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The Upton Challenger: December 1947

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The Upton Challenger

UPTON EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

VOLUME 2

DECEMBER, 1947

NUMBER 4

Pastor's Column

Anniversary Day turned our thoughts toward the program of completing our church plant so much needed. The need is not alone for additional room but for suitable facilities in order that we may more efficiently carry on the work for Christ in our Community. Organizations and classes have no room suitable for the business and fellowship programs thus necessitating the taking of many functions, that should for the good of the church be in the church, to the homes of our people. We have tried and have found a great deal of interest in a Sunday Evening Family Hour but inadequate facilities made their continuance impossible. Catechetical classes have no proper place for gathering. There is no room for a church office or library or study. There should be much more of instruction, and facilities for so doing, at many more instances throughout the week. Let us pray and labor for the completion of our plant as a part of enlarged service.

How Soon Can We Build? That question is in the minds of many, most of whom hope that the day will be soon. However, we have many things to see to before we can begin the actual erection of the building. Here are some of them.

When the architect began to show us what could be done with our building located as it is upon our present lots it became evident that we needed more room to the west. Without that room our sanctuary could be made to seat only 350 to 400 which meant that among our churches of the city we should always have to send important union meetings elsewhere because we were too small. Yet we have the largest membership of any. It means that we could not be host church on special occasions to special groups because of lack of space. Even now we have had to say, "Sorry", to many groups who would have liked to have worshipped with us on special occasions because we had no room. These occasions affect our growth for they always offer new prospects. We cannot continue to hope to continue even our present influence unless we move forward for many who are with us now are here because they hope for and look toward a greater adequacy. To deny them this is to lose them and to lessen the scope of our prospects and constituency. We need more adequate facilities.

To meet this need we have an agreement to purchase the property directly west of the church. This agreement hinges upon our ability to secure permission to do with

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Calendar

Special Dates

January 4th-9th—Week of Prayer

Nightly meetings in First Church with out of town guest speakers under the auspices of the Evangelical United Brethren Churches of the City. Keep the dates open. Dr. Ziegler who has just returned from the Orient may be with us for the latter part of the week.

PASTORS' CONVENTION—Jan. 26-29 at Columbus with the pastor attending.

YOUTH WEEK—January 25-Feb. 1.

MID-WINTER YOUTH CONVENTION—as announced in the Program Guide Dec. 29-31.

Watch Sunday Bulletins for details.

Prince Of Peace Contest

Prince of Peace Contest was held in the local Church on Sunday, November 9th, during the worship hour with Miss Delores McDole and Miss Norma Dotson participating. Miss Dotson was presented the Bronze medal as winner and will compete in the County Contest on December 14th. Miss McDole has given her message three times since her presentation at Upton. Our congratulations. Judges were J. C. Siddall of Toledo First Church, Mrs. Othel (Stubby) Bennett of Colburn Church and Dr. C. O. Callender of Upton church.

Christian Endeavor

First of all—our thanks to all those who helped to make our yearly Hallowe'en party a success. This requires work and planning on the part of many outside of our own group, but all are willing to assist and we do appreciate it.

Our business meetings and social gatherings are usually held the first and third Sunday evening of each month. Our study sessions have been well attended—even on one occasion we had to bring in more chairs. We have appreciated the guidance of Rev. Johnson and Rev. Campbell during the last few weeks.

On November 16th Bud Swisher directed our meeting and had many things to tell us on "Life in China" from his experiences.

A group of twenty-one of our young people attended Zion Church on November 21st and heard Bishop Epp bring a message concerning conditions in Europe today.

We invite all young people of the Sunday School and Church to our Sunday evening sessions—at 6:30. Come.

Jeanne Watters, Reporter.

Farewell Party

A large number of "Otterbeiners" and some others gathered together on Friday evening, November 21st to bid farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Eff who have moved to their new home near Angola, Indiana. A short business meeting, presided over by Mr. Joel Moseley, the class teacher, began the evening festivities. Following the devotions Mr. Jack James was elected president of the class to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Wayne Wines who found it impossible because of working conditions to carry on the office. The remainder of the business session was conducted by Mr. James who gave an enthusiastic talk concerning the class activities.

The guests were then directed to the dining room where they found their places at tables beautifully decorated with horns of plenty filled with fruit, autumn leaves and flowers and numerous small turkey favors.

Mr. Fred Leonard, the toastmaster, presided over the program at the tables. Following a delicious luncheon, Mrs. Mary Rathke presented several vocal selections. Talks of appreciation in behalf of the fine work done in the different organizations of the church by the Effs were given by Mr. Leonard, Mr. Homer E. Knisely, Mr. Norris Kane, Mr. Moseley, Mr. Ted Ziegler and Rev. Johnson. Both Mr. and Mrs. Eff responded with fitting remarks and "Bob" spoke concerning some of his experiences overseas and responded to various questions. A book entitled "The Brother" was presented to the honor guests as a farewell gift.

We will miss the "Effs" greatly but hope they will find a good church home in their community where they may continue in their good services. Our loss will be some one else's gain.

Corrections For Church Directory

Eff, Robert—Angola, Indiana
Falor, Doyle—2050 Maplewood Ave. Phone Ga. 0747
Knepper, Mrs. Carrie—R. 12, Box 133A, Toledo 6, Ohio.
Powless, Tom—R. 12, Box 133A, Toledo 6.
Rathke, Herman—R. 12, Box 133A, Toledo 6, Ohio.
Upton, Arthur—4837 Hannaford Rd.
VanFleet, Jack—4485 Monroe St.
Wolcott, Mrs. Bessie—R. 12, Box 133A, Toledo 6, Ohio.
(Please make these corrections in your Directory—H. C.)

Among Our People

Mrs. F. A. Shaw has recently returned home from Riverside Hospital where she underwent a serious operation. (Have you remembered her with a card or call?) A card of "Thanks" has been received from her for remembrances of the church during her hospital stay.

On November 18th a group of our ladies, fourteen in number, and we were proud of this number; attended the Federation Meeting of the Women of the Evangelical United Brethren Church which was held in Colburn Street Church. Luncheon was served at noon and the group met in the church auditorium for the afternoon meeting. Mrs. Johnson of Upton brought the devotions. Rev. and Mrs. Wendell Freshley were present and gave us some very fine musical numbers. A group of Colburn women presented the play "Unto the Least of These." We were reminded both in our devotional period and in the play that we have so much for which to be thankful and of how much more it means if we share with others. A "Harvest Home" shower for both Otterbein Home and Flat Rock (Children's School of the Evangelicals) proved to be a huge success with many many items brought which will bring them happiness. Nearly 150 were in attendance.

A baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Anteau on November 27th. Our congratulations. Mrs. Mary Rathke is the proud Grandmother and Mrs. Bessie Wolcott the happy Great grandmother.

Miss Beverly Patterson and Mr. Raymond McMorris were married in Upton Church on Saturday Evening, December 6th. Congratulations.

A telephone call from Mrs. Laura Ostrander was received expressing her thanks for remembrances received from the Church. Mrs. Ostrander received a foot injury several weeks ago and has been "laid up".

Our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Young on the arrival of a baby daughter, who has been named Karen, on November 18th. Mr. and Mrs. Homer Stock are the happy grandparents.

Announcements of the engagement of Virginia Gill to Jimmy Welty was made in the Blade of Thanksgiving Day. Both are students at Ohio State. (Jimmy is a member of Upton Church.) Our best wishes

Gene Nichols, one of our Boys who is yet in the service, was in Worship this past Sunday. He reports that he will be home for possibly a month.

Ronald Knisely was home on a visit late in October. He now is in Memphis, Tenn., continuing his schooling. (This is stale news now—but it was our oversight in not bringing it to you in our November issue.)

Our sympathy to the family of Mrs. Fredericka Jacobs who passed away November 20th. Services were from the

Day Edwards Funeral Home with your pastor in charge. Mrs. Oran Calef is a granddaughter of Mrs. Jacobs. Also, to Mrs. Leland Logan who recently lost her mother, Mrs. Mary L. Anteau, who was a regular attendant at Upton. Services were from the Bert Leon & Son Funeral Home on Nov. 14th with your pastor officiating.

Note—We would be happy to receive news concerning our people from YOU—in order that we might publish same. This is YOUR paper and your help would be most appreciated.

W. S. W. S.

The Women's Missionary Society met in the home of Mrs. Cleatus Hoel, Friday night, November 7th. Also present, along with our group were the girls from the Friendship Guild.

Reports from the secretaries of the various departments were heard, as well as a report from the secretary of Missionary Education.

We all joined in the hymn "I Love to Tell the Story", after which our leader of the evening, Mrs. Gifford, brought us a discussion of "We Press On—In a Fellowship of Service Abroad." She told us something about the early missions, and it should be noted that in Africa alone there are only 56 missionaries to every million people. During the year 1939, the work of these missions was destroyed by the war. Despite this, the church has grown during the war years. Now that the war is over, it is up to us to do all that we can to present God and His way of life to these people. Some of the things that should be thought about seriously are these: (1) there are churches to be rebuilt, (2) world literacy to be promoted, (3) religious liberty to be set forth as the right of the people.

It is also imperative that all Christian people exert their influence for world peace. It is going to take more than a selected group of men around a table to make a lasting peace. Patience, kindness, tolerance, understanding—all these, and probably tears and heartaches, too—go into this effort to bring us out of the melee of war. Above everything else there must be a place left for Christ at the peace table—without Him there can be no hope of anything but future chaos and bloodshed. We, as Christians and believers in Him and His way of life, must each do his part to bring Him to those who are less fortunate than we. When we are tempted toward intolerance and prejudice, let each of us ask ourselves this question, "What Would Jesus Do?"

As our leader drew to the close of her discussion, she brought to our attention that there should be new and better relationships among the countries to whom we are sending help. The newest one of these is Equador in South America.

There were seven of our ladies designated, and as the name of each country now receiving help was called, the lady repre-

senting that country came forward and lit a candle—seven candles steadily bringing light into Africa, China, Japan, the Philippines, Porto Rica and Santa Domingo, United Andean in Equador, and home missions in Kentucky.

While "More Love to Thee" was played, the members turned in their Thankoffering boxes. Mrs. Mark then sang one verse of the hymn, and the meeting was closed with a prayer by Mrs. Gifford.

Clothing for boxes to be sent overseas is still very much needed. All kinds and sizes will be much appreciated, but, ladies, let's see to it that it is all clean and mended. Those folks over there can't run down to the corner grocery for a box of Duz or a cake of Ivory soap to do their washing; nor can they go to a dime store for needles and thread. How about those buttons that you cut off of Pop's shorts when they had reached the stage where they could be used for nothing except window rags? If you don't need them, the folks overseas could use them—as well as needles, pins, and thread. A few of these things from each of us would soon count up, and mean so much to those people. Bring whatever you can to Mrs. Vada Mark for the next box. We'd like to plan on sending a box a month.

Sunday evening, November 23rd, Mrs. Dipert, president of our W. S. W. S. branch spoke at Calvary church. Our group was sparsely represented. Let's try to do better next time.

The January meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. O. E. Johnson. Mrs. Helen Coder is the leader and her topic will be "We Press On—In a Fellowship of Service at Home." Ladies, why not add, "to join the Missionary Society" to your list of New Year's resolutions, and come to this meeting? We need you, and you'll be most welcome.

Margaret Pfeiffer

Jack And Jill Class

Our group met with Alice and Fred Papenfuss in November with Doris and Russell Reynolds assisting.

"I Love to Tell the Story" was sung as the business session was opened, followed by a reading entitled "Light." Prayer was offered by Russell Reynolds. Mrs. Marjorie Ennis, Program Chairman, presented the program outline for the year. It was voted and agreed that Mrs. Callender act as substitute teacher.

Open forum discussion on several present day topics followed the business session. Fred Papenfuss and Russell Reynolds led in these discussions.

Refreshments and social hour were then enjoyed by the group.

Doris Fisher, Reporter

Our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Homer Ellis on the birth of a baby boy early in November. We hope to see HIM in our Sunday School class some of these Sunday mornings.

Ladies' Aid News

The November meeting of the Upton Ladies Aid was held Monday evening, November 10th, at the home of Mrs. Cahill. Twenty-two ladies, complete with raincoats, rubbers and umbrellas braved the rainy night.

After the meeting was opened by our president, Mrs. Nina Kohl, the secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

Folks, we are buying enough dishes and silverware so that we will be able to serve 200 people. So, from now on there will be no excuses for any of you not attending our monthly suppers and other special "eating" days—we may run out of food temporarily, but we'll have the dishes.

Ladies, do you have trouble with your dish washing? Do you try to put that chore out of your mind until the last minute? Well, see Mrs. Betty Summers and try one of the dish cloths that she is selling. They aren't guaranteed to do the beastly things alone, but they do help to get them cleaned up in a hurry. With one of these cloths, even Susie may take a different view of the job when it comes her turn to do it.

"That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works." This verse from the 26th Psalm was the theme of our chaplain's devotions. Verses from the 95th Psalm and from the 4th chapter of Philippians were also used by Mrs. Mark to bring out the thought that we should be thankful the entire year instead of on just the designated day in November. She went on to say that in order to get the full meaning out of gifts and the little "extras" that we encounter in our every day living we should share them with others.

God sometimes returns to us in spiritual treasures what we give to Him in material and labor. This was clearly brought out by an article entitled "Thank You, God" by William Stidgen which Mrs. Mark read to us. A North Carolina farmer and his wife lived a very simple life in a neat home without conveniences, despite a very substantial income. He cut down a row of beautiful trees for us in a little community church—the altar, roof and walls were fashioned from them. God, he stated, had put the trees there, and it was up to man to put them to good use.

Birds, flowers, trees—these are the rewards that God gives to man for the things that he has done to please Him. The farmer had given \$10,000.00 for a school, and he told Mr. Stidgen that he had seen a cardinal build her nest near his door, and had watched her little ones hatch and grow. That, he went on to say, was enough reward for one summer.

This man had great faith in his God. While he was very ill, he made a vow that if he got well, he would give all to Him instead of his usual tithing. After he recovered, he made a small fortune on

no-man's land in the west, and, true to his word, he gave it to Him who had helped him.

Mrs. Mark went on with the article, and we found that the farmer had a very simple but effective creed upon which he based his living—he believed in living clear. He paid his just debts to everybody, and then his just debts to God. He never left God out of anything—his church, religion, wealth, health, and even during his illness, God was with him. In his way of life, he and His God were partners, and whether he had a success or a failure, God was right there, sharing it with him.

At the close of this article, Mrs. Mark led us in prayer. Then each of us was given an opportunity to tell what she was the most thankful for during the past year. Our chaplain then read the following poem by Edwin Markham which clearly demonstrates the spiritual returns God gives us:

"There are three green eggs
In a small round pocket;
And the wind will blow
And the gales will rock it;
'Til three little birds
In the thin edge teeter
And our God be glad
And the world be sweeter."

The meeting was adjourned by Mrs. Kohl. A social hour, with refreshments served by Mrs. Cahill and Mrs. Grimes, followed.

Ladies, we'd like to see more of you join our group. Watch your bulletin for details of our January meeting, and start the new year right by joining us at this meeting. We'll be looking for you.

Margaret Pfeiffer

Sunday School

As we draw near to the close of another year and look back upon the months just past we think of the many accomplishments we have made. Individually, we may feel that many times we have been neglectful in serving our Lord to the best of our ability. Collectively, we know that a great work has been done. During the year we cleared our church property of all debt. This was not accomplished without sacrifice on the part of many of our people. Today, even now, we are face to face with very inadequate education facilities. Our Sunday School teachers, who spend hours of study that they may give their best instruction to their classes, have without complaint been working under adverse conditions due to the lack of space. In our Primary Department alone, approximately 100 of our younger boys and girls are assembled in one room of our basement, separated into individual classes only by curtains drawn between them.

As we look to the New Year we do so with great anticipation for the future. We hope that very soon we may be able to provide the boys and girls and grown ups of our Community a church with ample

space in which to worship.

By the time this issue reaches you Christmas may have passed. If so and you have not as yet made your contribution to the Otterbein Home won't you please do so. This is the only time of the year that the Home asks us for a cash offering. The livelihood for the year ahead of the boys, girls and old folks who know no other home other than Otterbein, depends very largely upon the offering we give them at this Christmas time.

On behalf of the teachers and officers of our Sunday School I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a joyous and Happy New Year.

E. McShane, Supt.

Primary Department

As the month of November came we of the Primary Department of the Upton Sunday School were thankful for so many many things. Among them was the fact that we have our Sunday School and Church to which we may come to worship the Christ and for our homes and for our health. We are reminded of those in the far off countries who are in dire need of shelter, clothing and food. Let us give as we are able in order that these children may not die of cold or starvation.

The boys and girls of our group have brought eighty-one cans of fruit and vegetables for the Otterbein Home. We are now thinking of those children of the Otterbein Home who depend so much upon us for a nice Christmas so we are putting our extra pennies and dimes into our special bank and will send it on its way to Otterbein Home at Christmas time.

Many new toys have been purchased for the Nursery by the Sunday School. These were selected by Mrs. Barbara Leonard, and we thank her for taking time to do so.

Merry Christmas to each of you.

Mrs. Mearl Main, Supt.

Upton Choirs

Several new Anthems have been purchased by the choir and the group is spending much time in preparing these.

The choir is being divided into two choruses to sing the double chorus "Let the Heavens Rejoice" sometime soon.

During the month of November we sang "Thy Mercies Crown" by Wilson on the first Sunday. On November 9th "Send Out Thy Light" by Gounod. On Anniversary Sunday the group sang "The Fining Pot is For Silver" from the Holy City. "They Shall Hunger No More" a duet was sung by Mrs. Mary Rathke, Soprano and Mrs. Eleanor Beaubien, Contralto. On November 23, "Great and Marvelous Are Thy Works" by Gaul, shortening the Anthem by omitting the Amens and on the last Sunday "Doth Not Wisdom Cry" by Rogers was sung with Mr. Fred Leonard singing all solo parts.

Many of our group have been ill with

colds. We hope for their quick return to rehearsals which are each Thursday evening at 8 P. M.

Neil Stock has been elected President of the Young People's Choir. This group sang "I Shall not Fear" by Martin early in November. Perhaps as you receive this issue you will have heard concerning the singing of carols by the Young People of Upton. Each Tuesday evening at 7 is the rehearsal period for the Young People's choir.

Mrs. Mary Rathke, Director

Pastor's Column

(Concluded from page 1)

it certain things necessary to the erection of the church.

If we use this lot we will have to secure from the city approval of plans now in process. The house will have to be moved and relocated. Many details will require attention that will require weeks and months of patient toil and effort.

Plans will have to be drawn by the architect, Britsch and Munger of Toledo. But after the first draft of these plans organizations of the church will be called in at different times to look over the plans and make suggestions. In fact every member of the church will be given an opportunity to view and discuss the plans and to make suggestions. After all have had their chance a revised plan will be drawn and then submitted for further corrections and approval.

Aside from this, any plan that involves mortgaging the property will have to be approved by the court.

We also are required to secure step by step the approval of our plans and procedure from the Conference Board of Missions and finally the General Church Board of Missions.

All this means that it will probably be 1949 before we can begin actual construction and that the very earliest. In addition to all the foregoing no construction can be begun until the congregation at a congregational meeting gives its consent. The question of building, both as to how and when, rests finally with the local congregation and the approval of the General Church Board of Missions.

A Word of Caution

This means that every one should—if they are interested in building the rest of the church—respond to the appeals for money for this purpose. It is almost certain that the General Board of Missions will not approve any plans unless a certain percentage of the money is on hand. You need not fear that a small group will proceed inadvisedly without your knowledge for your consent as a congregation is mandatory. Your refusal to give now only defers the building date and may make it impossible. The growth or collapse of the work of the Lord depends upon the willingness of His people to move forward. Where do you place yourself in this program?

A Word of Encouragement

It appears quite possible that Annivers-

ary Day funds will reach the goal set. There is yet some additional money needed in this interest. Any help to reach this goal will be more than appreciated. And now we look forward to Easter. Let's make it a great Easter. Prayer, Meditation, Loyalty and then let's be generous in this Cause. Money given for the expansion program will be used only for that purpose. Even now we will be needing money for the purchase as above stated.

Last of all may we invite you to ask concerning matters that are not clear. We want to be as close to all concerning our work as possible. We need your help in keeping the thinking of our people straight and hopeful and daring.

In the interest of the Church and in behalf of the loyalty and untiring efforts of the Upton Board of Trustees.

O. E. Johnson, Pastor

Otterbein Home

In taking up the duties as Otterbein Home Representatives of our church we ask your patience with us as we learn our duties and then we shall try to carry out these duties to the best of our ability.

First of all, we think that you will all agree that anything we can do for the boys and girls and aged folks of our Otterbein Home is a worthy cause and we feel sure you will support it as you have in the past.

The contribution of fruit and vegetables netted 234 containers also 22 bars of soap, which by this time have been received at the home.

To date there have also been sent several packages of clothing by the "Jack and Jill" class. This young married people's class have taken it upon themselves as a class to provide at least one box per month for the Home. We think this very worthy of mention. We would also not forget to mention the W. M. S. who have also collected clothing and Christmas gifts for those at the Home.

There is also our Christmas offering for the Home. An offering taken once each year, to care for those of His children who are less fortunate than we. We feel sure that you will all be generous in your giving that we may have a fine offering, for we are reminded of the words of Jesus when he said: "In as much as ye do it to one of the least of these my little ones ye do it also to me."

Mr. and Mrs. Kolbe

Brotherhood News

The regular meeting of the Upton Ave. Church Brotherhood was held Nov. 12 in the social rooms of the church at 8 P. M. There was a fine spirit of fellowship shown by the crowd. The men who missed this meeting missed a treat.

Three of the delegates who attended the Men's Congress at Dayton in October gave a detailed report on the meeting, which was both interesting and inspirational. All who heard the report express-

ed a desire to attend the next Mens Congress if at all possible. The delegates were Rev. Johnson, Homer Knisely, Edward Bryan and Leonard Fletcher.

A discussion of the first 4 chapters of Matthew followed. Rev. Johnson gave a brief review of the previous chapters covered, and continued for the lesson of the evening. Each meeting a review will be given of the previous chapters studied. So do not hesitate to come for the next session. Just study the 5, 6, and 7th chapters of the Book of Matthew, and the review will give you a resume of what has preceded.

I urge the men and boys of the church to get the Brotherhood spirit and come to the meetings the second Wednesday of each month in the basement of the church. When District Brotherhood meetings are held, each quarter, we do not have the local meeting. Watch the bulletin and listen for special announcements in church as to the time and place of these meetings. Come and join us, the fellowship and inspiration will be well worth your time.

Edward Riendeau, Pres.

Table Graces

Morning Meal

O come, our Lord and Saviour,
And be our guest today,
That each may have a blessing
From Thee to take away. Amen.

Noon Meal

Be present at our table, Lord;
Be here, as everywhere, adored;
These bounties bless and grant we
May feast in Paradise with Thee. Amen.

Evening Meal

We thank Thee, Lord, for this our food,
But thank Thee more for Jesus' blood
May manna to our souls be given,
The bread of life sent down from heaven. Amen.

Great God, Thou giver of all good,
Accept our praise and bless our food
Grace, health, and strength to us afford,
Through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

For Children

We thank Thee for morning light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food, for love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends. Amen.
God is great and God is good,
We will thank Him for this food;
By His hand we are all fed,
Give us, Lord, our daily bread. Amen.

* * * *

Prayer

I know not by what methods rare,
But this I know, God answers prayer.
I know that He has given His word,
Which tells me prayer is always heard,
And will be answered, soon or late.
And so I pray and calmly wait.
I know not if the blessing sought
Will come in just the way I thought
But leave my prayers with Him alone
Whose will is wiser than my own.
Assured that He will grant my quest
Or send some answer far more blest.