

# Opportunity of church to Brighten Lives.

Columbia Record.

Act 8:8—And there was much joy in that city.

What was the occasion of this "much joy"? Why had the city of Samaria put on its holiday appearance? Why were those groups of people gathered here and there upon her streets showing by voice and gesture that they are full of gladness? Has some representative of the emperor come and told them of some great privilege that is to be granted them? Has one of their rich men opened his treasures and distributed largesses amongst them? No! None of these things has happened. A humble man has come into their midst from Jerusalem. He is himself an exile fleeing from persecution. He has no political power, no financial resources. Very possibly he has to depend upon the people of the city for the very food he eats and for a roof to cover his head. Yet nevertheless his coming has been the occasion of such joy as the old city had never known. Who is he? What has he brought? Well, his name is Phillip. He is a humble deacon of the church in Jerusalem. He has brought Christianity to Samaria. In his person the church of Jesus Christ has begun to fulfill the mission to the people of Samaria and therefore there is much joy.

The church of Christ had begun to perform her appointed mission to these people. That was all. The mission of that church is to bring joy. Let us get that point very clearly fixed in our minds. If we have never thought of it before, perhaps we have never thought about joy bringing as an essential part of the church's mission, but the more we think about it the more we see that no matter how many other things we include in the church's mission as essential, our understanding of her work is incomplete unless we feel that she comes to bring joy and that unless she is adding to the joy and gladness of the life of the community that she touches there has been something wrong in the way she has been presented.

How had Phillip then brought about this great gladness in Samaria? Let us study his method, compare it with the method of him whose servant and representative he was, and then see what lessons we may learn for ourselves. His ministry there had been a two-fold ministry. It had been addressed to the needs of new souls and bodies. He had first proclaimed the good news of the gospel. His whole teaching to the man of Ethiopia in a few verses further on is summed up in one word, "He preached unto him Jesus." So I think we may safely conclude that was the sum and substance of his preaching here in Samaria. That message in itself brought joy. But that was not the whole of his ministry. He told those who were morally blind and deaf and lame and diseased of Him who could and would heal them. But also there were others who needed help. There were those who had physical needs. Those who had never seen the sun, who had never heard the voices of loved ones, or perhaps once having had these powers had lost them. Others there were whose bodies had lost their power—poor, shaking, palsied hands, and crippled feet. To these also he had a mission. By the power of the great Healer he brought health and power to them also. And so the city rejoiced because Christ in the person of his humble follower had come to them and had ministered to their needs of soul and body. "There was much joy in the city." But perhaps Phillip was wasting time in this physical part of his work—this ministry to men's bodies. Perhaps he should have confined his activities to preaching to men's souls. Perhaps he should have aided to the poor fellow bowed down under the weight of physical infirmity. "My dear brother, endure with patience this your affliction, and remember that when you get to heaven it won't matter how much you suffered here on earth." I think the best way to answer that question is to go back to the earthly life of him whom Phillip represented and compare Phillip's conduct with his Master's.

Let us make ourselves self-invited guests at a wedding feast in the little town of Cana. We notice that there is an anxious, worried look on the faces of the hosts. Ever and anon they go to the wine bottles and look with concern at the fast diminishing store. They are poor people and have strained their resources to the uttermost to provide all things needed for the feast and now more guests have come and they are about to be humiliated by having the wine fail. It is not life and death matter—simply a wounding of the honest pride of the simple peasant folk. But presently the Master has quietly performed his first miracle to save them from that humiliation.

Jesus has been out in a lonely desert place preaching to a vast multitude. He has been breaking for them the "bread of life" all day, feeding their spiritual natures. Now the shadows grow long, the people are weary and faint. Here and there a little child is crying for food and a weary mother is seeking to quiet it. Presently the Master looks around him. "How many loaves have ye?" he says to the disciples. Now the scanty store is in his hand. He blesses and breaks and sends forth the disciples to feed the hungry, weary people.

He is moving up to the city for his great final sacrifice. He has bid goodbye to the scenes of his boyhood and early manhood. His thoughts are on the great work he is about to do for the salvation of a world. From the wayside comes a city, "Jesus thou son

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# Good Cheer Aids

## Digestion of Food

Dyspeptics Can Make the Rest of the Family Happy by Using a Laxative-Tonic.

The temper of the family and the good cheer around the table depend so much on the good digestion of each individual present that the experiences of some former dyspeptics who overcame their trouble should be of interest to those now suffering in this way.

The best advice one can give—but it is advice that is seldom heeded—is to eat slowly and masticate each mouthful carefully. However, if slow eating and careful mastication fall the next aid is one close to nature, Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin. This remedy is an excellent digestion, and in addition to helping in the digestion of the food, acts gently on the liver and bowels, ridding them of the accumulation of waste that should long ago have been passed off. It is safe, reliable, pleasant-tasting, and results are guaranteed.

Maj. S. Martin, of Joplin, Mo., now 77, thinks Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin has helped him to a longer and happier life. He has not felt so good in years as he has since taking this excellent medicine, and in spite of his 77 years he says he feels like a boy.

It is the ideal remedy for indigestion, no matter how severe; constipation, no matter how chronic; biliousness, headaches, gas on the stomach, drowsiness after eating and similar annoyances.

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Syrup Pepsin at any drug store for fifty cents or one dollar, the latter



MAJ. S. MARTIN.

size being bought by heads of families already familiar with its merits. Results are always guaranteed or money will be refunded.

When you use Syrup Pepsin you will see the fallacy of chewing mints and tablets or of taking cathartics, salts, pills and similar drastic medicines. Unlike these, Syrup Pepsin does not lose its good effect, and by automatically training the stomach and bowel muscles to do their work, soon restores these organs to normal.

Families wishing to try a free sample bottle can obtain it postpaid by addressing Dr. W. B. Caldwell, 419 Washington St., Monticello, Ill. A postal card with your name and address on it will do.

## COUNTY NEWS

### HEATH SPRING.

Special to The News.

Heath Spring, Feb. 9.—On account of the inability of Mr. C. B. Webb, national vice councillor Jr. O. U. A. M., to be here on the 9th, as previously announced, the presentation of the flag and Bible to the public school by the local council was postponed till the 23rd inst., at which time Mr. Webb will be here to deliver an address.

Dr. W. S. Moore is building a dam for a fish pond just below his residence. He is also preparing to install a ram to supply water for his elegant home.

Mrs. Frank Johnson of Lancaster, with her little son, is the guest of Mrs. Nannie Mobley this week. Mr. Johnson was also here Sunday.

Miss Mayme Caskey left Monday morning for Kershaw county. She will teach the Oak Ridge school till Miss Maggie Tompkins is sufficiently recovered from an attack of grippe and measles to take up her work again.

Mr. S. C. McMackin spent Monday in Kock Hill, where he went to lay in a full supply of fixtures for his barber shop.

Mr. Arthur Horton, who has charge of the Bruce school, spent Saturday and Sunday at home.

Three of our young men were given the first degree by Barron Masonic lodge Friday night.

Mr. Fraser McMackin is preparing to build a residence on the McMackin lot on Mobley street.

Mrs. J. C. Williams spent Saturday and Sunday with her daughter, Mrs. Hirsch Plyler, in the Camp Creek section.

Miss Bessie Mobley, assistant cashier of the Peoples' Bank, Kershaw, spent Sunday with her parents here.

### OAK HILL.

Special to The News.

Oak Hill, Feb. 9.—Our community is in very good health, except a few cases of measles.

We are having rough weather now, but have had some fine farming weather and have been making use of it. The farmers are making great success in Oak Hill community.

Miss Fay McConnell spent Saturday night and Sunday with her relatives and friends in the Tradesville section.

Misses Mandle and Effie Funderburk and also their father, visited his son, Mr. Robert McNeely of the Tradesville section.

Mr. Steve McNeely visited Mr. Bob Belk Sunday night.

Mr. G. L. McNeely is building a new dining room this week.

Mr. Strick Knight went to Monroe on business the other day.

Mr. E. B. Funderburk and Boy Funderburk was in Monroe on business.

Mr. Ira Neal has moved to the Camp Creek section.

Miss Theo Neal visited her relatives last week.

### Notice of Election.

Whereas, one-third of the electors and one-third of the freeholders residing in Rich Hill school district, No. 24, in Lancaster county, have petitioned the county board of education to order an election to determine whether or not an additional tax of three (3) mills shall be levied an all real and personal property in said district for school purposes.

We hereby order the election to be held by the trustees of said Rich Hill school district, No. 24, on Thursday, February 19, at Rich Hill.

At which election only such electors as return real or personal property for taxation and who exhibit their tax receipts and registration certificates shall be allowed to vote.

The opening and closing hours shall be the same as in all general elections.

V. A. LINGLE,  
J. K. CONNORS,  
J. G. RICHARDS,  
County Board of Education.  
2 times

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# Oysters & Salad

Do you like these? Come to court House Friday evening

The King's Daughters will serve supper at the Court House Friday afternoon at 5 o'clock Feb. 13th and continuing through the evening oyster and salad courses will be served.

### Special Notice.

The state Sunday school convention will meet at Anderson February 11-13th. Lancaster county is entitled to 10 delegates. Anyone wishing to go as a delegate will please send me their name and the Sunday school they represent. I have credentials for ten only. We hope to have a full delegation from our county. Please attend to this at once. We want a contribution from every Sunday school to help carry on the Sunday school work. Won't you help? Appoint your delegate next Sunday so as to get their names in time.

W. L. CROXTON.  
24-36