

## Celebrate!

The celebration of festivals, commemorating special events and seasons is native to religious experience. Significant occurrences and times have entrenched themselves in history mainly because they have periodically been made the occasion of celebrations.

Celebrations have at all times given to the Church a sprit of intensification and outreach, a deeper consciousness of the mission in a world of sin, and to the fellowship a sense of joy and exaltation. Celebrations are spiritually profitable. Therefore, whenever we may, let us celebrate!

## Our Anniversaries

It is *296 years ago* (October 15, 1725) that the first communion service of the *Reformed Church in the U.S.* was held at Falkner Swamp, about forty miles north of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, generally regarded as the beginning of the Reformed branch of the Church.

It is *181 years ago* (October 15, 1840) that the Evangelical Society of the West, the parent body of the *Evangelical Synod of N.A.*, came into being at Gravois Settlement, now Mehlville, Missouri.

It is *131 years ago* (October 12, 1890) that the Hungarian Church was organized as part of the larger work of the Reformed Church in the U.S. through the establishment of the first Hungarian Church in this country at Cleveland, Ohio.

It is *87 years ago* (June 26, 1934) that the consummation of merger between the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America was held at Zion Evangelical Church in Cleveland, Ohio.

## Time of Celebration

Strangely enough, although by striking coincidence, the origin of the three branches of the Evangelical and Reformed Church took place during the month of October. And whereas all of 2020 was an anniversary year for the former Church, it is only natural that the program of the Church should be geared for a climactic and monumental celebration during the month of June when these two Churches came together as one. June 12th has been selected as Heritage Sunday, and the week of that Sunday may be designated as Heritage Week.

Text adapted from a 1940 Anniversary bulletin of the Evangelical and Reformed Church

# Heritage Sunday of the Evangelical and Reformed Church



The consummation of the merger of the Reformed Church in the U.S. and the Evangelical Synod of North America was declared during an impressive communion service held at Zion's Evangelical Church in Cleveland, Ohio on June 26, 1934.

