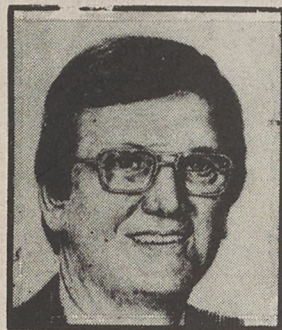


Churches



Religious Viewpoint

By CLYDE DUPIN

Alcohol Brings Pain, Violence

During the recent holiday period, many families experienced pain, shame, and violence because of alcohol. This is a drug of choice that seriously affects 18 million Americans and cost billions each year. It robs families of joy and happiness. It wrecks the health of its victims by irreversible brain-cell damage; and often causes heart, liver, and stomach problems.

Among the nation's adults, 67 percent consume alcohol regularly, according to a survey by a major insurance company. Thirty percent of high school seniors admitted they had tried alcohol by age 13. The most common alcoholic beverage is beer; and most children start drinking beer out of their own refrigerator. Our nation's Capitol, the District of Columbia, has the largest per capita consumption with an annual rate of 5.34 gallons per person. Utah, with its large Mormon population has the lowest rate of alcohol consumption.

In other days, most pastors and Christian leaders spoke out often and clearly against the evils of alcohol. It is a dangerous drug and should be treated like other addictive drugs. The pulpit has largely become silent; and TV extols the glamor of alcohol. According to the "Journal of Studies on Alcohol," 78 percent of all prime-time TV entertainment episodes contain references to the use of alcohol. Sixty percent show characters drinking alcohol.

This drug has gained respectability in social circles, the business world, and even among religious people. It is time the church, home, and educational institutions take a new look at this destructive drug in our society.

Tape Program Scheduled At Central Methodists

"Ten Brave Christians-A Life that Matters" will be presented on tape to the Adult Senior High and Junior High Sunday School classes at Central United Methodist Church Sunday at Central United Methodist Church.

exciting revelation of how hundreds of lukewarm, inactive Christians' lives are changed", said Rev. George Auman, pastor.

At the Feb. 7th morning worship hour, layman Sam Teague will fill the pulpit.

Dedication Service Slated At Allen Memorial Church

A service of dedication will be held by Allen Memorial Baptist Church, Route 1, Grover, at 3 p.m. Sunday.

special music and program and the public is invited to attend.

The church congregation will dedicate the newly remodeled sanctuary with

After the service, refreshments will be served in the fellowship hall.



THE LOVE OF GOD DAZZLES US WITH THE BEAUTY OF WINTER

When the colors of autumn have started to fade
And the brightest of stars are aglow,
Come the storms of the season in endless parade
Of the wind and the spiraling snow;
While suspended from branches, the icicles form
When it plummets to zero degrees,
Then the rays of the sun at the end of the storm
Show the beauty adorning the trees.
At your service of worship come in from the cold
And resolve that this promise you'll keep:
To give thanks to the Lord for a sight to behold,
Of the white world of winter asleep.

—Gloria Nowak

Announced by all the trumpets in the sky,
Arrives the snow.
—Ralph Waldo Emerson

"The snow from heaven
...watereth the earth,
making it bring forth
and bud."
—Isaiah 56:10

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