

at the
CHURCH DOOR

By JULIE CANDLER



What should a conscientious young minister do when people give him so much cider that it develops a kick before he and his wife get it all drunk up?

That's what happened to Rev. Ralph Stribe, minister of the First Bloomfield Presbyterian church (mission sponsored by West Presbyterian church).

Church members had some kind of a cider and donut affair around Halloween time, we heard the other day. All the leftover cider was given to Mr. and Mrs. Stribe.

They were faced with a desperate situation when it began to ferment.

Fran Maier just told me about the time she drank some old cider when she was 13. She got so scared she started to cry. "My mother told me not to drink it!" says Fran.

Well, there's a happy ending to this story. Mr. Stribe and his wife canned the cider. They put it up in jars and placed them in a far corner of the basement—just in case. If you live out near 14 Mile and Middlebelt, and you hear an explosion one of these days, just say, "OOP! There it goes!"

Either they're copying each other, or circumstances create the same new trends in individual churches. We think it's the latter.

But trends there are, like the inauguration of highly successful book sale tables and libraries in many local churches. Now we notice many of our churches talking about "the ministry of every man."

Here's how the staff of Christ Church Cranbrook put it: "There is no longer time for the old fashioned door-to-door calling by a clergyman. In many ways this is regrettable—in other ways, perhaps, this will help all of us to face the true vocation of the church. For a clergyman is not the minister; he is not alone (we trust!) in this task."

"EVERY CHRISTIAN'S vocation is ministry wherever he may be. . . More and more we rejoice to see our devoted parishioners call on neighbors and new people. . . because we no longer have time—but because this is the way a parish family should operate."

Rev. Carl Baird, writing in the Congregational church of Birmingham's Newsletter, says, ". . . every Christian is a priest. You are a priest. I am a priest."

Incidentally, Mr. Baird heads up this item with the words, "Hi, priest!"

MR. B. GOES ON to say that, "When we act a certain way (for instance) in business, and the next man (who knows we are church members) notices it to himself, 'So that's the way a Christian lives,' we are being—for good or ill—priests. We are meditating to him the Gospel by which we live."

The Rev. Ralph B. Read recently voiced the same thoughts in the North Congregational church's bulletins.

He expressed another point: "The lay worker is also nearer to common life, his work being more like that of the other members of the church. He can speak the language of his friends. . . The Christian church needs this new kind of lay ministry which is becoming more common in our day."

That long-established tradition, the white gift offering, comes up in many Birmingham churches this Sunday and next.

As a family celebration at Christ Church Cranbrook, at First Presbyterian church families are encouraged to discuss what their gift to Christ on His birthday will be.

The gifts of food, clothing and toys will go to neighborhood houses in Detroit, and the monetary gifts will go to a mission school in Japan.

As the families leave First Presbyterian church Sunday, the head of each house receives a Christmas candle, which is to be lighted each night until Christmas as the family reads the Nativity story together.

A sincere young minister with real courage is leaving the Birmingham scene. He's the Rev. Paul Shippert, pastor of Ascension Lutheran church, Birmingham.

He'll be going to Greenfield, Indiana, just east of Indianapolis, where he has answered the call to organize and establish a congregation where there is at present no church.

As he said "goodbye and thanks for everything" to his congregation here, he stated in the church bulletin, "If, during the course of the past years we have become pertinaciously insufferable to some. . . we rejoice and are exceedingly glad. For it is our bounden duty to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable." He can honestly say, as my father used to joke, "I see my duty and I do it!"

for CHRISTMAS
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This Scene Changing On Adams Road

The scene here is changing, as workers removed the old stables on the future site of St. Stephens Episcopal church this week. At Adams and Westview roads, the property was recently acquired by the mission of Christ Church Cranbrook which now meets at Eastover school.

Members Like Changes At North Adams Church

By JULIE CANDLER

"Nothing is constant but change," Plato said. And that's all right with the members of St. Stephens Episcopal church. Not that they aren't happy with what's gone before. They are.

But some more changes are in the offing with this active, enthusiastic, and growing group. And they're all good ones.

First of all, the mission of Christ Church Cranbrook will have a full-time minister of its own, come Jan. 1. After that date the Rev. Barton C. Lloyd, who answered the mission's call last summer, will no longer be serving the dramatic version of Nativity Episcopal church (another Christ Church mission) and St. Stephens.

THE CHANGE COMES with the announcement that Nativity Episcopal church has called a young minister (see another story on this page).

Transforming the scene at the church's future site on Adams road at Westview is the removal of the old stable there. . . . Experts who inspected the building declared it unusable and non-

convertible to any use for the church.

Last week the congregation authorized it, and now, in consultation with Christ Church Cranbrook, a mission committee is making plans to retain a firm of architects to make up preliminary sketches of a church structure.

THE YOUNG MISSION now meets at Eastover school on Westview road. Its 9:30 a.m. time for Sunday services will probably move up to 10 a.m. after Jan. 1.

And the congregation is looking forward with delight to another happy day. That will be the day they complete the paving of Westview road.

Meanwhile, the church's members have to use Northover drive, one block south of Westview, to reach the school just west of Adams road.

For Westview road is temporarily closed. But by spring it, too, will change.

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Dramatic Version Of Yule Story At 1st Baptist

"Eager Heart" is the title of a contained Christmas story to be presented Sunday at 7 p.m. in the First Baptist church of Birmingham.

Men and women of the church drama group, with young people, will present the dramatic version of the Christmas story in the church sanctuary, with the assistance of the sanctuary choir.

Directing the play are Leland and Rachel Bunyan, who have been coaching drama at the Baptist church for many years. Author of the drama is Anne Buckton.

Heading the list of characters is "Eager Heart" who will be played by Mrs. Vivas Maccosey, wife of the church's assistant pastor.

LOUIS CROOKS, chairman of deacons, will give the Biblical prologue.

George A. Jackson, chairman of trustees, will also be in the play, along with Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Fleming, Carole Brinsidine, Mrs. Ruth Green, Bill Bramblett, Charles Farrand, Clark Hudson, Dee Patterson, John Dinkelo, Roger Jackson, Arlene Bunyan, Marilyn Allen and Sandra Boltwood.

Music is under direction of Charles L. Holtz, choir director, with Mrs. Benjamin Storr, church organist, at the console. The "Eager Heart" is a public presentation with no admission charge, to which the community is invited.

Presbyterians To Offer Gifts

The annual white gift service will be observed Sunday at First Presbyterian church with 45-minute services. Families with preschool children are urged to attend the 5 p.m. service, while families with older children will find the 7 p.m. service more convenient.

High school juniors take the various roles in the presentation of the Christmas story. Participating will be Fraser Cocks, Christy Borchert, Tony Hamner, Mary Ann Timmer, Lynn Scherer, Jack Werner, Ron Buchanan, Bill Muenchinger, Mary Hawley, Marcia Kempf, Roxie Randle and Jim Hastings.

The chapel choir of fifth and sixth graders will sing at the 5 p.m. service and the Cecilian choir of junior high girls in the service at 7 p.m.

Yule Party Program Includes Workshop At North Church

A family Christmas party is slated at North Congregational church Sunday from 4 to 6 p.m., when a Christmas workshop will begin the program. Mrs. Frank C. Retz, church school superintendent, is in charge of the party.

Mrs. Allen Keanone worked out the workshop program in which families will express creative ideas for centerpieces and door and tree decorations.

A family supper planned by Mrs. William Dalrymple will follow, after which Mrs. Marion Bowler will lead carol singing. The party will close with a workshop service led by Mrs. Retz.

Choir to Carol

A special Christmas program will be presented at the monthly meeting next Tuesday of the Women's Society of Christian Service of Embury Methodist church. The Carol choir, directed by Victor Ulrich, will present special Yule music. Friends are invited.

Northwestern Baptist Church
19421 West Ten Mile (Near Evergreen)
Sunday Worship Services . . . 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Sunday School . . . 11:15 a.m.
Youth Groups . . . 5:30 p.m.
Rev. Hale Thornberry, Minister
EL 6-1717

BIRMINGHAM UNITY MINISTRY
Affiliated with The Unity School of Christianity
UNITY SERVICES
Sunday . . . 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School . . . 11:00 A.M.
Reading Room Open 12:00 Noon to 3:00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays
1128 West Maple, Birmingham

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
Lincoln at Edgewood
(2 Blocks West of Woodward)
Sunday School . . . 10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship . . . 11:00 A.M.
Evening Worship . . . 7:00 P.M.
Thurs. Bible Study . . . 7:30 P.M.
MI 6-2002 Ch. FE 5-0572 Res.
Charles J. Whitfield, Pastor

St. Bede's Catholic Church
12 Mile Road at Southfield Road
ELgin 6-6452
FATHER KEATING, PASTOR
SUNDAY MASSES
8:00 — 9:30 11:00 — 12:15
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION MASSES
7:00 — 9:30 A.M. 7:30 P.M.



Home Gets Help

Children at play on the campus of Children's Village, showing two of the homes in which they live. A group of Birmingham women, members of the Methodist Children's home society, made their annual trek to the village on W. Six Mile road, Detroit, recently. The women helped prepare 36,000 copies of the society's Christmas publication for mailing.

Jehovah Witnesses Dedicate Building

The Berkeley congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses dedicated their new Kingdom Hall at 3509 12 Mile road last weekend. John O. Groh, official from the New York headquarters office, was guest speaker. Robert Garrison, of Southfield, led a morning worship and assembly for field preaching. The Berkeley congregation includes several Birmingham members. Building of the new church was financed thru voluntary contributions.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH
Formerly North Adams Episcopal
Eastover School
Westview Road and North Adams Road
Sunday Worship Service . . . 9:30 A.M.
Church School and Nursery School . . . 9:30 A.M.
Minister—Rev. Barton Lloyd

SOUTHFIELD CHURCH OF CHRIST
Brooks School
Lahser & 11 Mile Rd.
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11 a.m. Morning Worship
7 p.m. Evening Worship
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A National Lutheran Council Church
Temporarily Meeting in the Bloomfield Village School
Lahser Road at W. Maple Road
Worship Service 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School 9:30 A.M.
Parsonage: 2247 W. Lincoln Ave.
Phone: MI 4-1119
Rev. John A. Roop, Pastor

NATIVITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
21220 West 14 Mile Road
(Half way between Cranbrook & Lahser)
Sunday Worship Service . . . 11:15 A.M.
Minister—Rev. Barton Lloyd
MI 6-3412

Kirk in the Hills
SUNDAY WORSHIP
10:30 O'CLOCK
BLOOMFIELD HILLS HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. Harold C. DeWint, Minister

HOW CHRISTIAN SCIENCE HEALS
Station CKLW 800 KC Sunday 9:45 A.M.

Christian Science Society
Franklin, Michigan
20100 Germas Mill Road
SUNDAY—11 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL—11 A.M.
WEDNESDAY EVENING TESTIMONY MEETING—8:15
READING ROOM (In Church Edifice)
Thursday—1:3 P.M.
7:30-9:30 P.M.

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH
North Adams Road at Whitmore Road
(½ mile north of East Lake Road)
Sunday Worship Service . . . 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School and Bible Classes 9:45 A.M.
Telephone: MI 6-5124
H. J. KUHLMANN, Pastor

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
Christian Science Services
191 N. Chester — Birmingham, Michigan
Sunday Morning Services . . . 9:45 and 11:30
Sunday School . . . 9:45 and 11:30
Infants' Room (in Reading Room) . . . 9:30 and 11:15
Wednesday Evening Meeting . . . 8:15
READING ROOM, 355 East Maple Ave.
Open 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Except Sundays and Holidays.
Evenings 7:00 to 9:00 Except Wednesdays and Saturdays.
Here the Bible and all authorized Christian Science Literature may be read, borrowed or purchased.

Lutheran CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
(Synodical Conference)
Corner 14 Mile and Pierce Avenue
Rev. Paul Shippert, Pastor
Services—8:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
Family Service and Sunday School 9:30 A.M.

St. James Episcopal Church
355 W. Maple — Birmingham, Mich.
Sunday Services
8:00 A.M. 9:15 A.M. 11:00 A.M.
Church School and Nursery
9:15 and 11:00
Young Peoples Fellowship 5:45 P.M.
Midweek—Holy Communion—Wednesday 11:00 A.M.
Clergy—K. H. Gass—W. E. Snoxell—T. G. Phillips
Mus. Dir.—Kent McDonald