

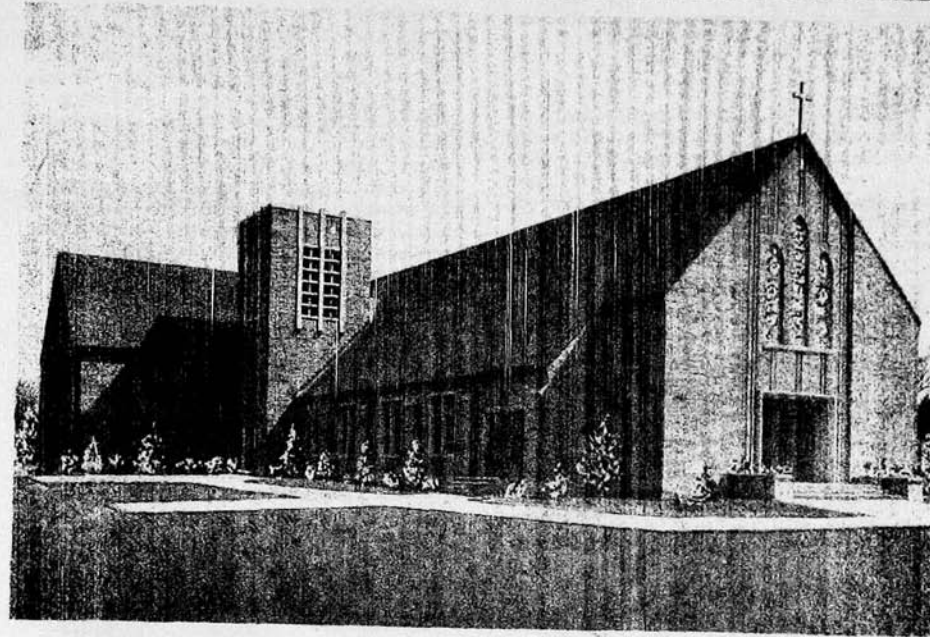


The Brightoner

Vol. 1, No. 1

Brighton Reformed Church

Jan. 30, 1957



Let us rise up and build...

Members of the Brighton Reformed Church voted at the special November congregational meeting to erect on the property adjoining Guenther House a new church and education building. The use of modern Gothic architecture was recommended by the Study Group on Building and the suggestion was approved unanimously.

During the next few months serious thought should be given to design of our new church edifice. For this reason THE BRIGHTONER is running a series of pictures of churches that have employed the use of modern Gothic architecture.

Pictured above is the recently dedicated Fourth Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, the Rev. Henry P. Kik, pastor. This building, with a seating capacity of 650 people, was built at a cost of \$225,000. The educational unit consists of 14 classrooms, a large assembly room, pastor's study and kitchen, all on the ground level. A set of Mass-Rowe cathedral tower chimes have been installed in the tower of the church. Complete off-street parking is provided.

THE BRIGHTONER published monthly by Brighton Reformed Church Rochester, N. Y.
William C. Hillemonds, Minister Paul M. Nelson, Clerk of Consistory Robert G. Portecus, Editor
Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today and forever. Heb. 13:8

On December 31 last Dominie Anthony Luidens removed the mantle that had been placed upon his shoulders forty-one years ago in the First Reformed Church of Union City, New Jersey. He retired from the active ministry in the Reformed Church in America and brought to a close his twenty-five year relationship with our church as minister, counselor, confidante and friend.

Words cannot be written here that were not spoken at his retirement service on January 6. More eloquent men have put into phrases and sentences and paragraphs what we all feel towards this man of God we have known and loved.

All that can be said here is "Good Luck and may the light continue to shine upon you and yours and may He continue to bless the ministry that shall continue through the rest of your years."

When you look back at 1956 and at the things accomplished during that year, you can see that it was a big year for Brighton Reformed Church. Many great things have happened. Small, yet important, things have happened too.

At looking at the records indicates a rise in the total number of persons who attended worship services. These people have given more than they ever gave to the church before. Last year's income set a new record...so did the spending. The budget called for a total expenditure of \$20,500. It is interesting to note that the total receipts for 1956 were \$20,671.58.

A look at the Benevolent Fund Report indicates that Brighton Reformed Church is becoming conscious of the needs of others. Almost \$5,800.00 was spent for benevolent purposes. Some of the worthy endeavours within our denomination are

finally getting recognition. In addition to the \$1,030.00 sent to the Staff Conference for departmental use, EENDRACHT received a final payment of \$2,080.00. Camp Fowler, a synodical development, got \$210.00; Church Extension \$380.00; New Brunswick Seminary-\$423.00.

In addition to the \$5,800.00 given through the Benevolent Treasurer, church groups gave an additional \$2,500.00 for mission projects and benevolences. Added together this makes an impressive total.

Definite steps were taken during 1956 to bring the new church a little closer to reality. The New Sanctuary reports that \$69,000 in cash is available when needed. Of this amount \$13,000. was received during 1956. The congregation, at a special meeting, authorized the Consistory to get busy and raise the rest of money needed. Consistory was also given the green light to build when the time seems right.

The gains made spiritually need not be discussed here...the Minister's column is for that purpose. Perhaps in the next issue the Minister will discuss, "The State of Religion in Brighton Church".

The year 1956 was a big year. But from all indications 1957 will be bigger and more eventful. Much will be said and done about the dream of the years in the months ahead. Every member (and non-member) is urged to read, think and give his whole-hearted support to the program as it unfolds. R.G.P

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness light; and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

—St. Francis of Assisi

DR. LUIDENS ACCEPTS INTERIM PASTORATE

The Consistory of the First Reformed Church of Rochester has announced that arrangements have been made with the Rev. Anthony Luidens, D.D., to serve as their Interim Minister for the time that they are without a regular minister.

Dr. Luidens will conduct the regular Sunday services as required and carry on the pastoral work among the families of the congregation. He will visit the ill and those confined to their homes, call on prospective members, new families and also conduct a Communicant's class.

Dr. and Mrs. Luidens were recently honored at a Retirement Service, bringing to a close a 25 year association with Brighton Reformed Church. In a recent letter to The Brightoner Dr. and Mrs. Luidens stated, "We were truly amazed and unprepared for such a service. It was, for us, a memorable and unforgettable event."

"Chester Engler's Portfolio of Pictures of our nation's great men, given to us in the form of U.S. Treasury notes, amounting to over \$1100.00, overwhelmed us. We are investing this gift in a "Brighton Guest Room" in our home in Holland."

They go on to say, "We plan to be in Holland by early Summer to welcome Ed, Ruth and their children when they arrive home in July for a year's furlough from the mission field."

Dr. and Mrs. Luidens will continue to make their home at 224 Winton Road North until they depart to take up residence in Holland, Michigan.

First Immigrant Family California-Bound

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Sprong and their children, first of a number of families to from The Netherlands during 1956, left on January 30 to make their home in Bellflower, California. Impaired health has forced Mr. Sprong to move to the warmer and dryer climate of the lower west coast.

Their daughter, Lynn, has accepted a position in the Pasadena office of Consolidated Electrodynamics Corp.

Our friends— THE SEBEKS

Although, as youngsters, they lived only several city blocks from each other, Henry and Nellie Sebek didn't know each other existed. It took a political upheaval in their native country, a 28 day ocean voyage to a new land and a birthday party to bring them together.

Bandoeng is the fourth largest city in the Republic of Indonesia, having a population of about 170,000. Like any large city, people can be neighbors without knowing each other. Such was the case with the Sebeks. When the colony of the Dutch East Indies became independent of The Netherlands, the Dutch "loyalists" were forced to flee, for to remain there meant almost certain death. So it was in 1947 when Nellie and her family left for The Netherlands. Henry and his family fled the country a year later.

Both families settled in The Hague. It was at a birthday party that they met and romance followed... then marriage... then Donald Max, now 3 years old... then Jim Patrick who is just nineteen months.

The high cost of living in The Netherlands finally made Henry and Nellie decide to come to America. Even the essentials were a luxury for the average person. Eggs were selling for a quarter each... meat was so expensive that most families had it only for Sunday dinner. Upon their arrival here on December 3 they made up for the lack of good things to eat. As Henry later described it, "We just ate and ate and ate."

By comparison, Henry finds working conditions at Stromberg-Carlson much more pleasant than back home. The dollars earned buy a good deal more. The television set, for instance, a luxury item for the wealthy few in Europe, is a household necessity in most homes.

The Sebek family was sponsored by the Sunday Nite Club which helped them to get established in their new home at 155 Wisconsin Street, Apt. 4.

OUTSTANDING FILM FOR WOMEN

TO BE SHOWN BY K-W CLASS, FEB. 11

See Page 5 for details

WHAT WE BELIEVE

By William C. Hillegonds

The very alert and progressive editor of The Brightoner has suggested that this page carry a series of articles under the heading, WHAT WE BELIEVE. There was a time in the church when it was an accepted principle that the surest method of putting most Christians to sleep was to begin talking or writing about beliefs or doctrines or creeds or theology. This day for most people is gone. The experience of most ministers who have attended summer youth conferences and who encourage young people and thinking older people to visit the church study is that there is an honest desire abroad to know what we can believe about God and life and world and the destiny of man. It is almost natural that we ask, "Where did we come from?" "Why are we here?" "Where are we going?" It is natural to ask these questions because God has endowed us with restless, searching minds.

To these questions Christianity offers an answer and it is to this answer that this series of articles will be devoted.

There are two things that the searching mind of our day does not want. That is, this is true if I understand this mind. The person who is looking to the church and Christianity for the answers to some of his questions wants the church's reply in language that is not archaic. There was day when to the question, "What or who is God?" the church could make reply in the words of the Westminster Confession, "God is a spirit, infinite, eternal and unchangeable, in His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth." This is adequate and it is good but if it is not meaningful (and this I question) the church must put it in different language. We shall attempt to do this in this series.

And then the person who is really thinking grows weary of the speaker or the writer who conveys the impression that he knows it all. There is a French saying that, when translated into English, reads, "God defined is God finished." There is a great deal we can know

about God. This because He chooses to make Himself and His will and His purpose for life known. But we cannot know everything about Him nor can we say that what we know now is the last word we shall have addressed to us. If not here then in Heaven we shall be in for a few surprises.

What is written in these articles is what, at the present time, I believe about God and Christ and heaven and hell. I hope some day to know more about these persons and states. (You see, already you know I don't look upon heaven and hell as places only). It is even possible that, at certain junctures along the way, I shall be wrong in the emphasis given a doctrine of the church. This I must leave with God. What can be promised you is real preparation and a humble spirit which is always ready to be taught as well as teach.

And so onto WHAT WE BELIEVE

* * * GUENTHER HOUSE ACTIVE AS CHURCH CENTER

Guenther House, which became a wholly owned property of Brighton Reformed Church in December last, is already the scene of great activity. The house was quickly conditioned for use by church groups. The heating system was converted to automatic oil heat for economy purposes.

Spacious, furnished rooms provide natural, comfortable meeting places for smaller groups and executive committees. On the first floor the Minister has a study where can be found the quiet, undisturbed atmosphere not present in the church basement. The infant nursery on the second floor is equipped in all ways to handle the very young while their parents are attending the worship services. Also on the second floor is the church office housing the new mimeographing equipment.

Some of the groups already using Guenther House are Girl Scouts, Golden Rule, Men's Class Consistory and the Minister's Communicant class.

PARISH HI-LITES

MAN The newly-formed Men's Brotherhood TO met on Friday evening, January 18, **MAN** in the Fellowship Lodge. The purpose of the meeting was to draft a constitution. Except for two items this was accomplished. Many great things are expected to be accomplished by this new arm of the church. As this group progresses, many of its activities will be reported in this column.

Special Emphasis on The Power of Prayer will be theme for the regular monthly meeting of the Men's Bible Class. They will meet at the Lodge on Friday evening, February 8 at 8 P.M. Plenty of seats are still available.

FOR The K-W Class is sponsoring an **WOMEN** educational film to be shown at **ONLY** their meeting, February 11 at 8. This film, produced for the American Cancer Society, concerns itself with the problem of breast cancer. Following the showing of this outstanding and highly recommended picture, a doctor will answer all questions relating to the subject. All the women of the parish are invited to share in this program.

C.E. The Senoir C.E. has already started **NLWS** on a busy schedule. The first of the major activities was on January 13 when they went to the Rochester Friendly Home with "Uncle" Bill. After a period of singing and visiting at the Home the members returned to the Lodge to view a movie, followed by a discussion period. The meeting of January 20 was in the form of a supper meeting. Two senior CE-ers participated in the morning service on Youth Sunday, Jan. 27. The big event for February will be the birth day party to be held this year in the Lodge. Members and past members of Christian Endeavour from Wayne and Monroe counties will be present.

SCOUTING February 12 will be Scout Sun- **IN THE** day in Brighton Church and will **NEWS** be observed by all units of the Scouts. All Scouts will attend the second service that morning. Donald DeBraal, former Eagle Scout in Troop 74 and now a junior at Western Seminary will

MINISTER'S STUDY (cont'd.)

In this moment we are met honor one such person and his wife. Many things occur in a church in a period of twenty-five years. There is joy and there is sorrow. There is pleasure and there is pain. There are baptisms and weddings and there is death and a word from Thee is supposed to be addressed to each. And always there is the necessity of finding a message for the pulpit which is meant to deepen happiness and enlarge goodness and help people drop the anchor of faith before the storm begins lest they be swept away by misfortune. In all of this he has been faithful, and the people who have been helped by him will remember and be grateful always.

And now a new chapter in the life of the church has begun. It is carried on in the spirit of Saint Paul who realizing the proneness and eagerness of people to compare messenger with messenger wrote, "What then is Apollos?—When then is Paul?— Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted. Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything but only God who gives the growth.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
AMEN.

William C. Hillegonds

Minister

preach on the theme, "The Scout, An Athlete for God." The Explorers will be handling the ushering chored.

The Cubs, Scouts and Explorers are all going to take part in the big Scout-o-Rama to be held in the War Memorial Building on April 12 and 13. All members have tickets for this event. See about them today...

Explorers from Troop 74 and the senior Girl Scouts will participate in the Week-end Co-ed Party at Allegheny State park. The dates to remember—Feb. 22-24.

Two big dinners to remember.. the Cubs' Blue and Gold Dinner on Feb. 18 and the Father and Son Dinner on Feb. 27.

From the Minister's Study

Every church family has its troubles. It is to be expected that what we call misfortune will always be the companion of fortune. Our young women will give birth to babies and our young people will graduate from college and marry and our people in industry will receive promotions. And with these we shall rejoice.

But there are other experiences, too. Sickness comes and there are hours and days and even weeks of anxiousness. Death comes to the very old and strikes down those who are not old. Children and young people and adults are rushed to doctors' offices and hospitals and there is more concern.

Like day and night and winter and summer the experiences of life vary.

In recent weeks our Brighton family has had its share of moments that can produce uneasiness of mind and spirit. Death has visited us. So has the need for surgery. So has a tragedy that has already left its mark on the thinking of scores of us. With Saint Paul we are moved to ask, "What can we say about this?"

We can say this. What has happened in the lives of so many of our people is not something strange or unreal. It is as much a part of life as the good things that happen to us. We treat birth and college commencement and office and factory promotion as natural features of living. And death and pain and personal tragedy are no different. Or have we forgotten what is implicit in the words of Jesus, "In the world you will have tribulation."

And something else needs to be said about this. Since not one of us is immune to these things we had better get ready for them now lest when the darkness descends and we are in deep and disturbed waters of misfortune God seems so far removed. We had better learn now that there is no such thing as "faucet religion." We just can't expect to turn it on and have immediate and lasting peace of mind and the answers to all our questions. The capacity for religious understanding and experience must be cultivated. The faith of a Christian, like an ear for music or taste for literature, is a developable instinct. We must work at it or there won't be much of it when we really need it.

Let this be clearly understood. Unless you and I are interested in growing in the grace and knowledge of God... unless we are interested in absorbing the spirit of the Master as we worship and pray and read Holy Scripture we shall not have the serenity of spirit that marked His days when life begins to tumble in.

A doctor once said to me after he found it impossible to do anything more for a friend, "If only she had come to me sooner." No experience is beyond the reach of God's help, of course. But when He sees us suffer so much mental anguish in the face of bereavement or pain or tragedy, in one form or another, I have the idea that, in some cases, He says the same thing.

* * *

Many persons have asked for a copy of the prayer prepared for the Farewell Service of Dr. and Mrs. Luidens. I am happy to include this prayer in my column in this issue of The Brightoner.

"Father, there is in the mind of every man a longing for Thee. We are made in Thy image and therefore as long as we are men and women there is something in us that wants us to respond to Thee. But search as diligently as we can we shall never find much about Thy nature and purpose for life and world nor about the far-off goal towards which all creation moves if it were not for Thy revelation.

We are grateful that Thy word has been addressed to us. For the word and work of historian and poet and prophet, all of whom give us an insight into Thy mind and will, we give Thee thanks. And for Him who is the word made flesh our greatest measure of gratitude is reserved. For Jesus Christ we offer thanks.

In this service we are mindful of another step in this process which makes available to us Thy counsel for the living of our days. This is he who has been set apart to preach and live the Word and minister to the needs of people. We know not why this mantle comes upon certain men for no man is worthy of such a high calling. And yet upon some it is placed and great is their privilege and greater still the responsibility.

(cont'd on Page 7)



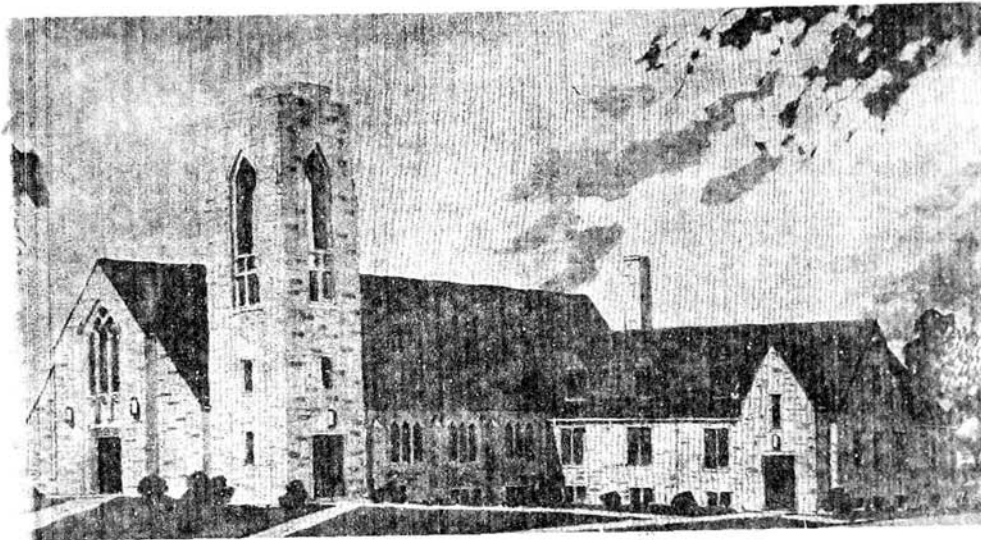
The
Brightoner

Vol. 1, No. 2

Brighton Reformed Church

Feb. 28, 1957

Let us rise up and build...



Silver Creek Reformed Church German Valley, Illinois

Pictured above is the newly-constructed sanctuary of the Silver Creek Reformed Church, the Rev. Tunis Miersma, pastor. This is the second in a series of pictures of churches portraying the successful use of modern Gothic architecture. The Silver Creek church is an outstanding example of what can be accomplished using this type of architecture.

The exterior is of Wisconsin Lannon stone, varying color from buff to blue-gray. All windows in the sanctuary are leaded, stained European glass and all others leaded cathedral glass. The nave of the church seats 450 persons, the choir balcony 43, and an additional 100 can be seated in the chapel. The structure, with the Christian educational building which houses 15 classrooms, was built at a cost of \$240,000.

(NEXT MONTH * FIRST REFORMED CHURCH, LAFAYETTE, IND.)

<p>THE BRIGHTONER published monthly by Brighton Reformed Church Rochester, N. Y.</p> <p>William C. Hillemonds, Minister Paul M. Neslon, Clerk of Consistory Robert G. Porteous, Editor</p> <p>Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today and forever. Heb. 13:8</p>
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From the Editor's Desk...

A great deal can be said and written about music, for music is another medium through which man expresses himself. Undoubtedly there has been music, in one form or another, since the time of Adam. Certainly in the time of our Lord choirs of angels were known to have sung.

As time progressed, so did music... and the musician. The pipe organ, at one time unheard of in the church, is now a standard item in all churches. The versatility of the ABOUT instrument, combined with the MUSIC talents of its master, tell a gospel story all its own.

The voices of the choir and congregation can tell the story of creation, suffering, pain, joy, the Nativity, the Passion, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection and the Ascension. Therefore, can it not be said that music in the church is important. It is, in fact, one aspect of the ministry...the ministry of music.

When one thinks of the Sunday morning worship service, one thinks of the recitation of our common belief, The Apostles' Creed. Too, one thinks of the petitions and the thanksgiving and the praise offered, on our behalf, in the pastoral prayer. One cannot help but be stirred, and sometimes jolted, into deep and serious thought when the sermon is preached. And that is as it should be. Through the spoken word, if it is well presented, we can walk today with Jesus. His words are not old and historic and dead, but as fresh and dynamic as today. But only because they are presented that way.

So it is with church music. Each hymn and anthem and soloist's song has a message. And it, too, must be presented in a fresh and dynamic way.

Just as an effective, thought-prov-

oking sermon requires hours of research and preparation, so the music of the worship service requires proper preparation as well as a dynamic but dignified delivery. If the Minister is expected to put his best into his part of the service, it would follow that others participating in the service should do a job of equal quality.

The time is quickly approaching when big decisions must be made. The new church will soon enter the planning stages...the financial campaign will soon be started. In 'too-short' a time we will be worshipping in the new church itself. When we move we shall take with us many of the habits and traditions, of the years. We must not, however, transfer bad habits and foolish traditions. It must be resolved that, with a new sanctuary to glorify the name of Jesus Christ, we strive always to present, in a clear, fresh way, the Gospel of our Lord.

On May 15, Dr. Billy Graham and his twelve-man team moves into Madison Square Gardens for a 5 month evangelistic crusade. Like a combination of Babylon, Sodom and imperial Rome, New York lies waiting for this man of God to bring the city to its knees. Ever since he began his world-wide ministry, Billy Graham has catalogued the big city as a citadel of Satan he would have to tackle someday. The time is quickly approaching.

In a recent article in the monthly Christian Life, Dr. Graham explains why he put New York off so long. "We felt that our particular type of campaign could at best only make a dent in New York City. Time after time, as we stood in the midst of this throbbing metropolis, we felt our inadequacy...Protestantism is an extreme minority. Ministers have been discouraged and frustrated. Recently a New York minister said that he felt this crusade could possibly be God's last call to New York."

Billy Graham asks for the help of us all in this great crusade. He says, "Ask your friends and your church to pray regularly for the crusade. Write to every friend or relative, particularly the unsaved, to attend. We believe many will come to know Christ through this method."

R.G.P.

BUILDING COMMITTEE NAMED

A thirty member Building Committee has been named to construct a new Brighton Reformed Church. Consistory recently confirmed the names submitted by the Board of Deacons. The members appointed represent a cross section of the total membership of the church; all age groups are well represented. The views and judgement of each will be fully considered.

The Board of Deacons named Chester G. Engler to serve as General Chairman. The General Steering Committee will assist and counsel the General Chairman. It shall be the duty of this committee to interview candidates and recommend to the Building Committee their choice of an architect. The full members of the Steering Committee are Chester G. Engler, Chm., Jacob DeVuyst, Carl Pearson, Isaac Hubregsen, E. LeRoy Hand, John Olyslager, Clarence De lyser and Ray Tell.

The full committee has been split into seven sub-committees, each with a definite task to perform. The sub-committees will report regularly to the full Building Committee on their progress, and as the work progresses, details will be made known to the church membership through Progress Reports appearing in the pages of the Brightoner.

The sub-committees and their members are: ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION - Carl Pearson, Chm., Henry DeRoo, Albert Martin, Marene Asbrook, Janna Deuraff, Rudolph Miller, Arthur Brouwer, William Dewitte, Paul Nelson, John De Roo, E. Leroy Hand, Jacob Scheerens. FINANCE - Clarence Delyser, Chm., Clarence Talsma, Edward DeBrine, Ray Tell, Gordon Tait, Henry DeRoo.

CHANCELL, NAVAL, NARTHOL, MUSIC AND ETC. Jacob DeVuyst, Chm., Maylon Howell, Edward Anderson, Clarence Talsma, Isaac Hubregsen. CHURCH SCHOOL NEEDS - John Olyslager, Chm., Paul Nelson, Doris Wahl. INTERIOR DECORATING - Ruth Delyser, Chm., Alice Zonneville, Marvin Scheerens, Robert VanBortel.

LANDSCAPING AND PARKING - Mervin Baker, Chm., Arthur Brouwer.

PUBLICITY - Robt. Porteous, John Olyslager. RECORDING SEC. - Ray Tell.

ASBURY - FIRST LISTS LENTEN PREACHERS

Dr. Robert James McCracken, minister of the Riverside Church, New York City, will open this year's Lenten lecture series at Asbury-First Methodist Church. He will speak March 7.

Dr. McCracken is one of six nationally prominent speakers in the series. Services are scheduled for 4 and 8 P.M. each Thursday. The Scotland-born minister has been at Riverside Church for ten years. His topic will be "America's Unpardonable Sin - Failure."

The other speakers are:

March 14 - Dean James A. Pike of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York City, former lawyer and officer in Naval intelligence in World War II, His topic: "How to Handle Your Past."
March 21 - Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, bishop of the Washington area of the Methodist Church, Washington, D.C., author, former National Vespers preacher and consultant to the U.S. government. His topic will be announced later.
March 28 - Dr. Ralph S. Sockman, minister of Christ Methodist Church, New York City, author and radio speaker. His topic: "Tempting God."
April 4 - Dr. George MacPherson Doherty, minister of New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, Wash., D.C., former minister at Glasgow and Aberdeen, Scotland. His topic: "Life with a Difference."
April 11 - Dr. Henry Hitt Crane, minister of Central Methodist Church, Det., frequent speaker in Rochester and popular particularly among youth. His subject: "Voyagers."

MINISTER NAMED TO CONDUCT BRIGHTON HIGH LENTEN SERVICE

The Rev. William C. Hillemonds was one of seven local ministers named to conduct services for students of Brighton High School during Lent. Mr. Hillemonds will preach on March 27. The services will be held each Wednesday morning from 8 to 8:30, March 6 through April 17, in Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church.

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Roland Woodham's

VIEWS ON SCOUTING ---

The Boy Scout movement is a very important phase of our church program. Through it we are training about 90 young men how to become better citizens for tomorrow. It means much more than just one night a week that they are off the streets.

In Cubs the boys learn to make things with their hands; how to work together in small neighborhood groups and with the Pack and with Mother and Dad at home. Cubbing is, primarily, home-centered.

Scouts in our troop, as well as all troops, learn to take care of themselves--how to live out of doors. Through the merit badge program they are given the opportunity to learn about many different trades and vocations which may help them to decide what to do later on in life.

Explorers, in their social program, learn how to meet people and how to conduct themselves at parties and dances and other gatherings. The vocational program is an important part of the Explorer's training. Both Scouts and Explorers have an out door program, planned by themselves, that takes them on trips all over our great country.

All three groups have a service program that teaches them that to have a full life you must do things for others.

Brighton Reformed Church sponsors all three Scouting units. It is the responsibility of every church member to see that the boys have the best in adult leadership. Without the proper leadership the whole effort can be lost by the wayside. At the present time the chairmen of all three groups and our Cubmaster are men outside of our church membership. Although these men are all doing a good job, we should be doing it. It is my hope that, in the coming year, we will have more of the leading posts held by men from within the congregation.

At the present time we are in need of someone to serve as Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster as John Ewing, our present acting S.M. will soon answer the call of his country to serve in one of the branches of the Armed Forces.

To keep our Scouting movement a vital part of our church program, we must have more of our churchmen taking part in it. In our Sunday School we teach our
(continued on page 7)

TEACHER'S WORKSHOP
PLANNED FOR MARCH 12

Church School superintendent, John Olyslager, has arranged for a Teachers' Workshop to be held at our church on Tuesday evening, March 12. All teachers and officers of our church school staff are requested to attend this special conference which will begin at seven-forty-five sharp. Teachers and officers of the Second Reformed Church school, under the leadership of superintendent Gordon Maasdorp, will also participate in the workshop.

The Workshop is designed to promote better teaching by providing teachers of both schools an opportunity to exchange ideas and problems at a departmental level and to discuss with the guest conference leaders the current lesson materials of the Faith and Life curriculum.

Mr. Alden Clark, chairman of the committee on Christian Education for the fifty five Presbyterian churches of the Presbytery of Rochester will speak on the subject - "What Is A Teacher"?

Professor Fred Willkens of the Colgate-Rochester Divinity School and Dean of the Federation of Churches School of Religion, has already accepted his invitation to be a conference leader for one of the five departmental staff conferences.

Supt. Olyslager, when questioned as to the reasons for having the Workshop at this time, pointed out that many people of our Congregation are now busily engaged in studies and plans for a new Church edifice, soon to be built across the street from our present building. A large area of the new building will be devoted to classrooms and equipment for the Christian nurture of our people and their children. What we teach, and how we teach, ought to meet the needs of our students. "Unless we can make the Christian faith relevant to our times", Mr. Olyslager stated, we will have failed in our duty to the Lord of the Church and we could not, then, justify the expense of new classrooms. If men and women are to know Christ they must be taught. We teachers have been commissioned to expound the scriptures and study the life of the Church in such a way that God's will for His Church can be known by the
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WHAT WE BELIEVE

By William C. Hillegonds

"Does it make any difference what we believe? Isn't it what I do that matters most?" These questions are as old as the church, really. And, of course, it does matter a great deal what you and I do. The Christian is not judged by what he does with the creeds of the church, for Christianity is not essentially creed. Christianity is essentially life. We shall be judged by what we do with the gospel entrusted to us. There won't be much heaven for those who thank God for what they are and have and then do nothing with it. This is why it is so important that we use what we have, and this includes dollars and cents as well as talent and time, in the work Christ has committed to the church.

But we shall never do very much, at least we shall never do very much in the spirit of our Lord, if we do not believe certain things about God. It is a well established psychological truth that belief tends to become action. What we believe determines how we behave. If we believe that the material matters most in life, we shall become materialists. If, on the other hand, we believe beauty and truth and love to be the most important features of life we shall tend to become the embodiment of these. This is why St. Paul counsels us "think upon these things." He knew, as we should know, that as a man thinks he is.

Take the doctrine of God, for instance. It makes a great deal of difference what we believe about Him. If we believe (and here is where so many of us are theoretical rather than practicing Christians) that God is some disinterested, distant being who cares little for us, then we have a reason to despair of life and world. But if our view of God is like that of Jesus we shall know that God is the "living God" who is as interested in His creation as any mature parent is interested in his child or children.

If there is any thought of God dear to the heart of the Reformed Church it is this one, for one of the great contributions of the Reformed Church to Protestant thinking is the one that stresses

the sovereignty of God. This is God's world. He is the ruler yet. He has never abdicated as King of creation. He is vitally concerned about the affairs of men and world. He wants us to know that He is present in our homes and that by faith we can link ourselves "with the inexhaustible power that spins the universe."

A growing belief about God usually produces a growing Christian. If you believe in the God and Father of Jesus Christ as He did, then your life will become increasingly radiant, confident and secure.

(To be continued)

OPEN LETTER -
to the men of the
Brighton Reformed Church

The Brighton Reformed Church is fortunate in having the Ellison Park Apartments in the immediate vicinity.

There may be families who have not been informed or who do not know of our church or who have drifted away or who are not active in any church at the present time.

We feel that the pre-Easter season is a particularly good time to invite those living in the apartments to our worship services or at least to get them thinking about going to some place of worship.

On Monday, March 4, at 7:00 P.M., we will meet at Fellowship Lodge for a few brief instructions from the Minister then in teams of two, we shall do our calling. At nine fifteen we shall return to the Lodge for refreshments and to make a report on our findings.

Now is our chance to show what we can do as an unit, a group of men with a purpose, for our Church and God.

Let's make our light shine bright.

Your Men's Brotherhood

Courage conquers all things; it even gives strength to the body.

— Ovid

"THE RICHEST HILL ON EARTH" - - - - -

Many years ago a man was being driven along a mountain road from Helena to Butte, Montana. As they were coming around a sharp turn, there was seen ahead, a long, bleak scarred mountain. The man driving the car said, "That is the richest hill on earth." He was right. It was the Silver Bow Mountain, a "hill" from which more wealth, in the form of copper, has been taken than from any other hill. Since 1876, the mines in the Silver Bow Mountain have yielded over thirteen billion pounds of copper.

Those words lay dormant in the man's mind for several years. One day they came back sharply to mind, in a place a long distance from Butte. The man was with a company of travellers in Jerusalem, who were going along a narrow street called the Via Dolorosa, so named because of the tradition that Jesus went along that way to the cross. The guide said to the company, "No one knows just exactly where Calvary was, for the city has been buried many times. But it was probably not far from that hill."

Then the phrase, so long buried, came to life, "The richest hill on earth." It was a vastly different hill from the Silver Bow Mountain. But from the Hill of Calvary has come the greatest wealth the world has ever known. Lent is a good time to think of the wealth for human life that has come from Calvary. It is a wonderful thing to see Calvary as it is. Indeed, it is always a great thing when one actually sees what he is looking at. The great red letter days of history have been those when a person sees what is before him. It was so when Galileo looked at the swinging chandelier in the Cathedral of Milan and saw behind the moving chandelier, the movement of the earth. It was a great day for humanity when, much later, Sir Alexander Fleming looked at a curious mold on a saucer and saw all that it meant to the world as penicillin. These sights were very different, but were alike in this, that each subject became a window through which could be seen the reality beyond. So, the cross is a window through which we see the realities beyond.

1. For one thing, the cross of Calvary is a reality through which we see

the nature of God. Those who have looked longest and deepest at Calvary have seen more than a tragedy, or a martyrdom, or what is called, loosely, "inspiration." They have been persuaded that they have looked through a window and seen the ultimate truth of the universe, a God of love. That is what makes Calvary the "richest hill on earth." That is what makes our gospel a breath-taking thing, that God Himself has stepped into our human life, with all its pains, and weariness, and grief and sin, and makes the struggle His own. The great opportunity of Lent is to catch a fresh view of that fact that lifts life up out of defeat and dejection.

2. We never really see Calvary until we see ourselves in it. Tennyson writes of "the fierce light that beats about a throne." There is a fierce light that beats about the cross. In that light we see ourselves; we see the play of motives that are active in our own lives. The motives that pushed Jesus to the cross are in our lives; greed, the desire for security, the grasp of advantage, the fear of the crowd, indifference to the suffering of others. Calvary was an event in history; but it is also an event in our lives. If, with clear eyes and a heart that is not afraid to look at ourselves, we see our likeness to those who drove Jesus to the cross, these days of Lent may bring us to a repentance that puts these things from us, and leads us to a more genuine discipleship.

3. We do not really see the cross until we see it as a way of life for ourselves. Lent, if we use it thoughtfully in daily devotion, will show us that the cross is not only something to do. It is not merely something to sing about. It is a quality to put into action—"the love of Christ constraineth us." That has been the most powerful source of social action that the world has been. That love should move us to put out our lives into action. If we read, meditate on the way of Jesus to Calvary, if we pray each day, our lives will be brought closer to the pattern of His life.

Will any action of love result from your observance of Lent?

The Reader' Guide

The Editor has suggested that each month I give the readers of The Brightener a list of books in which the interested can do some reading. Here are four books and two magazine articles that I have found to be very stimulating.

Should Christians Drink?

Leverett Tilson, Abingdon Press

The Cost of Discipleship

Bonhoeffer, Macmillan

The Bible Today

Harper & Brothers

Naught For Your Comfort

Huddleston, Doubleday

"The Truth About Faith Healers"

McCall's for February, 1957

"The Most Wasted Hour in the week"

Life for February 11, 1957

The books can be ordered from The Reformed Church Bookstore, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, New York, or borrowed from the Rochester Public Library. The magazines can be found at any good magazine counter.

W.C.H.

VILDS ON SCOUTING (continued)

Children about Christ and His way of life. I believe in Scouting we show them how to put these teachings into practice.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR NEWS

The Senior CE's have a number of events planned for March in addition to their regular meetings. A bowling party to be held at Lutheran Concordia Church is scheduled for March 16. On the following day the Seniors will attend the Missionary Rally at Lakeview Community Church. Two of the young people from the local group will take part in the program. On March 24 a special film will be shown at the Lodge. All members are urged to turn out to see this feature.

Mrs. Sayle, advisor to the Senior CE, is anxious to find a couple interested in helping with the recreation program of that group. Anyone who has experience in organizing group sports may apply...

TEACHER'S WORKSHOP (continued)

people in it. Such study explores the nature of the Church in the scriptural record and in Church history. Our school is using a fine new curriculum, The Christian Faith and Life...but we need to understand more fully its purpose and its lesson material before we can do a more effective job of teaching.

"The workshop program is designed to do just this. We can learn from others and that is why we have asked such recognized experts in the field of Christian Education as Mr. Clark and Professor Wilkens to come and share their knowledge with us. Both of these men, as well as the other conference leaders, are extremely busy people...but they are as responsive now as were the disciples of old when the Lord of the Church bade them to "Go and Teach".

"This great commission proclaimed in the scriptures in Matthew 28: 18-20 is ours to carry forth in a renewed urgency for our time. This commission rests on every church school teacher and every Superintendent. Our Lord, the Lord of the Church, has given us this Commission, and it needs our attention now."

SUNDAY The recent Smorgasbord held by NITE the Sunday Nite Club turned out CLUB to be a tremendous success. The Treasurer revealed that \$168.00 was added to the club's coffers. A great deal of credit goes to Dot and Chet Engler whose untiring efforts in organizing the committees and directing the smooth operations helped so much.

COMING EVENTS

The Golden Rule Class will have a Stanley Demonstration on Tuesday evening, Mar. 5. All the women of the parish are invited to attend this demonstration to be held in the church basement at 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

The Ladies Aid Society will hold its Fish Fry supper in Fellowship Lodge on March 15. Supper will be served from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Plan now to attend.

From the Minister's Study

I sometimes wonder if the time has not come for me to see a competent psychologist to learn why I am so sensitive to certain criticism. The criticism I have in mind has to do with my ministry as pastor. Perhaps the sensitiveness stems from a guilty conscience because there are hours in the week when I could be "pounding on doors" in which I steal away to the church office for a session with a good book.

Or it may be that I am in revolt against the traditional concept of the pastor. There was a day in the church, and I am old enough to remember this, when the "dominie" made regular visits to the homes of the parish if for no other reason than to enjoy a good cup of coffee. As a boy I resented this for it always meant getting back into my "school clothes" to make a good impression. There was genial conversation. There was coffee. And there was a long, sonorous prayer and the dominie was off to the house down the street. Even at an early age I felt that when it came to coffee and long prayers the dominie was a poor example of temperance.

This may have accomplished a great deal because it did demonstrate that someone from the church at the four corners cared enough to leave the four corners for the homes of its people. The church was a place that went to its people as well as a place to which its people went. Whether this was worth the twenty hours a week most ministers dev-

oted to this type of pastoral work is something I do not know.

Let me give my position once again. I want to be your pastor. I want to call on the young and old, the old and prospective member, the sick and the well; but I would like to feel that the call is wanted or needed. I shall call on anyone at any time who will let me know that such a call might be helpful. (And one way to indicate that it can be helpful is to turn off television.)

And when tempted to steal away to the office with that book I shall endeavor to say "No" to temptation and continue to visit in those homes where there is no known need.

Lent begins on March 6. The Consistory hopes that we shall use this period as one in which we do some serious thinking about God and ourselves. I shall try to make the Sunday sermons and prayers during Lent as meaningful and helpful as possible and I am sure Mr. Fischer will do the same with the music he, the choir and soloists prepare. It would be good to resolve now to be present at one of our Sunday morning worship services each Sunday in Lent.

Elsewhere in this issue appear the details concerning the great Lenten services to be held at Asbury First Church. You will want to hear all of these preachers, if possible.

William C. Hillgonds
Minister

Brighton Reformed Church
Blossom Road at Arbordale
Rochester 10, N.Y.

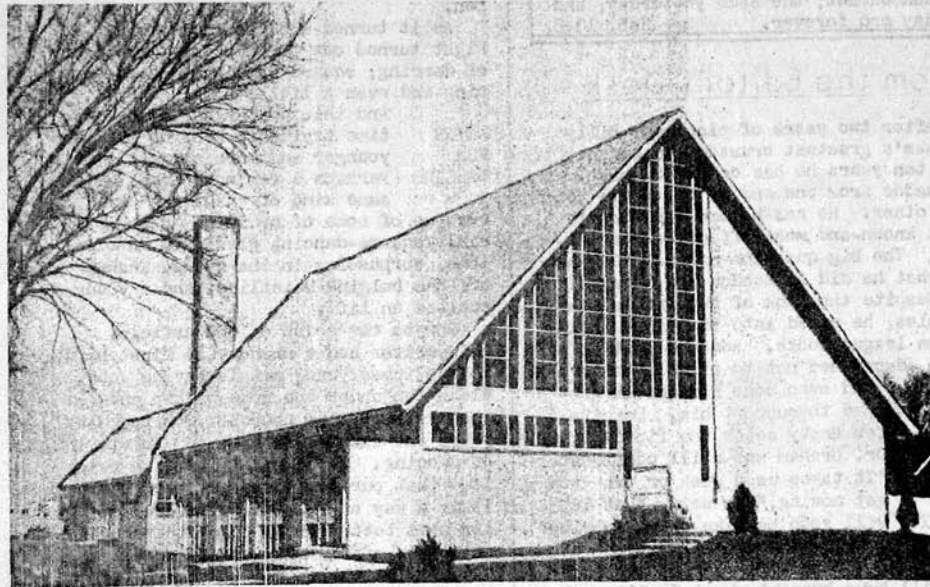


The Brightoner

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Brighton Reformed Church

May 30, 1957



Newly-Constructed Sanctuary, Grace Reformed Church, Dearborn, Mich.

The Grace Reformed Church of Dearborn, Michigan, recently dedicated the sanctuary shown above. The auditorium, including the choir loft, has a seating capacity of 450. A further section of the gallery which can be completed later will seat another 100 people. The style of architecture is both Gothic and Modern. The Church School of well over 300 students meets both in the new building and also in the old church building across the street, which now serves as an educational building. The cost of the church and equipment amounted to about \$165,000. The Rev. George Schilling is pastor.

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THE BRIGHTONER published monthly by Brighton Reformed Church Rochester, N. Y.
William C. Hillegonds, Minister Edwin and Ruth Luidens, Gilbert and Ruth Lum, Bernice Roos, Missionaries Paul M. Nelson, Clerk of Consistory Robert G. Porteous, Editor Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today and forever. Heb. 13:8

From the Editor's Desk

After two years of planning, Billy Graham's greatest crusade has begun. For ten years he has conducted his crusades from one end of the world to the other. He has become the world's best known-and most effective-evangelist. The big question now is, "Can he do what he did in London and Glasgow?"

Despite the lack of support in some circles, he waded into the task wearing seven league boots. Roman Catholics were admonished not to attend Graham's meeting, and even some Protestant groups declined to support him. Despite a CAN - few empty seats the first night, BILLY Dr. Graham was still confident. FELL "It takes us a week or two to get moving," he said, "but it THE will soon be like a mighty river MIGHTY rushing through the city. GIANT

If present figures continue he will have brought about 34,300 souls to "a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ." This is a small drop in the bucket when one looks at city's eight million and another six million people living in the suburbs. But if the 1,500 participating churches do their part in the tremendous task of satisfying the hungry soul of the new convert, and can make him a dynamic, effective witness for Christ, the spiritual tide will wash New York clean. The effect may very well be felt all over America.

Can Billy fell the mighty giant? It is altogether possible that he can get his teetering a bit, and with a big push from Christians, new and old alike, all across the nation, the giant will fall flat on his face back in Hell.

Several weeks ago your Editor and his wife were asked to act as chaperones at a Fun Night for the Senior CE group. Last Saturday night, despite opposition from High Schools proms and a Scout overnigher, about 30 of our young people gathered at the Lodge. On hand was Stan and Corrinne Bardwell with a goodly supply of records and sound equipment et al. Things had already begun to happen.

As it turned out the "fun" in Fun Night turned out to be about three hours of dancing; square dancing, modern dancing and even a little rock and roll.

And this writer has a terrific WE'RE time trying to keep up with the FOR younger and more energetic set. DANCING Perhaps a few more doses of the same kind of "medicine" will cure me of some of my ills. For certainly square-dancing gives you muscle tone, corpuscles in the veins, inches off the bulging waistline, and a young outlook on life.

Now to the point of the article. This writer had a chance, at first hand, to see these young people having good, clean fun under the sponsorship and leadership of the church. For too many years the church has taken a dim view of dancing. It is nearly time we realized that our young people love to dance. It is a way of releasing youthful energy, and what better place than at a church sponsored affair such as the one last Saturday night.

It is to be hoped that Brighton Reformed Church will make use of the facilities it has at hand and provide for our younger set the type of program that they want and like, not what the older generation likes. Juvenile delinquency is mounting in our city and in our own community. We may never be able to save those who have made the wrong turn in life, but there is good chance that we can prevent many from making that wrong turn in the beginning.

We need never send our young people to a beer hall to dance when it can be done right in the Lodge.

Our thanks to Florence Woodhams, Lucille VanBortel, Marcia Owellon, Judy Madison, Glen and Robert Woodhams who helped the mailing of the last issue.

Building Program Bulletin

Brighton Reformed Church has selected the firm of Walzer and Miller to design the new church edifice and educational building. Recommended by the General Steering Committee, the Building Committee voted to acquire the services of Walzer and Miller and the Consistory endorsed the selection. Walzer and Miller embody the combination of Registered Architect and Professional Engineer. The entire job of design, construction, and selection of equipment as well as the architectural, structural, heating, ventilating, plumbing, electrical, and supervisory phases are well within the scope of the firm's professional team. The execution of every is under the direct supervision of the partners.

Mr. Walzer is a graduate of Rochester Institute of Technology and the University of Michigan where he received his degree of Bachelor of Science in Architecture in 1940. Following his graduation he joined Frank Quinlin, Architect, as senior draftsman, working on the design of Nazareth College and St. Joseph's Villa. He served in

the U.S. Army Engineers as head of the drafting department in Syracuse. In that capacity he worked on the Syracuse Air Base, Rome Air Base, and Utica Army Hospital projects. Following his discharge in 1946, he again entered the civilian architectural field. His partner, Louis M. Miller, is a graduate of the U. of R. Mr. Miller entered the engineering field in 1934 in field supervision of mechanical equipment and industrial construction with a New York firm. He has been associated with the design, development and installation of a variety of industrial equipment. In 1950 he joined the firm of E. M. Lorscheider and participated with Mr. Walzer in design and construction assignments.



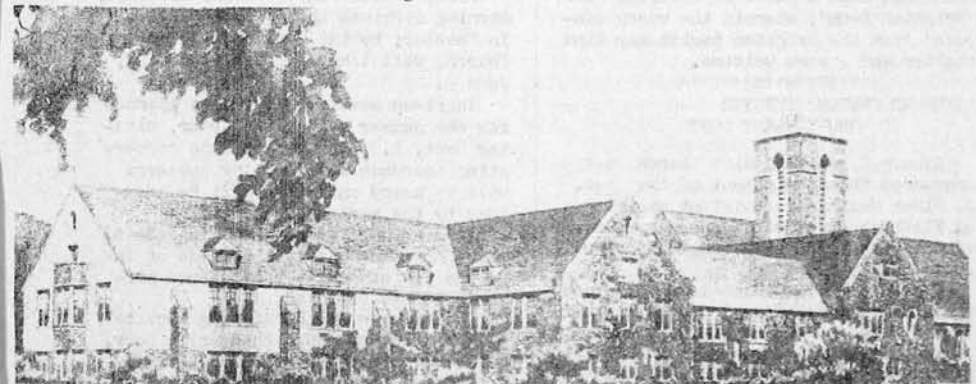
DONALD M. WALZER

REGISTERED ARCHITECT



LOUIS M. MILLER

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ROCHESTER

DR. & MRS. LUIDENS REMOVE TO HOLLAND

Dr. and Mrs. Anthony, with us as pastor and wife for twenty-seven years, removed to Holland, Michigan on May 28. The moving van picked up their household goods on its return trip to Holland from Williamson.

Our minister emeritus and Mrs. Luidens will reside at 78 East 21st Street in Holland. They plan to have their home in order by July 1 to welcome their son and daughter-in-law, Edwin and Ruth Luidens and their children, Donald, Carol and Robert, who will arrive home from Arabia at about that time for a year's furlough.

Since his resignation as the minister of Brighton Church in November, 1954, Dr. Luidens has been minister emeritus, and in the two and a half years that have followed, he has toured the Reformed Church Mission fields in the Near East assisted in the pastoral work in the parish, lectured on the Near East Missions, worked on behalf of the New Brunswick Theological Seminary, and more recently served as interim minister at First Reformed Church, whose pulpit has been vacant since the resignation of the Rev. John Buteyn who is now the field secretary for the Board of Foreign Missions in the three western synods.

Dr. and Mrs. Luidens will maintain in their new home a guest room called the "Brighton Room", wherein the weary wanderer from the Brighton parish may find shelter and a warm welcome.

REFORMED CHURCH MINISTER TO ASBURY-FIRST POST

Asbury-First Methodist Church has announced the appointment of the Rev. J. Elmer Hausmann, assistant minister of Flatbush Reformed Church, as minister of education. He will assume his new post on July 1.

The Rev. Mr. Hausmann is an ordained minister of the Reformed Church in America, a graduate of Rutgers University and New Brunswick Seminary. He received his master of arts degree from State Teachers College in Albany. He worked toward a Ph. D. in religious education at N.Y.U. while serving the Brooklyn church.

FIRST REFORMED CALLS ORANGE CITY PASTOR

The Rev. Charles J. Boonstra will begin his pastorate at First Reformed on June 9, it has been announced. He succeeds the Rev. John Buteyn who left in January, 1956, to become Field Secretary for Foreign Missions in the western synods.

The Rev. Mr. Boonstra served as minister of the Reformed Church, Three Oaks, Mich., from 1945 to 1948, and for the last nine years has been the minister of Trinity Reformed Church in Orange City, Iowa. He was closely associated with Northwestern College in Orange City, serving as a special teacher in Bible. He was also chairman of the executive committee of the Board of Trustees.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Boonstra are graduates of Hope College. Mr. Boonstra received his B.D. from Western Theological Seminary.

Plans are now being made by the Classis of Rochester, the Rev. Paul Krankendonk, president, for the service of installation. No date, as yet, has been set.

DRIVE-IN CHURCH RE-OPENS JUNE 9

First of the summer series of Sunday morning services in the Empire Drive-In Theater, by the Community Drive-In Church, will take place at 8:30 p.m., June 9.

Thirteen services have been planned for the summer season this year, closing Sept. 2. Ministers of the cooperating churches and visiting speakers will be heard and music will be provided by the various churches.

Efforts will be made this season to serve more adequately the needs of invalids and otherwise handicapped persons, it was revealed.

The speaker at the opening service will be the Rev. Hugh Chamberlin Burr, D.D., executive secretary of the Federation of Churches. The Rev. Sherman Eckel, of the Evangelical United Brethren Church, Webster, will preside.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

By William C. Hillegonds

One of the things that disturbs me most about the very loquacious member of a Pentecostal or Holiness Church is that he feels a more conservative, "tired" church like ours does not believe in the Holy Spirit. This is nonsense. The Reformed Church could not claim to be Biblical in its theology if the doctrine of the Holy Spirit were not held in as high regard as any other doctrine. And if nothing else, the Reformed Church is Biblical.

To understand how we feel about the Holy Spirit one has only to read the rather interesting story of Apollos at Ephesus as Saint Luke writes in our Acts 18. Apollos was a good, gifted man by any standard. He had a knowledge of Scripture. He was instructed in the teachings of Jesus. He had a desire to pass on to others what he himself had. But he did not have the baptism of Jesus. He only knew the baptism of John.

The difference between these two types of baptism is not of little import. The baptism of John was a baptism of repentance. It was a sacrament intended to dramatize the resolve of a person to turn over a new leaf, to be done with sin. It was a baptism of reform. Apollos had gone this far. He was apparently preaching this kind of "gospel" in the tradition of John the Baptist. But as Priscilla and Aquila knew this wasn't enough. Apollos had only half a truth. He was doing only half a job. He had only half the answer to the problem of a life out of step with God and truth.

The baptism of Jesus, on the other hand, was the baptism of the Holy Spirit. It had the best of John's baptism in it and more. There was a place in it for repentance, but instead of being a type of self-improvement ritual it had also the promise that in the wake of a desire to do the right and the true and the good God would give man his Holy Spirit whose presence and power can help a man from stumbling badly morally again.

We believe in the Holy Spirit. Without his presence in the church the church

would have in it only the power and good of man. With the Holy Spirit's presence acknowledged the church has at its disposal the power of God. And what is true of the church is true of the people who make it up. To be happy, effective men and women of Christ we must have the baptism of Jesus. We must know that without a reliance upon the Holy Spirit of God in life, who is to the soul what food is to the body, we are half-Christian and to be half-Christian is often less rewarding and less helpful than being "no-Christian."

FEDERATION SPENDING HITS ALL-TIME HIGH

The Federation of Churches of Rochester and Vicinity is among the first eight federations in the country in the amount of spending for cooperative church work.

For the first time in its history, the federation last year topped \$100,000 in budget expenditures. The budget was \$103,000.

This brings it within a division of the much larger cities of New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Detroit, Buffalo and Indianapolis in point of spending.

It puts it ahead of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and Cleveland. No other federation in a city of comparable size comes near the local expenditure, according to Dr. Hugh Chamberlin Burr, Executive secretary of the Rochester Federation.

This information was contained in the annual report distributed at the annual meeting in Brick Church Institute on Thursday, May 23.

Some 400 delegates from the 246 member churches attended the dinner meeting at Dr. Anthony Luidens, past president, installed the newly-elected officers. Mr. G. Fred Laube, of Lake Avenue Baptist Church, was elected president for the next term.

A THOUGHT

Walk boldly and wisely. . . There is a hand above that will help thee on.

-Philip James Bailey

From the Minister's Study

Although the weather today has been wet and cold and depressing it won't be that way long. The grass is already green. The spring flowers are in full bloom. The leaves have made their appearance on the trees. Some of us have packed away the bowling ball and have begun to swing the golf clubs hopefully in the back-yard.

What all this adds up to is the thought that in a little while the balmy weather of spring and summer with its pleasant picnics and week-ends at the cottage and trips here and there will be upon us. And gone will be the chairs in the aisle on Sunday morning and the two-service worship schedule.

Like the sending of Christmas cards in December and valentines in February, every year about this time I say much the same thing about the Sundays of summer and worship. I wish I could be more creative and put it another way but it just doesn't come out that way. Take a vacation. Slip away week-ends if you can. Your body and mind need the refreshment a change in scenery and tempo afford. But don't stop worshipping. Find some church at the side of the road or in the village nearest your camp site and get together with God's people and God in an atmosphere conducive to worship. Or if this isn't possible, worship together as a family by reading and commenting upon a paragraph or two of Holy Scripture and by joining in a family prayer. And if you are in the city, worship in the church of your choice.

Cultivate the habit of regular worship, even in summer, and you will discover that God is more real.

The Brighton Church is known as the "family, friendly church." I am discovering more and more how much of a family church it is. Joe Steehler used to tell me that he and I were the only "foreigners" in the church but another twelve months might prove him wrong. It wouldn't surprise me in the least if Joe and I were pronounced 27th cousins on the Woodhams side of the family.

I wish it could be said that we are

as "friendly" as we are related. Jesus said it is not difficult to do good to those who do good to you and it follows that it is not difficult to be friendly to those who are friendly to you. But what about the stranger, these people who come in to give us a listen and a good look. Is there a bright, sincere, "Hello. Glad you are here," for them?

One man told me a few weeks ago that in the several weeks he had worshipped with us he had been greeted warmly by only two people, the usher at the door at the beginning of the service and the minister at the same door at the end of the service. And he added, "You're paid for it." All around him as he leaves his pew are cheerful greetings among those already acquainted but not one for him.

Now it may be that he should be more friendly. Maybe he ought to take the initiative. This is what he must do in his business. And then we ought to take the initiative and make this stranger in our midst feel at home and wanted. With everybody taking the initiative in this matter of greeting people we ought to become very quickly what we say we are, the "friendly church."

William C. Hillegonds
Minister

THE SCOREBOARD -	
Total Pledged	\$131,420.50
Cash Rec'd	\$5,527.26
Amount Unpaid	\$125,893.24

PARISH HI-LITES

SCOUT NEWS The annual Cub picnic will be held in June at the North Cabin in Ellison Park. This outing promises to be a lot of fun for all.

Members of Boy Scout Troop 74 will attend a two-week summer camp at Camp Massawepia in the Adirondacks in August. Scout Tom Hill will represent Troop 74 at Camp Schiff this summer. Schiff is the national training camp in New Jersey.

Many of the explorers are now planning for the week long canoe trip in the Adirondack Mountains in August. Robert Woodhams will go to Camp Schiff this year representing Post 74, while his brother, Glen, will spend July at the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.

SUNDAY NITE CLUB On May 4 a Surprise Night was held by the Sunday Nite Club. A "This Is Your Life" for Bill Ross, the past president, was presented with the old tear-jerker from West Webster, Ed "Ralph Edwards" Anderson, acting as M.C. It came as a complete surprise to him, with his Mother and Father present, his sister and brother, and even two of his old army pals. A panel group presented "Name That Trade" which was enjoyed by all.

A rare treat in the form of several Dutch pastries, prepared by Case Vogelaar, was one of the highlights of the evening. The program, refreshments and serving were all done by the men of the group, giving all the ladies a night of relaxation.

C. E. NEWS The Senior C.E. Society reports a recent election of officers. Those chosen for the following term are: Bonnie Burton, President; Glen Woodhams, Vice-President; Ann Johnville, Secretary; Bruce Burton, Treasurer and Marcia Sayles, Reporter for The Brightoner.

A number of Brighton CE's are now making plans to attend the New York State convention in Syracuse.

COMING EVENTS

The Ladies Aid Lawn Social will be held at Fellowship Lodge on June 13. They will begin to serve at 5:30 p.m.

MAN TO MAN There was an important of the Men's Brotherhood at the Lodge on Tuesday evening. The nominating committee was to have presented its slate of officers for the following year. At this writing details are not yet available, but will be reported at a later date.

A Work Party will meet at Fellowship Lodge on Saturday, June 8, in work togs. This action is in response to a request from Consistory that certain odd jobs around the Lodge be completed before Summer. The men will be contacted as to their preference of working either the morning shift or the afternoon shift.

The Men's Bible Class held a business meeting at the Lodge on Friday, May 10. An election of officers was conducted, and the following were elected for the following term: Clarence Talsma, President; Case Vogelaar, Vice-President; Isaac Van Bortle, Secretary-Treasurer.

Mr. Henry De Roo was the host for the evening. He said he had a surprise to go with the coffee, and it sure was. What was it? --- Well, ask the men who were there and you will find out just what you missed.

CONSISTORY ACTION Your Consistory has authorized the architects, Walzer and Miller, to engage a surveyor and to have the entire property on Blossom Road properly surveyed. This work is to be done under the supervision of the architect. Following that, test bores will be made to determine the location and depth of the rock ledge that is known to run through the property.

Beginning the last Sunday in June, one morning worship service will be conducted during the summer months. Consistory has decreed that this service will start at 9:30, and Church School will begin at 9:30. This practice will continue through the first Sunday in September.

Consistory has announced that the Minister, Mr. Hillegonds, has been designated as a ministerial delegate of the Classis of Rochester to the annual meeting of General Synod. He will be absent from the pulpit on Sunday, June 9.

Church School Views

The Church School is the recipient of a gift of maps presented by Mr. Arthur Stickney, teacher of the Men's Bible Class.

Beginning at the Junior level, each class will be equipped with maps depicting the Near East and the Holy Land as it was in Biblical times, and indicates the travels of the apostles. This gift is timely inasmuch as the next phase of the school curriculum, beginning the first Sunday in October, deals with our Lord.

The Adult and Senior Hi classes will soon begin a 13 week course that concerns itself with the Apostles' Creed. It will explain the meaning of the Creed.

Beginning on the last Sunday in June, the Church School will convene at 9:30. The new starting time will extend thru the summer months until the first Sunday of September.

The READER'S GUIDE

These books, which are now or soon will be available at the Public Library of the city, are worth the reading:

Six Mighty Men, W. J. Smart, MacMillan

Prayer Can Change Your Life, Parker-Dare, Prentice Hall

Thine Is The Kingdom, J. S. Stewart, The Saint Andrew's Press

The Hard Commands of Jesus, Pearson, Abingdon

The Inspired Letters, Laubach, Nelson

These and other equally good books may also be purchased and given as a gift. Books are always in good taste.

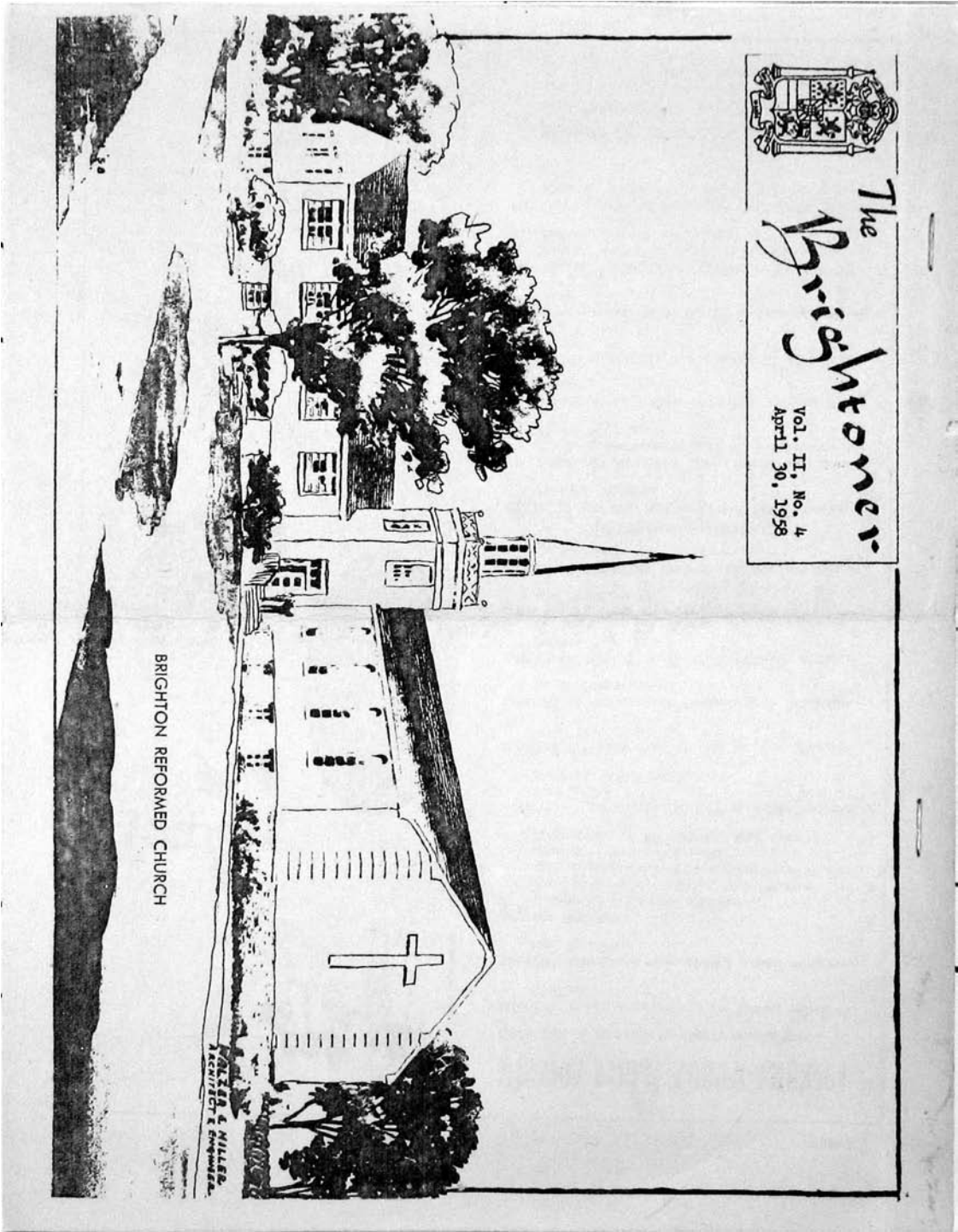
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MEXICO: Evangelism among six Indian tribes in Chiapas

BREWTON: Southern Normal High School in Brewton, Alabama

INDIAN MISSIONS:

Comanche — Lawton, Oklahoma
 Jicarilla Apache — Dulce, New Mexico
 Mescalero Apache — Mescalero, New Mexico
 Omaha — Macy, Nebraska
 Winnebago — Winnebago, Nebraska

KENTUCKY, JACKSON COUNTY: Annville Institute
 Evangelism
 Medical and Social Service

ELMENDORF Reformed Church in East Harlem, New York City

CHINESE Church of Christ (Reformed) in Sacramento, California

JAPANESE-AMERICAN: The United Church of Christ in New York City

JEWISH: The Christian Approach to the Jews, Passaic, New Jersey

CHURCH EXTENSION: Church building and salary supplements

INTERDENOMINATIONAL

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EAST HARLEM PROTESTANT PARISH in New York City

INNER CITY PROTESTANT PARISH in Cleveland, Ohio

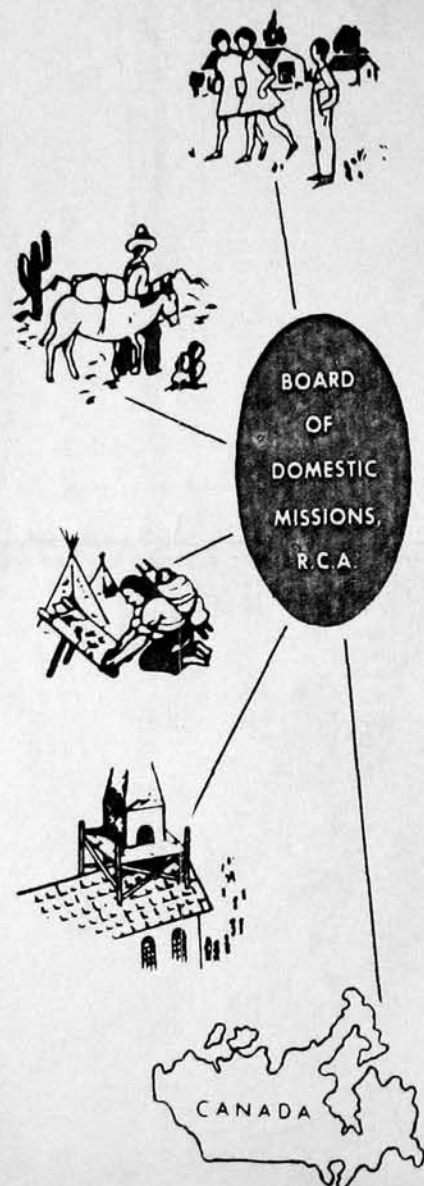
CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR in Brooklyn, New York

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES, Los Angeles, California — Indian Relocation Program

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CORNER STONE BOX OPENED IN CEREMONY

In a brief and informal ceremony held in Fellowship Lodge, Consistory opened the box that was contained in the corner stone of the original Brighton Reformed Church. Walter Blakley, vice president of Consistory, officiated.

The contents, placed in the box at the corner stone laying on July 4, 1891, included time-weathered documents that had begun to crumble with age.

The first item in the copper box was a letter written by the Dominie (pastor) of the First Reformed Church of Rochester in which he tells the history of the early Dutch settlement in this area. Many newspapers had been carefully folded and placed in the box along with other interesting data about the times.

A committee of Consistory will make a study of these documents and a digested form of their contents will be presented in the next issue of The Brightoner.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FOWLER CLEAN-UP

A call has gone out for volunteers to help in the job of preparing Camp Fowler for the summer camping season. The first week-end work party has been set for the week-end of May 17.

Members of the party are scheduled to leave Rochester on Friday in time to arrive at Fowler by 10:30 p.m. The session will break up on Saturday afternoon.

Those looking for the opportunity to see the camp and to help in the clean-up and at the same time enjoy the beautiful Adirondack atmosphere, are asked to contact Mr. Roy Hand by calling Hillside 5-1831M. All you need to bring is your own bed linen, pillows and blankets. Sleeping and eating facilities are provided. The cost of food will be divided among the number of people attending.

* * * * *

DID YOU KNOW?

That Dr. and Mrs. Anthony Luidens, now of Holland, Michigan, have been among the Winnebago Indians in Nebraska with our Miss Roos.

ROCHESTER COTTAGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Hillegonds has revealed that construction of the "Rochester Cottage" has begun. It is the first in a series of such cottages to be built at Camp Fowler.

Designed to sleep 14 young people and one counsellor, the cottage will be ready for occupancy at the start of the camping season. Contributions from the people within the Classis of Rochester have made possible this badly needed addition to the dormitory facilities.

At the fall meeting of Classis, Mr. Hillegonds was given permission to canvass the churches of the classis for funds. The report shows \$1400 in cash and a pledge for \$200.00 were received from members of the various churches. Members of Brighton parish contributed in the neighborhood of \$350.00.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP GROUP FORMED

A new group has been formed in the church to help fill the needs of our senior members who have retired and who have extra time on their hands. The group held an exploratory luncheon meeting in Fellowship Lodge on March 19. About 30 people were present to hear Mrs. Irving Walker, executive director of the Council of Church Women, discuss Senior Citizen groups in this city and what they are doing in the way of programming.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Fisher were appointed co-chairmen of a nominating committee, with Mrs. Guy Bardwell and Mr. Charles Purdy assisting. The officers elected so far are as follows: Program Chairman - Mrs. Bardwell; Social Chmn. - Mr. Irwin Clow; Treasurer - Mr. William Ross Sr. It is expected as the group grows, the full slate of officers will be filled.

(cont'd on page 7)

Building Program

BULLETIN

The Building Committee has already announced the names of the successful bidders for the construction of the new Brighton Reformed Church. For the benefit of those who were not present at the congregational meeting, at which time the bids were approved, we submit the names once again, together with the contract prices.

General Contractor	-	Cooper and Craib, Inc.
		\$ 154,987
Heating	-	H. J. Heinze, Inc.
		\$ 15,727
Plumbing	-	Lobene and Hayes
		\$ 7,890
Electrical	-	Alhart Electric Co. Inc.
		\$ 13,775

Although the name, Cooper and Craib, Inc., is a new one, the firm is not. It is the old and reliable construction firm of F. Gleason Co. which was in business for a good many years.

J. Nelson Cooper, who had been associated with the company for 24 years, and William A. Craib, a former executive with Robert Hylan and Sons, Inc., bought out the interests of the Gleason Company and changed the firm name, effective January 1, 1958. Their offices are on Colvin street on the west side. Mr. Cooper was associated with the construction of the new St. Louis' Church, Pittsford. The new firm is currently working on a second floor addition at the school of Good Counsel Church on Brooks avenue.

Recently this reporter paid a visit to St. Louis' Church in search of picture material to be used with this story. The pastor, the Rev. John Reddington, graciously presented all the material he had available.

Father Reddington then led the way to the beautiful new church, a few dozen yards away from the rectory. Although modern in design, the ancient symbols of Christianity and the Church are incorporated. The stained glass windows in the nave reveal, in glorious splendor, the beliefs and history of Christianity in symbolic form. High over the altar in the sanctuary is the dove, traditionally representing the presence of the Holy Ghost.

All this is emphasized by the outstanding brick interior of the church. Father Reddington pointed out that the head brick-layer has received a national award for this magnificent piece of work.

Commenting on the choice of Cooper and Craib as our general contractors, Father Reddington said, in parting, "Rest assured that you are in good hands." Work has progressed rapidly, despite several rainy days, since ground was broken on April 13. The excavating work was begun on the following day and completed by the end of the first week.

Already the footings have been laid, and the laying of the concrete block wall begun. The architects, Walzer and Miller, said that they expected the wall will be completed to the ground level within four or five weeks.

* * * * *

FROM THE MINISTER'S STUDY

I have cheered myself hoarse at basketball and hockey games played in our city's War Memorial. I have applauded the performance of musicians in that same building. I have watched the faces of our boys light up with amazement and delight and envy when their eyes focused on a new, sleek automobile at the Auto Show staged in the exhibition hall of this same place. Never did it ever occur to me that I would sit back in any part of the War Memorial to say a prayer.

It happened last Saturday afternoon at the Scout-captades. Eagerly I scanned the row after row of Cub Scouts as they paraded upon the floor below me. My son was down there somewhere and like any proud parent I wanted to see that blond, closely cropped head of his. And then all of a sudden he was there, marching like a little soldier.

It came to me so quickly. It wasn't so many years ago that I was that boy whose erect, marching body my eyes followed so closely. I was a Cub Scout once and then a Boy Scout and there were parades for me. Then it was an ROTC unit in a Chicago high school and more parades with a rifle on my shoulder. And then it was 1941 and 1942 and 1943 and 1944 and 1945 and more parades but with a great deal of hell between.

Remembering those days of not so long ago caused me to pray. "Father, thank you for that wonderful son down there. Help me to be a good parent. And may he never be asked to march off to a war that foolish, wicked people like me force upon men. May his life be spent in serving man, not destroying him. Amen."

* * * * *

One of our neighboring churches did something for its minister recently that I think every church of our size and larger should do periodically. This church gave its senior minister an extended vacation of four months TO TRAVEL AND STUDY.

The minister of this church is going to benefit from this greatly. He is going to get a good rest, learn about

life as it is lived in environments similar and quite different than what one finds in Rochester. But even more important, he is going to get a chance to put his nose in some books he would never have a chance to read in a busy parish. And because of this, the people who have made this "vacation" possible will benefit from it. When this minister returns from this contact with the classroom he is going to be as "fresh" in the pulpit as a bed of spring flowers after a soft shower. He will have something new and different to say or at least he will be better able to express the old truth in a modern, more helpful way. And isn't this what people want from the pulpit? How about it, Consistory?

* * * * *

It was exciting and helpful to read what *Time* said about Lutheran Franklin Clark Fry (a graduate of our East High School, by the way) in a recent cover story. At one point in this interesting, humorous, provocative article, this is said about the redoubtable Dr. Fry. "He is not exactly the warm hearted shepherd. He has a tendency to kick the rumps of the sheep, rather than lead them."

Somehow the idea has crept into the thinking of the laity that the parson who lives in the parish manse down the street must be kindly, agreeable, in-offensive gentlemen who when trampled upon should roll over on the other side. If there is any turning of the cheek, he is the one who should do it.

And there is more truth in this than I would like to admit. After all, it's the Gospel. The clergyman ought to know that he must set a good example, even among those who haven't the foggiest notion what moral principle is being set forth for all to see. He should be willing to do this or step down from his lofty pulpit.

But let it be remembered that every shepherd of God's sheep doesn't come from the same cut of cloth. There are some who "smile" people into the Kingdom. There are others who "bark" them in. The important thing is that both minister and people see what the Kingdom is and (cont'd. on last page)

Consistory Corner

With this issue of The Brightoner, we begin this new feature. Watch this space for announcements of action taken by Consistory, appointments and other matters concerning the members and friends of Brighton Reformed Church.

Many of our readers have been wondering what will happen to our present church building and the Guenther House when we are ready to move into our new Church. Mr. Clarence DeLysor has been appointed to study the disposal of this property and to receive any offers.

Coming Event: - May 21st. - On this date Consistorymen and their wives will entertain adult members received into our Church during the past two years.

As most of you know, there will be no large dining room and kitchen in our new church. We will continue to use Fellowship Lodge for such activity. During the period our Study Groups were active, the suggestion was made by some of our women's groups that the lodge kitchen be modernized. Now that the design of our new building is completed and construction has started, we feel that it is time to plan for these much needed improvements. Mr. Marene Asbrook has been appointed to head this project. He will study any plans that have previously been made and will be happy to receive constructive suggestions.

Again this summer Consistory will support the youth of our Church who desire to attend Camp Fowler. It was voted that \$10.00 each be underwritten.

During the construction of our new building, we will be covered by Public Liability insurance.

Following our last meeting, your clerk signed the first contract for the new church, for the purchase of an Allen organ at at cost of \$11,965.00.

Paul M. Nelson
Clerk of Consistory

PARISH HI-LITES

C. E. A few weeks ago we had a meeting NEWS called "No Way Out." This was a play about a Protestant boy who was going to marry a Catholic girl. In the leading roles were Ann Johnville, Marcia Sayles, Bob Kaiser and Bruce Burton. An excellent discussion followed, led by Jim Tell.

"It's Your Life", a film, was shown at a recent meeting at which time Hans and Leonard Vogelaar led the discussion.

On Easter morning everyone awakened at 5 a.m. to go the Easter Dawn Service at the U. of R. Later we had our annual Easter Breakfast. There were fifty-five in attendance. Mr. Jerry Beauschesne was our chef.

Several weeks ago we had our Splash Party at the Arnett YMCA which was a tremendous success. About seventy young people came. After swimming we had refreshments and danced. Chaperones were Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bergh and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Porteous.

On April 19 we had a square dance in the Lodge. Stan Bardwell was the caller; Mr. and Mrs. Ed Anderson were the chaperones.

Reported by Marcia Sayles

WOMEN'S The Rev. Richard Neill, Monroe
GUILD County chaplain for migrants was the speaker at the April meeting of the Guild for Christian Service. Mr. Neill described his work and showed pictures of his work among the migrant workers living in the county. The ladies of the Far and Near Circle served as hostesses at the social hour that followed.

Mrs. Wahl and her visiting committee would be very happy to have any of you who can join them in their Wednesday afternoon visitation program. If you can't, make it then, she would be happy to give you the names of some folks to call on at some other time of the week.

To everyone who helped make the Women's Spring Missionary Conference and Supper an event most enjoyable to us all, our thanks. Many thanks to those who worked in the kitchen, the dining room

PARISH HI-LITES

WOMEN'S GUILD (cont'd.)

and helped to provide the food, those who washed the dishes and especially the men who helped in carrying tables, chairs and dishes. It is this wonderful cooperation that makes such an affair so worthwhile.

Ruth DeLysor, Pres.

SCOUTING The Cubs of Pack 74 participated in the 1958 Scout

Capades at the War Memorial and the affair was a huge success. Our entry was a unique wagon which was used in a race resembling the great gold rush. It was built under the supervision of Horst Bruns, assistant cubmaster. Don Crawford, Cubmaster, led the Cubs and Den Mothers in the spectacular Grand Entry.

Coming events for the cubs include a turtle race in May and the annual picnic in June.

Explorer Post 74 set aside a part of three of its Monday night meetings in April and May for the purpose of advancement. Many of the explorers want to catch up on their ratings and their merit badges. An overnight Council at Mendon Ponds is being planned for May 16-18. Explorers are reminded that May 12 has been set for the swimming night at The Nat and a co-ed bowling party is planned for May 19.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP (cont'd.)

There have been two social meetings since the luncheon at which the members played shuffle board, dominoes, canasta and euchre. Light refreshments were served at both functions.

On April 16, the new group heard Dr. Blake McKelver, city historian, speak on the development and changes that have taken place in the town of Brighton.

Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month and interested persons are invited to attend.

VOX POP

The Voice of the People

Dear Mr. Editor;

There seems never the right time to introduce any controversial subject but certainly most of us think too much on the surface of things to hope to have the right final answer when we are asked to make decisions within any short period of time.

The question I'm thinking of at this moment is one of national and even world wide importance. We of the Brighton Reformed Church have for many years been very much a church for folk and the descendants of folk from the Netherlands. If any of the neighborhood wished to join with us that was all right but we continued to think of our group as basically for that one original type of member. (This was not just Brighton Reformed Church, it was the whole Reformed Church in America). We could and did send missionaries to the far corners of the world and supported them and their work with zeal, but let one of the natives of the countries to whom we sent our embassy come to be with us and let his or her skin be anything but the best of caucasian product, you would find any number of persons shying away from any personal contact.

If you should ask those people why they did not care to associate socially with another race they could seldom give a reason. They can however always state matter of factly that it just isn't being done, so they follow the crowd in action.

One person stated that one time when her son brought a friend home and she heard them conversing in the kitchen, she thought he had just brought, as was his habit to do, some fellow from the shop where he worked. The voice seemed fine, the conversation lively and enjoyable, she knew she would like to meet him. And then she

(cont'd. on page 8)

The Brightoner

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THE BRIGHTONER
published monthly by
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Rochester, N. Y.

William C. Hillegonds, Minister
Gilbert and Ruth Lum,
Bernice Roos, Missionaries
Paul M. Nelson, Clerk of Consistory
Robert G. Porteous, Editor

Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and
today and forever. Heb. 13:8

Some may ask, "What was the point of the Mission Week-End? What was it supposed to accomplish?"

The point of the whole program was simply this: The work undertaken at Southern Normal and at other facilities throughout the world is done on your behalf. Sam Williams and Bob Chaat and Gil Lum and Wells Thoms and the many missionaries and medical people in the foreign fields are merely representing you in this phase of the ongoing work of the church.

Christ Himself commanded us to "Go out into all the world and preach!" Each of us can, in our way, help fulfill this great commandment. In our everyday way of life, we should be about our Father's business. There are cases, however, where an expert is needed, and these experts are sent out, in the name of the church, to do the work we are not equipped to do.

Each of us needs to be made conscious, from time to time, of the work these people do for God, and us. Their role in life is not an easy one. It is a long, hard job, this job of being a missionary. And we need to be reminded of it.

And we need to be reminded, too, of the joy there is in knowing that, through the efforts of these people, on our behalf, souls are being won for Christ in un-Christian areas of the world. Moslems and Buddhists and Hindus and Jews are responding to the message of Jesus Christ as it is preached and taught by these dedicated people.

When we have the facts, we are inclined to understand a program a little better. So it is with the mission program of the church. Last year about twenty percent of Brighton Church's income went for benevolent purposes. Many of our Reformed Churches give as much to

benevolences as is spent in the support of the local church. While our record is good, we have a long way to go to catch up with some of our mission-minded churches.

What you heard and saw over the week-end was designed to help stimulate your thinking about missions. And after thinking, support them.....

R.G.P.

* * * * *
MINISTER'S STUDY (cont'd.)

become citizens of it and that both the "smiling" and the "barking" be done in love.

If the tremendous growth being experienced by Lutheranism the world over is traceable in any way to Dr. Fry's leadership, I would say that more ministers should do some "kicking of rumps."

William C. Hillegonds

William C. Hillegonds
Minister

* * * * *

VOX-POP (cont'd.)

did just that. There was just the slightest hesitation after which all went as it should have. The hesitation came when the fellow proved to be a negro. One comment, that mother made later, was that maybe it would be good for some of us to be blind for a while until we really get to know more of these who could be our friends and really enrich our lives by so being.

One question I would like to have raised and discussed in our Consistory would be, "If a negro family asked for admission to our church, would we wholeheartedly give them the glad hand of Christian fellowship, or would we ask our pastor to let us have a little more time to see what the congregation might say if we really acted as a Christian should?"

Sincerely,

E. Leroy Hand
141 Lafayette Pkwy.

* * * * *