The High Street Witness: April 1953

Otterbein University
Pastor's Message

It is a great joy to any Pastor to be able to report the victories of an Easter such as has been ours. Over 1500 attendance was recorded by our ushers and Sunday School Secretaries, and of this number there were perhaps about 1000 different people in attendance at the various services of the day. Easter Sunday turned out to be a beautiful day for the first time in a number of years, and attendance reached the high points that it has because of the fair weather and generally good conditions. In reporting our attendance we are happy to state that the ushers have tried to avoid all duplication so that any person that attended our worship services in one morning would not be counted more than once.

There were several encouraging things about our Holy Week and Easter program. Our two extra worship services at 8:30 A.M. were exceedingly well attended on both Sundays, and as a result the Church has now decided to continue with a worship service every Sunday morning at 8:30 preceding Sunday School. The regular 10:30 worship will continue as always. The Youth Choir sang for the first time on Easter morning at the 8:30 hour, and it was very well received by the Congregation. High Street is happy to have a large number of fine Christian young people, and the development of a Youth Choir is a logical procedure in view of the other activities of our Church.

Another very encouraging result on Easter Sunday were the records which fell by the wayside. Our worship attendance of 646 is the largest in High Street history, and we trust that such a record is maintained. Our Sunday School also reached a peak of 646 which is also a record, but we trust that we shall be able to exceed this number at a very early time. The worship attendance at the Maunday Thursday Communion totaled 354 which is also an indication of the increasing value our people place upon the attendance of the Lord's Supper. This too is very encouraging, and we believe that more and more Christians are recognizing the place Communion has in the worship of Christian people. All in all we are very happy for the wonderful Holy Week and Easter season the Church has passed through, and we trust it is but the prelude to greater things in the future. The number of guests and friends reached an all time high in our services which really means that the possibilities for growth were never greater than they are at the present time. We pray earnestly that God will help us to take full advantage of the possibilities which are ours at this time.

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MIRACLE MISSION FUND

By the time this paper arrives at your home the Pastor will doubtless have presented the Missionary Program on Sunday, April 26th to all of our members and friends. High Street Church has long been known for its Missionary zeal, and while such plans were laid aside for some time the Church has not lost Its vision. In past years the Church has supported Miss Wavwalee Bobet in Africa and Rev. Calvin Reber in China. Both of the missionaries have now returned to America, and are no longer on the Mission Field. The dropping of the Missionary Program was made necessary about two years ago when many of us, not only from our Church, and the Church was financially unable to carry on such a program with the increase in building debt obligation.

No longer can the conditions prevail which have prevented our extra Missionary activities as we have in the past. The Church is now on a sound financial basis, and many of our people are again clamoring for a Missionary Program apart from the Benevolence Budget and the items which it includes. The Church Council has given careful consideration to the needs and problems involved, and has approved a program to begin on April 26th as already stated. This new approach is known as the “Miracle Missions Fund” and we believe it is a start in the right direction to re-establish our Missionary Program.

The “Miracle Missions” will operate as follows: For the time being no missionary will be selected to support, and no project has yet been approved. We will begin by receiving funds as people desire to give, and projects and missionaries may be chosen as funds become available. A box will be placed in the Church, and all who want to give for this purpose may do so through this box. Envelopes will be made available with the container so that proper credit may be given to all who contribute to the Missionary Fund.

The income of our Missionary giving will be the tithe of all extra monies we receive over and above our regular incomes. In other words our Church will continue to operate on the tithe of the people, but as extra money may come to any individual perhaps through extra work, extra commissions, gifts, etc. The tithe of the extra monies will be requested to be placed in the Missionary offering. Such an approach is honoring to God, and is an expression of our true gratitude to Him for His goodness to us.

The answer of course is yes. The Financial Secretary will record all gifts if they come by envelope or check, and the money will flow into the regular Treasury of the Church. For the time being no project will be stated in advance, but a Missionary Committee will make recommendations to the Council of Administration for the projects we will sponsor. This will enable us to be flexible concerning Home and Foreign projects available in which we will be interested to place our commitments. This information now in order that many groups may look forward to this event remembering it in prayer at the Throne of Grace. Further details will be given at a later date as the meetings are arranged and planned in greater detail.

MISSIONARY INSTITUTE

High Street will have its first Missionary Institute in October over the week end of the 16th-18th. The speakers for the Institute will be Prof. Calvin Reber of Calvin Reber Seminary, and Mr. Paul Rob- inson, director of the Missionary Technical Course at Moody Bible Institute. We have long wanted to have Calvin Reber speak to the people of High Street Church, but it has not been possible to bring him to High Street this time. We trust it will be possible for him to bring his family with him in order that everyone may meet his wife and children. Mr. Paul Robinson was a classmate of the Pastor when he was a student in Moody Bible Institute, and is now directing the young people who expect to go to the Mission Field as they study flying, radio, and other technical subjects to qualify them for the Lord’s service in the backward areas of the world.

The Institute will begin on Friday evening October 16th, and will conclude on Sunday night, October 18th with the evening service. The Saturday night session will also be held, and films and slides will be used in connection with the Institute. We trust this first special emphasis upon Missionary activities will bring a blessing to High Street Church, and we give you this information now in order that many groups may look forward to this event remembering it in prayer at the Throne of Grace. Further details will be given at a later date as the meetings are arranged and planned in greater detail.
Church Council News

The Pastor's report to The Church Council of Administration on Tuesday, March 31st was as follows:

Attendance for the month of March is as follows: Sunday School, 306; Morning Worship, 348; Evening Service, 110; Prayer Meeting, 94. The averages for the month of March were: Sunday School, 246; Morning Worship, 241; Evening Service, 78; Prayer Meeting, 82. We have had gains in every area of activity for which we are deeply grateful to God. Especially are we grateful for the fact that both Sunday School and Church averaged over 300 for the month, which we believe is a new record at High Street.

As Pastor I have preached 11 times, conducted one funeral and one wedding, made 58 Pastoral calls, baptized 15 adults and babies, received 11 new members, and attended 15 meetings other than Sunday services and prayer meeting night. In the way of special activities I was on Conference business two days, and attended a two-day conference on Christian Higher Education at Otterbein College. It was also my privilege to be the guest minister at “Career Day” at Lima Central High School.

The following actions were taken by The Church Council which are of interest of the entire group.

No. 1—The Nominating Committee which will report to the Church Council on Tuesday, May 5th in making nominations for our Congregational Meeting was named as The Pastor, Miss Edna Holten, Mr. Carl Schubert, Mrs. Alta Blume, and Miss Patty Grimm.

No. 2—The Congregational meeting was set for Thursday, May 21st, and it was determined that the meeting should be preceded by a covered dish supper as a reception for all new members who have united with the Church during the past twelve months.

No. 3—The local Church Conference date was set for Tuesday, May 5th at 7:00 P.M., with the regular Church Council of Administration following.

No. 4—The Council authorized that chairs be purchased for the Junior Department Assembly room so that two class rooms could be arranged in that department without losing the Assembly space as is now arranged. Mr. John Frail was designated to install a drop so that the curtain could be run on a track below the "T" beams in the ceiling.

No. 5—Our Miracle Mission Fund was approved, and April 26th was set as the day to introduce this project to our Congregation. A more extensive explanation of this fund is found elsewhere in this edition.

No. 6—Two morning worship services every Sunday morning approved to follow Easter Sunday. These extra services will continue on a trial basis on the judgment of the Pastor and Church Officials.

No. 7—The Sunday School Superintendent

Suggested Schedule Of Activities

For some time we have been aware about a conflict in meetings of organizations which have prevented many functions from proceeding in the proper way. Tuesday night has especially been full of conflicts with a bowling league throughout the winter months, and after much thought and consideration the following results of a careful study are presented for the consideration of all the organizations of the Church. If this new plan should be inaugurated in the fall months it may make it possible to proceed without conflicts in our Church organizations. Tuesday night would be set apart for the bowling league, for committee meetings, and for visitation Evangelism on a permanent basis.

The following schedule has been drawn up for your consideration.

First Monday—Church Council night.
Second Monday—W. W. S. Unit II meeting, and Christian Service Guild.
Third Monday—Pathfinders class meeting.
Fourth Monday—Girls Missionary Guild, Cub Pack monthly meeting, and Board of Trustee meeting.
First Wednesday—Brotherhood meeting.
Second Wednesday—Homemakers class meeting.
Third Wednesday—Win One Class and Semper Fidelis class meetings.
Fourth Wednesday—Open.

Prayer meeting will continue on Thursday night, choir practice would follow prayer meeting, and the Boy Scouts would continue to meet on Wednesday evening as they do now.

The W. W. S. Unit I meets on the first Friday night of each month when there is no conflict and it was not thought necessary to suggest a different night for this organization.

Please let it be understood that this schedule has been drawn up only for consideration, and is not valid until approved by the groups involved and the Church Council. Let us give much thought to our Church programs so that all conflicts may be abolished, and in order that there may be time for God's work to be done in a proper way. Pray for guidance among all of our church leaders as we struggle with these problems and suggest solutions.

Baptisms And Dedication

The following persons received the Christian Baptism on Palm Sunday, March 29, 1953 during the morning worship services.

Donald Eugene Crider, and David Lynn Crider, all children of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Crider, 423 South Metcalf street.

Gregory Lynn Stewart, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Stewart, R. R. No 4.

Pamela Jo Windle, infant daughter of Mr and Mrs. Kenneth E. Windle, 1104 East 4th street.

Wendell Sidney Hollingsworth, Nelson Charles Hollingsworth, Linda Diane Hollingsworth, and Gerald Lee Hollingsworth, all children of Mr. and Mrs. Hobart Hollingsworth, 1355 Freeman avenue.

The following adults also received Christian baptism on Palm Sunday morning, March 29th in the worship services.

Victor Walter Woodbury, 740 W. Spring street; Mrs. Oleta Jane Brown, 321½ N. Jameson street; George Wesley Bailey, 321½ N. Jameson street; Richard Allen Hilgendorf, 1915 University Drive; David A. Carey, 3511 Spencerville Road; and Olive Fay Sisson, 411 E. Wayne street.

Also Mark James Hulit, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Darl Hulit, 1013 Burch street was dedicated on Palm Sunday morning, March 29th in the worship service.

The following were baptized on Easter Sunday morning April 5th in the Sunrise service.

James Aaron Brown, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald H. Brown of R. R. No 2, Ada, Ohio

Mike Edward Conkole, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lee Conkole of Cridersville, Ohio.

James Leonard Bixler, Stephen Douglas Bixler, Gregory Franklin Bixler, and Suzanne Bixler, all children of Mr. and Mrs. Earl E. Bixler of 567 S. Pierce street.

Auditing Notice

Our Church year at High Street will officially close on May 31st, and our report will be made up for the Annual Conference in the days following. All of our organizations also will close their books, and we wish to take this means of reminding the Treasurers of ALL organizations, including Missionary, Class Organizations, Brotherhood, and any other groups in High Street Church that the financial records to be audited Committee which is composed of Mr. Dale Keith and Mrs. Virginia Hefner. This is a long standing rule at High Street Church, and a good one to follow. Some of our organizations have been lax in past years, but all Presidents should see that their Treasurers turn over their books to Mr. Keith or to Mrs. Hefner for auditing as soon after the church year is closed as is possible. The book will be returned quickly, and any notation made by the auditors should be carefully considered. Please cooperate fully in order that our auditors may not need to request your books.
Our Boys In Service

Wedding bells for one of our boys in service. Oliver H. Tremaine, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Tremain, 1131 W. North street was married to a French girl of Rhode Island—a Miss Barbara Brissette, in a lovely church wedding there on April 11th, 1953. Mrs. Harold Tremaine left Lima on April 5th to attend her son's wedding. Oliver is in Construction and Engineering. We offer our prayers and best wishes to this young couple. He expects to be sent to Africa in a few months. While in the States his address will be

Olive H. Tremaine, 3rd Class
MCB—No. 6, Co. B
Davisville, Rhode Island

Pvt. John Wade, 521723858
HGHG—ORTC—MICR Range
Aberdeen Pr. Grounds
Aberdeen, Maryland

John's wife, the former Faye Lauck has given up her position here in Lima with the Metropolitan Insurance Co. and has gone to be with John while he is in service.

Pfc. Paul J. Walther, 52173037
1437 Eng. Float Bridge Co.
San Francisco, Calif.

Jim sang in our choir while here and is now in Korea. He is about fifteen miles from the front lines and is a dispatcher. Jim's time will be up in December. He recently was promoted to Pfc.

The corrected address of A-3/c Wm. M. Miller is Sewart AFB, Sewart, Tenn., in ion. His address is

APO 59, c/o P. M. General
San Francisco, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Rone, 2601 Wendell Ave., are the proud parents of a daughter, Liza Rone, born April 4, 1953 in Memorial Hospital.

New Arrivals

We are sorry to have missed one of our service boys who has been serving in the Army for over a year. He is Dale Newell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Newell of our Church. He is in the Engineering division. His address is

Pvt. Dale Newell, US 52163251
Company B, 9th E. C. B.
APO 216, c/o Postmaster
New York, New York

The new address of Dale Harner is as follows:

Pvt. Dale R. Harner, US 52175707
507th Sig. Co. (Sve)
APO 59, c/o P. M. General
San Francisco, Calif.

Dale is now in Pusan, Korea, working as a switchboard repairman.

Our service boys are depending upon us to hold them up before God in prayer. Do you remember our boys of the Church who have gone from us, fighting a war for us? Let each of us take these boys by name and pray for them daily that God will be especially near to them, to comfort them, and to give them that Peace that passes all understanding.

Prayer Meeting Night

The Prayer meeting at High Street Church has been on a different basis during the past winter months than anything the Church has known in its past. This new arrangement has had remarkable success, and we are happy to report at this time that we will continue under this arrangement during the summer months. In the past winter months we have been having a "Family Night" with arrangements made for the children and young people as well as for the adults. Our Good News Club for children led by Miss Ida Frail has been a valuable contribution to the children of High Street Church. The Catechism classes under Mrs. Lewis Johnson and Mrs. Clayton Bucher have met faithfully, and have done wonderful work. The adult prayer meeting under the direction of Mr. Clarence Long has grown and prospered.

The aspect of our mid-week service which has been most satisfying has been the average attendance which is hovering around the 100 mark. There was a time when we averaged 15, 20 or 25 at mid-week services, and to have 100 adults, young people and children for such a gathering is satisfying indeed. The increase cannot be measured in terms of children and young people alone, for we now have about twice the number of adults and older young people than once attended. Since our Revival meeting the prayer meeting has added new life in a most wonderful and helpful way, and we pray that our mid-week "Hour Of Power" will continue to be a great blessing to the Church.

Our Catechism classes will conclude their official work on May 17th with graduation exercises, but there will be a new arrangement made for our young people on Thursday evening during the summer months. A separate gathering is being planned which will provide for them, and which will attract, we believe, a good number to the mid-week hour.

Perhaps you have not been attending our mid-week Family Night, and are wondering what it is all about. Why not attend it next Thursday at 7:00, and find the blessing which others have known? We will be happy to see you and your entire family. Come and meet with the prayer meeting group.

Coming Events

May 3rd, 2:30 P. M.—The Allen County Grange will meet in our Sunday School auditorium.

May 6th, 6:30 P. M.—Annual Mother-Daughter Banquet in the Church dining room. Tickets are $1.00 each.

May 10th—Mother's Day. Mother will be honored in both the 8:30 and 10:30 worship services. Flowers will be distributed to all mothers.

May 17th—Graduation of Catechism classes and reception of new members into the Church. Members will be received in either of the morning services, but the Catechism Program will be the second service at 10:30 A. M.

The week of May 3rd to the 10th is known throughout America as Christian Family Week, and if possible the Pastor hopes to invite all the couples he has married in Lima to be present for the evening service on May 3rd. There will be a special service on Sunday evening, May 10th, with emphasis on the Christian Family, concluding with a film "The Bible On The Table. Let Christian Family Week mean much in your home as you plan for these events by making full use of the family altar every day.