



Lead vocalists in "The Splendor of Christmas" are Alice Avedisian, Lauren Ross and Jeanette Sowman.

Tradition continues with 'The Splendor of Christmas'

The tradition of festive holiday celebrations at Nardin Park United Methodist Church continues with this year's presentation of "The Splendor of Christmas."

Amid the glow of candlelight, musical selections, both old and new, will be presented using a variety of vocal and instrumental performers. The second program in the church's music series promises to capture the beauty and joy of this special time of year.

The event begins at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8, in the church.

A HIGHLIGHT of the evening will

be the presentation of Vivaldi's beautiful cantata, "Gloria."

Nardin Park's 84-voice combined Chancel and Sanctuary choirs will be joined by chamber orchestra, organ and vocal soloists to present this much-loved work. About 30 minutes in length, the mood of the "Gloria" ranges from reflective to celebratory and is a favorite with singers and listeners alike.

A truly unusual feature of the evening will come with the premiere performance of "Christ is Born," an original composition by Melvin Itookus, director of music at Nardin Park.

Dedicated to the choirs of the church, it movingly proclaims the reason for the season and augments that local message with the hauntingly beautiful sounds of oboe. The result is stunning, creating a piece that is sure to be a Christmas favorite.

THE CLIMAX of the evening will be the singing of Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus."

The combination of vocalists, chamber orchestra, brass and organ will make this a most glorious presentation of a beloved classic and will set the mood for the rest of the holiday season.

Following the musical portion of the evening, guests may attend a gala reception in the church's fellowship hall. Elegant desserts and beverages will be served.

Tickets are available through the church office, 476-8860, and at the door. The cost, including reception, is \$7. Child care is available for children 6 years old and younger. Requests for this service must be made in advance.

Nardin Park is at 29887 11 Mile, west of Middlebelt.

9-year-old wins title role in 'Annie'

A student of Michigan Black Belt Academy Meredith Shanon Jones auditioned with 48 other local Metropolitan Detroit area children for the role of "Annie" in September and got the role of the Wyandotte Community Theater's Christmas production.

Meredith is 9 years old and started acting about one year ago when she was chosen for an acrobat in the Detroit Symphony Orchestra-Dance Detroit's 1989 production of "The Nutcracker." From there she went on to play a handmaiden in the Marquis Theater's 1990 production of "Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp" to her lead role of "Wilbur" this summer at Interlochen Center for the Arts' 1990 summer production of Charlotte's Web.

Meredith is a student at Farmington Gymnastics Center. She is in her sixth year of private violin lessons and third year of private piano lessons. She is a fourth grader at Gibson School for the Gifted in Redford and hopes to start harp lessons in Ann Arbor after the first of the year. Curtain for "Annie" is 8 p.m. Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 7, 8 and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9. All performances are in Wil-



Meredith Jones

son School Auditorium in Wyandotte at 15th Street and Goddard Road. Ticket prices are \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, and \$3 for preschool children. Group rates are available. For additional information and to reserve your tickets, call 285-3385.

Church uses Temple for worship

First Assembly of God, using the facilities of Temple Kol Ami, 5065 Walnut Lake Road, meets at 10 a.m. each Sunday for worship. Pastor William Lachy will practically apply God's Word to today's concerns in his Sunday messages.

Adult Bible Study is at 7 p.m. Wednesday. A children's learning center is provided for each service. Direct all inquiries to P.O. Box 250213, West Bloomfield 48325 or call 682-4804.

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