

Religion Update

Rev. Lester Kinsolving's

The first woman ever elected president of the National Council of Churches (NCC) is Mrs. Theodore (Cynthia) Wedel, wife of a retired clergyman who is one of the Episcopal Church's most revered elder statesmen.

In this post, Mrs. Wedel will need every bit of her renowned brilliance and charm; among other reasons because she is also the first presidential candidate in Council history to have to face a rival candidate.

And her rival, the Rev. Albert Cleavage of Detroit, was hardly gracious in his concession speech. Immediately after learning that he had received only 39 out of the 400 votes cast, he proceeded to exhort what he termed "the white racist establishment of the NCC" which he identified as "anti-Christ."

THE REV. CLEAVAGE, a United Church of Christ pastor of Detroit's "Shrine of the Black Madonna," is renowned among other reasons for his contention that Jesus Christ was black—which disclosure is no less extraordinary than the Nazi proclamation that Jesus was an "honorary Aryan."

During an interview with this writer, the Rev. Cleavage strenuously asserted that, while he is opposed to segregation, he accepts separatism such as ghettos, which he said "We can use for political and economic power."

He went on to say that black dormitories on college campuses are "a good thing, if black students are trying to find a black identity and want to be together."

The Rev. Cleavage also noted that Dr. Martin Luther King

"was killed by white men." But as for the black men who murdered Malcolm X, "I would theorize that they were working for."

THE MILITANT Detroit pastor was nominated by the National Committee of Black Churches (NCBC)—for whom the General Convention of Mrs. Wedel's own Episcopal Church recently voted to raise \$200,000.

The Rev. Mel Rolins, New York Presbyterian who is NCBC executive director, told this writer that the Episcopal Convention's designation of his organization as recipient of the \$200,000—rather than the Black Economic Development Conference of which James Forman has been appointed field director—"was a dodge, every-

body understood that." Moreover he conceded that for week end of December 20-21, 1969 "the only honest response to Black Manifesto came from the Catholic Archbishop of New York, which rejected it." As for the Episcopal General Convention, he conceded that it has "quibbled" in using NCBC as a conduit—and that Episcopal leaders had subsequently tried to smear the "secular press for reporting the situation."

IN ADDITION to this nomination of the Rev. Cleavage which was only slightly less sensational than a nomination of either the Rev. Adam Clayton Powell or the Rev. Muhammad Ali, the NCC delegates were repeatedly subjected to bitter denunciations and bizarre demonstrations.

The NCC General Assembly devoted most of the afternoon of the first day of its four-day

meeting to assorted protests. These ranged from numerous black demands, to an American Indian who demanded \$750 million (30 times the entire NCC budget) to "Jonathan's Wake," a hippie aggregation who appeared with a giant balloon which they bounced about while scampering from one delegation to another, kissing both male and female delegates.

Some delegates expressed hope that the devotion of this much time to at least get the intrusions over with. But two days later, James Forman himself appeared and resumed the haranguing. (Mr. Forman has recently raised the level of reparations that his Black Manifesto demands from churches and synagogues from \$300 million to \$24 billion.)

And on the assembly's final day, the Episcopal hippie priest, the Rev. Richard York of Berkeley, demonstrated his opposition to the Vietnamese War by suddenly drenching the NCC officer's table with red paint.

THE NEXT General Assembly of the NCC is scheduled for 1972 in Dallas. These assemblies are costly enough in travel, food, lodging and rental of facilities—not to mention the added costs in man hours devoted by able business and professional men who serve as delegates.

So perhaps President-elect Wedel's major problem will be in persuading many of these men to return to the 1972 assembly—unless she can assure them that proper policing will keep the gathering from becoming so largely a white flagellation session and a bowling alley for oddballs.



AWAY IN A MANGER — Darryl Vegh and Beckey Kretflin of the Newburg Baptist Church, Westland, are joined by a couple of friends in the live nativity scene to be presented nightly outside the church at 37055 Joy from now until Dec. 23. The play will be on view each evening every half hour from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

(Observer photo by Craig Gaffield)

Adventist Drive Was Successful

The Rev. William K. Dennis, pastor of the Plymouth Seventh-day Adventist Church, announces that the annual "In-gathering for the Health and Welfare" project sponsored by the congregation was a success.

Director of the project Mrs. Lois Heilman of Plymouth reports that a sizable donation was received for the work sponsored by the church to help those in need.

Robbie Roberts, son of a local lumber merchant, told his father of the project and the store donated 150 gallons and 195 quarts of paint. The church has found a use for this unusual donation.

Special thanks go to Roberts and Gary Heilman for the effort put forth in the delivery of this gift.

Plan Clinic

The Plymouth Seventh-day Adventist Church will sponsor a "five day plan" to stop smoking beginning Jan. 23. The session, conducted by Dr. Arvid W. Weaver and The Rev. William K. Dennis, will meet for five consecutive nights.

Congregational Festival Service

The traditional Christmas eve festival service of the North Congregational Church of Southfield will begin at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 24.

A half-hour musical program by a string ensemble will open the service. Senior Pilgrim Fellowship members will conduct the 8 p.m. Festival Service which will include lessons and carols.

Readers will be Sherry Ansama, Christine Dryburgh, Scott Boyd and Douglas Dunn. The Chancel Choir will sing, while Mrs. Hugo Edberg will play the harpsichord.

Following the Rev. Louis Gerhardt's Christmas meditation, the service will conclude with the candle lighting ceremony.

The church is located at 26275 Northwestern Highway.

Attend Rome Conference

Two representatives of the Orchard Lake Schools were speakers during a world conference of Polish Catholics Dec. 10 through 12 in Rome, Italy.

The conference was called by Stephan Cardinal Wysynski, Polish primate. The meeting was historic because it was the first time any ethnic group, irrespective of geographical boundaries, met in discussion on church and social-related problems.

Delegates from the Orchard Lake Schools were the Very Rev. Walter J. Ziemia, president-director of the school, and Rev. Fr. Valerius Jasinski. Fr. Ziemia discussed, "The

Faith Baptist Church
23845 Middlebelt Road
Detroit 10, Mich. 48214
Pastor, Orliva Chomera
Sunday School Service 10 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Service 7 p.m.
Film "Gloria in the Highest"



'Is Christmas Real?' New Temple Rabbi Asks

"Is There Really a Christmas?" will be the sermon highlighting the regular service of the New Temple at 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26.

Rabbi Ernst J. Conrad will present his personal view of how an effective Christmas observance by those who accept Christ as their savior could change the world.

Rabbi Conrad will point out that the problem is relevant

since the majority of people in the western world have for several centuries declared their commitment to Christianity which Christmas is such an outstanding symbol.

The origin and historical development of the holiday will be traced.

New Temple services are held in the Birmingham Unitarian Church, Lone Pine and Woodward. Guests are welcome.

Program Has Original Script

St. Mark Presbyterian Church will present an original Christmas program "Let's Put Christ Back in Christmas" at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, in the church at 26701 Joy Road, Dearborn Heights.

The story will be told through the eyes of the animals in the stable. Cast members will be the church school children. Lafern Porter wrote the original script.

Music will be provided by the Church's four choirs: adult, chorister (teens), junior (7-12) and mini (4-7).

Council Of Churches Names Layman President

Robert R. Baumgartner, 1934, of Lincoln, Detroit, has been elected the 27th president of the Metropolitan Detroit Council of Churches.

A member and past moderator of the Redford Baptist Church, Baumgartner is principal of Cass Technical High School.

In the system of alternating clerical and lay leadership for the council, this is the year of the layman.

BAUMGARTNER, for several years, headed the Division of Services for the council. Under his direction, a multiplicity of services were made available to the churches and individuals in the metropolitan area.

Included among these were seminars to ministers (training in hospitals), social services, ministry to special

persons, faith and order observances, Lenten and Good Friday services, State Fair sunrise services, Pastors' Unions, and an ever-increasing assortment of educational services such as audio-visual and literary workshops.

Another area of community service has been a thrust into youth ministry as evidenced by annual interfaith youth rallies programs.

THE NEW PRESIDENT received his BA from Denison University, Miss. from Wayne State University, and has served in the Detroit educational system since 1958.

Among the positions which he has held are assistant principal of Cass Technical High School, principal of Condon Junior High School, Redford High School, and retiring to Cass as principal in 1968.

Baumgartner is also currently

Area Deaths, Funerals

ERNEST GEORGE SMITH, 81, Smith St., 22408 Hawthorne, Farmington, a 30-year resident of the community, died suddenly, Dec. 14. He had been in poor health for some time.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. in the Trinity Episcopal Church, 11000 E. 12th Ave., Dearborn. Burial will be in Oakland Hills Cemetery. Mr. Smith is survived by his wife, Evelyn, a daughter, Mrs. Stanley (Kareen) Goodrich of Elkhart, Ind., two sons, Joseph (J. of Detroit, Mich. and Ernest George Jr. of Ypsilanti.

Also surviving are three sisters, Mrs. Violet Sherwood of Bullard, Mrs. Lillian Weaver of Detroit, and Mrs. Bernice Foster of Dearborn and three brothers, Charles, Edith and Clifford. Burial will be in the Oakwood Cemetery, 11000 E. 12th Ave., Dearborn.

ROBERT JAMES BRIDGES, 81, a retired services for the Detroit Police Dept., died at 10 a.m. Thursday at the John W. Santoro and Robert H. 1010, Dearborn, Burial will be in the Oakwood Cemetery, 11000 E. 12th Ave., Dearborn.

Survivors include the parents, Robert and Barbara of 804 Inland Road, Garden City, a sister, Rebecca, a brother, Brian and three grandchildren, Raymond, Fleming and Albert and two nephews.

FRANCOIS FLOWERS
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FOR DELIVERY SERVICE
33641 FIVE MILE ROAD
LIVONIA

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At The
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Your Family*

UNITED METHODIST

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4443 Meridian Road
Phone: 421-8628
Ministers: John N. Howell
Rev. Minister: L. C. Lee

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10 a.m.
Infants through 6th grade
Adults, Jr., Sr. High and Church for children up to 18
MORNING WORSHIP
10 a.m. only

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Farmington 476-8840
29887 West 11 Mile Road

Ministers:
John H. Hester, Senior Minister
Marjorie M. Hester, Associate
John H. Spaul, Minister of Music
Worship Service 9:30 and 11 a.m.

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

34500 Ann Arbor Trail
Livonia 422-0149
Rev. William A. Ritter
425-0265
9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Worship Service and Church School 7 p.m. UMW

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Plymouth

680 Church Street
453-5280

Ministers:
Paul M. Cargo and Ronald K. Corl
9:30 a.m. - Worship Service and Church School for all ages
11 a.m. - Church Service and Church School
6:30 p.m. - Senior High Youth

CLARENCVILLE METHODIST CHURCH

20300 Middlebelt Road, Livonia 424-3563
9:00 a.m. First Worship Service
10:15 a.m. The Church School
11:15 a.m. Second Service of Worship
6:30 p.m. Youth Meetings
7:30 p.m. The Evening Service - The Mid West Service
Nursery and Kindergarten all services
Eloise A. Johns, Minister

A cordial invitation to visit the

ST. LUKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Five Mile at Haggerty
Ernest L. Otter, Minister
Church School 10 a.m.
Worship Service 11 a.m.
Nursery Provided
Phone 425-8491

ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

30450 Farmington Road
Between 12 and 14 Mile
MA 4-6820
Worship: 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
Ev. M. Hanner, Ch. 4-6170
Rev. M. Hughes, Asso. Minister

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Farmington

23112 Grand Blvd. 424-1473
Worship, Church School 9:30 and 11 a.m.
Rev. Hugh C. White
Rev. B. Bryce Swiler

EPISCOPAL

ST. ELIZABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

26431 West Chicago Road
Southfield
Rev. R. L. Morrell, Vicar
Ev. 7-7182

8:30 a.m. Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10:30 a.m. Church School and Nursery
Nursery and Kindergarten Classes
Nurses' Offices WELCOME

SACRED HEART BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

29125 West Six Mile Road
427-2100
Rev. Myron Hornsby
Divine Liturgies
Sunday 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. - Daily 9 a.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation Sat. 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

9435 Henry Road at West Chicago
GA 1-5406
Rev. Edward H. Reinhardt
9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Nursery, Church School and Worship Service

ST. PAUL'S Presbyterian Church

27475 Five Mile Road
GA 2-1470
"Everyone Welcome"
Rev. William F. Whitledge
Rev. Arvid S. Daltiel
Donald A. Drew
Ministers
Worship and Church School 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

ST. TIMOTHY Presbyterian Church

16700 Newburg Road
Worship and Church School 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Rev. Carl A. Gunderson
261-4644 464-1354

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Hubbard at West Chicago
Worship and Church School 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Richard C. Dunkelberger, Pastor
Arthur Baumer, Jr., Associate Pastor
William T. Lovick, Associate Pastor
GARfield 2-0494

CHURCH OF GOD

Riverside Park Church of God
11771 Newburg Road at Plymouth Road
Livonia Phone 464-0990

Rev. J. Clifford Thor, Pastor
Rev. Robert L. McFarling, Associate
Sunday School 11 a.m. Morning Worship 9:45 a.m. 6:30 p.m. Evening Service
Nursery and Day Care Center Now Open
Enrollment Limited. Call 464-0990

NORTHWEST CHURCH

Christian and Missionary Alliance
28111 West Ten Mile Road 476-7673
Between Middlebelt and Inland Roads
Bible School 9:45 a.m. Evening Service 7 p.m.
Worship Service 11 a.m.
Wednesday - 7:30 p.m. "Hour of Prayer"
Pastor D. Smith, Pastor 476-8227

Parkdale Assembly of God

26516 Parkdale
1. Bk. St. of Plymouth & Levee Rd.
Rev. David H. Kist
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. 10:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m. 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Bible Study 7:30 p.m.
423-0490 or 422-6000

EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

24331 W. Eight Mile Road
Detroit, Mich.
Evelyn T. Delp, Pastor
Sunday Services
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:45 a.m. - Morning Worship
6:30 p.m. - Evening Service
Residence: KE 3-9433

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

You are cordially invited to attend Sunday School as listed below. Sunday Schools are conducted by all churches, and care is provided for children of pre-Sunday School age.

Wednesday Testimonial Meetings at 8 p.m.

FOURTH CHURCH, Detroit 11 a.m.
24400 W. Seven Mile near Telegraph

FIRST CHURCH, Farmington 11 a.m.
32825 Grand River Avenue

FIRST CHURCH, Garden City 11 a.m.
33111 Ford Road

FIRST CHURCH, Plymouth 10:30 a.m.
1100 West Ann Arbor Trail