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Mendelssohn Club Christmas programs scheduled in city

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MISSOULA---

Dr. Joseph A. Mussulman, an associate professor of music at the University of Montana, will direct the Mendelssohn Club of Missoula in a "Christmas Special" Friday evening (Dec. 20) on KGVO-TV.

The 30-minute program, featuring singing by the 54-man Mendelssohn group, will be televised on KGVO at 6 p.m. Mountain Standard Time on Friday.

Carol soloists from Missoula on the show include Elmer Barrett, 716 Parkview Way; Jack W. Burt, 720 Dickinson; Charles A. Lande, 1543-34th St.; Donald G. Millhouse, 310 South Ave. E., and Garrett W. Wolverton, 3514 Houston.

Songs featured include "The Boar's Head Carol," "We Three Kings," "Deck The Hall" and "Do You Hear What I Hear?"

On Monday (Dec. 23), Mendelssohn members will divide into two groups and go to several hospitals and rest homes in the Missoula area to sing carols to institution residents. Caroling begins at 7:30 p.m. at Hillside Manor, 4720-23rd Ave., and at Wayside Sanitarium, Rattlesnake. Then the carolers will visit St. Patrick, Missoula General and Community Hospitals.

The Mendelssohn Club of Missoula is composed of men from all walks of life and from all age groups. Members gather each Monday night in the UM Music Building to sing and to enjoy mutual fellowship fostered by song. In return for use of UM facilities the group contributes annually to the UM School of Fine Arts to provide two scholarships for worthy students.

Annually in the spring the Mendelssohn Club presents a concert in Missoula and in one or more other area communities.
"Since the Mendelssohn Club was founded in 1945," Dr. Mussulman said, "the group traditionally has been directed by a University faculty member."

Lloyd Oakland was Mendelssohn director before Dr. Mussulman became director several years ago. Oakland retired from the UM faculty in August to assume property interests in Iowa.

First director of the group was Norman Gulbranson, who is now at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. First Mendelssohn president was Steve Niblack, now of Fresno, Calif. Current president is Richard A. Fossum, 4421 Timberlane, Missoula.