

# CHURCH DOOR

By JULIE CANDLER

When in ten years a church grows from a small group meeting at a school to a large, active congregation like the one at Community Congregational church in Lathrup, there's reason to celebrate.

They burned a mortgage, put on skits and pantomimes, centered every table with a big birthday cake, and presented their minister of ten years with a generous gift Friday night at a tenth birthday dinner celebration at the Southfield road church.

Had a special guest, too—Dr. E. W. Wilcox, superintendent of the Detroit area Congregational churches.

**MUSIC DIRECTOR** Bernard Leshley led the singing after dinner. Later, skits depicted scenes in the church's history.

C. W. Smith, former resident of Lathrup and member of the church who was instrumental in securing the parsonage was an honored guest at the dinner. He joined with the occupants of the parsonage at 27560 California, Rev. and Mrs. John D. Rose, in burning the mortgage on their home. Final payment was made this month.

It was a stirring moment when a talented quartet of teenagers sang "God Bless This House." The vocalists were Carol Ann Caster, Becky Klock, Christina Strohm and Pat McCormick.

To show their appreciation and recognition to the Rev. and Mrs. Todd for their ten years of devoted service, members of the congregation contributed to a gift for them. Friday night they surprised the two with a check for \$1,000 for a "birthdays" gift.

**SAYS THE MODEST** Mr. Rose, "I would like to start the ten years all over again, I think I could do better the next time."

Mrs. Clarence O. Gildersleeve was in charge of the program and Gordon C. Applequist was master of ceremonies. Mrs. Gildersleeve praised the Rev. Lorenzo Todd, associate minister, for the assistance he gave workers arranging the event.

Mrs. William White and Mrs. Ralph Stephenson made the dinner arrangements, while Mrs. R. N. Cogger, Mrs. Harold R. Nash, Mrs. John M. Coup and Mrs. Phil J. Uridge made up the program committee.

**PARTICIPATING IN** the skits, including one repeat of a former success from a fund-raising show, were Elmer Craig, William White, John M. Coup, R. N. Brannen, William B. Commons, and David B. Redwood.

On the distaff side of the cast were Mesdames William Arveson, Vern Blake, Claude Porter, Edwin Schippel, Ila Smith, G. E. Renton, Robert C. Steger, James D. McDonald, Wayne P. Dickerson, Hugh Robertson, Alvin B. Plumtree, John D. Rose, Walter J. Howard, H. B. Hamill, and Mrs. Barbara Jacques.

**Franklin Community Church**  
On Franklin's Village Green  
1 block west of Franklin Rd. at Wellington and Normandy.  
**MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES AND CHURCH SCHOOL**  
10 A.M.  
Robert J. Sears, Minister

**ST. ANDREWS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
(U.L.C.A.)  
A National Lutheran Council Church  
Temporarily Meeting in the Bloomfield Village School  
Labser Road at W. Maple Road  
**Worship Service 11: A.M.**  
**Sunday School 9:30 A.M.**  
Parsonage: 2247 W. Lincoln Ave. (Rev. R. F. Fuller, Mission Developer)  
Phone: MI 6-6119

**Northminster Presbyterian Church**  
3633 W. Big Beaver Rd. (East of Adams)  
MACKAY TAYLOR — MINISTER  
**WORSHIP SERVICES & CHURCH SCHOOL**  
9:30 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.

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# The Birmingham Eccentric CHURCH PAGE

PAGE 6 FEBRUARY 21, 1957

## Lutherans Pick Site On Telegraph

Negotiations are underway for the purchase of an eight and a half acre site on Telegraph road near W. Maple, to be the site of St. Andrew's Lutheran church.

The newly organized congregation of the United Lutheran church in America plans to build a house of worship to be used first as a church and Sunday school building, later as a parsonage when a church can be built. Plans are now being drawn, and will be submitted to a church council meeting March 4.

The congregation now meets at Bloomfield Village school, with worship services at 11 a.m. and Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Rev. Donald F. Fuller, mission developer, and his family live at 247 W. Lincoln, in a home purchased by the synod in September.

**MRS. COWDEN FORTEN-BAUGH**, of 667 Waddington, directs the newly organized choir. Christopher Myrold, of 5925 Eastwood, Bloomfield township, constructed a portable altar and lectern for use in worship services.

Rev. Fuller said about 71 persons attended opening services Jan. 6, and that 92 persons have signed the charter roll which will remain open for three months.

In discussing what he termed the determination of the group to get the church going, Mr. Fuller told of the difficulty in securing a place of worship.

**"OUR PERMISSION** to use Bloomfield Village school," he said, "was for a limited time, on the basis of immediate plans for constructing a chapel. I have great sympathy for new groups striving to get established in this area. It is not easy to obtain a temporary place for worship."

Mr. Fuller said Mrs. Ronald Greig of Shallow Brook road, had arranged for the church to use Birmingham United Church Women's World Day of Prayer program.

**"EXCEPT,"** HE SAID, "that our ladies will not be encouraged to participate in celebration of Holy Communion on that day. The doctrinal position of the Lutheran church on this sacrament prevents us from doing this. However, in all other things, we are desirous of cooperating with other churches in the area."

He continued, "To have attendance of well over 70 at services at I think an early stage is most gratifying. Exceeding points to a group."

**NORTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
21600 West 10 1/2 Mile Road  
**11:00 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE**  
Minister: Reverend H. Read  
**11:00 a.m. CHURCH SCHOOL**  
Pilgrim Fellowship Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.  
Pilgrim Fellowship Meeting 7:30 p.m.  
(Junior and Senior High School Young People)  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
1152 Bennaville Birmingham, Michigan  
G. Wheeler Urley, Minister  
10:00 A.M. Sunday Bible Class  
11:00 A.M. Sunday Worship  
6:00 P.M. Sunday Evening Service  
7:30 P.M. Wednesday Evening Bible Study  
**"THE HERALD OF TRUTH"**  
WXYZ—Each Sunday 5:00-5:30 P.M.



**PICTURING THE** categories into which he fits his sermons, the Rev. Robert L. DeWitt uses a blackboard to diagram his subject. He and other ministers at Christ Church Cranbrook find blackboards indispensable for meetings and discourses.

## How He Writes His Sermons: Rev. DeWitt Fits Text To 1 of 3 Categories

By JULIE CANDLER

Summing it up in a simple phrase, the Bible's basic message is, "God's love for people and what He has done about it," says the Rev. Robert L. DeWitt, pastor of Christ Church Cranbrook.

His second step in preparing UNDER THE WORD sermons is tied in with that basic theme. Mr. DeWitt shows an ardent message. He first enters the Bible, noting the particular biblical passage on which he is preaching. He reads the passage several times. Then he interprets the passage in his own words. He fits it into the basic theme of "God's love for people and what He has done about it."

To explain the process of his sermon preparation, Mr. DeWitt stepped to a blackboard and drew a diagram. He used his beautiful, pointed outline in his own text, using chalk to illustrate what he was saying. He pointed to his Bible text, which he had written on the board. He then pointed to a blackboard in the background, which he had prepared in advance. The blackboard had a diagram of a circle with three sections, each labeled with a number and a category.

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## Women's Group Has 'Growing Pains' At 14 Mile Church

"Experiencing growing pains" is how Mrs. Alan Ryland describes recent developments in Our Shepherd Lutheran church's Women's Club, which soon will be dividing into circles. Each circle will take one of the club's projects.

The group meets Tuesday 7:30-9:15 p.m. for a luncheon visit and work of Goodwill Industries. Mrs. Walter Lyford is chairman.

Other future plans include a possible home dinner Friday, March 22, at 7 p.m. to raise money toward purchase of a school bus for the congregation's Lutheran day school.

Rev. Werner Kuntz, executive director of Lutheran World Relief, described his recent tour of the Christian faith, more meaningful to the group and their faith here," he said, pointing to the blackboard in "Fall" and "Resurrection."

**Plan Puppet Show**  
Sponsoring a puppet show in the social hall of Christ Church Cranbrook March 2, the Agnes Ross' club meets for a potluck supper to which the children of the church will be invited. Mrs. Edna Matas, 720 Chester, Birmingham, The Saturday puppet show will be presented at 10 and 11:30 a.m.

A woman's night, by calling puppet and adult Bible studies. By its location," he says. He takes printing out whose fits into the Christian faith and how it is meaningful to everyone. Mr. DeWitt says the text of which he speaks is "God's love for people and what He has done about it." Sunday

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES**  
First Church of Christ, Scientists  
191 N. Christie Street — 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  
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