

Methodist Children's Society honors Amos Gregory



Amos Gregory shows his wife, Naomi, the gift presented to him when he was honored for 50 years' service to the Methodist Children's Home Society.

Amos Gregory, a secretary who became a trustee and then an executive secretary, has been honored by the Methodist Children's Home Society for 50 years of "loving service to children."

Accepting his award during the society's 50th anniversary, the Birmingham resident credited his boss, Sebastian S. Kresge, as his inspiration.

The Detroit businessman and philanthropist, Gregory said, has the welfare of the society's Children's Village ever in mind.

"He cared so deeply . . . that since his death I have felt I wanted to stay on as trustee and help keep an ion to things to make sure the village continues to be as Mr. Kresge would have liked it."

Gregory came to Detroit in 1928 and returned to Weatherly, Pa., three years later to marry Naomi Jacobsen. He moved with her in 1936 to the Birmingham home where they still live. They are active members of the First Methodist Church of Birmingham.

GREGORY BECAME involved in the establishment of the children's home in 1924 when Kresge established a foundation and named him secretary to the treasurer.

By the time Kresge and Frances Knight, first executive director of the village, had planned and brought to reality the English Tudor village on 28 wooded acres in Redford Township, Gregory was already a member of its board of directors.

When receiving his award, he recalled his inactive dedication services officially by Method Bishop Theodore Henderson in 1928.

Over the years, Gregory worked with Kresge as the village underwent expansions and added services for resident children.

When Kresge, in his later years, began dividing most of his time between Florida and a mountain retreat in Pennsylvania, he made it a practice to check first with Gregory on the progress of the village whenever he came to Detroit.

GREGORY ALSO has seen the institution undergo great changes in its mode of service to children.

Began as a haven for homeless and needy children, the Village has evolved to serve as a residential treatment center for boys and girls aged 3-12 who have been severely disturbed emotionally.

Although retired from the Kresge Co. and foundation, Amos Gregory will continue to keep watch over Children's Village for Sebastian Kresge.

Bringing in those of every race, creed or color who are victims of abuse or neglect, the village has come to set a high standard for child welfare agencies throughout the country.

It also continues to offer traditional services like family parent counseling, foster home care and adoptive placement.

How does this longtime servant of Kresge feel about the great changes?

"Well, it was a happier situation, really, and relatively simple in the '30s and '40s," he said. "We had children living together as families of seven or eight with two houseparents."

Today's disturbed residents take more skilled care, he added, and there are more government regulations and greater competition for the charity dollar.

But, he believes, as the changes have come, the Methodist Children's Home Society continues to make a very significant impact in the area of child welfare.

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Can churches finally be the peacemakers?

By
REV. DAVID STRONG

Over the past few generations, American churches have avoided dealing with the causes and the issues of war and peace. Often we have failed to deal effectively with conflict in our own local organization.

The issues of the Vietnam War found the churches unprepared to struggle with difficult and painful questions. At times the churches took the stand by listening to those who said, "Only the experts know enough to make these decisions."

Now it is becoming more acceptable for churches and religious persons to work at conflict and the waging of peace.

Perhaps this is because we have begun to train ourselves in conflict resolution. Maybe it's because for the first time in memory we have a president whose religious convictions are believable. Or possibly we value more the deeper convictions of people.

JESUS TALKED about the peacemakers being the children of God. The prophet Isaiah spoke of the time when men would beat their swords into plowshares. Yet the churches have in large part ignored these teachings.

We have an opportunity to become involved in the largest issue that faces the nation and the religious institutions today. This is the issue of arms limitations. The SALT II Treaty is the form in which this issue requires our attention.

The actual results of SALT II may not be much in terms of limiting arms, but the significance of negotiating

weapons development, competition and distrust at the conference table rather than in battle is very great.

It is also significant that there is motion in the direction of limitations and controls of arms.

WHAT ARE SOME of the values of approving SALT II? Four reasons come to mind.

First, this agreement sets the stage for defining and maintaining the competition of nuclear arms at a lower level than would be possible without the agreement. Second, the Soviet Union and the United States will be in a negotiating and checking stance that is more predictable.

Third, this is one step in a step-by-step process. The will to wage peace

will not be served by refusing a step because it is not an ideal step or it involves some risk. And finally, without this step we would fear more for the safety of the world and of this country.

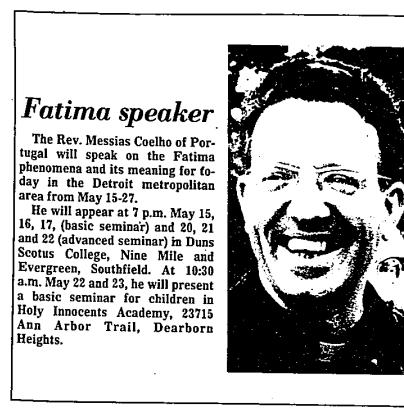
There is great evidence that refusing this step will decrease security against a world war.

IT IS EASY still for the religious person or church to pray for peace

yet avoid the difficult struggle with the issues.

But Jesus said blessed are the peacemakers not the peace wishers. Isaiah used the image of pounding the steel of war, with heat and hammer into instruments of peace.

I am encouraged by the degree to which the issues of conflict resolution and peace making are increasingly being seen as issues for religious concern and action.



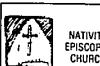
Fatima speaker

The Rev. Messias Coelho of Portugal will speak on the Fatima phenomena and its meaning for today in the Detroit metropolitan area from May 15-27.

He will appear at 7 p.m. May 15, 16, 17, (basic seminar) and 20, 21 and 22 (advanced seminar) in Duns Scotus College, Nine Mile and Evergreen, Southfield. At 10:30 a.m. May 22 and 23, he will present a basic seminar for children in Holy Innocents Academy, 23715 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights.

Your Invitation to Worship

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Please Call Sheila 644-1100 Ext. 230



BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

ALL.C.
5631 North Adams Road

Min. Nom. of Long Lake Rd.

WINTER SCHEDULE:

8:00 A.M. 10:30 A.M.

Sunday School

9:30 A.M.

Wednesday

6:00 P.M. "Prayer Service"

Fred W. MacLean, Pastor

Doris F. Schaefer, Pastor

MI 6-5041

Rector John C. Fredericks

MI 6-5124

St. Andrew Lutheran Church LCA

6255 Telegraph Rd.

Bethel Lutheran Church

10:30 A.M. Sunday School

Wednesday 7:15 A.M.

Church Office 4-4850

Galatian at Ge. River, Farmington Hills

Rev. Fred W. MacLean, Pastor

Charles W. Krieger

44-5684

First United Methodist Church

1589 West Maple of Pleasant

Ministers: James W. Wright, G. Bryn Evans

Thomas H. Beaven Harold E. Weemhoff

Church Services 8:30, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Church School 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Nursery Care Provided

Nursery School: Monday through Friday

9:00-11:30 a.m.

First Baptist Church

East and West Birmingham, Mich.

John G. McLean, Minister

David W. Scott

Home J. Armstrong Ernest

Church School 8:45 A.M.

Wednesday Service 11:00 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

Worship & Sunday School

9:45 A.M.

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