

# Moral perspectives

## Do we really want tax limits?

Resistance to taxes is as old as anything in America. Feelings fueling the current "taxpayers revolt" were formed in vastly different conditions than now prevail.

It is time to stop for reflection and hard-headed moral thinking about all this anger. Do we vote for what is best for us or flow with catchy slogans and flimsy logic?

Emotional attitudes about taxation need to be brought into line with rational thoughts and actual lifestyle.

Population has increased dramatically and we are an urbanized people. Crowded conditions threaten the good life unless we add expensive aids and controls. We do not live in villages where survival could be assured simply by having a tough sheriff.

IN SELF INTEREST, we will clean air and water, decency in shopping, and convenient recreational facilities. Mere safety requires expensive trafficways for our mobility. To be honest with ourselves these new costs must be appreciated.

Remember a few picnic tables along highways with an old oil drum for trash? Contrast this to the rest stops we expect with neat grass, garbage pickup, and running water. It costs plenty just to keep from fouling our own nests.

Most of us feel our economic system is the best yet in history. But it hasn't solved problems for those whose abilities or location or dependency don't bring economic rewards. Any society has to move goods or money around to care for a certain percentage who need help. Horrible as parts of the welfare system are, do we really want to go back to county poor farms or burdened relatives? Remember beggars on street corners? I am glad we do better than that.

AS WE ENJOY stories of western cowboys do we reflect on the fact that most of them were teenagers? We have a way for youth to survive now until they finish public school. Certainly there are deficiencies in the educational system, but we expect

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functional literacy. So we pay for schools whether we have children of our own in them or not.

We want our marvelous standard of living and it includes social costs. We demand services our grandparents never dreamed possible, let alone necessary. We take for granted that somehow the complexity of it all will be organized. Taxes are part of realistic management of our way of surviving now and problems and meeting needs.

There is no royalty to pay society's bills and then live in splendor alongside squalor among the masses. We

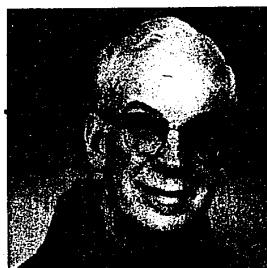
have no rich barons to provide a few museums or parks. Is it really all that bad to have bureaucrats living on salaries similar to the rest of us? Somebody has to manage the system.

LIKE ANYTHING else, the moral truth is that we get what we pay for. We insist on many public servants and vast social programs.

Of course we must demand efficiency and prevent empire building. But these are rational tasks for citizens, not causes of hysteria to be expressed in emotional "revolts".

Two questions can help us think straight. Aren't we each living better than our grandparents, even after taxes? Aren't we as a society doing better than a few decades ago in easing burdens and meeting needs?

We seem to enjoy complaining and taxes are a handy focus. But the moral view is that we are probably getting better services and leadership than we deserve. Taxes are not the enemy to be defeated in the pursuit of happiness!



Celebrant

The Rev. Sylvan Becker, who once served as pastor of St. Michael Catholic Church in Southfield, recently observed his 50th anniversary as a member of the Franciscan Order by being principal celebrant of a mass of thanksgiving in St. Clement Church in St. Bernard, Ohio.

## Jewish council begins single parent program

The Greater Detroit section of National Council of Jewish Women has launched a new Single Parent Program designed for the growing number of Detroit area parents who are raising children alone.

Two pilot support groups have already begun, one meeting on Wednesday evenings, the other on Thursday evenings. They are designed as small rap groups and are held at

the National Council of Jewish Women Office 1660 W. Twelve Mile, Southfield. The problem-solving sessions will run for six consecutive weeks and are presently serving both men and women.

In addition to the rap groups, the NCJW plans to provide a variety of programs and resources for the single parent family. They will sponsor work-

shops for young children and adolescents. A Widowed to Widowed Program, modeled after a successful project in St. Louis, is also being considered.

Ten committees have begun under the direction of social work professional Nadine Bell and project Chairwoman Carol Krugel. Assisting Ms. Krugel are Beth Rosenbloom and Betsy Newman.

The Single Parent Program is the outgrowth of a well-attended all-day forum held Jan. 8 at Oakland Community College.

The meeting was designed to identify the needs of the single parent family. Community resources were explored and such topics as the maintenance of Jewish life, legal and financial information, and career and life planning were discussed.

Ms. Krugel said the program aims to involve single parents in the work of each committee. The women who will serve as liaisons include Hermine Silver, Helen Sherwin and Jessie Stern of Franklin, Shirley Mersky of Orchard Lake, Gail Brown of Bloomfield Hills, Barbara Cook of Farmington Hills, Judy Marx and Nancy Bank of West Bloomfield and Laurie Graff of Birmingham.

"We hope to heighten community awareness of the problems of single parents and assist these individuals in designing programs to meet their specific needs," Ms. Krugel explained.

She encourages all single Jewish parents who would like to obtain further information or become involved in SPP to call the NCJW office, 557-9604.

## Volunteers

The Oakland County Volunteer Bureau, a program of the Volunteer Action Center of United Community Services, has weekly listings of agencies needing volunteer services. Further information about these and over 200 agencies may be obtained by calling the bureau, 642-7272. Any non-profit agencies needing volunteer assistance may also call the bureau. WRITER—"Doing More With Less", a periodical dealing with living more ecologically, sponsored by Common Ground, is looking for writers. Volunteers should be experienced in writing skills and have a definite commitment to improving the environment. Hours are flexible.

PROBATION COUNSELORS—Volunteers are needed to help with the intake and referral processes and then fact-to-face work in the medical and legal processes as counselors. Orientation will be held at 8 p.m., Wednesday, June 28. Training will be provided and will consist of a minimum of 30 hours.

COUNSELORS—Common Ground is looking for people to be involved in a direct service commitment. Volunteers who are interested in self-growth opportunities will be trained for phone-

OFFICE AND TEACHER'S AIDS—Volunteers with previous office experience and a love for small children are requirements for these jobs with Walcott Kinder House in Birmingham. Two areas of service are available. Clerical help is needed to handle general office work. Volunteers are also needed to assist teachers. Summer session begins June 28.

## SCHOOL'S OUT, MOM!



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## When you're engaged



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## Your Invitation to Worship

<p>For Church Directory Information Please Call: Debbie 644-1100 Ext. 217</p> <p><b>CLARENSVILLE UNITED METHODIST</b> 20300 Middlebelt, Livonia Pastor Gerald Fisher 474-3444 9 a.m. First Worship Service 10:15 a.m. The Church School 11:15 a.m. Second Service of Worship Nursery Provided at All Services</p>	<p><b>ANTIOCH LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 13 Mile &amp; Farmington Rd. Service 10 AM Sunday School Nursery Provided Pastor Bert Anderson L.C.A. 626-7906</p>	<p><b>"I AM THAT I AM"</b> TEACHINGS OF THE ASCENDED MASTERS • SCIENCE OF THE SPOKEN WORD • STUDIES OF THE WALFA • STUDIES IN ALCHEMY • MANIFESTING CHRIST • TRANSMUTING KABALA (GEM) • REFERENCE OF THE FLAME STUDIES SECRETES &amp; SINGING NEW STUDENTS 7:30-9:30 WED. 7:30-9:30 SUN. 7:30-9:30 KEEPER OF THE FLAME SAT. 6:00-9:30 SUN. 10:00-12:00</p>	<p><b>BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 5631 North Adams Road 12 Mile &amp; Farmington Rd. SUMMER SERVICES Sunday 9 AM Family Worship Saturday 10 AM Family Worship Communion-First Sunday of each month Monday 8 PM-Wednesday services Fred W. MacLean, Pastor Diane F. Scholer, Pastor MI 6-5241 MI 6-5124</p>	<p><b>EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 24475 Lehigh Road (Just N. of 9 Mile) Phone: 357-1846 9:30 AM The Service The Rev. L. Alden Erdoson</p>	<p><b>COVENANT BAPTIST</b> Covenant is a church where Christian Education is important. There is a place for you and your family to study and grow. Church School 9:45 Worship 11 AM &amp; 6:30 PM 5600 W. Maple Rd. Westland, Mich 48093 1/2 Mile W. of Orchard Lake Rd. 655-8181</p>
<p><b>HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 26745 Farmington Rd. Farm, Hills (across from Orchard Ridge Campus) SERVICES Sun. 9:30 AM Mon. 8:00 PM</p>	<p><b>NORTHBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</b> 14 Mile &amp; Lehigh Road Morning Worship and Church School 10 AM Pastors: L. J. Peterson &amp; M. Dunn Phone: 642-0200</p>	<p><b>THE SUMMIT LIGHTHOUSE OF DETROIT</b> 23447 W. MICHIGAN AVE. at 9th Mile 543-6769</p>	<p><b>Bethlehem Lutheran Church</b> 35300 Eight Mile Road Farmington Hills EINO H. TUOMI, PASTOR 474-2579 Worship &amp; Sunday School 10:30 A.M.</p>	<p><b>ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 165 E. Square Lake Road Bloomfield Hills (2 East of Woodward) 338-8233 Minister: Dr. Roger Ireson Church School 9:45 A.M. Worship Service 11:00 A.M. Pastors Class - 10 A.M.-New Testament</p>	<p><b>HOLY CROSS</b> Greek Orthodox Church 26225 Middlebelt Rd. Farmington Hills 477-1677 Rev. S.J. Anthony, Th.B., Priest 9:30 A.M. Orthodox 10:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy English Sermon Visitors Always Welcome</p>
<p><b>Brighten Up Your Week</b> Go to Church!</p> <p><b>First United Methodist Church</b> 1559 West Maple at Pleasant Ministers: James W. Wright, G. Bryn Evans John H. Bunc, Thomas H. Beaven Harold E. Weemhoff Summer Service 8:30 &amp; 10:00 Church School 9:30 and 11 a.m. Nursery Care Provided</p>	<p><b>Don't Forget Church This Summer!</b></p> <p><b>Salem United Church of Christ</b> Oakland at C.R. River, Farmington MI 48034 Church Office 4-4680 Pastor: James L. Bunc Phone: 474-2944</p>	<p><b>Birk in the Hills PRESBYTERIAN</b> 13400 Long Lake Rd MINISTERS James F. Anderson Robert L. Lindsay Rosa K. Osoch Worship Services and Child Care Sundays at 9:30 and 11:30 A.M. Church School through Grade 6 at 9:30 A.M. only</p>	<p><b>St. Andrew Lutheran Church LCA</b> 5500 Telegraph Rd. Birmingham N. of Maple Rd. &amp; 12 Mile Sunday School 10:00 A.M. Thursday Church School 10:00 A.M. Charles William Richter 646-5207</p>	<p><b>United Methodist Church</b> 20846 W. 13 Mile at Evergreen 44-7777 Worship 10:00 a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m. (Nursery through High School) Nursery: Wilma Verheij</p>	<p><b>FARMINGTON HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 28301 Middlebelt Road, 1/2 Mile N. of 12 Mile A FULL-SERVICE CHURCH SUNDAY GRADED BIBLE SCHOOL 9:45 AM Worship Service 11 AM and 6 PM CHILDREN'S CHURCH 11 AM WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHT 7:30 PM Douglas B. Brown, Pastor Nursery Provided at All Services Ample Parking C.B.A. Affiliated No Steps</p>
<p><b>First Baptist Church</b> Bates and Wilbur, Birmingham, Mich. Robert H. Madison, Minister David W. Sells Glen H. Aspinall Jr. Home &amp; Junioring Classes</p>	<p><b>The Orchard United Methodist Church</b> 30400 Farmington Road (between 12 and 14 Mile) Morning Worship 9:30 and 11 a.m. Church School &amp; Nursery 626-6820 Ministers: Robert L. S. Brown James F. Thomas</p>	<p><b>The Congregational Church of Birmingham, U.C.C.</b> Woodward at Cranbrook Bloomfield Hills MI 4-6511 Worship and Church School 10 AM Minister: Rev. Charles O. Erickson</p>	<p><b>Diak 646-5555</b> For Inspiration DYNARE SCIENCE CHURCH 1128 West Maple Road Birmingham, Mich. Sunday Service at 11 A.M.</p>	<p><b>FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH</b> United Methodist on Franklin &amp; Village Green 10 A.M. Nursery Care 10 A.M. Lawn Reception following Service Senior Minister Frank B. Gresh Associate Minister J. Chester Stubbs</p>	<p><b>First Church of God</b> 25717 Power Road Farmington Hills 474-5618 Church School 10:00 A.M. Morning Worship Every Sunday Wednesday Prayer 7:30</p>
<p><b>First Baptist Church</b> Bates and Wilbur, Birmingham, Mich. Robert H. Madison, Minister David W. Sells Glen H. Aspinall Jr. Home &amp; Junioring Classes</p>	<p><b>Bloomfield Hills Christian Church</b> The Community House 380 South Bates, Birmingham Sunday 10:10 A.M. Bible School 11:00 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. Prayers Service Wednesday 7:15 P.M. Bible Study 851-8516</p>	<p><b>WARD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LIVONIA</b> Farmington Road &amp; Six Mile Road Worship &amp; Sunday School 9:30 &amp; 11:00 a.m. 422-1150</p>	<p><b>FARMINGTON HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> Ona Road at Freedom Farmington Hills, MI 48024 Phone: 478-1911 Rev. John Wilkerson, Pastor Associate Pastor</p>	<p><b>First Baptist Church of Farmington</b> Richard Duncan, Pastor - Phone 474-0350</p>	<p><b>Christian Science Churches</b> FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST BIRMINGHAM 191 Chester at Willis</p>
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