

# Attic Antics

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## AT THANKSGIVING -

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord,  
all ye lands. Enter into His gates  
with thanksgiving and into His courts  
with praise: be thankful unto Him  
and bless His name. Psalm 100: 1,4.

There is so much today to take the light from the eye and the glow from the face, so much unrest, so much fear, so many problems that we are apt to forget that God's blessing, so fully bestowed upon us, far outnumbers life's difficulties and disappointments; and so, one sometimes forgets to be thankful. In fact, God's blessings come to us with such constant regularity that we take them for granted, and the slightest disappointment can make us forget the host of things for which we ought to be grateful.

A tragic example of one who forgets to be thankful is found in the person of King Saul. God chose him from the smallest of the tribes of Israel from a poor and obscure family and made him king over the nation. When he came to the throne, he became the possessor of houses, lands, cattle, horses, chariots, servants and great wealth. A few years after he began his reign the Philistines encamped against the Israelites and their champion, Goliath the giant, daily challenged the men of Israel to come out and meet him, but none accepted his challenge until a seventeen year old boy named David came to the camp of the Israelites with a message from his father to his brothers. When he heard the Philistines defying the Israelites, he offered to meet the giant and choosing five smooth stones from the brook, with his sling in his hand, went forth to meet him in the name of the Lord of hosts. David killed the giant and there followed an easy victory for the Israelites. There was great rejoicing among the Hebrew people. The women went through the streets of the city singing Saul has slain his thousands and David his tens of thousands. From the moment Saul heard that song he forgot the many blessings God had showered upon him,—he could only remember that the women of Israel had ascribed to David more honor than they had to him.

One small cloud on a sky otherwise clear was enough to make Saul lose all sense of gratitude. From that time on Saul seemed ever to be taking steps in the wrong direction, ever making wrong decisions; until at last, driven by fear, he goes to the home of the witch of Endor, where he learns that the Kingdom will be taken from him and given to David. A short time after he is wounded in battle and commands one of his soldiers to kill him. Thus a career begun with so much promise ended in dismal failure. Saul forgot to be thankful.

An editorial in Moody Magazine calls attention to the fact that we cannot out-give God. He will not even allow us to praise and thank Him without richly blessing us for being thankful. Many a Christian has found his soul in such a state of bareness that no devotional exercise seems capable of releasing his gloomy spirit—nothing except praise and thanksgiving. When we give thanks for our many blessings, the pulse of the spirit grows stronger and warmer, and the glad song of salvation is restored once more. A day of national thanksgiving to God is a splendid thing, but no substitute for daily and constant thanksgiving. The more we count our blessings, the more we give thanks, and because of our gratitude new blessings are then bestowed.

Someone has likened prayer without thanksgiving to a bird with a broken wing. The bird cannot fly without two strong wings. The wing of petition is strong enough with most of us, but the equally important wing of thanksgiving has shrunk away or has never grown. No wonder that our prayers sometimes circle so slowly heavenward.

The gracious Father who instantly hears and answers beyond our small faith, yet longs for that moment when we shall with joy thank Him, for blessings not yet received, in faith that He will answer. If there is Turkey on your table Thanksgiving Day notice the two wings.

My Father! what am I, that all  
Thy mercies sweet like sunlight fall  
So constant o'er my way?  
That Thy great love should shelter one,  
And guide my steps so tenderly  
Through every changing day?

- - - -Mrs. Fred Close

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#### HALLOWEEN PARTY -

Tuesday night, October 26, saw many ghosts, goblins, witches, and other creatures (mostly the latter) come trekking in the Assembly room downstairs shortly after eight o'clock. The room had been decorated by Ione Long, with the assistance of Ed and Alice Shoaf and Maude Betts. A "super" program had been arranged by Louis and Myrtle Metz and judging by all the noise and laughing, everyone had a swell time. A jello eating contest started things off, then came bobbing for apples, a band with instruments composed of nails, whistles, washboard, etc., that would have put Spike Jones to shame, a relay race, games, and just plenty of other fun. Dot Atkins took a ride on a broom stick, Frank Jarman preached a sermon, and that famous baritone, Ed Shoaf, sang a solo. Paul McCain almost got choked trying to eat an apple off a string, and we had to give Mike Wasell artificial respiration when he came up out of the water tub with an apple in his mouth.

The prizes for the best costumes went to Ione Long as a colored Mammy, and Tyree Woods as Zeke the Hillbilly, with Honorable Mention to Frances Jarman as Krazy Kat, and Jimmy Martin as a Ghost.

Last, but not least by a long shot, came the Eats, which were whipped up by Tyree and Tessie Woods and Mike and Mary Wasell: "Apple Juice", coffee, doughnuts, and candy were served - and boy were they good!

All of you folks who didn't come sure did miss lots of good fun.

- - - - Gurney Blanchard

IT SAYS HERE, THAT... by Frank Jarman

This should be written in invisible ink...ye gossip editor now has a "ghost" writer, all of which just "ghost" to show you that some guys never stay home!

State College last week end really was treated to a lot of romantic by-play...Ione really took old cupid for a ride! And speaking of cupid...can you imagine Lib Rogers dressed as the little cherub shooting arrows toward a certain guy's heart? Wal, she says wait about four months, then start celebrating! Wonder which one will make it first...Ione or Lib?

Tyree hasn't even been able to GIVE away HAMBURGER since he had his finger chopped off with the hamburger machine. F.J. is the bravest woman we know...she ate Wood's special hamburger that VERY WEEK! Even Dr. McCutcheon couldn't do that!

Some people can be as quiet as a mouse when they are around, and when they're gone, the silence hurts your ears! Mary Mac just went and left us for a visit with her mother. Mac's mother was slightly injured in an accident the other day, but is up and celebrating the fact that her son from Texas is there for Thanksgiving too!

Babby Boyd is wearing a new hair do..an almost bald-headed affair, what with trying to shape up our brats (pardon, I mean the Junior Choir) for the Thanksgiving service. How about more cooperation, please, parents!

Most of you have heard that Ted and Jim Wilson now boast of a new son! Jim must have known the old slogan..."When you want a BOY, call Western Union!"

Maude Betts was last seen painting candles gold, getting set for Mayton's mother's and father's golden wedding anniversary this month! Congratulate them for us!

Anyone who has heard that the Blorchards are "nuts" must look deeper into the matter. The fact is...they boast of a big, beautiful pecan tree right in their own back yard.

Ask Nan Kirkland how she makes the turkeys "gobble." It's sensational!

Mr. and Mrs. Bowden took a trip down east the other week end attending a big wedding. Mr. Bowden is on a certain gossip editor's blacklist...fer stating he looked his age! There's nothing like the truth, eh, Mr. Bowden?

You should have seen Harry Boyd doing a quick lace up job on Mike Wassell at the Gay Nineties Party the other Thursday. It seems as if Mike's trousers were a little small, and the lady's lunch he ate was a little large...Guess what happened?

Let's really congratulate the choir right here and now for a wonderful job on their party. It's affairs like this, informal, gay and so friendly that will make our church really live up to it's name of "The Friendly Church." Let's really back that choir up! They're tops!

Another young lady of our church, Frances Carr, is not only a much besought-after lady by a handsome young Doctor, but L.R. and I.L. are asking, "How did you get him to pop the question?" Frances' wedding date is December the twenty-eight.

Have you noticed recently how the Adult Department is getting started ON TIME? It's amazing, and we do believe that more and more people are coming on time because they feel they have missed something. Keep it up!

Many thanks to Jim Young. He furnished all the cellophane for packaging the Christmas cards.

Marian Carr was seen gathering rocks the other day. Nope, she wasn't going to throw them at Bob, but she plans to make a small rock garden.

It was a pleasant surprise to see Kathleen and Maurice Holbrook the other Sunday. But, even pleasanter was the sight of their young daughter! She never stopped smiling, and went through a list of tricks that will have John Ringling after her within two years! Come back again you three!

It has been brought to my attention that several members of the church would like to make contributions to the support of Attic Antics. This, I know, would be greatly appreciated, and is NEED. Editor, check up with me! And those of you who like our magazine go ahead...we don't mind...send us a check!

IF ABSENCE MAKES THE HEART GROW FONDER, THEN A LOT OF PEOPLE CERTAINLY LOVE THE CHURCH.

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THE TRIAL OF TRINITY AVENUE by Charlie Vail

God has a way of putting to the test those who call themselves his followers. As history so clearly shows, God sends woe unto those who turn out to be Christians in name, only!

During recent months, Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church has been put to the test. Its members-- you and I-- are on trial before God at this very minute. All of us are guilty--either through misguided action, or equally misguided inaction--of permitting a consecrated representative of God to be veritably crucified for speaking, whether we liked to hear it or not, what he felt to be God's word. Who are we to judge the correctness of his hearing--we who scarcely ever stop to listen for God's voice ourselves? The Bible records the fate of many in past generations who committed this mistake. The operation of God's law is no different today.

For many months we have been a church without a pastor. There are those of us who sense the plan of God in that fact. God has given us a chance to come to our senses--to think--to pray! He has given us a chance to decide--before He sends us a new pastor--whether we intend to deserve the name Christian. If we are to deserve the name, we must earn it. We must earn it as individuals and as an organized church. This is a remarkable feature of God's justice: Although we may be guilty of violating His law, we can always obtain

a pardon--by earning it! This does not mean that we can avoid the consequences of our folly; it does mean that we can--if we consecratedly devote ourselves to the task--make a new start along the path that leads ultimately to His presence.

The opportunity which lies ahead of us at Trinity Avenue is thrilling and challenging beyond all bounds. Our church can--if we so make it--become a gem in the crown of God. If we lay aside our petiness and prejudices, if we open our minds and our hearts to God, we will be distinguishable as true followers of Christ: We will display a Christian humility, a sense of the Fatherhood of God and of the Brotherhood of Man, and a joyous spirit of cooperating in the noblest of all callings--the establishing of God's kingdom on earth! What are we waiting for?--Let's get started.

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### THE GOOD OLD DAYS REVIVED by Dot Atkins

Fun galore, food heaps, and entertainment unlimited, report all who went to the Gay Nineties Party on November 4, sponsored by the choir of our church. "Two million dollars worth of fun," says Fred Close.

Things got off to a grand start with the box suppers--everybody pulled numbers and got himself a new and exciting partner to eat with--tasty box suppers each girl had brought with her.

Costumes!!! Funny, gorgeous, old, pretty, riotous--and other hard-to-describe ones. The judges, Mrs. P. A. Sloan, Margaret Young, and Louise Metz, had a whale of a time deciding the winners. After due deliberation, the following were awarded:

OLDEST--Miss Virginia deVyver who wore one of her grandmother's trousseau gowns.

PRETTIEST--Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jarman. Frances impersonated Lillian Russell and Frank, Tony Pastor.

The judging was impossible when it came to Fred Close and George Kirkland--well, we let 'em compete, so George sang "Sweet Adeline" and Fred delivered a recitation. That did it, and Fred got the prize for the funniest.

And then, the program. First there was a treat for the kiddies (young and old)--the junior and senior choirs rendered a group of favorite Stephen Foster songs. The hit of the evening was "She's Only a Bird in a Gilded Cage," with Lib Rogers as the bird and the male quartet singing.

The young people's choir sang "Waltzing with Matilda" and "Come to the Fair"; then they led the whole works in round singing and wound up with "Hark, the Vesper Hymn is Stealing."

About 100 people were present for this gala, exciting, and interesting party--many have decided it's a must for an annual affair. Much praise and thanks go out to Agnes Skillen, the male quartet, the choirs, and everybody who had a hand in making this one of the grandest parties our church has had in a long time, Me, I'll be the first one there next year.

## NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS

This month we added four new members to our class roll from our visitors list: Richard Fitzgerald, George Burton, and Jack and Janice Long. We are glad they enjoyed our class enough to want to join, and hope that we will see them often from now on.

We also had three old members come back: Richard and Ruby Clair Barnes, and Homerzelle Harris. We were glad to see them and hope that they don't wait so long before they come again.

Our visitors for the past month were Ed Kraybill's Mom and Pop, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Kraybill of Lancaster, Pa., and Vernon Johnson's brother, Mr. O. C. Johnson of Salemburg, N. C., B. D. Baker, C. F. Wooten, and Henry Carr from the George Watts Class, and Bob White from the College Group. We were happy to have them visit with us in the Attic, and hope that they will come back real soon.

-- -- Gurney Blanchard

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Have you bought your Christmas cards yet????? Have you sold any Christmas cards yet????? If your answer is no, then don't let it remain so, but trot up to the Attic and get one, two or more boxes from the George Matthis class. They're lovely cards, designed by our own Bob Blake. You'll be proud to send them to your friends.

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Agnes Skillen, our choir director, reports that big plans are in the air for our Christmas music----but she needs singers. Anyone, everyone who can sing, even a little bit, come on out for a part in the Christmas music. Especially soprano voices are needed, so come on, gals, and let's get going.

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Word has just come to us that Margaret McLeod has just undergone an operation. We're very sorry to hear it, but are glad that she's getting on nicely.

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## YOUTH NIGHT

On November 14, at the evening worship, our church observed "Youth Night". The entire program was put on by the "Youth" of Trinity Avenue. Those who did not attend really missed something. In addition to missing a fine program, they missed seeing some of the work our young people are capable of doing. James Lloyd led the services, and did it well. James was ably assisted by other youths who did their part in putting on the program.

Shirley Gooch read the Scripture reading. Virginia de Vyver talked on "The Need of the World for Christian Light". Anne Williams' topic was "Christ's Answer to the World's Needs". The third and final talk on the program was "Reflection of Light of Christ by Young People.". All three talks were very well presented and well received. Bob Skillen gave the offertory Prayer like an "old hand". In closing, slides were shown with Marilyn Robertson reading the descriptions.

All in all it was a very good program, well presented. It's too bad that more of the older folks were not present to receive it. It showed us that the youth of our church are capable of and are doing some mighty good work. Let's all get behind them and help them all we can, and I'm sure that our church will not want for capable leaders in the future.

- - - - Jimmy Martin



Mr. and Mrs. Mayton E. Betts  
309 Edwards Street  
Durham, N. C.