

Dr. Whitledge New Presbytery Moderator

A leading Livonia Presbyterian church in the clergyman, Dr. William F. Whitledge, is the new moderator for the Presbytery Paul United Presbyterian of Detroit, fifth largest in the United States.



DR. WILLIAM WHITLEDGE

Dr. Whitledge was called in 1961 as senior minister to St. Paul, one of the largest Protestant churches in the area. In his time in the Livonia church, he has been involved steadily in Detroit Presbytery and Michigan Synod affairs, serving at some time as head of just about every major committee for both organizations.

He also has been dean of the Synod Leadership School, a training program for congregational leaders held each summer on the Alma College campus. Serving in St. Paul with two associates, the Rev. Arnold S. Dalzell and the Rev. William A. McGahey, he does the major share of the sermon-preaching and as much

pastoral calling as time permits.

Dr. Whitledge is a native of Kentucky and did his undergraduate work at Eastern University in Indiana. He also graduated from the McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago and earned a doctorate at Alma College.

He and his wife, Virginia, a Livonia school librarian, have two children. Son Bill is a senior at Bentley High School and daughter Beth is in the ninth grade at Riley Junior High.

As Detroit Presbytery moderator, Dr. Whitledge succeeds Mrs. Mary Grace Adams, elder from Grosse Pointe. The presbytery heads includes a third of the churches and half the members in Michigan.

A bit of politicking also will be his lot in May when he heads a delegation of 10 ministers and 10 laymen to the national meeting in Omaha. "Dr. Carl Howe, senior minister of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Detroit, will be a candidate for the General Assembly," Dr. Whitledge said.

"So I guess I'll be out there acting as 'party whip' and lining up votes."



Free Babysitting Is Church Youths' Christmas Gift

Five hours of free baby-sitting is the Christmas present from the Plymouth Church of the Nazarene are offering their church and community Saturday, Dec. 9, from 5 to 10 p.m.

Parents who want to get away to do Christmas shopping are invited to leave children of all ages at the church, located at 41550 E. Ann Arbor Trail.

Some 15 to 20 teens and adult sponsors will be on hand to take care of the children with games and Sunday school activities.

There also will be a showing of a movie "Christmas Is," an animated cartoon that was shown on television last Christmas season.

Church Tries 'Impossible'

Parkview Baptist Church, 9355 Stark, Livonia, has dubbed Dec. 10 "Impossible Sunday" with the purpose of raising Sunday School attendance that day to 400 from its usual 150.

"Nothing is impossible for God," is the theme as members send letters to some, telephone others and tell everyone they meet about the new goal. They also are publicizing the day with handbills.

An open invitation is out to everyone to attend.

Program Uses Shadowgraphs

"The Characters of Christmas Speak" is the title of the Sunday School Christmas program to be presented in Ward United Presbyterian Church, Six Mile and Farmington Road, Livonia, at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10.

The program involves shadowgraph scenes from the nativity with narration and background music. Recitations and songs by Ward's youth choir and church school departments also will be part of the program.

Robert Thomas is narrator and the characters will be Fred Brooks, Janice Burns, Kevin Deighton, Becky Strong, Bill Greenman, Daniel Hooker, Mark Stenning, Phil Stenning, Kevin Yapp, John Hooker and Greg Carnie.

Off-stage voices will be played by Larry Casey, Kay Yapp, Jonathan Strong, Robin Greenman, Mark Mitchell and Steve Mathers.

Other participants are: Primaries—John Mather, Debbie Spade and John McMillan. Beginners—Phillip Strong, Lydia Starong, Greg Phelps, Robin Langdon, Ginger Langdon, and Brian Paperick. Junior High—Priscilla Strong.

Parkdale To Hold Prayer Gathering

Observer area residents of all denominations who would like prayers for help or healing are invited by Parkdale Assembly of God in Livonia to join in the church's time of prayer and meditation beginning at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9.

The prayer gathering in the church located at 36516 Parkdale will climax a week of services led by the Rev. William Caldwell, evangelist.

The Rev. David Krist, pastor, said all who would like to participate are invited "to stop in for a little while and then go on their way."

"I DO NOT WANT to pay

way to have any pressure on individuals of other denominations," he added. "We welcome all who would like to have opportunity to meet this evangelist who has drawn huge crowds in visits all over the world."

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10 Churches, Band Join Concert

Ten Garden City churches and the 70-piece Garden City Concert Band will join in presenting a Christmas concert in O'Leary Auditorium, Middle Belt north of Ford Road, at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10.

The concert, with participation by adult and youth choir members from the ten churches, is designed to begin an ecumenical evangelistic program known as KEY 73.

KEY 73 is sponsored by the National Council of Churches and supported by more than a

hundred churches and denominations. Its purpose is to make Christians throughout the North American continent more aware of Jesus Christ and his teachings.

Bruce Gustafson will conduct a combined adult choir for the concert, and the

combined youth choir will be led by Tom Hendrickson. Both are church choir directors in Garden City.

James Falk is conductor of the concert band.

Garden City churches participating are First Baptist, First Church of Christ, Scientist, First Presbyterian, First United Methodist, Free Methodist, Good Hope Lutheran, Merriman Road Baptist, St. David Episcopal, and two Catholic churches, St. Dunstan and St. Raphael.

The adult choir will perform "The Shepherds' Story" by Clarence Dickinson and the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's "Messiah."

Selections chosen for the youth choir are "Go Tell It on the Mountain," arranged by Harry Simcoe, and Peter J. Wilhousky's "Carol of the Bells."

The choir will join in "While Shepherds Watched," by Hugo Jungst.

Soloists will include Bruce Kachenberg, James Fisher, Julie Myers, Douglas Radcliff and Margaret Schnell. Mrs. Schnell also will serve as accompanist.

The Garden City Concert Band will play "Christmas Festival" and "Sleigh Ride," both by Leroy Anderson, and "Home for Christmas."

Christian Network Is Signed

When Detroit's new channel 20, WXON-TV, signs on the air this month (about Dec. 9), it will broadcast programming in affiliation with the Christian Broadcasting Network of Portsmouth, Va. This will include shows for children, minority groups, variety and musical programs and a number of public service programs. The CBN productions will be carried at various times during the broadcast day, including prime time each weekday night.

Among the programs will be "The 700 Club," a Christian-oriented variety show which doubles as a kind of long-distance crisis center for viewers facing physical, emotional and spiritual problems. This is scheduled for showing during prime time.

Viewers will be able to call the home studio in Portsmouth for free counseling about their problems. Over the past year, more than a quarter million calls for prayer, assistance and counseling have been received by the network at its various facilities across the country. The program and counseling have averted suicides, reunited families and aided in solving the difficulties facing people who called in.

The agreement, permitting Channel 20 to carry about 25 hours of CBN programming weekly, was signed early this month. CBN is an independent non-profit network.

Greek Chapel Plans Concert For Children

Some 100 Sunday school children enrolled in the chapel of Sts. Constantine and Helen

will participate in a Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 10.

The event will be held at 3 p.m. in the church's community center, 4801 Oakman Blvd., Detroit, and the theme will be "The Realms of Glory." Mrs. Andrea Papatheodore of Livonia is the Sunday school supervisor.

Following the presentation of the nativity story and music by the choir, the Dearborn Recreation Puppets will present a skit on "How Santa Got His Elves."

This will be followed by a pancake - sausage supper, sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary Circle III. John Willard Benson of Livonia will be the chef.

Dinner Call

A spaghetti dinner will be served by the Parent Teacher Office of Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran School at 12 noon, Sunday, Dec. 10, in the gymnasium of the school, 9600 Levee, Redford Township. A free will offering will be taken.

OF THE REV. DALE OLEN, OFM Capuchin, has been named director of the Office of World Justice and Peace, 3900 N. Third Street, Milwaukee, Wis.

The primary purpose of the new office will be education that leads to action in matters of justice and peace on the local, national and international level. Staff members will contact and work with other religious communities and groups through a Religious Outreach program. They will speak to interested organizations.

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Father Young is a graduate of Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit, and was ordained priest from St. Johns Provincial Seminary in Plymouth.

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