



moral
perspectives

Rabbi Irwin
Groner

What do you say to a pessimist?

There are people whose food is pessimism, for whom gloom is their daily bread. They break down our courage; they darken our skies; they diminish the worthwhileness of life.

It is difficult to guard ourselves against these habitual, automatic pessimists who always discourage any enterprise, who always say, "It won't work." Chesterton said that pessimism may be compared to opium: "It is generally a poison; it is sometimes a medicine; it is never a food."

ONE OF THE SADDEST things in life is a young person, pessimistic about his future, defeated in his heart before the battle has even begun. There are too many young people in America today who think they have no chance to build a better world, or at least are discouraged to try.

Many have great abilities but shy away from the acceptance of responsibility and the challenge of socially useful work. A discouraged older man is pathetic, but a discouraged youth is a veritable tragedy.

What can we say to a pessimistic youth? We might address him thus: "Do you think that this world is in a perilous state? You are right, but good or bad, you will have to cope with it."

"In the not-too-distant future all our institutions, all our enterprises will be in hands of your generation. Is your despair a good preparation for that? You do not think you have a good opportunity, but you will never know until you

try. Life is always an uncertain venture."

IN MIDDLE LIFE, there is a different note of sadness that enters our lives. In youth we always have the feeling that we are immortal, that death is not for us.

As we grow older the conviction begins to steal in our consciousness that the impending shadow will reach us too. We realize that we are not going to live forever.

For some, then, every pain, every new ache seems to be a premonition of something serious, and terminal. We recover after a while, but the first reaction is pessimism and depression. That too is foolish, dangerous to ourselves, and saddening to those who live with us.

THERE ARE many great commandments in scripture. They are often imperatives addressed to the soul of man. There is the commandment: "Honor thy father and thy mother." There is the ethical imperative: "Love thy neighbor as thyself." But one of God's greatest commandments to youth, to middle-age, and even to the twilight of life is the mandate: "Be strong and of good courage."

To our pessimistic older friend, we would say, "Do not do yourself harm. Do not make the mind a foe of body, increasing its discomfort, substituting unrealistic anxiety for realistic concern."



gerontology

A. Jolayne Farrell

Phone aids are available for the hearing-impaired

Dear Jo:

You mentioned in one of your columns that the life expectancy for men is 65 years and for women is 74 years. I understand that this estimate is calculated from birth. What is the life expectancy for persons who have already reached the age of 65?

Howard Colby

Thank you for your letter. A person's life expectancy at birth is always lower than that of a person who has reached age 65 and older.

For people who are 65 years old, the life expectancy is 15 additional years. Again, there is a differential between men and women. Men live an additional 13 years and women 17 years.

Dear Jo:

My mother has the type of hearing loss that often goes along with being older. She manages very well in her own apartment. We are so proud of her independence. She is 84 and I am 63. I feel quite responsible for her.

I had a scare recently. I phoned her several times; I knew she was at home, but she did not answer. I was worried that perhaps she had a fall, so I rushed over to her apartment and she was quite fine. She did not hear the telephone. Is this a common problem with your readers?

Joy A.

Before I answer your question, I would like to point out to our readers something that is remarkable in our society today. It is the beauty of the "young" old looking after the "old" old. Thank you.

Now, to answer your question, I tele-

phoned the special needs department of my telephone company. They have many aids for people of all ages who have a hearing impairment. A loud ringing bell can be installed which is considerably louder than the regular telephone bell. The volume is adjustable. Or a horn can be installed, which is even louder than the bell. This is for people who suffer from a severe loss of hearing.

The horn can be heard over loud background noise and is heard quite well from room to room. Perhaps you would find the loud ringing bell useful, and if your mother still is unable to hear the phone, the horn could be installed.

You did not mention whether your mother had a problem hearing voices over the receiver. If she does, you can have an impaired hearing handset installed. This amplifies the voice heard from the receiver and is quite helpful for older people. The volume can be controlled so that anyone with normal hearing can use the phone, too.

Other conveniences supplied by telephone companies are a bone-conduction receiver, a volume control feature which improves reception by eliminating background noises, and a visible telephone signal light that is attached to the telephone so that it flashes when the phone rings.


Although it is not necessary for your mother, my telephone company has a teletype for the deaf that enables deaf people to communicate with each other.

So I would suggest that you phone your local telephone company's special needs department to see what is available in your area.

make potential paid employment contacts while helping to support important community services. Listed by the Oakland County Volunteer Bureau. Weekly listings of opportunities involve flexible hours and short term commitments and positions are available in varied areas.

HOSPITAL COMMUNICATORS - Pontiac General Hospital needs volunteers to transmit messages from the operating and recovery rooms to waiting relatives. Responsibilities also include keeping the family informed of when and where the surgeon can be reached and to answer questions about particular restrictions of the hospital. Volunteers are needed a minimum of four hours per week. Morning or afternoon shifts are available Monday through Friday.

CLERICAL ASSISTANTS - Volunteers can sharpen your office skills and



For Church Directory Advertising Information

Please Call 644-1100 Ext. 200

THE COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH
5800 W. Maple Rd. W. Bloomfield Hills 48303
9:45 a.m.: CHURCH SCHOOL • 11:00 a.m.: WORSHIP SERVICE
6:30 p.m.: EVENING SERVICE
WEDNESDAY EVENING FAMILY NIGHT
6 P.M.: Dinner • 7 P.M.: Classes in Art, Drama & Bible
• 8 P.M.: Senior Choir Rehearsal
Ministers: Rev. Nicholas Titus and Rev. Edward Libby

Orchard United Methodist
30450 FARMINGTON ROAD
Between 12 and 14 Mile Road
626-3620
MORNING WORSHIP
9:30 AM & 11 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL & NURSERY
9:30 AM & 11 AM
MINISTERS:
Robert L. S. Brown
James F. Thomas

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, Dir. of Music
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL 11 AM
No Stairs Nursery

CENTRAL WOODWARD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
8010 W. Big Beaver Rd. at Oakton
CHURCH SCHOOL:
9:30 A.M.
WORSHIP: 11:00 A.M.
Minister:
Robert H. Boyle
644-0512

NORTHBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
14 Mile and Lahser Roads
WORSHIP SERVICE
9:30 & 11:00 AM
Pastor:
M. L. Dunkelberger
Peter Moore

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
Worship Services: 9:15 & 11 AM
"THE RESUSCITATION OF LAZARUS"
Dr. Wm. Ritter preaching
Dr. William A. Ritter, Pastor
Mrs. Donette Miller, Dir. C.E.
Mr. Melvin Pookus, Dir. Music

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCHES
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
BIRMINGHAM
191 Chester at Willis
SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 8:00 PM
READING ROOM
355 East Maple • 644-7935
Mon.-Tues. 9:30-5:00 Wed. & Sat. 9:30-5:00 Thurs. & Fri. 9:30-4:00
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
FRANKLIN MEADOWLAND
Maple at Inkster
SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 8:15 PM
READING ROOM
4361 Orchard Lake Rd. • 851-7440
Mon.-Sat. 10:00-11:00
All are welcome at the above church services and Reading Rooms. Child care facilities provided Sunday & Wednesday.

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
156 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

CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK
Episcopal
Lone Pine at Cranbrook
8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist
9:15 and 11:15 a.m.
Morning Prayer and Sermon
Tuesday 10:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 7:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16360 Hubbard Road Livonia, Michigan 48154
421-8451
Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist
Sunday 7:45 AM 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. Davis
The Rev. Edward A. King

HOPE LUTHERAN
39200 W. 12 Mile Road
Farmington Hills
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 AM
WORSHIP 10:30 AM
V.H. Messenbrink
Pastor

Acension of Christ Lutheran Church
16355 W. 14 Mile Road
Birmingham
SUNDAY WORSHIP
9:15 AM
644-8890
Morning Worship 10:30 AM

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN
Missouri Synod
28855 Middlebelt at 13 Mile
Farmington Hills - 474-0675
The Rev. Ralph E. Unger, Pastor
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 8:30 & 11 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND ADULT BIBLE CLASSES 10 AM
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
Grades K-6
Wayne C. Berkesch, Principal
474-2485

LESSON-SERMON SUBJECTS FOR APRIL
April 4 - Unreality
11 - Are Sin, Disease and Death Real?
18 - Doctrine of Atonement
25 - Probation After Death

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
33112 Grand River
Farmington 474-6573
WORSHIP 10 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL 10 AM
Nursery Provided
Minister: Charles H. Beynon

WARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LIVONIA
Farmington and Six Mile Roads
422-1150
Worship and Sunday School: 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 a.m.
"GOD'S INVITATION"
Dr. Bartlett L. Hess
7:00 PM
"SWEET SMELLING WORK"
Rev. Douglas L. Thompson
Wednesday 7 PM: School of Christian Education
(Activities for All Ages)
New! Sunday Service Telecast Sunday Service Broadcast
8:30 PM, Channel 62 9:30 AM, WMUZ-FM 103.5
Nursery Provided at All Services

ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
165 E. Square Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills
17 Church at West Woodward
Church School - 9:30
Worship - 10:45
Nursery Provided
Dr. David Turan, Pastor

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BIRMINGHAM
1669 West Maple Road
Ministers:
F. Morgan Roberts
Charles A. Sommers
Dennis F. Barger
D. Wayne McVie
Gerald S. Crawford
Morning Worship and Church School
9:30 and 11:15 AM
Nursery Provided

Bloomfield Hills Christian Church
Roma's of Bloomfield
2101 S. Telegraph
Bloomfield Township
WORSHIP: 9:30 AM
PRAISE SERVICE: 6 PM
BIBLE STUDY: 7 PM WEDNESDAY
645-1207

THE SALVATION ARMY
27500 Shawwassee
(at Inkster Road)
SUNDAY SCHEDULE:
10 AM - Sunday School
11 AM - Morning Worship
6 PM - Evening Bible Study
Call 477-1153 for more information.

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30
MORNING WORSHIP 10:45

CLARENCEVILLE UNITED METHODIST
20100 Shadeland, Livonia
Pastor Gerald Fisher
9:45 am First Worship Service
10:00 am The Church School
11:45 am Sunday Morning Service
Nursery Provided at All Services
474-3444
5:45 pm Youth Meetings
7 pm Sen. Ev. Service
7 pm Sen. Midweek Service

HOPE UNITED METHODIST
Civic Center Dr.
at Berg Rd.
Just East of Telegraph
Southfield - 356-1020
SERVICE & NURSERY: 10 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL: 11:30 AM
Rev. Terry W. Allen, Pastor

FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH
On The Village Green
WORSHIP SERVICE:
9:00 and 11:15
CHURCH SCHOOL:
9:00 - Pre-School
(child care provided)
10:15 - Adult Classes
11:15 - Children & Youth
YOUTH FELLOWSHIP:
6:00 PM
Dr. Samuel F. Stout

Brightmoor Tabernacle
26555 Franklin Rd. • Southfield MI
(I 696 & Telegraph - Just West of Holiday Inn)
Sunday School - 9:45 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM
BILL MURRAY, converted son of famed atheism
Maday Murray O'Hair 6:30 PM
A Charismatic Church where people of many denominations worship together
Thomas E. Trash, Pastor

BAPTIST CHURCH
American Baptist
Bates and Willis
Robert G. Middleton
Barbara Sinclair
MINISTERS:
CHURCH SCHOOL
9:45 AM
11:00 AM
644-0550

The Congregational Church of Birmingham U.C.C.
Woodward at Cranbrook
Bloomfield Hills
Family Worship 9:30 AM
Worship & Church School 11 AM
Nursery Care both hours
The Rev. Charles O. Erickson
Carol D. Girm

... Because when true belief is in
your hearts, a spiritual warmth follows
you wherever you go.