hogarty Worship Service 10:00 & 11:00 Nursery and G. & C. Classes Rev. Herman Richards 425-8491 Pastor Phone 425-0442

ORCHARD METHODIST CHURCH 30438 Farmington Road between W. 14th & 15th Mile Church: Phone 425-4544 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Rev. Frank A. Cezard

WESTLAND BAPTIST CHURCH 35375 Ann Arbor Trail (between Wagon and Newburg) Reverend R. F. DeRenzo, Pastor Pastorate Phone 425-4544 Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Sunday Evening at 7:00 Wednesday Worship 7:00 p.m.

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH of Farmington Associated with Baptist Bible Fellowship In new location 33312 Grand River Avenue Bible School 10 a.m. Morning Worship 11:15 a.m. Sunday Service 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL (MISSOURI SYNOD) 30000 Five Mile Road, West of Middlebelt The Rev. Ronald C. Stenroos, Pastor Sunday Services, 8:35 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class at 9:50 a.m. Parish School Principal Mr. Bernard J. Geyer The church of "The Lutheran Hour" and "This is the Life"

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Sunday School—9:45 a.m. Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Rev. W. Koenig, Pastor Office Phone 464-0211

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL 13218 Farmington Rd. just South of S. Mile Rd. Livonia's First Lutheran Church Building started the cross for 85 years Sunday Services: 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class: 9:45 a.m. Rev. William A. Koenig, Pastor School Office GA 2-4111 Christmas Day School, Grades K-8

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL 13218 Farmington Rd. just South of S. Mile Rd. Livonia's First Lutheran Church Building started the cross for 85 years Sunday Services: 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class: 9:45 a.m. Rev. William A. Koenig, Pastor School Office GA 2-4111 Christmas Day School, Grades K-8