

**Sunday Sermonette**

A Continuing Series of Local Religious Leaders

**"A Typical American"**

By the Rev. Reginald Becker, Pastor, Embury Methodist Church

"Dear Diary:  
"In the evening I went very unwillingly to church."  
Thus wrote a very famous man. Sounds pretty gruesome, doesn't it? And it might have been morning instead of evening. Or even Sunday instead of Wednesday, as this was.

But here is a story with a happy ending! So—I'd like to tell you about it. It's a typical story of modern America, isn't it? Yet it took place over 200 years ago. And it's a story about a preacher. But he hadn't found a satisfying faith. He was working hard at his religion but he wasn't getting much out of it.

Yet, because he was willing to do something he didn't want to do, and because he was open-minded, he found that religion could make him happier than he had ever been in his life. Instead of mere duty and drudgery he found that religion could be the source of his happiness. As a result, he became one of the greatest men of his age.

IT ALL BEGAN that night he went to church against his will. In the morning he had read, without understanding, the words of Jesus: "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." By 9 o'clock that night all this was changed. He had found his way into that Kingdom.

He tells about this remarkable experience in this dramatic sketch. "I found my heart strangely warmed." From that time forward until



REV. REGINALD BECKER

he died at the age of 83 he was a blessing to all he met. And he found his work in the most thrilling thing he did. Before this his sermons had been scholarly but dull. From this time on the crowds

came to hear him wherever he went. It might be just a mile or two, or an open field, but he always had an audience.

If this man had died at the age of 35, we would never have heard of him. He had grown up in a parsonage. He had been formally religious from his youth. But he was that old before his faith became a dynamic heart-warming experience. He was that old before he came to enjoy being religious. So at 35 this man, John Wesley, was still going to church unwillingly.

ARE YOU like that? Maybe you have given lip service to religion but felt it was for other people. Maybe you have professed to the Ten Commandments or the Sermon on the Mount, but have found no strength in them. Maybe you have worked in the church for years but have found no joy in it.

If you are like that, take hope. What happened to this man can happen to you. But the decision is in your hands. Will you let it happen? Will you let your heart be "strangely warmed"? Will you let yourself enjoy helping people? Will you let yourself enjoy serving God?

"Seek ye the Lord while He may be found; call ye upon Him while He is near." Then, even though you may be 35 or older, you may yet have your life filled with a new joy and a reason for living. You may find the great destiny for which you were created.

**SUNDAY SERMON TOPICS**

Sunday 8

**First Presbyterian**  
The Rev. Robert S. Graham will preach Sunday on "Men Wanted for Such a Time as This." The annual Children's Day program will be observed at the 11 o'clock service.

**Unity Center**  
Frank Glabach has chosen for his subject, "Marriage and Divorce" and will be heard in the reading room at the Theater building.

**First Baptist**  
"When Adults Learn from Children" will be the sermon topic of the Rev. Emil Kozel, in observance of Children's Day. His text will be "Except ye turn and become as little children, ye can in no wise enter the Kingdom of God." The program for children will be held during the 9:45 church school hour.

**Christian Science**  
With the text taken from Malachi, 2:10, "Have we not all one Father? hath not one God created us?" the Churches of Christ Scientist sermon will be "God is the Only Cause and Creator."

**Redeemer Lutheran**  
The Rev. Theodore Waggener has chosen for his sermon topic, "Pillar of Faith."

**LEGAL NOTICES**

Clarence W. Blomman, Attorney-at-Law, 207 Wabash Bldg., Grand Rapids, Mich. 59,865

STATE OF MICHIGAN — The Probate Court for the County of Oakland, In the Matter of the Estate of Aurey Smith, deceased.  
At a session of said court, held at the Probate Court in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 27th day of May, A. D. 1952.  
Present: Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate.  
Order appointing time for hearing claims.

Notice is hereby given and it is hereby ordered that the time and place for hearing on claims against the above estate shall be the 30th day of September, 1952, at nine o'clock in the forenoon at the Probate Court in the Court House at the City of Pontiac, Michigan.  
All creditors or claimants against the above estate are further notified and ordered to prove their claims at said hearing and prior to said hearing to file written claim therewith, with this Court and with the Secretary of this estate, under oath, containing sufficient detail reasonably to inform the Secretary of the nature and amount of the claim.  
ARTHUR E. MOORE,  
Judge of Probate.  
12-13-14

Oliver H. Kirk, Attorney-at-Law, Wabash Building, Birmingham, Michigan 59,154

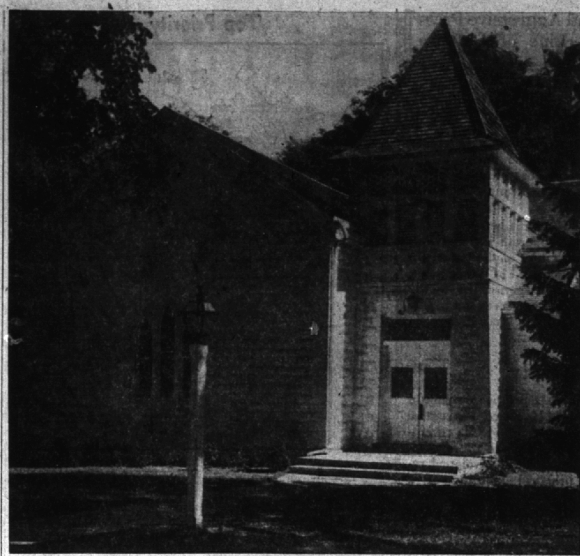
STATE OF MICHIGAN — The Probate Court for the County of Oakland, In the Matter of the Estate of Louise Heark, deceased.  
At a session of said court, held at the Probate Court in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 27th day of May, A. D. 1952.  
Present: Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate.  
Order appointing time for hearing claims.

Notice is hereby given and it is hereby ordered that the time and place for hearing on claims against the above estate shall be the 30th day of September, 1952, at nine o'clock in the forenoon at the Probate Court in the Court House at the City of Pontiac, Michigan.  
All creditors or claimants against the above estate are further notified and ordered to prove their claims at said hearing and prior to said hearing to file written claim therewith, with this Court and with the Secretary of this estate, under oath, containing sufficient detail reasonably to inform the Secretary of the nature and amount of the claim.  
ARTHUR E. MOORE,  
Judge of Probate.  
12-13-14

Oliver Kirk, Attorney for Estate, Birmingham, Michigan 59,242

STATE OF MICHIGAN — The Probate Court for the County of Oakland, In the Matter of the Estate of Fred J. Douglas, deceased.  
At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 18th day of May, A. D. 1952.  
Present: Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate.  
James Frederick Douglas having filed a petition praying that he be appointed administrator of said estate, and that administration of said estate be granted to Detroit, Michigan, or to some other suitable person.  
It is Ordered, That the 18th day of June, A. D. 1952, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate Office, is hereby appointed for hearing said petition.

It is Further Ordered, That public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy thereof, once each week, for three successive weeks, previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Scientific, a newspaper printed and circulated in said County, and that proposed cause a copy of this notice to be served personally on registered mail, return receipt demanded, to each of the known heirs of said decedent and devisees at their last known place of abode, at least ten days prior to said day of hearing.  
ARTHUR E. MOORE,  
Judge of Probate.  
12-11-12



THE FRANKLIN COMMUNITY church, nearing its 100th anniversary, is one of the several serving the smaller communities in the Birmingham area. Here, as in the early days of most towns, the church forms the hub of many of the community's activities. Here, closely related to the religious life of the community, are carried out many of the social activities. Young and old, men and women, meet for club sessions, music, mission work and for the church services which are so much a part of every small village. The Franklin church is served by the Rev. William Lovejoy, pastor.

**What's Being Planned By BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES**  
Copy for the church page must be in The Eccentric office, by 3:30 p.m., Thursdays.

**Christ Church**

The Parish Family picnic will be held in the church gardens at 10 in the early days of most towns, the church forms the hub of many of the community's activities. Here, closely related to the religious life of the community, are carried out many of the social activities. Young and old, men and women, meet for club sessions, music, mission work and for the church services which are so much a part of every small village. The Franklin church is served by the Rev. William Lovejoy, pastor.

charge of group singing which will make up the evening's entertainment.  
Choirs from parishes making up this convocation of the Diocese of Michigan will meet at Christ Church Cranbrook June 8 for their annual choir festival service under

the direction of Dr. Maurice Garabrant. The combined choirs will sing a service of choral evensong at 6:30 p.m.

**First Presbyterian**

Members of the Nettie Clisbe guild will meet with Mrs. C. S. Kinnison, 1338 Latham, on June 11 for a 1 o'clock session.  
June 9 is the date of a not picnic which the Sarah Hunter group will hold at 7 p.m. at the Peabody farm on Quanton road.

**Lutheran Redeemer**

Mrs. Otto Borcherth, Mrs. Clarence Minner, Mrs. William Dalquist



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You could pay hundreds of dollars more — and still not get any more interior room, or richer fabrics.  
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Just give us a chance to prove it — and you'll have a lot of fun.

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June 5, 1952 THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC Page 7

and Mrs. Alvin Knorr will be the hostesses at the meeting of the Ladies Missionary society June 5 at 8 p.m. This will be the final meeting of the year and will feature the annual election of officers.  
On June 7 the group will sponsor a bake sale at McBride's hardware from 9:30 to 5 p.m. Mrs. John Cleasran is in charge.

**Musical Program Marks Annual Kirk Reception**  
A musical program, under the direction of A. Shanley Ross, will be given Friday evening at Kirk-Bo-Hills when newcomers to the congregation are feled. This is the second reception sponsored by the church to enable newcomers to meet others in the congregation and become acquainted with church officials.  
The program will feature several secular selections by the Kirk quartet, Margaret Fanchonger, soprano; Marian Humphreys, contralto; William Honhart, bass and Clifford White, tenor. Tenor solos will also be heard.  
Following the program, Mrs. J. A. Brodie and Mrs. John Liffay, co-chairmen, will be assisted by the board of deacons during the social hour and with the serving of refreshments.

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