

1st Methodist Sponsors Medical, Teaching Mission

Dr. and Mrs. Robert B. White, recently commissioned as missionaries, will be honored at First Methodist church Sunday at farewell dedication services.

They will sail March 18 for Belgium and a year's language study, following which they will proceed to their mission station at a hospital in the central Belgian Congo of Africa.

The missionary work of the 32-year-old physician and his wife will be supported completely by the local church after the first year, during which the First Methodist congregation provides one-half of the expense.

DR. WHITE, OF Detroit, was a sanitary engineer for the Michigan Department of Health and Ford Motor company before becoming a physician. He will serve as a medical missionary.

His wife, the former Muriel L. Hunt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Hunt of Detroit, will be a missionary teacher.

Dr. White attended Wayne university for two years after his graduation from Eastern high school, then transferred to the University of Michigan. He was graduated in 1947 with a BS in civil engineering. A year later he obtained his master's degree in public health, with a major in sanitary engineering, from the same institution.

IN 1950, DR. WHITE entered the school of medicine at Western Reserve university, Cleveland, and was graduated in 1954, after which he interned and was a surgical resident for two years at Gorgas hospital, Panama Canal Zone.

A veteran of three years' service in the field artillery during World War II, he served in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Public Health Association and the American Medical Association.

Mrs. White, also a native Detroit, graduated from Cooley high school, spent four years at



TO CHECK UP on himself, Rev. Paul Shippert often tape records his sermons during Sunday services, plays them back later. Here he connects the recorder in an usher's room at the rear of the Lutheran Church of the Ascension sanctuary.

Tape Recorder, Baby Affect Sermon Work

By JULIE CANDLER

A little baby and a tape recorder affect the way the Rev. Paul Shippert writes his sermons.

The baby involved just arrived. He's David Michael Shippert, born Feb. 18. The Lutheran Church of the Ascension pastor and his wife have one son, 19 months old.

In days BD (Before David), Dad added the finishing touches to his sermons Saturdays at the parsonage next door to the church at 14 Mile and Pierce streets.

NOW THINGS ARE bustling around the Shippert household, so Dad goes to his study in the church to complete his sermons.

The tape recorder affects his sermons, because it helps Mr. Shippert to check up on himself by listening to a replay of his sermons.

Sometimes he places the recorder near the pulpit as he preaches. "Every few weeks when I really want to be hard on myself," he says, "I set the recorder up at the rear of the church."

WITH THE RECORDER in the usher's room back of the pews, Mr. Shippert hears not only his sermon delivery, but the congregation as well. Not that he's checking on the congregation.

"It's myself I'm checking on," he explains. "When I replay the sermon and hear a lot of stirring and coughing noises, along with it, I know that I've failed to make the subject as much of an attention-holder as I would want it to be."

"There are some things that many people just don't like to hear," he says. He named as an example the subject of human failings, which many prefer not to be reminded of.

"But," he continued "these subjects should be preached anyway."

THE MINISTER'S TASK, says Mr. Shippert, is to present the subject in an interesting way through organization of his material and delivery.

The tape recorder at the rear shows him which presentations create the most interest.

When he prepares his sermons, he prefers making an outline to writing them out word for word. "When I write things out," he says, "I usually write my zeal right out the penpoint."

Like other Lutheran ministers,

he comes from reading what ministers call their professional periodicals and from a file of clippings related to seasonal subjects.

THE DARK-EYED YOUNG minister usually returns to his study several nights a week to work on his sermons. There at the are-shard walnut desk in the large modern room, he dials in background music on his FM radio, and starts to work.

"I find I can accomplish more in the evening," he says. When he leaves his study after

an evening's work, he appreciates the proximity of home to the church.

"It's wonderful," he says. "Especially in the morning, I can almost roll out of bed and be at work."

Little David probably will be happy his father's study is close by, too, when he grows big enough to toddle next door for an occasional visit with his Dad.

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DR. ROBERT B. WHITE
Wayne, graduating in 1952 with a BA in speech and English.

WHILE IN COLLEGE, she was a member of Gold Key, women's honorary society, Delta Sigma Rho, national speech fraternity, and the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. Upon graduation, she taught in Cleveland public schools for a year.

During the month of February, when First church traditionally emphasizes mission responsibilities around the world, Dr. and Mrs. White appeared before several groups of the church.

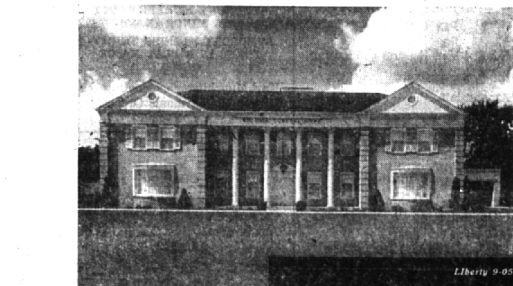
They plan to take their two sons, Andrew, 3, and Wesley, 1, with them to the Congo.

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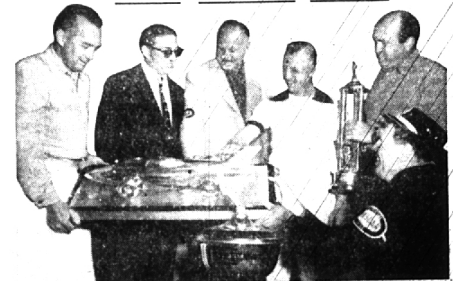
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