

Radio's "The Bible And You"

Dr. Manford G. Gutzke

Speaker At 80th Presbytery Meeting At Montreat

Dr. Manford Gutzke, popular radio Bible teacher and author, will speak Saturday, Nov. 13, at Montreat. The occasion is part of a day long celebration of the 80th anniversary of Asheville Presbytery, which oversees the work of Southern Presbyterians in western North Carolina. In addition to the meeting which Dr. Gutzke will address, the churches and institutions of the Presbytery will be presenting a variety of displays telling something of their part in the history of the region.



MANFORD G. GUTZKE
D.D. Ph.D.

The program of celebration and inspiration featuring Dr. Gutzke will begin at 11:00 in Anderson Auditorium. Friends of his ministry and of the Presbyterian churches are both encouraged to attend. Also on the platform will be songleader Rev. Sandy Curnow, soloist Ron Odum, and the General Assembly Singers of Montreat-Anderson College. Gutzke will speak concerning the on-going challenges confronting all Christians and their churches today.

Dr. Gutzke has had a distinguished career in the Presbyterian Church as a pastor and teacher. He is best known today as the author of a growing number of "Plain Talk" books of Bible exposition and for his daily and Sunday radio program, "The Bible For You." Sandy Curnow is the minister of the Malvern Hills Presbyterian Church of Asheville, and Ron

Odum pastors the Franklin and the Morrison Church near Franklin. Both are known as accomplished musicians and evangelists. The General Assembly Singers, since organizing five years ago, have performed throughout the South, including the Atlanta Billy Graham Crusade.

The presentations by the churches and Presbytery organizations will be set up in the lobby and adjoining areas of the Anderson Auditorium beginning at 10:00. The arrangement will be that of an historical fair, permitting visitors to view as much as they like.

Presbyterian work began in western North Carolina in 1785 with the arrival of the Davidson family. In 1794, churches at Swannanoa, Asheville, and Reem's Creek

were organized. The first school, now known as Newton Academy, had also commenced by that date. It is named for one of its earliest teachers, a Presbyterian minister, the Rev. George Newton.

For the first one hundred years, Presbyterians from Swannanoa to Murphy were organized with sister churches east to Statesville, Charlotte, and beyond. On November 12, 1896, the Presbytery of Asheville was erected to encourage ministering to the people west of the Blue Ridge Mountains in the state.

At that point, two ministers began a long association as leaders in the care and expansion of the work. Dr. Robert Campbell was only four years into his long, forty-five year pastorate at the First Presbyterian Church of Asheville. Dr. Robert Smith arrived to join him and the Presbytery in building support and planting new congregations. Dr. Smith, riding or leading his horse, soon became a familiar sight in the counties and coves of the region. By the mid 1920's, the number of churches had doubled, membership had quadrupled, and seven had gone out from the Presbytery to missionary fields.

Campbell, Smith, and others also encouraged the care and training of the youth of the mountains. Before World War I, the Presbytery was operating the Maxwell and Morrison schools near

Franklin and the Mountain Orphanage at Balfour. The Presbyterian Home for

Children at Black Mountain and Montreat-Anderson College continue that work today.

Chamber Chatter

By ED WEBER
Dates to Remember

November 11, Election Ballots to be returned to Chamber Office by 12 Noon.
December 3, 3:30 p.m. Annual Christmas Parade. Call 669-7639 or 669-8463 for entry information.
December 6, 6:30 p.m. Banquet to welcome "Roy and Evelyn" tickets available at local banks and Chamber Office.

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