

## New Pastors Join Christ Church Staff

Two new pastors, the Rev. William Morrell and the Rev. Perry R. Williams, will join the clergy staff of Christ Church Cranbrook on Sept. 1.

Mr. Williams, a former assistant at St. John's Episcopal church at Sharon, Pa., is a native of Garden City, L. I., and was graduated from St. Paul's school there in 1941. He later attended Amherst college in Massachusetts.

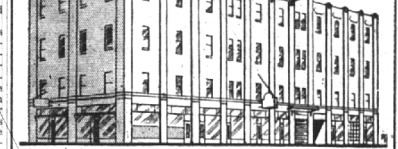
From 1943 to 1946 he was on active naval duty, serving 14 months in the USS Clarendon. He held the rank of lieutenant, junior grade, when released from duty.

**FOLLOWING** his graduation from Amherst after the war, he did post graduate work at Yale for a year, then entered the Virginia theological seminary, graduating in 1951.

His wife is the former Elizabeth Anne Ballentine. The couple has two children, David and Sarah Catherine.

Mr. Morrell, who was graduated from Virginia seminary last June, left a successful career as an airport lighting engineer to enter the ministry.

He, with his wife and three daughters, will occupy the Pine Hill cottage formerly occupied by the Rev. Lawrence Pearson and family.



## Sunday Sermonette

### Continuing Series by Local Religious Leaders

# Labor Sunday Sermon

(Note: This sermon is especially prepared by a laymen's committee made up of management and labor leaders from all churches, as a special Labor Sunday feature. It was made available to The Eccentric through the First Baptist church of Birmingham.)

"Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden . . ." To most of God's children these words bear the same meaning today as they did when they fell from the lips of Jesus—carpenter, teacher and Son of God—in the hills of Galilee.

The majority of mankind is even now heavily laden with the burdens that must be borne merely to stay alive from day to day. It is hard for us who live in a favored land that God has so richly blessed to realize that for men and women in many other lands life is a daily struggle to obtain sufficient food to provide nourishment, for them and their children.

Evidence is mounting that men today have both information and means adequately to feed and clothe the increasing populations of the world. The burden of sensitive hearts in 1952 is to find the will and the way to apply knowledge and resources to this end.

**OUR GOVERNMENT** has put into effect on a modest scale plans to help other peoples and their governments to learn how to

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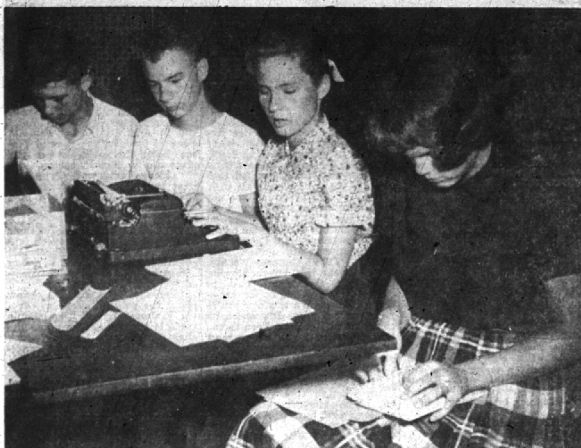
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**YOUNG MEMBERS OF THE METHODIST CHURCH** were busy mailing out over 750 applications for the Youth Retreat recently. The retreat, formerly scheduled for the first weekend in September, has been delayed to Oct. 17, 18 and 19. Besides the regular camping activities, the teen-agers will hold assemblies, sports, devotions and discussion groups at the Methodist Conference Fort Huron Camping Grounds.

## Methodists Have Last Service in Old Church

Sunday morning's 11 o'clock service will mark the final observance in the 75 year old First Methodist church building at Maple and Henrietta. The congregation will begin use of the new building at West Maple and Pleasant at the Sept. 7 services.

The present building, erected at a cost of \$20,000, was dedicated on Nov. 2, 1873. Construction was started two years prior to that date, under the leadership of the Rev. Robert Bird.

Members of the congregation took an active part in the building of the church. Men worked at hauling stone, brick and wood for the building, while the women of the congregation gathered to prepare hot meals for the workers. Among the many who were active in the program were Mr. and Mrs. James Beatty, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kerr, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ford, Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Hancock, Mr. and Mrs. Silas Wattles, Mr. and Mrs. Fred King, Mr. and Mrs. William Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Clark Pearsall, Mr. and Mrs. William Hagerman, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Addie Bayley, Mrs. Tibby Boyd, L. L. Houghton and Robert Bookham.

AT THE TIME of the church dedication, the pastor served not only here, but in several surrounding communities. Due to the growth of Birmingham it became a single charge in 1877, when the parsonage was built. That building has since been used to house church offices and general activities rooms.

With the pastor devoting his time wholly to Birmingham, his salary was increased to \$300 a year. The church grew under Mr. Bird's leadership, and by 1881 had expanded sufficiently to build sheds for the protection of horses whose masters were attending services.

As with all churches of its time, the First Methodist was one of the community's gathering places. Many social functions were held there, including frequent suppers which were priced at 10 cents per person.

In talking about those days a comment by the pastor's wife is recalled.

IT SEEMS all meals were cooked on a huge wood-burning range. Mrs. Bird's comment was, "For several years we had to prop the stove up shut with a brick because of the women thought it

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## SUNDAY SERMON TOPICS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

**Unity Center**  
Francis Glabach, spiritual leader, will speak on "The Creator, the Creation and the Conception," at the regular service Sunday morning in the Theater building. The Birmingham Unity ministry is affiliated with the United Society of Christianity at Lees Summit, Mo.

**First Presbyterian**  
"Harken ye to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the Lord—look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged" (Isaiah 51:1) will be the text on which the Rev. W. Glen Harris, Ph.D., will speak Sunday morning. His topic is, "God's Command to Look Backward."

**First Baptist**  
"Do You Enjoy Your Work?" is the sermon topic here Labor Sunday. The text for the sermon is, "The text for the sermon is, 'God's Command to Look Backward.'"

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