

Sometimes paradise can turn into hell

I recently came across a remarkably whimsical anecdote based on the fantasy of a contemporary religious leader. He dreamt that, as a consequence of its raging fires and unquenchable flames, hell burned down and was utterly consumed.

The Celestial Council met in urgent session to decide on a course of action. There was, of course, the logical suggestion that another hell be built to replace the destroyed one. But one of the angels disagreed. He argued: "As long as there was an eternal inferno, it has to be. Now that it is no more, it is not right to build a new one."

"But," said Satan, "we must have a hell for those who deserve it. We will undermine the principles of justice if we do not provide punishment for the wicked."

Both protagonists found some support within the council, and the arguments on both sides were protracted and intense. Neither side would yield, and an impasse was reached in the deliberations.

These suggestions immediately were accepted by a unanimous vote since no one objected to the building of a new paradise. Heaven had found the answer to its own vexing problem.

This fable graphically teaches an important and far-reaching truth. These movements and causes men considered as a veritable paradise, and for which they labored and sacrificed. But, as time passed, their Heaven began to deteriorate and disintegrate until it



moral perspectives
Rabbi Irwin Groner

was assigned to the degraded status of hell. Events of recent decades have demonstrated beyond doubt that many a "paradise" which was to be achieved with the fulfillment of the program of an ideological group or movement turned to Dante's Inferno. Men were promised a world of justice, security and peace once the victories had been won, the power transferred, and the gains consolidated. But the promises turned to ashes, and the anticipated Heaven became a place of torment.

Some 60 years ago, Communism emerged from the theoretical design of Marx and Lenin to the arena of power, assuming control over one of the largest countries in the world. It kindled among millions of the downtrodden

everywhere a hope that paradise on earth had been found. Once the greed for wealth which led to the suppression of human rights and the denial of human aspiration had been vanquished, men would usher in a new era of justice and equality. With the demise of capitalism, the state itself would wither away and men would live with each other in amity and brotherhood without the necessity of external force and governmental control.

As the years passed, an incalculable record of subjugation, suffering and death revealed the bitter reality of Communism. The imposition of martial law in Poland, the war of the Polish government against its people, a suppression of human rights aided and encouraged by the Soviet Union, is the most recent, although by no means the most heinous, of Communism's tyrannical policies. It finally has become apparent, even to some of socialism's most staunch followers, that the paradise of yesterday is the Hades of today. This remarkable parable is thus the story of modern man. Let him beware of yesterday's paradise, for it may become tomorrow's Inferno. Let him, instead, endeavor to build a new Heaven whose glory will abide for all time.

Law gives women new legal rights

A law recently signed by Gov. William Milliken makes clear that married women enjoy the same contract rights and liabilities as men and single women.

HR408 was designed to clear up confusion about the legal rights of married women as they relate to contracts and certain real and personal property.

It eliminated the common law disability of married women to make and enter into a contract. It repeals the Rights of Married Women Act of 1855, the Earnings of Married Women Act of 1911 and the Joint Holdings Act of 1917, all of

which created confusion when combined with recent case law. The new law states that a married woman may enter into a contract with respect to her separate property; she may bring an action to enforce the contract, recover damages or seek other remedy for breach of contract. She also personally is liable under the contract.

It allows the woman to act as surety for a debt or obligation of another person, enter into a contract using her property as security for the debt of another, or give a general guarantee personally obligating her for the debt of another person.

Concert to raise funds for Polish

The Polish American Congress is sponsoring a concert of Polish Christmas carols at 8 p.m. Sunday with proceeds earmarked for medicine and food for the people of Poland.

It will feature a chorus directed by Bronislaw Siarkowski; soprano Danuta Siarkowski; Danuta Sworski presenting poetry readings; organist Stanley Zydek; and duets, trios and quartets. Donations will be asked.

The concert will be at St. Ladislaus Catholic Church, 2370 Caniff, west of

Joseph Campau.

That Blessings May Shine on You...Come to Church

For Church Directory Information
Please Call 644-1100 Ext. 200

Kirk in the Hills
PRESBYTERIAN
1340 W. Long Lake Rd.
MINISTERS:
James F. Anderson
Robert L. Lindsey

Worship service
and Church School
9:30 AM and 11:30 AM

CENTRAL WOODWARD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Disciples of Christ
3555 W. Big Beaver at Adams, 1501

CHURCH SCHOOL
9:30 AM
WORSHIP 11:00 AM

Minister:
Robert H. Boyle
644-0512

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
American Baptist
Bates and Walnut
Birmingham
Robert G. Meddison
Barbara Schuler
MINISTERS:
Church School
9:45 AM
WORSHIP 11:00 AM
Evening Service
Wednesday Prayer: 7:30 PM

WORSHIP SERVICES
8:30, 9:30 & 11 AM
Nursery Care 8:30 AM
Church School Classes
Crib-Adult: 9:30 & 11 AM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
158 West Maple at Pleasant
Ministers: James W. Wright • Douglas W. Vernon
• Evans C. Bentley

WORSHIP SERVICES
8:30, 9:30 & 11 AM
Nursery Care 8:30 AM
Church School Classes
Crib-Adult: 9:30 & 11 AM

Brightmoor Tabernacle
26555 Franklin Rd. • Southfield MI
(1/536 & Telegraph - Just West of Holiday Inn)

Sunday School - 9:45 AM
Worship Service 11:00 AM
Celebration of Praise: 6:30 PM
Wed.: Prayer & Praise Light House Youth Service - 7:30 PM

A Charismatic Church where people of many denominations worship together.
Thomas E. Trish, Pastor

THE COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH
5800 W. Maple Rd. W. Birmingham, AL 35222

9:45 AM CHURCH SCHOOL
11:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE
6:30 PM EVENING SERVICE

St. Paul's Lutheran
Wisconsin Synod
20805 Middlebelt at 8 Mile
Farmington Hills, 474-0675
The Rev. R. E. Joyce, Pastor

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 8:30 & 10 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND ADULT
BIBLE CLASSES: 10 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL
Grades K-8
Wayne C. Beltsch, Principal
474-2488

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

Michael A. Halleen
Associate Pastor
Mary Miller-Vikander
Minister to Youth
David A. Rose
35415 W. 14 Mile Road
at Drake
661-9191

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30
MORNING WORSHIP 10:45

UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1385 S. Adams • Rochester
375-0400

WORSHIP: 9:30 & 11:15
CHURCH SCHOOL
10:15 - All Ages Incl. Adult Ed
11:15 - 12:45
Nursery Provided

NORTHBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
14 Mile and Lahser Roads
WORSHIP SERVICE
9:30 & 11:00 AM

Pastor:
M. L. Dunkelberger
Peter Moore

Christian Science Churches
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
BIRMINGHAM

191 Churchland at Wilbur

SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY 8:00 PM

READING ROOM
355 East Maple • 644-7935

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Oakland at Grand River, Farm
Church School 9 AM
Divine Worship 10:15
Lee W. Tyler, Pastor
644-9890
Parsonage: 477-6472

The Congregational Church of Birmingham U.C.C.
Woodward and Cranbrook
Bloomfield Hills

404-B Church School: 9:30 AM
404-B Church School: 11:40 AM
Nursery Care Both Hours

The Rev. Charles O. Erickson
Carol D. Grim

ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
165 E. Square Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills

12:00-2:00 PM EAST OF WOODLAND
Church School - 9:30
Worship - 10:45

Pastor:
D. David Truitt, Pastor

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN
Missouri Synod
12 Mile and Farmington Roads
Behind Crowley's

WORSHIP 8:30 and 10:45
SUNDAY SCHOOL & BIBLE CLASS 9:30

Pastor: Rev. T. Richard Marcis
Church Phone: 553-3380

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
29887 West Eleven Mile Road
Just West of Middlebelt
Farmington Hills

476-8860

Worship Services: 9:15 & 11 AM

"COMMITMENT AND THE CHRISTIAN LIFE"
Rev. Wm. Miller

Bloomfield Hills Christian Church
Rome's of Bloomfield
2101 S. Telegraph
Bloomfield Township

WORSHIP: 9:30 AM
PRAISE SERVICE: 6 PM

BIBLE STUDY:
7 PM WEDNESDAY
645-1202

CLARENCEVILLE UNITED METHODIST
20302 Middlebelt Livonia

Pastor Gerald Fisher

8:45 AM First Worship Service
10:00 AM The Church School
11:15 AM Second Worship Service

Nursery Provided At All Services

Church of the Redeemer
Episcopal
18140 Cornell Rd.
Southfield

Sunday Services 8 & 10:30 AM
1928 Prayer Book
Services Only

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH, C.A.
6256 Telegraph - North of Maple
BIRMINGHAM

9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Sunday Worship

The Rev. C.W. Kistner, Pastor
665-207 • 646-5119

ST. JOHN AMERICAN LUTHERAN
22226 Gr Road Farmington
Charles Fox - Pastor
Mark Radloff - Pastor
8:30 & 11 AM Worship
9:40 Sunday School
474-0584

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3312 Grand River
Farmington • 474-6573

WORSHIP: 10 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL: 10:45 AM
Nursery Provided
Minister: Charles H. Bryson

Orchard United Methodist
30450 FARMINGTON ROAD
Between 32 and 34 Mile Road
Farmington Hills

476-8660

MORNING WORSHIP
9:30 AM & 11 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL & NURSERY
9:30 AM & 11 AM

MINISTERS:
Rita S. Brown
James F. Thomas

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
18140 Cornell Rd.
Southfield

Sunday Services 8 & 10:30 AM
1928 Prayer Book
Services Only

THE SALVATION ARMY
27500 Shawnee Lane
at Lake Road

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:
10 AM - Sunday School
11 AM - Morning Worship
6 PM - Evening Bible Study
Call 477-1153 for more information.

NORTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
26275 Northwestern Highway near Lahser
Southfield, MI PHONE: 356-1660

United for the worship of God
and service to Humanity

Rev. Mark P. Jensen, Senior Minister
Rev. David W. Howell, Minister of Christian Education
Dr. Harry Langford, Dr. of Music

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16360 Hubbard Road Livonia, Michigan 48154

421-8451

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist
Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. - Christian Education for all ages
10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available

The Rev. Kenneth G. Dyer The Rev. Edward A. King

WARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LIVONIA
Farmington and Six Mile Roads

422-1150

Worship & Sunday School: 8:30, 10:00 and 11:30 a.m.
"A PREPARED HEART"
Dr. Bartlett L. Hess
7:00 P.M.
Bentley High School Concert Choir

Wednesday 7:00 P.M.: School of Christian Education
(Activities for All Ages)

New! Sunday Service Telecast 8:30 PM, Channel 62
Sunday Service Broadcast 9:30 AM, WNUZ-FM 103.5
Nursery Provided at All Services

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