SUNDAY SERMON TOPICS

Sunday, April 27

SUNDAY, MAY 4

First Presbyterian
Dr. W. Glen Harris, Ph.D., has selected for his sermon topic, "On Laboring without Results" and will preach duplicate sermons at both the 8:30 and 11 a.m. services.

Redeemer Lutheran
"The Source of Strength" will be the topic of the Rev. Theodore Waggazer. He will preach on this subject at both the 9 and 11 a.m. services.

Christian Science
"Everlasting Punishment" is the sermon topic, with the text taken from Romans 6:16, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey, whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"

First Baptist
The installation of church officers and Communion will be observed during the Sunday morning service. The Rev. Emil Kontz will speak on "The Sin of the Second Best."

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MUTUAL CONGRATULATIONS are expressed by the Rev. Lee J. Griffy (left), pastor and S. Currie, church school superintendent of the United Brethren in Christ church. Mr. Griffy holds the cup presented by the Greater Detroit Sunday School association to the winner of a church school attendance drive in which more than 50 groups participated. The other cup was presented after the local church won the Sunday school attendance increase contest for the Detroit conference of the United Brethren churches.

Christian Family Week Observance Is Planned

Christian Family Week observances will open Sunday, May 4, at the United Brethren in Christ church, continuing until Mother's Day, May 11.

The several programs will open Sunday with the pastor's sermon on "God's Rightful Place in Every Home."

A children's program on May 9 will feature Mrs. Roy Johnson of Farmington, a chalk artist well known in this area. Motion pictures on christian family life will also be shown.

The church is also sponsoring a series of Sunday evening study groups, planned around the Book of Revelations, God's portrait of the future.

Baptist Women to Hear Book Review at May Meet

Circle I of the Baptist Mission Union will serve the luncheon when the group holds its monthly meeting May 1. The morning will be devoted to the usual White Cross work.

Mrs. Frank Sack, scheduled to speak, has cancelled her engagement due to illness. In her place, a book review will be given on "The Spirit Tree." This is one of three volumes selected for discussion by the Mission Union this year.

The theme for the month is "There Is Room for Christ".

Sunday Sermonette

A Continuing Series by Local Religious Leaders

"The Christian Mission"

By the Rev. W. Glen Harris, Ph.D.

Pastor, First Presbyterian Church
Scripture Lesson: Matthew 9:1-13, Text: Matthew 9:13

"But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

During the last war an American bomber was shot down in the South Pacific. Seven American navy men were aboard, and after two and half days adrift, five of them landed on a small Japanese occupied island. They were greeted by island natives who gave them food, shelter, protection, friendliness and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Their first gift was a Bible, and every night for 87 nights the fighting men and the natives met in a well concealed hide-out to read the Bible and to hear one of the natives tell the story of Jesus.

Stanley W. Tefft of Toledo, Ohio,* is responsible for this story, and in relating the experience of his own conversion he praised God that America had "sent missionaries to the islands of the South Pacific."

REV. W. GLEN HARRIS

THE GOSPEL had been taken to the natives on that island by a small group of people who believed in the christian mission. They had been influenced and moved by the final words of Matthew's Gospel:

"Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen" (Matt. 28:16-20)

When Jesus arose from the dead He established a victory over the adversaries of man's redemption. It was not necessary for God to establish such a victory on His own behalf. That victory was accomplished solely for man. That victory was established and consummated to confirm certain hopes and complete certain arrangements for Man's redemption. "But not is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." (I Corinthians 15:20-24)

IT IS REASONABLE and normal for Christians to consider the Christian Mission in the light of Easter. There is a ready-made text for this study in the Gospel of Matthew (9:13) "But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice; for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." The incident whence this text comes took place before the Ressurrection, but its meaning and importance depends upon the Ressurection.

Jesus had cleansed a leper, healed the centurion's servant, healed Peter's wife's mother, stilled the storm on the sea of Galilee and cast out many demons. After these things He returned to Capernaum. In Capernaum "And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him" (Matthew 9:9). Matthew was delighted because he had been called into the Master's service. He had a dinner to celebrate the occasion and recognize the honor that had come to him.

THAT PARTY made the Christian Mission clear. "And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw it they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners? But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance".

The Christian Mission includes a Gospel. The gospel is literally good news, and for the believer it means salvation. It is a program. The oldest of the New Testament books exhorts christians to "Be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves—pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world" (James 1:25-27). It is also a trust. In I Kings 21:3 there is a verse of Scripture that exalts the sacredness of one's heritage and trust: "The Lord forbid it me that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee."

"But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

* In magazine "Now".

Dr. B. Benedict Glazer To Be Guest Speaker When Church Women Meet

Dr. B. Benedict Glazer, Rabbi of, Temple Beth El, Detroit, will address the May 7 meeting of the WSCS of the First Methodist church. All Birmingham church women are invited to hear his talk, scheduled for 1:45 p.m. His topic will be "The Possessions of a Well Adjusted Personality".

Dr. Glazer, recently elected president of the Michigan Society for Mental Hygiene and is trustee of the Detroit Institute of Cancer Research. In addition, Dr. Glazer has served on numerous other civic groups for Detroit and was recently cited as one of the seven citizens who have contributed greatly to the advancement of Negro welfare.

What's Being Planned By BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES

Copy for the church page must be in The Eccentric offic. by 3:30 p.m., Thursdays.

Nazarene

The Rev. Hendrickson of Flint, formerly from Vancouver, Wash., will be the guest speaker at a Pontiac zone Young Peoples rally May 3. He will speak before Hi-Y groups at 2:30 p.m., and lead an evangelistic service at 7:30 p.m.

At the May 4 morning services Dr. W. McGuire will administer Holy Communion. He will also officiate at the dedication of Rachel Lorraine, five-months old daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. William Ardrey.

First Methodist

The Girls World Friendship club will sponsor a white elephant sale May 5 in the church parlors at 7:30 pm. Articles for sale will be contributed by members. The sixth grade girls are invited to attend and take part in the social hour following the sale.

Thursday, May 8, is the date selected for the annual Mother-Daughter banquet which will be served at 6:30 p.m., at the First Baptist church.

First Baptist

Under the chairmanship of Mrs. Edwin Minks, Mrs O. D. Hillman and Mrs. D. H. Goldsmith, the various Circles of the Women's Mission Union will serve the annual Mother-Daughter banquet for the First Methodist church on May 9.

Circle I of the Mission Union will serve a fellowship supper May 14, when new members of the church will be introduced to the congregation.

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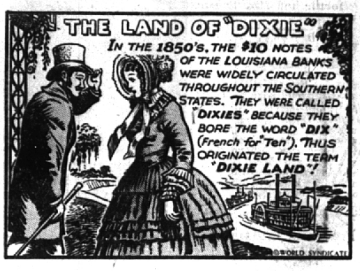

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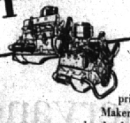

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