

Baptist Mission Union Canceled March Meetings
The Mission Union has announced the cancellation of all March meetings because of other activities. The group will serve the Community Council's annual institute dinner at the church on Mar. 21, and the basketball banquet for Birmingham high school on Mar. 25.

SUNDAY SERMON TOPICS

Sunday, Mar. 16
First Baptist
The Rev. Emil Kozlowski will continue his Lenten series Sunday morning when he speaks on "The Longing for Assurance." During the 1:30 p.m. service on "The Final Journeys of Jesus," his topic will be "To the Bethany Home." His mid-week topic Mar. 19 will be "About the power of prayer." The general theme of this series...

"The Conversations of Christ."
Christian Science
"Subject matter of the season-sermon to be read in all churches of this faith Sunday. It will be discussed as used to define Spirit, and is based on the golden text from II Timothy, 'The foundation of God standeth sure, having the seal. The Lord knoweth them that are his.'"
Redeemer Lutheran
At both the 9 and 11 a.m. services Sunday the Rev. Theodore Wenzler will use "Proving God" as the topic of his sermons.
Continuing the mid-week series, he will speak Mar. 19 at 8 p.m. on "Catharsis, the Unbeliever." The anthem, "Adoration of the Crucified" will be sung by the choir.

Sunday Sermonette

Keeping In Condition

By the Rev. William Lovejoy
Pastor, Franklin Community Church

"Any man who enters an athletic contest goes into strict training." St. Paul was writing to the Greeks and he was thinking of the Olympic games.
These world-renowned games, held every second year, were primarily a religious celebration held in honor of the gods. To participate in them was looked upon as the privilege of a lifetime and great indeed was the honor bestowed upon the winner.

Now it is worthy to note that, in his attempt to commend Christianity to those ancient Greeks, St. Paul approached them at the point already established. He appealed to something they already believed in, about which they were already enthusiastic.

Any man who enters an athletic contest goes into strict training. He did it in St. Paul's time and he does it in ours. The man ambitious to run the hundred yard dash, the four-forty or the half mile cuts down on his smoking, watches his diet and turns in at a reasonable hour every night. His enthusiastic belief in athletics commands him to keep in condition.

IT SPEAKS to us also that in the Christian life we are to keep in condition. It speaks to us also that in the Christian life we are to keep in condition spiritually. We are to live in the relationships of the world lighted by what one new testament writer calls "the wisdom from above."

REV. WILLIAM LOVEJOY

too fat and soft to fly, and so spent the rest of his life in the paralytic, we humans can become flaccid if we do not keep in condition.

If we do not listen to the "wisdom from above" we may find a cooling off of our best devotion, a slow subtle subtraction of a wisdom which comes from below rather than from above.

The enthusiasm of yesterday for the best may vanish. The warmth cool off. The vow is not so binding. Clouds shut out the bright light of "wisdom from above" and we are living in a lower key.

The very first thing the Christian faith does is set a person against a splendid background. It tells him that there is something tremendous afoot, a divine background. It tells him that he has something planted within him by the living God that he must be mindful of and serve, as the Quakers say, "in holy obedience."

IT TELLS HIM that he must not look upon himself or his fellows cheaply, nor estimate life in a petty way.

As a member of the stream of Christian life and tradition is surrounded by a host of witnesses, taught and encouraged by thousands before him who have counted and found. As a participant in the faith the Christian has the disciplines which have been developed.

Sacred Organ Recital At Our Shepherd Church Sunday Evening, Mar. 16

A concert of sacred music will be presented in Our Shepherd Lutheran church at 8 p.m. Sunday by E. Richard Wissmuller, noted Lutheran church organist. Besides such old-time favorites as Bach, Franck and Handel, Wissmuller will play "The Vision of the Church Eternal" by Messiaen and "Ein Feste Burg" by Corke.

A former president of the California Bach society, Wissmuller studied under Charles Vidor in Paris and at the Guilman Organ school in New York.

During World War II he made daily broadcasts from Alameda City, playing one of the world's largest organs.

He will present his local concert on the Wurlieter, Series 25.

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