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Program of the memorial service held for Emma L. Christensen on May 22, 1982.

EMMA L. CHRISTENSEN, 1890-1982 THE TORCH IS PASSED

On May 2, 1982, after two months of illness, Emma L. Christensen, known to most people as Christy, departed this life at 92 years of age to continue her career on the mansion worlds of Satania. Hers was a highly distinguished career and this Spring issue of *URANTIA Brotherhood Bulletin* is devoted to honoring her memory. Excerpts from her memorial service are included. Christy's passing seems to mark the end of an era in the history of the URANTIA movement. Her memorial service has meaning for all students of *The URANTIA Book*.

Biography

Emma Louise Christensen was born January 29, 1890, in Gem Township, Brown County, South Dakota, the sixth of eight children born to Nels Christensen and Rosalia Thora Nana Bald. She attended a country elementary school through the eighth grade. She went to high school in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Her college experience included attending Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, and two years extension school at the University of Minnesota at St. Paul, majoring in English. She held two miscellaneous secretarial jobs while attending the University, and immediately following. Christy spent two years as Office Manager for the Bureau of the Comptroller of the Currency in its Minneapolis office. Subsequently she transferred to the Chicago office and held the position of Office Manager of the National Bank Examiners office of the Seventh Federal Reserve District for a period of 28 years and until her retirement around 1950.

Christy came to Chicago in November, 1922. Through an automobile accident in a taxicab and consequent hospital care, she became acquainted with Drs. William and Lena Sadler. This occurred in July, 1923. In December, 1923, she joined the Sadler household at 533 Diversey

Parkway, and became known as Christy Sadler. It was the beginning of a chapter in Christy's life which was to stretch from 1923 to the end of her days.

Christy soon became part of the group which acted as the liaison between the Revelatory Commission which sponsored the URANTIA Papers and the group known as the Forum which began to meet in the 1920's.

The focal point of Christy's life became the URANTIA Papers and activities surrounding their inception. She undertook a major share of administrative chores, and for the URANTIA Papers specifically, she did a monumental job in helping to prepare them for publication. These arduous tasks spanned many years. The entire URANTIA movement owes her a great debt for her conscientious service throughout these years. Not only did she carry on her responsibilities through all the years of Forum meetings, she remained equally as active through a like period of the beginning of public dissemination of *The URANTIA Book*.

Service Record in URANTIA Organizations

Christy was one of the founding Trustees of URANTIA Foundation which began in 1950 and assumed the position of Secretary of the Foundation. She remained a Trustee until 1971 when she retired to the position of Trustee Emeritus, while continuing in the position of Secretary until her death.

Christy was also a founding member of the General Council of URANTIA Brotherhood in 1955 and remained a member until her death. In addition, she held positions on the Executive Committee of URANTIA

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"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and be led to glorify your Father who is in heaven." (p. 1572).



Christy in her younger years.

Brotherhood continuously from 1955-1982. She served as Chairman of the Miscellaneous Activities Committee from 1955-1963; as President from 1963-1967; as Vice President from 1967-April, 1973; as President again from April, 1973-August, 1973; and as Vice President again from August, 1973-May, 1982. She also served on the Education Committee from 1969-1976.

At the society level, Christy was also active from the start. She was a charter member of First URANTIA Society in 1956 and remained a member until her death. She served in a variety of capacities over the years including President, Vice President, Chairman of the Program Committee, as well as a member of the Membership and Program Committees. Christy is one of only two people thus far to receive the Brotherhood's highest award, the VAN Award, which she received in 1973. (The other went to Dr. Sadler.) Christy's service record in the URANTIA movement is clearly unequaled.



This very early picture of Christy (left) is believed to have been taken in South Dakota.

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Barbara Newsom Kulieke, Editor, Nancy Grimsley, Peter Laurence,
Mark Kulieke, Lisa Carr Renn, and Mike Painter, Staff.

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The Sadlers: Christy, Dr. Lena, William S. Sr., and William S. Jr. Photo taken sometime during the 1930s.

Friends Bid Christy Farewell

Christy enjoyed robust health and a life of vitality despite her age right up until her last days. In March, she went into St. Joseph's Hospital, located just a few blocks from 533 Diversey Parkway, where it was soon discovered that she had pneumonia. When it appeared impossible to gain complete recovery, Christy composed herself to depart, and when the end came, she passed quietly in the night.

Throughout her hospitalization, a constant stream of friends and associates visited her.

Memorial Service

The memorial service held for Emma L. Christensen on May 22, 1982, brought people in the URANTIA movement from all over the continent to honor her memory. Approximately 150 people gathered in the Union League Club in downtown Chicago for the two-hour service. Martin Myers, who was Christy's long time companion and associate, was responsible for making all arrangements for the service. The service, conducted by Meredith Sprunger (Fort Wayne, Indiana) and Vern Grimsley (Berkeley, California), was particularly uplifting and stimulating. Excerpts from the service follow.

Excerpts from Presentation by Meredith Sprunger

We are gathered here to honor the memory of a departed friend, one whose life on earth is finished. We come, however, not to voice despair over the death of the physical body but to express our whole-hearted faith and rejoice that a human soul has embarked on the career of eternal life in the progressive service of the Heavenly Father; not because life is over but because it has risen to more glorious possibilities; not because the darkness has closed in but because life has opened into the eternal morning. We come to share this common faith, this eternal verity.

Emma L. Christensen was a wonderful person who contributed much to our lives and to the URANTIA movement and we shall miss her radiant personality. Christy was an unusual person and as I reflected on her unique qualities, three Biblical passages came to mind:

"You are the salt of the earth." (Matt. 5:11)

"You are the light of the world." (Matt. 5:14). And a passage from Daniel (12:1-3): "At that time Michael shall arise . . . and those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever."

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Photographs were provided courtesy of David and Sue Kantor, Carolyn Kendall, Martin Myers and Marian Rowley.



Friends and associates from all over the country listen to the memorial service for Christy at the Union League Club in Chicago.

- Christy was a great and dedicated soldier of the circles.
- She is the last of the contact commissioners.
 - She has spent more than 55 years of service in the URANTIA movement.
 - She has served in numerous positions from Brotherhood president and Foundation Trustee to being the gracious hostess of 533 Diversey Parkway.
 - Since Dr. Sadler's death she has served as the unofficial titular head, presiding mother, and balance wheel of the URANTIA movement.
 - Some of you may not know that in her younger years she was office manager of the National Bank Examiners Office of the Seventh Federal Reserve District here in Chicago.
 - She was a true and loving friend of all of us.

- I have tried to enumerate Christy's strong personality qualities.
- She was a warm, loving, supportive person.
 - She was a peacemaker and unifier.
 - She had sound, balanced judgment and wisdom.
 - She was a loyal and dedicated worker.
 - She had a joyful, radiant personality.

We could say many wonderful things about Christy's life and service. We might recall numerous touching conversations we have had with her over the years and share moments of crisis which we faced together. But probably the most important thing we can do today is not make observations about Christy but listen to her speak to us. In a talk given on January 27, 1963, she relayed this message:

"Of all the emergency corps of mortal selectmen on Urantia, none is charged with a more solemn obligation than your group."

"You who hear this message are the men and women who have been called to take the first steps in offering the new light to a frustrated church and a distracted world. You are the salt of the URANTIA revelation, the first light to illuminate the path of deliverance from the chaos, confusion, and darkness of the present planetary dilemma."

"I commend your loyalty, but I am somewhat amazed at your relative indifference to the importance of the mission which has been entrusted to your hands. I admonish you ever to be alert to the importance of the extraordinary trust which has been placed upon you."

"You who have dedicated your lives to the service of the URANTIA revelation and the ensuing URANTIA Brotherhood of men, little realize the import of your doing. You will live and die without fully realizing that you are participants in the birth of a new age of religion on Urantia."

"You are a pioneer group; you are trailblazers."

"May you all become valiant soldiers of the circles—wholeheartedly enlisted in the solid ranks of those mortals who shall go forth in this coming battle for truth against error under the unfaltering leadership of the mighty seraphim of progress."

And from an address given on July 30, 1971, Christy reminds us:

"Jesus said, 'The harvest is indeed plenteous, but the laborers are few.*' We are the torchbearers for a new age of religion on this world. We each have our part to play in the effort to spiritually uplift the planet. The task is of such gigantic proportions that none of us can fully appreciate the immensity of its import."

"It is our task to help bring about a spiritual renaissance and assist in the eventual triumph of the religion of Jesus. And Jesus said, 'Some day the gospel which I declare to you will rule this very world.*'"

"The stage has been set and now we must act our part to step out into the vanguard of progress. Many are waiting in the wings for their call to action. *The URANTIA Book* says of the Christian church, 'If the Christian church would only dare to espouse the Master's program, thousands of apparently indifferent youths would rush forward to enlist in such a spiritual undertaking, and they would not hesitate to go all the way through with this great adventure.*'" (p. 2085)

"We are in association with a revelation of truth which is also a part of the natural evolution of religion on Urantia. We, the soldiers of the circles, will presently begin to function as a part of the spiritual illumination and religious readjustment of the coming dispensation."

These challenging words are as relevant today as when Christy spoke them. We are charged with a solemn responsibility of momentous potential. We are pioneers. We are the torchbearers for a new age of religion on this world. Christy's transition to the mansion worlds marks the end of an era in the URANTIA movement. Her departure is the culminating event of an entire generation of preparation.

We stand now at the beginning of an extended period in which our major calling is outreach, witness and service. It is a time when *The URANTIA Book*—the fifth epochal revelation—is seriously and systematically introduced to our world.

We have a great heritage on which to inaugurate a new day of outreach which will go to the ends of the earth. Our task is, as Christy said, to help bring about a spiritual renaissance and assist in the eventual triumph of the religion of Jesus. The stage has been set by the founders of the URANTIA movement and now we must act our part to step out into the vanguard of progress. We who have been standing in the wings of history hear the call to action. May we become valiant soldiers of the circles who begin to function dynamically as trailblazers of the spiritual illumination and religious readjustment which will bring about "... one of the most amazing and enthralling epochs of social readjustment, moral quickening, and spiritual enlightenment"* this world has ever experienced (p. 2082).

From the mansion worlds, Christy and all of the founders of the URANTIA movement will be cheering us on with great interest and devotion. Our heritage is graced by stalwart and loving personalities and rooted in spiritual wisdom. Our future is founded upon the greatest revelation of truth available to mankind and assured by the sovereignty of God in Christ. With such backing our ministry and mission shall not fail. We face the new age before us with confidence, joy, and creative vision.

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Carrying the banner of Christ-Michael, we march forward under the unfaltering leadership of the mighty seraphim of progress!

Excerpts from Presentation by Vern Grimsley

For many years, Christy told me that she wanted Meredith Sprunger and me to conduct her final memorial service. And on many occasions, Christy and I discussed what she wanted me to do at this, the last formal remembrance of her life on Urantia. She said, among other things, that she wanted me to remind everyone of what she believed in and what she stood for.

I first met this tall, lean, lovely lady Christy many years ago, and through the decades since then, her friendship and love for all of us have been inspiring.

Christy's personality was, and is, unforgettable. The flash and sparkle of her eyes, her wonderful smile, and I mean wonderful, what a smile! Isn't it delightful just to think about it and remember it for a moment? The passage of time may have diminished the volume of her voice in these last years, but not the spirit of her absolutely rollicking laughter. Christy was one woman who had truly taken to heart and practiced faithfully every day, the Master's admonition, "Be of good cheer."

In addition to her wise leadership and spiritual qualities, Christy was also a great deal of fun. At conferences and study groups she could sit with a gathering of teenagers and fit right in; she was always young at heart.

My personal very favorite memory of all my years of knowing Christy is the simple memory of our friendship. And the most touching thing that I remember from all my years of knowing and loving Christy was something that happened just this last January, when we were invited back to Chicago to celebrate her 92nd birthday. We all spent several days at 533 Diversey, but it is one very special moment which is forever emblazoned in my memory.

Christy and I had been talking for several hours on the third floor of 533, and I was leaving to go buy something at the grocery store . . . I got in the elevator, closed the big door of it, then closed the metal gate and was just reaching over to touch the button to take me down to the first floor, when suddenly I heard a pounding on the big outer door of the elevator. I looked, and through that little square glass window in the elevator door, I saw Christy's face with her nose practically pressed against the glass, and she was pounding away on the elevator door with one fist and her cane that she held in the other hand.

My instant reaction was to think "My heavens, there must be something wrong; maybe she's having heart pains." I quickly slid the metal gate aside and opened the door and said "What is it, Christy, are you all right?" She said, "Yes, but I just wanted another hug before you leave." And she gave me one, and I gave her one, and that was one of the most precious moments, and precious memories, of my entire life, because my greatest memory of Christy is the memory of twenty years of her warm and loving friendship. And I can't wait to see her once again and give, and get, another good hug from Christy.

I, as well as most of us here today, have witnessed Christy dealing with, and going through, some of the most trying, vexing, draining and demanding difficulties and crises imaginable. How she survived some of these at her advanced age, and then went on to even more distinguished accomplishments subsequently, is the most vivid testimony to her spiritual and philosophic vitality. She has survived many great vicissitudes and she has not only survived, she has prevailed . . . and by the power of her living faith in the living God, she has, I know, survived death as well, the final passage from life in this cloak of clay, this mortal flesh.

For it was Christy's belief, just as it is mine and ours, that this universe is more a university, and death but a joyous graduation with eternity lying beyond, and that just as a bee goes from flower to flower gathering nectar, so we are destined one day to voyage from star to star gathering light.

On our last trip to Yosemite Park, we went through rain, snow, sleet and hail driving up through the mountains to our cabin and when we fi-



Meredith Sprunger

Vern Grimsley

nally arrived, there began a series of earthquakes, which really shook the place. But Christy said, "I've been through everything else in this life, I'm not going to get worried about earthquakes at this late date." And that weekend we counted over 40 quakes; Christy sat through them all quite unperturbed and absolutely unconcerned. For all of us, she was for years a true center of calm amid many a stormy and tempestuous time.

No memorial to Christy could possibly be complete without mention of two very special persons in her life: Dr. William S. Sadler and Martin Myers.

Dr. Sadler—by far the greatest man I ever met and the greatest man I ever came to know—was the mighty leader of the URANTIA revelation during its initial days and its formative years. Together with a superb headquarters team including his wife, Dr. Lena, Marian Rowley, Edith Cook, Anna Rawson, Alvin Kulieke, Bill Sadler, Jr., William Hales, the other early Foundation Trustees and Brotherhood officers and leaders, Dr. Sadler and Christy provided both organization and spiritual stability to the initiation of the fifth epochal revelation upon our planet.

But as Dr. Sadler grew older and more infirm, he and Christy used to wish that they had another helper to be with them. Christy told me she and the Doctor used to pray for some young man to be sent to them to help shoulder the heavy load. She said that in their prayers, this hoped-for individual became known as "that boy."

And then, on Saturday, July 20, 1968, a young graduate of the University of Kansas law school visited headquarters and stayed with them while he was looking for an apartment. Dr. Sadler and Christy quickly realized that this was "that boy" they had been needing for so long, and they both regarded him as a literal answer to prayer . . . and his name was Martin Myers. He read *The URANTIA Book* to Dr. Sadler, lifted him in and out of bed when he was ill, attended to his every need, and on April 26, 1969, he was there with him when he died. And he did the same for Christy, and at 3:19 in the morning on May 2, 1982, he was there when she passed on. And none of us can know how very much he did for, and how very much he meant to, the Doctor and Christy.

Christy once told me that as a little girl in grade school near Mud Creek in Brown County, South Dakota, she had a horse named Mary, and one cold dark winter afternoon she left the little one-room schoolhouse on horseback to ride home when suddenly a blizzard broke, and Christy said she couldn't see in any direction; she was surrounded by blinding, stinging, swirling snowflakes, miles from home and had absolutely no idea of which way she ought to go. She told me she leaned over and said in the ear of her horse, "Mary, I don't know where I am. You're going to have to take me home." And Christy said that that old horse started plowing through that blizzard, and an hour or so later, Christy squinted through the storm and there before her was the outline of her farmhouse home, with a coal oil lamp burning in the window.

Well, I was sitting at her bedside a few weeks ago after she had been in a coma for several days, but once again had become alert, although she was weak and sometimes a little confused. But I said to her, "Christy, do you remember that day you told me about, when you were a little girl, when you were lost in that snowstorm but your horse brought you

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safely back home?" I said, "I think that dying will be like that . . . you're sometimes so tired and so weary and so weak. But there are some angels here in the room who know the way home, and they're going to take care of you and take you there just as surely and safely as old Mary brought you home through that storm." And Christy smiled and smiled at the thought of that. And she said, "That's true; Oh, that's wonderful, isn't that wonderful?"

The death of Christy represents the most significant transition in the history of the URANTIA movement.

We stand today at the end of an era. But we stand, as well, at the threshold of the most thrilling and challenging future the mortal mind can imagine.

For this day the torch has been passed. To us.

The destiny of the fifth epochal revelation is in our hands—and God's.

Having known for years that she wanted me to speak at her memorial, I paid particularly careful attention to Christy's final requests, her last wishes before she died. There were three thoughts which she reiterated to me time and time again, three great hopes and prayers which dominated her thinking during her last months and days on Urantia. They were these:

1) First was her desire that the URANTIA revelation must not fail; it must succeed in its supernal mission upon this planet. She said specifically that we must start and foster thousands and thousands of study groups; she said that the URANTIA Brotherhood and URANTIA Foundation must stand united in protecting, safeguarding, and fostering the future of the revelation with especial attention to the maintenance of copyright and registered marks; she said we must provide the best and most meticulously accurate translations humanly possible, so that the book will be available in other languages around the world; and finally that we must train teachers and leaders for the future. But above all, her first great desire was for the success of the URANTIA revelation.

2) Secondly, she repeatedly reiterated *The URANTIA Book's* mandate for the worldwide promulgation of the true gospel of the kingdom—the global teaching of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man and the dawning of a great spiritual renaissance of the love of God and man upon this earth.

3) Her most heartfelt and immediate concern was for the spiritual unification of the URANTIA movement.

Christy gave me clear and specific instructions to deliver this message of spiritual unity and spiritual priorities, not only at her memorial here today, but throughout the URANTIA movement in the future. And I pledged to her: this I shall do 'til I die. She directed that I should commission us all to rededicate our lives to God, and to renew and deepen our inner practices of prayer and worship, to exalt above all the spiritual priorities of this revelation, and to labor valiantly for the spiritual unification of the URANTIA movement.

If we are to be effective in our mission of bringing a spiritual renaissance upon our planet, there must first come a mighty spiritual renaissance within and among our very own ranks of membership. Said Jesus on page 1571, "If you would lead others into the kingdom, you must yourselves walk in the clear light of living truth."*

We must learn new heights and depths of forgiveness and love. We must cease to harbor anger and dwell upon past insults or injuries, real or imagined. We must apply and follow the Jesusonian principle which virtually eliminates grudges and gossip by admonishing us that we must take problems or grievances directly to the individual concerned, rather than criticizing to others behind that person's back.

We must bury the ill feelings of the past and must plant upon their grave the blossoms of forgiveness and of love. The past is behind us. Let us now move into the future reinvigorated by a new unity of spirit. For declared the master: "By this will all men know that you are my disciples, that you love one another."*

On August 4, 1967, Christy, President of the URANTIA Brotherhood, spoke these words to the Triennial Delegate Assembly in Chicago: "We know we are amateurs and we all feel very inadequate for the task of propagandizing the revelation of God and his universe which has been given to us in *The URANTIA Book*. No doubt the apostles of Jesus felt inadequate to go forth into the world preaching the kingdom of God as Jesus had bidden them to do. But they went out and turned the whole world upside down. Two thousand years later we are still quoting them. Like the apostles, we have been called to a great work. We have been called to offer a new light to a distracted world. We are the salt of the URANTIA revelation, the first light to illuminate the path of deliverance from the chaos, confusion, and darkness of the present planetary dilemma."

In what many believe to be the most important speech ever given before the URANTIA Brotherhood, an address delivered before the very first Triennial Delegate Assembly of the Brotherhood in Chicago on August 20, 1964, URANTIA Brotherhood President, E. L. Christensen, spoke these words. This speech, to assembled *URANTIA Book* students attending the initial Triennial Delegate Assembly, states the fundamental direction envisioned for the URANTIA Brotherhood: "It is our burden to bring life on this planet up to a new level, which we can and will do when we sincerely become imbued with the idea that we are ambassadors of a heavenly kingdom just as surely as were the twelve apostles who followed Jesus. Those twelve men were so inspired by Jesus' life and teachings that they went forth and turned the whole world upside down. I pray we will do likewise."

Another memory from that very last day I saw Christy in the flesh—it was several weeks before she died—I sat at her bedside at St. Joseph's Hospital and we had a wonderful conversation about the future of the



Christy delivers a presentation at the first Summer Study Session, August 23, 1963.

URANTIA revelation. That day she asked me to read to her once again some of her favorite passages from *The URANTIA Book* detailing the spiritual priorities of the revelation, and portraying the great mission of bringing a spiritual renaissance upon this troubled planet.

As I read and recited these quotations from *The URANTIA Book* Christy's eyes literally glistened and sparkled with the vision of the great worldwide mission which lies before us—the task of bringing forth upon

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Christy at the celebration of her 90th birthday, January 29, 1980.

this war-torn globe a shining new age of the love of God and the love of man.

Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote that "God offers to every mind its choice between truth and repose." We in this hall have chosen truth. Let us therefore relinquish our longing for repose. Let us entertain no illusions regarding the immense challenges of the venture before us. It will be the most demanding exploit we have ever undertaken, the bringing about of a great spiritual awakening on this planet. But if we are true to our trust, we shall prevail. And the love of God and man shall one day rule this earth, if first it rules the souls of those who have come to know and love the truth.

In the gospel according to Matthew, chapter 13, and on page 1807 in *The URANTIA Book*, Jesus declares, "But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear, for truly I say to you that many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which you see, and have not seen them, and to hear those things which you hear, and have not heard them." Thus Jesus of Nazareth, the son of God and the son of man, once spoke about himself. And thus, now, I would speak of *The URANTIA Book*, for truly, blessed are our eyes, for they see, and our ears, for they hear. For many prophets and righteous men, saints and sages for centuries of human history have longed and yearned with a burning in their souls to know those very truths of heaven which now have been given in our time, have been given to us, and what we do with them and how we live by them are matters of high and sacred responsibility. For we are ambassadors of the future; we have learned of the Paradise and Havona systems. We have studied government on a neighboring planet, the mansion worlds, and the ages of light and life. We well know what is yet to come. We are ambassadors from the future to this present day and generation, and we are called to help make this world new.

The Master declared that from those to whom much has been given, much shall be required. To us, much, very much, has been given. And from us much, very much, shall be required. Let us pray with all our might for the wisdom, strength, and courage to carry forth the work which this day lies before us. And the greatest possible memorial to Christy will be for us to be true to our trust in bearing this torch of truth to a twilight world.

And so I say hail and farewell to you, Christy. We all thank God that we have known you here a while.

Closing Prayer:

Eternal God, our Father and our friend,
we honor now the unseen soul, the priceless personality
which were and are
our friend and mortal sister, Emma Christensen.

Good God, we pray that we may live
true to that faith in which she died,
and to the faith in which she lived,
as sons and daughters of your own,
believing in the brotherhood of man
beneath your loving fatherhood,
and certain of that living love
as of the unseen, sparkling stars
beyond the midnight mists of earth.

Father, efface our foolish fears.
As sun and rain and wind, in time,
smooth even letters deeply carved in stone,
so may your spirit and your love
smooth sorrow from our souls,
and fade the cut inscriptions of anxiety.

May we remember that when good men and women die,
they only die to live.
Our loss is heaven's gain.
For a daughter of the Father has come home;
this child of time
has made her starry step
into eternity.

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We bless her on her way, great God,
and give you thanks that we have known
and loved her for a while.

We now in faith commit her to your kindly care,
and as she would have wished, we shall return
to daily life serene in soul,
in poise, and peace, and joy,
to seek, until we join her once again,
your guiding will within.

The service ended with a song by Francyl Gawryn, the text of which follows, and an instrumental recording of "Amazing Grace."

The Believer's Farewell

Farewell my friends, farewell
I say my heart would grieve this parting
were it not such a joyous day,
I go to see our Father.
Your friendship has been dear to me,
such comfort in my trouble yet,
by this sight, I see such light
shine just beyond the nightfall.
And its farwell my companions dear,
I'll walk with you no farther,
the angel voices are drawing near,
I go to see our Father.
And bright your light, let it so shine,
how desperately 'tis needed,
and I'll continue shining mine,
'till once again we're greeted.
Let not the darkness bring despair,
let not your hearts be bothered, yet
join me in this one last prayer,
I go to see our Father.

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Francyl Gawryn

Additional Events on Program

Printed programs which included a color photo of Christy were provided for all who attended the memorial service. Before the service, classical music selections were played by a six-piece woodwind group led by David and Marilyn Kulieke. Lucile Kulieke also played selections on the piano. David Kantor assisted Vern Grimsley by presenting a pictorial tribute to Christy while Francyl sang "Soldiers of the Circles." After the service, most of those attending stayed for a luncheon on the fifth floor of the Union League Club.

Closing Benediction by Meredith Sprunger

Now, Father, prepare us as a Brotherhood who are here united in love in this memorial service to also go forth united and supportive in the pluralism and diversity of service. In the coming test of the proclamation of truth, help us to learn "... to feast upon uncertainty, to fatten upon disappointment, to enthuse over apparent defeat, to invigorate in the presence of difficulties, to exhibit indomitable courage in the face of immensity, and to exercise unconquerable faith when confronted with the challenge of the inexplicable." May we in steadfast dedication know that in liaison with your will all things are possible.

