

# FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

## NEWSLETTER

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*The tower in front completes Wright's design for the site designed in 1957 and completed this year by his successor architectural firm. Photograph courtesy Taliesin.*

### BUILDINGS

#### First Christian Church, Phoenix, Arizona

#### Frank Lloyd Wright Design Takes Shape in Arizona

*by Charles Montooth*

A unique free-standing bell tower, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1957 as part of a church complex, has just been completed in Arizona. Rising 120 feet from a landscaped oasis in north Phoenix, the tower is the second phase in an overall master plan being built to follow the famous American architect's original concept. The \$225,000 tower of precast concrete panels is topped with a four-ton gold cross lit at night from within the tower. An eighteen foot high pedestal of native Arizona stone and patterned concrete supports the precast panels. The tower will contain a carillon.

The first phase of the church was completed in 1972. Since then, the congregation has doubled. A prayer garden is planned around the base of the tower and a \$1,041,000 classroom, office, and chapel addition is currently under construction.

The church is one of several posthumous works of Frank Lloyd Wright to be built. In addition to the well-known Marin County buildings, several small houses designed in the 1930's and 40's have been completed or are under construction.

Project Architect for this phase of the work is Aubrey Banks of The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. ■