

Oratorio Chorus to Present "Messiah" December 11; Soloists Announced

Lansing Bulgin to Conduct Performance

Handel's oratorio the "Messiah" will be presented by the Fort Wayne Bible College 100-voice "Messiah" chorus on Sunday afternoon, December 11, in Founders Memorial auditorium on the campus at 2:30 p.m. The performance, which is a traditional event of the college during the Christmas season, will be under the direction of Lansing Bulgin, Director of the School of Music and assistant professor of music.

Guest soloists for this year's presentation will be Betty Gilchrist, soprano, Omaha, Neb., previously a well-known Christian soloist in the Chicago area; Margaret Albert, contralto, Fort Wayne, music instructor at Monroeville High School and active church musician in this area; Darrell Gerig, tenor, school music instructor in Decatur, Ind.; and Dale Jurgenson, bass, Mitchell, Ind., formerly the director of Christian A Cappella Choir of Louisville and now a graduate student in music at Indiana University. Mr. Gerig is a graduate of Fort Wayne Bible College, class of 1950 and 1955.

Mr. Bulgin has previously conducted the oratorio at two other colleges. He has the Master of Music degree from Indiana University and has completed his residence requirements for the Ph.D. in music at the University.

A twenty-six piece orchestra composed of students and guest artists will provide the accompaniment. (Continued on page 4)



Lansing W. Bulgin, Director of the School of Music, will conduct this year's performance of the "Messiah" on December 11. He has previously conducted the oratorio when he was associated with Northwest Nazarene College in Nampa, Idaho, and George Fox College in Newburg, Oregon.

Dr. Witmer Conducts Month's Tour in West

Dr. S. A. Witmer, President of the college, is presently conducting a tour of more than three week's duration to the west coast, where he is speaking in churches of the Missionary Church Association and conducting other activities in the interests of the building program of the college.

On November 6 he spoke in the First Missionary Church of Phoenix, Ariz., and later addressed the charter meeting of the Phoenix alumni chapter. On November 13 he spoke in the Duarte and Pomona, Calif., Missionary churches, and on November 20 he is speaking in the Denair and Modesto Missionary churches. He also addressed the men's fellowship of the Van Nuys Missionary Church.

While in Arizona he addressed students of the Phoenix Christian high school and Arizona Bible Institute.

He is illustrating his talk with colored slides of scenes and activities of the college.

1955 Light Tower Wins High Press Honor

The 1955 Light Tower, yearbook of the college, has won a first place rating in the senior college-university division of the 21st annual yearbook critique and contest conducted by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. The award, which was announced at the association's yearbook conference in New York last month, is next in line after the top medalist citation. It was the first time for the college to enter its yearbook in national competition.

Editor of the book, which was published by last year's senior class, was Orville Orr, now a graduate student in education at Indiana University. Business manager was Gordon Klopfenstein, now a student at the Indiana University Extension Center and a recreational supervisor for the Jefferson Recreation Center in Fort Wayne.

Has your church or youth group seen

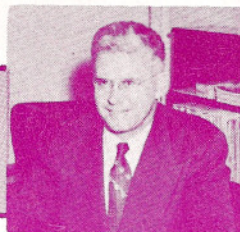
"Bridgebuilders"

A 30-minute motion picture in sound and color produced by Fort Wayne Bible College to show the value of Bible College education. Available on \$12 per showing rental basis.

For booking or information, write to
Fort Wayne Bible College

with the president . . .

Dr. S. A. Witmer



Morale

In the military services morale is a critical factor for effective combat. Battles and even wars have been lost when morale was weakened. Low morale is reflected in high AWOL rates, increase of crime, prison population and desertions. During World War II, contingents were tested for morale before going overseas or into combat.

What makes for good morale? The military frequently stresses such factors as cleanliness of mess halls, smart saluting, entertainment, competent leadership, worthiness of cause, etc. Morale is derived from "moral" and is therefore based on "rightness." The Chaplain's twin responsibilities to advise the CO in matters of religion and morale are very closely related. He is the conscience of the services as well as a spiritual advisor.

What about morale among God's people? There is nothing finer than high morale when good will, brotherly love, spiritual unity, buoyant faith and a gracious sense of God's presence prevail. There is nothing more distressing than dissension, discouragement, ill will, and unbelief among a group of Christians.

In warfare it is a common practice for an opponent to plant subversives and fifth columnists in the ranks of the enemy to destroy his morale. The enemies of Israel used those tactics when the temple was rebuilt under Zerubbabel. But in Christian warfare, the enemy is all too often permitted to maintain subversives deep within the Christians themselves. When carnality is not crucified, the old self-life is used to undermine spiritual morale, to create dissension, to weaken faith, and to vitiate fellowship.

The remedy? Jude gives it in his little morale-building epistle—"Keep yourselves in the love of God." According to Jude, the love of God shed abroad in the heart by the Holy Spirit is a must for purity, for security, for integrity of faith, and for effective service. Love is nurtured by "building up yourselves on your most holy faith," "praying in the Holy Ghost," and by "looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."

Perhaps more concern should be given to maintaining the basis of good morale among Christian groups. Then less time would need to be spent in trying to solve the multitude of problems that spring out of low morale.

Faculty Members Attend Conferences

Several members of the faculty of the college attended professional conferences and conventions during the past month.

Dr. S. A. Witmer, President, and Dr. Herbert W. Byrne, Dean of Education, took part in sessions of the Accrediting Association of Bible Institutes and Bible Colleges, which met at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago during the week of October 24. Dr. Witmer was president of the association from 1949 to 1953 and has also been a member of its executive committee. At this year's session he was cited for the outstanding leadership he has given the association in the past.

Richard Gerig, Director of Broadcasting and Promotion, attended sessions of the Friends of Christian Higher Education in Chicago on October 25 and 26. The group is a fellowship of public relations officers of religious colleges. Martha Johnson, assistant professor of English, attended the Keswick conference which met in Chicago on October 22 and 23. On October 27 and 28 Lloyd Roth, assistant professor of education, attended the elementary education sessions of the Northeastern Indiana Teacher's Association. Claude Stipe, instructor in anthropology and missions, recently took part in a conference of mission executives sponsored by the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association held at Winona Lake, Ind.

Ambassadors Plan Basketball Schedule

The Ambassadors, varsity basketball team of the college, launch their net schedule when the team plays Grace Seminary at Winona Lake, Ind., on November 14. The return game with Grace will be played in Fort Wayne on December 3. The team also travels to Huntington College to face the Huntington "B" team in a preliminary game there on December 6. Three other games are being planned and are expected to be announced soon.

Guest coach for this year's team is Clair Motz, physical education instructor at South Side High School and former basketball coach for North Side High School in Fort Wayne. Mr. Motz is an active Christian layman in the city. Cyril H. Eicher, Dean of Students, is chairman of the athletic committee which is arranging this year's varsity program. Members of the team will be announced in next month's VISION.

Building Fund benefits . . .

D-Day Comes to FWBC Campus

First dollar event for students and staff yields over \$500

A formula of vision, faith, and works by the Fort Wayne Bible College family last month produced more-than-sufficient evidence that the inspired words of James lie at the center of Christian testimony in action.

The scriptural concept, "Faith without works is dead" (James 2:17), was proved when the faculty, staff, and student body of the college had its first "dollar day" on Monday, October 24.

Vision at the Start

It all began during the October day of prayer a week earlier. W. Morrow Cook, Dean of Men, was presiding over a period of praise testimonies near the close of the morning session. Among other prayer items of the day, the students were praying for the growth of the college's building fund. Sensing the faith of the students that God is able to supply, and sparked by his own vision of demonstrating faith plus works at home, Mr. Cook suggested a monthly dollar day. Everyone on the campus would contribute a dollar on an appointed day during the morning chapel hour—in group fashion and spirit.

Faith Along the Way

The idea caught fire. Faculty, staff, and students joined in anticipation, and the day was announced. Mr. Cook was asked to present the final reminder. He said faith could bring in \$500, even though the college family numbers a little over 375.

Works Top the Goal

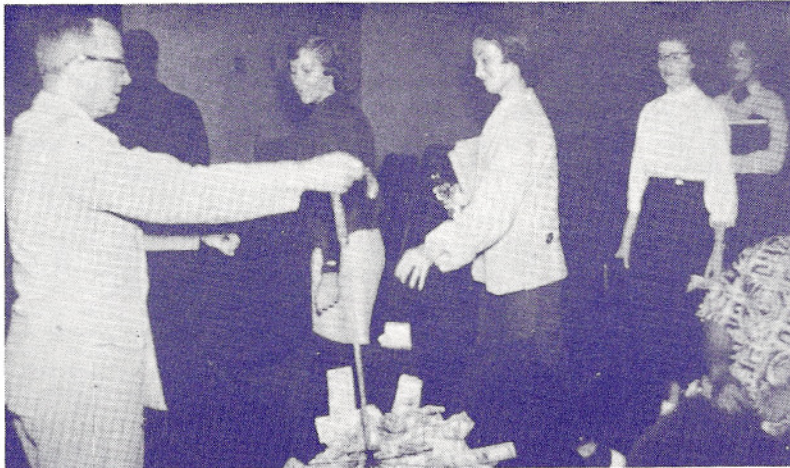
During the closing moments of chapel on October 24, students and faculty passed the front of the auditorium to drop dollar bills in an open, inverted umbrella held by Mr. Cook. Some who missed the occasion

brought their contribution later. The final amount totaled \$503.96, almost \$4 over the goal and well over the dollar-per-person quota. God rewarded faith.

The November dollar day has not yet been held at this writing. But this is evident: the students, faculty, and staff here "in Jerusalem" are on the move for the development of the college. It remains for alumni, friends, and constituency "in Judea and Samaria" to prove even further that God will continue to bless faith plus works for a growing program for Fort Wayne Bible College.



ABOVE—W. Morrow Cook, Dean of Men, smiles approvingly after D-Day march past his inverted umbrella appears to have satisfied the \$500 goal. Sign says, "Each for all . . . all for each."



LEFT—Students march past umbrella held by Mr. Cook to contribute a dollar bill toward the college building fund on the school's first monthly D-Day.

Around the campus . . .

a word from the deans

"Where Does God Want Me?"

Ruth Sondregger, Dean of Women

Not long ago one of our girls came to my office. She asked, "Can you tell me how it is that so many kids seem so certain about the Lord's direction for them, when I just seem to be drifting along? How can I know definitely where God wants me?"

I suggested that we start at the beginning. So I asked her, "Would you be willing to do anything and go anywhere and be anything that God wants? Can you say yes to that without reservation?"

Her answer revealed her real problem. "Isn't it rather difficult to say yes before I know what God wants me to do?" As God gave wisdom, I explained that God never reveals His will for the mere sake of satisfying our curiosity.

The problem of this girl is a common one with many young Christians. We meet it frequently here on our campus, but God gives great joy to us who have the privilege of counselling with young students. We try to show them that the mark of a surrendered life is to say yes to all the will of God even before it is known to us. God does not fashion His will according to our choices. The best example is the choice that Jesus made in Gethsemane. He did not welcome Calvary, but it was God's will for Him, and He embraced that will when He said, "Even so, not my will, but thine be done".

Romans 12, verses 1 and 2 give the two steps for living in the will of God. The first is surrender to Him as Lord. The second is not to be conformed to this world, and that means more than in outward appearance and behavior. God wants us to be transformed, to have renewed minds. A real soaking-in of the Word and prayer brings the mind of God into our minds. The more we live in the Word of God and in prayer fellowship with Him, the more the Spirit of God renews our minds and makes them aware and alert to the will of God.

God does not want us to be concerned about the future—a year or two years from now. As God's will is done now, He will give just the amount of light for the future that He deems necessary. If we really believe that God is able to reveal His will to us through His Word, we can trust the Holy Spirit to illuminate the way we should go. As long as we do not quench or grieve the Holy Spirit, He will be faithful in witnessing to our obedience by the peace He gives. Understanding the will of God is one of the values we believe God gives our students as they faithfully study His Word here.

After prayer together, this girl left my office. Her questions were answered. It was evident that her heart and mind were now settled in the peace that God gave her—knowing that she is in His will *now*.

Theta Beta Plans Off-Campus Dinner

Theta Beta, cultural organization for all girl students of the college, will hold a Thanksgiving banquet at the Hobby Ranch House in Fort Wayne on November 22.

Barbara Streitmatter, senior, Peoria, Ill., announces that the speaker for the occasion will be Miss Mildred Jacobs, acting Executive Director of the Girl Scouts of this area.

Other officers are Betty Linkous, junior, Pylesville, Md., vice-president; Rochelle Liechty, junior, Berne, Ind., secretary; and Elaine Maris, senior, Wauneta, Neb., treasurer. Ruth Sondregger, Dean of Women, is advisor.

Theta Beta was organized nearly two years ago. The purpose of the group is to implement the college objectives of preparing students for Christian service by aiding in the social and cultural development of women students. Activities center in programs of fine arts, travel, and cultural and social pursuits.

MESSIAH

(Continued from Page 1)

Several musicians from the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Orchestra will play with the group. Eloise Wood, instructor in stringed instruments for the college and assistant concertmaster of the philharmonic orchestra, will be concertmistress for the program. Frederick Jackisch, instructor in organ, will be organist. Alumni of the college will also take part as vocalists in the chorus.

Officers of this year's oratorio chorus are Clarence Hodges, junior, Detroit, Mich., president; Bill Witker, senior, Swanton, Ohio, vice-president; and Esther Kremmer, junior, Allentown, Penna., secretary-treasurer.

The program will include the most well-known portions of the "Messiah." Each year the performance draws approximately 1,000 music lovers from the Fort Wayne and tri-state area. It was not performed last year, due to the illness of professor Oliver Steiner, former director of the performance, who later died in March of this year. There is no admission charge, and the public is invited to attend.

The Vision

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