

GRACE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH
307 NORTH PLYMOUTH STREET
CULVER, INDIANA

MEREDITH J. SPRUNGER, MINISTER

December 5, 1956

Dr. William S. Sadler
533 Diversey Parkway
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Sadler:

Thank you for your kind letter. It came as a most pleasant surprise. No other person could have written such a letter that would be more meaningful to me. As you know I am deeply interested in the Urantia Book. At present I am preaching a series of ten sermons in which I shall introduce the Urantia Book to our congregation.

I am quite anxious to meet you. Christmas activities make it difficult to get away but soon I shall write you suggesting a possible meeting time. If you should get near Culver we would be glad to have you visit us.

Best wishes to you and greetings to your son, William.

Cordially yours,



Meredith J. Sprunger

Grace Notes

GRACE CHURCH

MEREDITH J. SPRUNGER, Minister

Vol. 7

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No. 9

Peace on Earth / Good Will to Men

THE PRICELESS GIFT

Earl Eckman

As we gather in our homes and with our loved ones this Christmas Season to pay homage to the Christ Child, all Christian nations will pause in reverence of that Holy Night so long ago. All around the world, the ever old, yet ever new, miracle of Christmas glows warmly in the vision of the birth of the baby Jesus in the lowly manger of Bethlehem, and hearts will again be filled with new hope and peace.

As the wise men of old gave gifts to the new born King, we remember our friends with gifts of our love and devotion. On this Christmas Day let us pray for those gifts which are beyond price, outlast time, and bridge all space: Peace, Joy, and Love. Let us also pray that the coming year will bring to all nations, "Peace on Earth, Good Will to all Men."

NEW ARRIVAL

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Larry Lindvall, Jr. upon the arrival of their son, Dean Allen, on November 21st.

CHRISTMAS RECORDS

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Eckman and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Shaw have contributed several Christmas records to the Church. Mr. Eckman is making plans for these records to be played over the Church Tower each evening the week before Christmas.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Donald Hand

For the Sunday School Christmas program, the Junior High Group will present a one act play, *The Ram's Horn*, on Sunday, Dec. 23rd at 7:30 p.m. This is the first attempt at a dramatic production in our church for a long time, and they will be greatly encouraged if all of you good people turn out for it. Also, at this program the yearly collection for our support of the Children's Home at Ft. Wayne will be taken. A brochure and offering envelope are enclosed with *Grace Notes* for your giving. Please bring it to this Christmas program.

At 4:00 p.m. on the same day, Dec. 23rd, the choir will present the annual Candlelight Service. An offering for Benevolent work will be taken at this service.

The Kindergarten, Primary, and Junior Departments will have their annual gifts from the church during the class period on the 23rd.

The Weekday and Sunday School Nursery will have their Christmas Party on Saturday the 22nd from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Parish House.

The Weekday Nursery prepared a Share Basket for a needy family at Thanksgiving.

The Kindergarten Department will have a collection of food for a needy family at Christmas.

The Primary and Junior Depts. are again sending their Birthday money and Christmas Gifts to the Winnebago Indians. There is a box

(Con'td on next page)

(Christmas Activities con'td)

in both departments and the gifts can be brought at any time. The deadline for bringing gifts will be December 16th. These can be wrapped in Christmas paper, but state on tag outside whether for boy or girl and age and size. School supplies, new clothing for all sizes, books, costume jewelry, games, toys, puzzles, soap, and towels and washcloths are some ideas.

The Sr. Hi Youth will decorate and put the trees up on Dec. 10th.

CRESCENT CLASS

The Crescent Class will have a Potluck Supper and party in the Church Social Rooms, Wednesday, December 19th at 6:30 p.m. Bring covered dish, table service, and a 50¢ gift for the exchange. Miss Esther Stahl, Dr. and Mrs. E. E. Zechiel, and Mr. and Mrs. John Dickson are hosts for this party.

THE MESSIAH

On December 16th the Culver High School Choir, accompanied by the Community Symphony Orchestra, will present the Christmas portion of Handel's *The Messiah* in the Culver Community Building at 8 p.m.

The Messiah is one of the great choral works of all time. There will be no charge for this presentation and you are invited to attend.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH FAMILY NIGHT

Our sister church at Plymouth, Indiana, is observing Family Night on Sunday, December 9th beginning with a potluck supper at 6:30 p.m. For the program they have Rev. Ben Stucki of our Winnebago Indian School at Neillsville Wisconsin, to speak. Members of Grace Church are invited to attend this potluck - take a covered dish and table service.

SERMONS

Dec. 2 - HOW DOES GOD SPEAK TO US

(1.-Through His Inner Presence

Dec. 9 - (2.-Through Our Growing Perception

Dec. 16 - (3.- Through Mighty Acts

Dec. 23 - (4.- Through His Incarnation

Dec. 30 - (5.-Through the Visions of the Seers

Jan. 6 - HOLY COMMUNION

Jan. 13 - (6.-Through His Revealed Word

Jan. 20 - WHY HAS HE SPOKEN NOW?

(1.-Because of our Religious Bankruptcy

Jan. 27 - Youth Sunday, Harold Wilke, Guest Speaker

Feb. 3 - (2.-Because of the Great Need of Humanity

Feb. 10 - (3.- Because of the Fullness of Time

Feb. 17 - (4.- A Personal Word

This series of ten sermons is probably the most important combination of sermons that your pastor has ever preached or ever will preach. The first five are presented to give background for the sixth and the last four are attempts to make more meaningful the sixth. Some things may sound impossible or strange to your ears but all have been very thoroughly checked and evaluated. In due time you will have an opportunity to examine all source materials and evaluate for yourself. Never will any dogmatic demands to believe be made upon you. But with Philip, when Nathanael doubted what he said about Jesus, we say, "Come and see."

Prayer is a sincere, sensible, affectionate pouring out of the soul to God, through Christ, in the strength and assistance of the Spirit, for such things as God has promised. - Bunyan