

To know Him . . . to make Him known

But lay up for yourself treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal; For where thy treasure is, there will thy heart be also."—MATTHEW 6:20-21.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA

1956

DEDICATION

The pages that follow will open the gates of a new life to us as Christians and a vision of our responsibility for the future of our Church. It will present a challenge for tomorrow. This booklet is affectionately dedicated to the laymen and laywomen of this congregation. By their vision and faithfulness, as well as through their sacrificial giving, they will show their love for God and man.

WE DEDICATE OUR BUILDINGS FOR THE
GRATITUDE OF YESTERDAY—PROMISE OF TOMORROW
1956

This Booklet Presented to
THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF
THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA

Published by
THE BUILDING FUND CANVASS COMMITTEE



A Message from Our Minister

This is a Story of a Church . . . That Was, That Is, That Shall Be!

It began with a man who was more than a man, even very God suffering our worst to give us His best; a man who said, "I will build my church," and then to pay for it, went resolutely to a cross.

It began with eleven men who were only men, even as are we; whose weakness, doubts, fears, and sins were those we share; men who found in Jesus Christ a commission that commanded their best, a comrade who transformed and empowered.

It came to dying men in a doomed world offering an open door to new life, foundations for a new world.

It comes to us out of nineteen centuries of history. It has been hallowed by the blood of Martyrs, nurtured by the prayers of Saints, sustained by the courage, faith, and dedication of the noblest souls the earth has ever known.

It comes to us out of more than a half century of brave adventure and stalwart endeavor here in Glendale.

That is the church that has been, and the church that is. What of the church that shall be? This is the answer we shall give.

At the Fourth Quarterly Conference and Congregational Meeting, April 18, 1949, the first decisive step was taken. The Planning and Building Committee, after months of careful study, recommended that we proceed with plans to build a new sanctuary, purchase land for off-street parking, and other necessary expansion. This recommendation was approved and the committee instructed to proceed. On repeated occasions since, this action has been reaffirmed and plans have been carried forward.

Our education building with its 81 classrooms and gymnasium is in keeping with what we are now and should become, but not our present sanctuary. For the 450 courageous souls who fashioned it of their dreams and sacrifice it was a mighty achievement, the best they could do. But it is not the best we who number 3,400 can and must do.

By means of the love and labor of our fathers we have grown to the strength by which can be built one of the most beautiful, inspiring, and majestic churches of Christendom.

I carry in my heart a picture, as I am sure you do, of the church which, in God's Grace, one day will rise.

—We see a church whose lofty spire, towering above all else, will say to confused and earth-shackled men, "Lift up your eyes. Give your heart to things that are

above. Remember, you belong to God."

—We see a church whose massive grandeur will be a sermon in stone, an eloquence ever speaking for God to every passer-by, saying, "God is alive and at work in the world. His saving power is available to you."

—We see a church whose awesome beauty will stab men awake with the awareness of reality unseen, prompting the heart to worship and causing some who have been careless to think, I ought to go to church—this is where I'm going to begin next Sunday.

—We see a church within whose doors every column and soaring arch; every tint of color, probing light, and quiet shadow; combine to help the heart say: "Holy. Holy. Holy. Lord God of Hosts. Here am I, Lord; cleanse me, empower me, use me."

We have a plan. Now by our love, labor, and sacrifice we shall translate it into "the church that shall be."

Out of Holy Writ comes our marching orders: "Now set your mind and heart to seek the Lord your God. Arise and build the sanctuary of the Lord God."

Yours in the service of Jesus Christ,



EVERETT W. PALMER

Historical Highlights

A Heritage That Spans Half a Century

*"Make no little plans.
They have no magic to stir men's blood;
They probably themselves will never be realized!
Make big plans.
Aim high in hope and work,
Remember that a noble diagram, once
Recorded will never die
But long after we are gone
Will be a living thing."*

In September, 1903, a broken-down Methodist preacher began to trudge through the hot, deep dust of Glendale, then a hamlet of 300 population, visiting from house to house. He was a man whose strength was in God and in whose heart was the highway to Zion. He was fifty-eight years old, only recently arrived from Iowa with his wife and children. His name was Charles Norton. The Conference Committee in Los Angeles considered his health too poor a risk to recommend him for an appointment. But while he had life and thimbleful of strength, he was determined to serve Christ and the Methodist Church.

He came to the conviction that Glendale should have a Methodist Church. He dared to dream it could be. He began to toil and pray it should be.

Fifty-three years ago, Sunday, October 11, 1903, thirty-four brave hearts banded together in faith and love to establish this church. The church met in a rented hall on the second floor of a store building at the corner of Glendale and Wilson.

They could have stayed there easily and comfortably. No doubt many faint heart so advised. But there were others who carried in their hearts a vision of the future. The decision was made to proceed immediately with the raising of money to buy land and build the church. Again, some said, "Count me out." But others, of brave spirit, went ahead.

So, in 1906, this church had its first edifice at the corner of Wilson and what is now Everett. It was a lovely little frame church, and they could have stayed there. Many congregations which began during those years did stop with their first such building. They still are where they were fifty years ago.

But in that small church some did not believe the adventure was ended. They dared dream of a new and better location and the erection of a sanctuary which would make possible continuing growth. Naturally, human nature being what it is, there was opposition. But in loving devotion to their Master they moved forward in the service of the world to be.

In 1913 land was secured at the corner of Kenwood and Wilson. Then with but 300 members they dared plan to build a church with seating for 1,000. When the church was finally erected in 1917 with present seating capacity, they numbered less than 450 members. Critics had much ammunition for ridicule and those opposed, many reasons for saying it could not or should not be done. But despite all, in August, 1916, they broke ground and in June, 1917, our present sanctuary was dedicated.

Immediately the church entered upon a period of remarkable growth. Again there were those who dared to dream big. Against counsel of content, they planned for an education building which would be the best in the west. And here it stands, providing ample facilities for one of the great Church Schools of Methodism.

All of this in half a century from a beginning on the second floor of a store building. In loyalty to those who thus have labored before us, how can we say the adventure has ended, that the church has arrived? Can we, with a membership of 3,400, sit down and ride upon the achievements of our fathers? Their faith, labor and love are reasons for us likewise to dream, plan, sacrifice and launch out upon action no less great and brave than theirs!

A Word From Our General Chairman

God is forever calling His people to assume great responsibilities, but occasionally He calls a selected few to do what seems to be an almost impossible thing. Such a summons should be construed as a tribute to the people's faith, as well as an assurance of God's willingness to crown the venture with success. It is to such an undertaking that we in the First Methodist Church feel we are now being called. "Take heed now, for the Lord has chosen you to build a house for the Sanctuary; be strong and do it." I Chron. 28:10.

A decisive hour in the life of our church family is at hand. We are at the crossroads, and this decisive moment will prove our loyalty to our church and our God. It is our unshakable belief that God placed us in this particular church, in this particular location, at this particular hour in history, for a divinely ordained purpose, and there can be no rest in our souls until our task has been accomplished.

If we, as a church family, are to be true to the past and faithful to the future, we must now increase our capacity to serve the present. Therefore, let us also, seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every hindrance and with faith in God and the future, rise up and build. Yes, build—build a House of God—a Church which is pleasing to the eye of man, and we pray, to the mind of God, that we may truly "Worship the Lord in the Beauty of His Holiness."

We stand, as it were, on the boundary of the promised land, but it needs to be possessed. May God grant that our vision and zeal may be adequate to the work before us. Just as surely as the Lord did wonders among the children of Israel as they entered the promised land, so He will do wonders among, and for, and with us as we sanctify ourselves to His service.



We know that the accomplishment of such a task will require genuine sacrifice on the part of every member of our church family, but instead of recognizing this fact with regret, we rejoice in it as an opportunity and a privilege. We know that our house of worship could not adequately represent the religion of Christ unless it were created as a result of that sacrificial spirit which we always associate with our Lord. The need of giving is ours. God has no need of our gifts as such, the gold and the silver are His. He owns the reservoir of oil in the earth, even the cattle on a thousand hill are His. This great need being of our own selves and for our own good; God, in His providence, leaves it to us, His people, to open the doors of our hearts in sacrificial giving.

In the words of Nehemiah, let us say: "The God of Heaven, He will prosper us; therefore we, His servants, will arise and build."

Yours in His Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roy L. Kent".

ROY L. KENT

Our Building Fund Needs and Canvass Goal

This fund-raising appeal will be known as the **"1956 Building Fund and Budget Canvass"**

It has been estimated that we will need approximately \$1,000,000 to cover the cost of the property, the construction, the furnishing, and the tithe for the new church building.

ESTIMATED BASIC NEEDS	ASSETS
Construction\$ 650,000.00	Tithe (on \$300,000, paid to Granada Hills) \$ 30,000.00
Furnishings, landscaping, etc.*..... 134,588.00	Property purchased 124,503.00
Property (already purchased) 124,503.00	Cash on hand (as of February 29, 1956).... 62,184.00
TOTAL\$ 909,091.00	Architect & Engineers fees for study of present buildings for monthly meetings with Planning & Building Commission over past 3½ years 2,727.00
Tithe (gifts to others)\$ 90,909.00	TOTAL ASSETS\$ 219,414.00
Total Basic Needs\$1,000,000.00	
Less Assets\$ 219,414.00	
Canvass Goal\$ 708,586.00	

Note . . . The total amount received from pledges as of Feb. 29, 1956 was \$221,553. The difference between this figure and the total assets listed above is the amount used towards the expenses of previous campaign.

Based upon these figures, it has been agreed that this Building Fund Canvass goal should be set at \$1,000,000 (of which we have assets of \$219,414 from previous program). This means that in this canvass we shall try to raise at least \$780,586 more to complete the building of our new Sanctuary. * (No additional land purchase is contemplated from these funds with the possible exception of land within the area bounded by Wilson, Kenwood, Broadway and the alley, provided such land becomes available at a price which in the judgment of the Quarterly Conference is advantageous to the church.)

Note . . . There are other valid and pressing needs not included in the present listed "Basic Needs." At the completion of this program, a study will be undertaken to determine the needs for any additional property, buildings (new, improvement and repairs), and other items. These will be passed upon by the Quarterly Conference *after* due consideration.

It is the hope there will be an overflow from the sacrificial giving of this canvass, in which event these funds will be held in trust to meet these other needs.

First Church is a growing church, as evidenced by the necessity for funds with which to build a new sanctuary.

A growing church, of course means a growing budget, meeting the vital needs of a growing program.

We must maintain a high level of giving to the regular church budget, in addition to our gift to the Building Fund. Anything less would indeed be "penny-wise but pound-foolish."

A Message From Our Special Gifts Chairman

The First Methodist Church of Glendale has come to a decisive hour—and has made the decision to forge ahead! By careful counsel and deliberation we have decided to build a new church. The old spot is hallowed ground and has many ties and sacred memories, but growth and progress are inescapable and change thus becomes inevitable.

Wisely, we have decided to enter upon a campaign to raise funds to provide new church facilities which will be in keeping with our needs. Many of us have never before had the opportunity to share in such an important project. It is a privilege which comes to nearly all only once in a lifetime. Many of the members of the First Methodist Church have enjoyed the benefits and blessings of a church for many years because of the contributions and sacrifices of others. We now have the unique opportunity of making a contribution to the spiritual life of our community and to the lives of future generations; for we build, not only for the present, but for the remaining years of our sojourn here.



Let us accept the challenge. It will mean sacrifice to all of us, but we feel confident that such sacrifice will be made, if we place proper value on the things which in the broad scheme of life are truly worthwhile.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "C. R. Lusby". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

DR. C. R. LUSBY

Our Greatest Need

We know that OUR GREATEST NEED is not . . . "how much our church needs"—but rather "HOW MUCH WE NEED TO GIVE."

Increased living—as has been proved many times over—will develop greatly increased interest in our Church and in our own spiritual lives. Every family should look upon this Building Fund Canvass as the opportunity to make the greatest sacrifice of their lifetime for their faith.

If only a few of our families sacrifice, the above figures will, of necessity, be reduced. As a consequence, the role of our church in this community will be limited

accordingly, and its service to our members and our children restricted. If all our families sacrifice, our building plans may be expanded to represent a truly great investment in the cultivation of our spiritual lives.

Therefore, our Canvass Leaders shall make every effort to set the pace with generous, sacrificial pledges made early in the Canvass, so that they will inspire all of our families to become better givers.

To meet this greatest need, it is imperative that the appeal be to all member-families for pledges which will represent:

HOW MUCH OUR GOD, OUR CHURCH AND OUR SPIRITUAL LIVES MEAN TO US.



THE EXECUTIVE CANVASS COMMITTEE

Seated, left to right: Dr. C. R. Lusby, Dr. L. H. Bittner, Roy L. Kent, R. W. Mumford, W. M. Litchfield, A. L. Erickson. Standing, left to right: C. D. Webb, E. A. Baugh, James A. Batchelor, Paul Butterfield, E. E. Osgood.

The Canvass Committee

ROY L. KENT
General Chairman

C. DOLLIVER WEBB
Chairman, Initial Gifts

DR. C. R. LUSBY
Chairman, Special Gifts

CLARENCE B. GREGG
Chairman, Teams Committee

WILLIAM M. LITCHFIELD
Chairman, Canvass Committee

ALFRED L. ERICKSON
Associate Chairman, Teams Committee

ELBERT A. BAUGH
Associate Chairman, Special Gifts

PAUL C. BUTTERFIELD
Associate Chairman, Teams Committee

RUSSELL W. MUMFORD
Associate Chairman, Initial Gifts

DR. L. H. BITTNER
Associate Chairman, Canvass Committee

MRS. EVERETT PALMER
Honorary Chairman, Hostess Committee

MRS. C. E. MILLIKAN
Chairman, Arrangements Committee

MRS. CLARENCE GREGG
Chairman, Hostess Committee

MRS. C. DOLLIVER WEBB
Associate Chairman, Arrangements Committee

RICHARD R. ALFORD
Chairman, Publications Committee

E. E. OSGOOD
Canvass Treasurer

MRS. CLYDE PROW
Vice-Chairman, Publication Committee

JAMES A. BATCHELOR
Associate Canvass Treasurer

MRS. LEONARD A. ELLISON
Associate Chairman, Arrangements Committee

Build with God . . .

God is honored when His people build temples for worship. He has promised that when a house of worship is built in His name, that He will bless it with His presence, and will send His Spirit to those who gather there.

The Lord was displeased when the Israelites allowed the temple to lie in waste. He spoke through the prophet Haggai, "Is it time for you, oh ye, to dwell in your ceiled houses, and this house lie waste? Now therefore saith the Lord of Hosts: Consider your ways." Haggai 1:4-6.

How often does the Lord look upon the church and ask "why have you done so little? Why do you feel concern for your own buildings, and unconcern for the Lord's building? Where is your Christian zeal? What have you gained by serving self?"

The Lord has promised a blessing when the glory of His house is put before our own selfish wishes. "Consider your ways, go up . . . and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified." Haggai 1:7-8.

Time after time in the Bible we find that the Lord has promised blessings for those who give of their means to help the church. Prosperity, both temporal and spiritual is dependent upon faithful obedience to God's commands. One of these is to "Arise and build." The Christian always has a strong helper in the Lord. Those who give that the glory of His temple may be increased, may know that the Lord will never leave them or forsake them. He will never fail those who put their trust in Him.

God adds His blessings to our every effort. Our success becomes the individual responsibility of each of us. It is a challenge to a deeper dedication to our Lord and Saviour, and to a compelling compassion to honor Christ and make Him known.



C. DOLLIVER WEBB
Initial Gifts Chairman

We can demonstrate our present living faith by meeting the great need of our church, and our community. The church should be a mother, opening her arms to gather in her children. Each should feel welcomed, wanted, and loved. How can this be when there is insufficient space within our walls? How can the service be conducted graciously, with reverence and solemnity, when we are in crowded quarters inadequate to serve the future? How can "the peace that passeth understanding" be in our hearts, when we must be concerned, either to find places for ourselves, or to realize that there is no place for others?

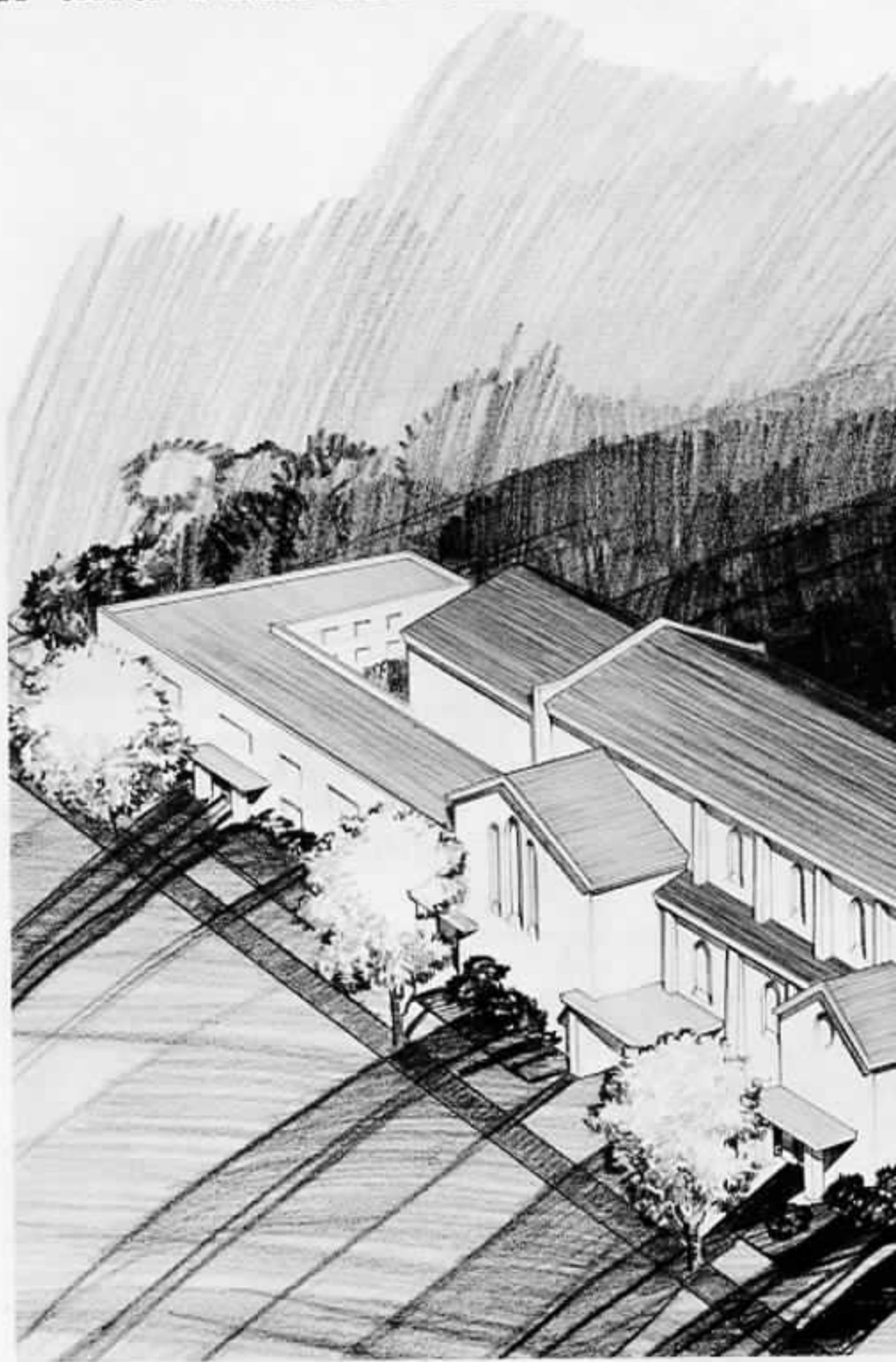
With the Lord going before us, let us go firmly forth in faith to build our Tabernacle. Let us finish the work which He has given to us to do, that He may look upon the work which we have done and say, "Well done, good and faithful servants."

Most Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C. Dolliver Webb". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

C. DOLLIVER WEBB

We Dream and Plan for the Future



**"The Glory of this Latter House shall be
of Hosts, and in this place"**



Artist's conception of New First Methodist Church of Glendale

**Greater than the Former, Saith the Lord
I will I give thee Peace"**

Why a New Sanctuary?

To our church family the building which houses its activities becomes, in the noblest sense of the word, a Home.

Here is haven and refuge in time of trouble. Here dwell friendship and sympathetic understanding.

Within these dedicated walls cluster recollections of private meditation and of public worship where griefs too deep to utter are healed by the peace that "passeth understanding."

And by these hallowed associations mere architecture has been converted into a symbol of brotherhood, and becomes in fact "a living spiritual home."

Our present home has become inadequate for the future. The major portion of our plant, known as the Education Building, is an excellent structure (concrete reinforced with steel) and will be retained. However, that portion used for public worship is but residential construction. It does not meet present building code requirements.

Two independent studies within the past seven years by construction engineers, including consultation with the city building inspector and other competent people, have brought the same report; namely, it would be cheaper to build a new church on the adjacent lot than attempt any major remodeling or extension. Especially this would be true since city law would require us to bring the building up to code.

The present sanctuary was built in 1916-17 when our church had but 450 members. With faith and courage they built beyond their current needs to give challenge for greater growth.

What was done by and for 450 members scarcely

would seem adequate for the 3,400 who likewise need challenge for growth.

Without buildings and equipment attractive to the public a church's appeal to new people is greatly diminished. Without constant addition of new recruits a church not only ceases to grow but begins to wane.

When growth stops death begins. That is true of the spirit as well as of the flesh, churches as well as persons. The world being as it is, there is little danger of any church growing too much. The forces of attrition prevent that. No church will grow beyond its ability to serve people for Jesus Christ and recruit them in turn for His cause.

Just to maintain a church at constant strength to say nothing of growth, demands continual concern that it present maximum appeal to casual passers-by and visitors. This, in itself, is vital evangelism, missionary work.

The opportunity to build a great and beautiful church comes to but few people. It will not come to us again. There will not be another First Methodist Church built in Glendale during our lifetime, perhaps not for generations to come.

This is our opportunity to do something truly worthy of the King of Kings, the biggest and bravest of which we are capable, an act of sacrifice that will draw us closer to our Lord than ever before, and endow us as never before with his joy and power.

Thus a church shall rise that will serve the future as a tower of strength, a voice reaching multitudes for Christ, a source of mighty benevolence which constantly will be aiding in the establishment of new churches and in the furthering of every other Christian enterprise here and around the world.

*Standing room only
the Sunday after Easter*





Easter Service

Why a Church of Beauty?

"If beauty is a luxury, then God is a wastrel. Why should He waste Himself with the making of stars and of violets, or take up space on the earth with mountains and waterfalls, or trouble Himself with sunrises and butterflies?

"If beauty is a luxury, then man were better a beast. Why should he struggle to make speech march in chaste and noble cadence? It is easier to grunt, even yelp. Why should he travail to create a poem, fashion a symphony, write a book, even a sermon? It is less taxing to live like a sheep grazing on a hillside. Why should he trouble himself with art galleries, concerts and architecture? It is simpler to shuffle through life like oxen. Let someone answer and say of beauty, 'Why this waste?'

"Jesus Christ has dealt with this. One evening just before his arrest, while He was dining at the home of Simon in Bethany, a woman burst into the room. To everyone's surprise she went directly to Jesus, broke open an alabaster jar of fabulously expensive perfume, and poured it upon His head, as was the custom in those days for anointing a king.

"The perfume was worth the equivalent of a year's wages. It represented, no doubt, the most precious possession she would ever have. Those present were shocked, then provoked, 'Why such a waste?' they scolded, 'That perfume could have been sold for a large sum of money and given to the poor.'

"Their surprise was not over, for Jesus understood and came to the woman's defense. 'Why do you trouble

the woman?' He asked. 'She has done a beautiful thing. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me.'

"Our Lord always had concern for a practical ministry to the needy. In His parable on the judgment He taught that devotion to Him must be expressed in such practicality as feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, healing the sick; that anything less would be subject to judgment.

"But he knew every virtue must be guarded lest it become a vice. So at Bethany Jesus was warning that even such a virtue becomes a deadly vice unless balanced by no less concern to minister unto mankind with beauty.

"He was insisting that beauty is not a luxury, that mankind needs beauty even as it does bread, and that our devotion to God must be evidenced not only in 'practical' ministry to the needy, but in doing some 'lovely thing,' too. Our Lord was asserting that the ministry of beauty is a present obligation we owe to God and to our fellow human beings and must never be made to wait.

"So, in a world of want there is reason for the precious ointment of things so impractical as an armful of roses and a sky full of stars, a "Ninth Symphony" or hills against a sunset sky, a poem, or even a cathedral rising where once was a dusty parking lot."

From sermon by Dr. Everett W. Palmer



THE DIVISION LEADERS

*Seated left to right: Dr. Robert W. Longman, David L. Myers, Dr. Herbert F. Wiese, Sewell A. Johnson
 Standing left to right: Gilbert Groutage, Alfred E. Cate, H. Dana Goss, James R. Daniell, Dr. Donald W. Lusby*



THE DIVISION LEADERS (continued)

*Left to right: Frank Chapman, Dr. Eugene F. Conner, Dr. Heber H. Ryan, Dr. Wymond W. Eckhardt
 Division Leaders not pictured: Dr. Robert A. Collins, Merritt S. Dunlap, Wilbur L. Eathing*

Our Christian Responsibility

There is nothing complicated or high pressure about our financial plan. We are simply asking that every member and friend of the church set aside a generous and sacrificial portion of their income each week for a period of 150 weeks for the building of the new church. It means then that we give the church priority on our contributions during this period of time.

These gifts must be **OVER AND ABOVE OUR PRESENT CONTRIBUTIONS** to the regular operating budget and benevolence support. The program of the church must go on, and a curtailment in our regular giving would be short-sighted churchmanship.

Beginning about the time you receive this booklet, every family in any way affiliated with the First Methodist Church will be visited and given an opportunity to invest in this great program.

Payments may be planned according to the wishes of each individual subscriber. Since the total needed for our building program is a large sum if thought of in terms of cash gifts, we would jeopardize the probability of attaining our goal by attempting to make total gifts in cash. Total gifts can be much larger if weekly payments are kept in mind; for just as it is easier to make larger purchases on the installment plan, so it is easier to make gifts in amounts needed on a weekly basis.

Pledge cards will be presented to members of our church. It should be remembered that making a pledge in this campaign is not like signing a note for the amount subscribed. We are simply asking that you indicate on the pledge card how much you feel you will be able to give during the three-year period. **IF YOUR FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE** for the worse, or if you should suffer any misfortune which would make a continuation of payments an undue hardship upon you, your



CLARENCE B. GREGG
Teams Committee Chairman

pledge may be decreased or discontinued by simply notifying the church office. If financial circumstances change for the better, we hope you will want to increase your pledge. It is our hope to provide a lovely new church building in proportion to our giving ability—a church building that will be a credit to us in the community, and provide for the needs of our members and children.

This is the **Once-In-a-Lifetime-Opportunity** for most of our members to have a part in church building enterprise. This is **OUR DAY OF OPPORTUNITY—OUR DAY OF CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY.**

Until a present generation family has made at least one sacrificial gift to the building of some church, every time a member of that family uses a church he is increasing his indebtedness to an earlier generation; nor has he met his full obligation until he has pledged to build for the needs of his day and for the future growth of his church.

Entrusted with a great Message, enjoying a fine fellowship, we face our **Christian Responsibility for Today.**



MRS. EVERETT W. PALMER
Honorary Chairman, Hostess Committee



MRS. CLARENCE B. GREGG
Chairman, Hostess Committee



ASSOCIATE CHAIRMEN OF THE HOSTESS COMMITTEE

Standing, left to right: Mrs. Leonard A. Ellison, Mrs. Clarence B. Gregg, Mrs. C. C. Dieudonne, Mrs. Merritt S. Dunlap, Mrs. Emil O. Kiefer, Mrs. Paul C. Butterfield. Seated, left to right: Mrs. C. E. Millikan, Mrs. C. Dolliver Webb, Mrs. Alfred L. Erickson, Mrs. Everett W. Palmer. Not pictured: Mrs. Douglas A. Clarke, Mrs. David T. Harshman.

Our Canvass Plan

In order to raise an additional \$780,586, which is our Building Fund Canvass Goal, it has been agreed that we will conduct between now and June 1st



AN ORGANIZED INTENSIVE FACE-TO-FACE SOLICITATION IN THE HOMES FOR BUILDING FUND & BUDGET PLEDGES OVER A 150 WEEK PERIOD BEGINNING JUNE 1, 1956

Organized solicitation will be limited to member-families, prospective church members, parents of church school children, and any other persons and families who consider themselves affiliated with, or use our church, but are not technically members.

The intensive aspect of this canvass means that we will concentrate our efforts to obtain pledges from all church families during an intensive four-weeks solicitation period.

Individual face-to-face solicitation means that a sufficient number of our churchmen will be enlisted, organized, and qualified as Canvassers to visit and solicit each family of the church individually and privately in the

homes. There will be no solicitation in groups or meetings, nor will any solicitation be conducted by mail.

150 Week Pledges will be a basic requirement of this canvass. Families pledging more than \$1,500 may consider semi-annual payments, but all families pledging \$1,500 or less will be encouraged to use the 150 week pledge payment method. Contributions and even initial cash payments on pledges will be discouraged during the canvass period.

Budget pledges for the fiscal year will be solicited at the same time as the building fund pledges. Building fund pledges will be asked to be made on a sacrificial basis over and above current budget giving.



THE ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Seated, left to right: Mrs. Harold W. Hart, Mrs. Newell Knowlton, Mrs. Oscar W. Peters, Mrs. C. Dolliver Webb, Mrs. C. E. Millikan, Miss Genella George, Mrs. Robert Cornelius, Mrs. Albert W. Olliff, Jr. Not pictured: Mrs. Leonard A. Ellison, Mrs. Thomas I. Smith.

What is my part?

Sacrificial giving calls for strength of will and courage. Invariably, this kind of giving strengthens faith and brings the kind of interest that permits a church to grow and render a greater Christian Service. Only sacrificial giving will enable our church to raise an additional \$780,586 in 150 weeks.

The paramount question is not: "How much does my church need?" It is "How much do I need to give as a faithful Christian?" Sacrificial giving is the kind we do for those we love. We think in terms of HOW MUCH we can give for those we love. Selfish giving asks HOW LITTLE can we give and get by. Sacrificial giving results in a pledge for a larger amount than we thought would

be possible for us. In our Building Fund Convass our pledge should be for the largest amount we have ever given, and if we are over 60, for the largest we can ever expect to give.

Our pledges will reveal our gratitude for God's blessing, our appreciation and our concern for the work of His Church and the proclamation of the Everlasting Gospel to "every nation, kindred, tongue and people." Therefore MY PLEDGE SHOULD BE—One determined after prayer for God's guidance . . . One that brings an inner conviction of satisfaction—One about which I can talk to others without apology.

How much shall I give?

There will be no high pressure solicitation, but instinctively we will not pledge more than a fraction of the amount to be raised unless we recognize that:

- (1) "Giving" is a habit—usually a weak token-giving habit;
- (2) "Pocket-book-protection" is an instinct—usually a strong one;
- (3) Our interests follow our dollars—better-than-token giving will help increase our interest in our Church and even more important—our spiritual lives;
- (4) It is easy to criticize, but hard to give sacrificially.
- (5) In the final analysis, the amount of my gift, my means considered, comes down to the question of how I feel about God and His Church.



THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Left to right: Richard R. Alford, Mrs. Clyde Prow, Robert Hall

Why we pledge

God "pledged" or subscribed himself to mankind. He gave his Only Son who in turn sacrificed His life that we might have the more "abundant life."

The greatest example of a "pledged" life in every respect is portrayed in the life of Jesus. Because he dedicated his talents, time and life to the great cause of the redemption of mankind, we have untold blessings and opportunities.

Life itself is a pledge—from the cradle to the grave. When we were children we depended on the mutual

pledge of our parents to themselves and to God that they would provide for us, for our well-being; for our future.

Later, as many of us married we "pledged" to each other lifelong loyalty, devotion and cooperation in the business of establishing and maintaining a home for ourselves and our children.

The experience of a great majority of mankind is that in every relationship of life—in business—in social activity—in the home, the community and nation—in every conceivable situation that may develop, pledges are made every day by all of us.

How to make our gift

In the careful—and prayerful—consideration of "How much shall I give?" we should think of several points, for the size of our pledges will depend upon:

1. Our Christianity
2. Our interest in the Church Program
3. Our recognition of the need
4. Our financial ability
5. Our method of paying the pledges
6. Our willingness to sacrifice
7. Our desire to encourage others to sacrifice
8. Our willingness to trust God and believe His promises

Remember the greatest effect of sacrificial pledging is upon the donors themselves. The spiritual value of sacrifice has been known to man since before the time of Christ. The progress of the church, and its far-flung mission program has been in direct proportion to the sacrifice of its members. There would be no church today if it were not for the great sacrifices of our early Christian leaders. You and your family are requested to begin now giving serious, prayerful consideration to the amount you will endeavor to contribute for our church. A fellow member, who has made his pledge, will call at your home before June 1 with a card for your pledges.

Your church does not challenge your ability to give—it challenges your willingness to give as a follower of Christ.

TAX ADVANTAGES IN 1956

For money given to a church the income tax regulations allow maximum deductions of 30% of annual adjusted gross income. The reason for this is that the government encourages you to give to religious or charitable enterprises, and through present liberal tax exemptions is, in effect, sharing the cost.

The tax consequence of your giving will vary, depending upon the amount of your gross income.

For example:

If your taxable income after exemptions is \$4000 or less, "Uncle Sam" allows reduced taxes of 22.2 cents of every dollar contributed; if from \$4000 to \$8000 it's 24.6 cents and if \$8000 to \$12,000 "Uncle Sam" then pays 29 cents on every dollar contributed, etc.

Securities or Real Estate

You can secure a double benefit by contributing securities or real estate which have increased in value. You get a deduction for income tax purposes based on the *present higher value* and you do not have to pay a tax on the capital gain. If there is a possibility that you might like to take advantage of this type of contribution to the Building Fund, we will be glad to have a tax consultant from our church advise you.

Ours is the second mile

To accomplish our desired objective we must travel the "second mile."

Jesus said there is only one way to accomplish a task—and that is to do more than you are compelled to do. In His own dramatic words, He counsels, "and whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile go with him twain." This principle of Jesus divides our conduct into two parts—the compulsory and the voluntary—the first mile and the second mile.

We do not accept our responsibility doggedly, skimpishly performing the bare requirements and bitterly trudging that one scant mile. We welcome the necessity of such a project, recognize the glory of such a toil, and in that way go the second mile, translating responsibility into privilege.

You of abundant willingness and faith who have traveled the first difficult mile of compulsion, will now make it beautiful with the second mile of consecration. It is your super-abundance of willingness, faith, vision and sacrifice which builds.

We must together contribute a total of \$1,000,000 to build in God's name. Let there not be a single "one mile" man or woman among us. Only by true faith and vision, sacrificial giving and loyal cooperation can we achieve our objective. It means each of us changing the center of his or her life from self to God. Yet, if we possess the fearlessness of soul, the tingling courage to do so, together we will go the second mile triumphantly for the Glory of the Kingdom of God. Vision, Faith, Sacrifice and Prayer will lead us to a gloriously victorious Canvass!

BUILDER OF CHURCHES

*God builds no church! By His plan
That labor has been left to man;
No spires miraculously arise,
No little mission from the skies
Falls on a bleak and barren place
To be a source of strength and grace;
The church demands its price
In human toil and sacrifice.*

*The humblest spire in Mortal ken
Where God abides, was built by men;
And if the church is still to grow,
Is still the light of hope to throw
Across the valleys of despair,
Man still must build God's house of Prayer,
God sends no churches from the skies;
Out of our hearts they must arise.*

*Love that is hoarded molds at last
Until we know someday
The only love we ever have
Is what we give away.*

*And the kindness that is never used
But hidden all alone
Will slowly harden till it is
As hard as any stone.*

*It is the things we always hold
That we will lose someday
The only things we ever keep
Are what we give away.*

—HAROLD SANDALL

THERE ARE TWO SEAS

THERE ARE two seas in Palestine. One is fresh and fish are in it. Splashes of green adorn its banks. Trees spread their branches over it, and stretch out their roots to sip of its healing water. Along its shores the children play.

The River Jordan makes this sea with sparkling water from the hills. So it laughs in the sunshine. And men build their houses near it, and birds make their nests; and every kind of life is happier because it is there.

The River Jordan flows on south into another sea. There is no splash of fish, no fluttering leaf, no song of birds, no children's laughter. Travelers choose another route, unless on urgent business. The air hangs heavy about its waters and neither man nor beast nor fowl will drink. What makes this difference in these neighbor seas? Not the River Jordan. Not the soil in which they lie; nor the country round about.

This is the difference. The Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the Jordan. For every drop that flows into it, another flows out. The giving and receiving go in equal measure. The other sea is shrewder, hoarding its income jealously. It will not be tempted into any generous impulse. Every drop it gets, it keeps. The Sea of Galilee gives and lives. The other sea gives nothing. It is named the Dead Sea.

There are two kinds of people in the world. There are two seas in Palestine.

—BRUCE BARTON