

"God Created Man And Woman"

Lady Minister Is No 'Feminist'



LYDIA SARANDAN (Observer photo)

BY MARGARET MILLER
Church Editor

Although she's stepping into a profession that is predominantly male, Lydia M. Sarandan is no proponent of the women's liberation movement.

"The feminist movement is anti-feminine," said the dark-haired former Thurston High School teacher who will be ordained a minister in the United Presbyterian Church Sunday evening.

"There is a definite role for women, and the Bible has a lot to say about it. I think God calls us first to be responsible people—he created man and woman and our responsibility is to be feminine."

MISS SARANDAN, who will receive a bachelor of divinity degree from Princeton University June 2, said she realizes there is a restlessness among women and there is much that is good in the ideas of the feminist leaders.

"But we've got to throw aside what we've been created to be," she asked, "We need wisdom to decide what is valid."

The new minister will put some of these ideas into a sermon she is preparing for Mother's Day, May 10. The title, she said, will be "The Feminine Mistake."

MISS SARANDAN's ordination will take place Sunday at 7 p.m. in Ward United Presbyterian Church, Farmington Road at Six Mile, Livonia.

Giving the charge will be Dr. Bartlett L. Hess, Ward minister and a long-time friend.

Also taking part in the service will be the Rev. David J. Owens, pastor of Ward Memorial Church in Detroit, presiding and propounding the constitutional questions, and the Rev. Lloyd G. Brasur of Northville United Presbyterian Church reading the scripture.

Two elders, Dr. Murray Deighon of the Livonia church, and Dean Thurmond of Detroit, also will participate.

THE SERMON will be preached by the Rev. James Toner, pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church in West Lafayette, Ind., where Miss

Sarandan has been called to be assistant minister.

"I don't aim particularly to be a church of my own," she said.

"I feel the leadership of a church is primarily for a man. As a staff member, I can take part in areas where a woman is needed — working with youth and women's groups."

She said she also would be preaching about once in six weeks.

MISS SARANDAN grew up in Highland Park and belonged to the Highland Park Baptist Church until it moved to Southfield. It was then she began attending Ward Memorial Presbyterian in Detroit, the parent church of Ward in Livonia, and met Dr. Hess.

He was the one who urged her to join the ministry.

MISS SARANDAN, a graduate of Wayne State University, was enjoying her work as a social studies teacher at Thurston, where she was on the faculty from 1962 to 1966.

But she also had long been involved in Sunday school teaching and church youth work and mentioned one day that was what she most liked to do.

"Dr. Hess picked up that statement," she recalled, "and suggested that I go to seminary. The timing was just right, and I did."

HER COURSE at Princeton took 3½ years and her major study was Old Testament. She chose that course over the two-year program for religious education directors because she wanted the advanced theological study.

"But I really had no idea when I began that I would go on to be ordained," Miss Sarandan said.

She is one of two women in her graduating class of about 160. About a dozen women are completing the religious education course.

LYDIA SARANDAN finds it an interesting challenge to enter the ministry—particularly the youth ministry—at this point of history.

"It's true the church has been in a state of crisis for as long as 20 or 25 years," she said. "But I also feel there's a renewal, and people are beginning to sense something new is happening. God is building his church."

She added that at a time when everyone is urged to speak up for his ideals, "it's a good time for the church to manifest boldness, because it has a message and the power to back it."

MISS SARANDAN feels strongly that Christian education—beginning at the cradle—can solve the problems of youth.

"Today's young people are the offspring of the many who turned away from the church after World War II," she said. "And kids who are empty inside turn to crutches like drugs."

"Of course I don't say no kids in the church are in trouble. But I believe that when spiritual needs are met these crutches are not needed. And I think we must be exposed to a new life style in the Judeo-Christian tradition to survive in the world today."

ECUMENICAL REJECTIONS

BY LOUIS B. GERHARDT

North Congregational Church

The merger proposal of the Consultation on Church Union as reported in the news media has substantiated my conviction of several years that the unprofitable result of the arduous efforts of these dedicated churchmen would be the almost worthless creation of an "ecumenical Edsel."

The plan is not truly ecumenical; it does not recognize new concepts in theology and its "deal" with the Negro churches smacks of something out of a political convention.

My basic criticisms are four in number:

1. THERE IS a mistaken notion of what the ecumenical spirit is. A proper definition of ecumenism is that all men demonstrate a genuine respect and complete acceptance of the sincerely held religious views of all other men.

Obviously, the Consultation on Church Union is not acting in harmony with the greater meaning of this precious concept.

In fact, the more fervently C.O.C.U. leaders proclaim their outmoded interpretation of Christianity's goals in the world, the more unacceptable their movement is to millions of thinking people.

The real need of our time is for a modern interpretation of the nature and teachings of

Christianity so that its followers will be able to enthusiastically work in concert with Jews, Buddhists, Confucianists and other great religions in an intellectually responsible manner for the development of a better world.

2. IT IS EVIDENT that within the Christian community itself, millions of devout and intelligent Christians are distressed by the necessity of using the trinitarian formula and the traditional creeds. Yet the merger plan requires a restrictive orthodoxy in the vital areas of faith and morals.

Already there is a trend toward uniformity of "suggested" liturgy and statements of faith in unloving-minded denominations.

I am convinced that the free-thinking and truth-seeking people of today will ultimately reject this stultifying and backward step and will insist on continuing their exciting explorations into new worlds of theology and philosophy in which they have been discovering dramatic new ways to express their concepts and ideas.

3. THE ANNOUNCEMENT that the plan "promises" that the first presiding bishop of the new church will be a Negro is extremely disturbing to me.

To have to make such "agreements" on a racial basis to maintain the interest of certain denominations is a most unchristian way to create a Christian institution.

God help us all when even

ecclesiastical leadership becomes corrupted by this peculiar means of expressing the equality of all men!

4. EVEN IF some of the organizational goals of the Consultation on Church Union are temporarily achieved, many splinter groups will develop. Different individuals need different churches and humans, being what they are, will have them.

In his book, "Systematic Theology," Dr. Paul Tillich wrote, "But even if (the ecumenical movement) were able to produce the United Churches of the World, and even if all the latent churches were converted to this unit, new divisions would appear."

Prophetic criticism and a demand for a reformation would bring new, and in many cases, spiritually justified divisions. The unity of the churches has a paradoxical character. It is the divided church which is the united church.

My point of view is shared by millions of Christians throughout the nation. The fellowship of which I am a member has had a remarkable growth during the last several years.

I believe we are growing because we have not allowed our passionate commitment to the spiritual unity of people to dominate that not one spirit of individualism, in which a person's free expression is encouraged and in which the freedom of the local church is assured.

LUTHERAN

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Churches
WISCONSIN LUTHERAN RADIO HOUR WABX 9.5 PM

In Livonia —
St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church
42314 Farmington Rd.
Pastor: Wilfred Carlson 423-0214
Worship Services 8:30 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

In Plymouth —
St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Ch.
1343 Pauline Avenue
Pastor: Edward Kierulff 423-2293
Worship Services 8 and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

In Redford Township —
Lula Park Ev. Lutheran Ch.
14730 Keweenaw
Pastor: Fred L. Miller 427-0210
Worship Services 8 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

In Westland —
Our Saviour Ev. Lutheran Ch.
Warren at Farmington Rd.
Pastor: Jack A. Miller 427-0119
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Missouri Synod)
12 Mile at Farmington Rd.
427-0210
Rev. Victor H. Messerbring
Worship Service 10:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
(Nursery Provided)
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
30000 Five Mile Road
Pastor: Roger H. Schiefel
Worship: 8:15 and 11:15
Sunday School: 9:45
421-7249

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RISEN CHRIST
(Missouri Synod)
44320 Ann Arbor Road
(Midway City of Plymouth)
Rev. Kenneth E. Zielke
423-3235
Sunday School, Teen Age and Adult Bible Classes 9 a.m.
Worship Service 10:15 a.m. (Nursery Provided)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School
(Missouri Synod)
Middlebelt at 8 Mile Rd.
474-0675
J. Walther, Pastor
Worship: 8:30 and 11 a.m. (Nursery Provided)
Sunday School and Bible Class 9:45 a.m.

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Missouri Synod)
5885 Vesper Road at Redwood
Phone 427-0200, Parsonage 423-0202, Church 423-0204
Rev. Paul Hagdorn, Pastor
Worship: 8:30 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Missouri Synod)
39020 Five Mile Rd.
between Newburgh and Haggerty Roads
Office Phone 464-0311
The Rev. Fred Balke, Pastor
CHURCH OF CHRIST (Christian)

KENWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST
19401 Middlebelt Road, Livonia
Phone 427-0200
Sunday Bible School 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.
Youth Group 8:00 p.m.
Wed. Ev. Service 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Youth Group 6:30 p.m.
Lee Balzer, Minister
Parsonage Phone 427-0204
Church Phone 427-0200

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FARMINGTON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
25301 HALSTEAD ROAD
OR 4-7272
1/2 Mile North of Grand River

FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CALL MISS KATHY PORTER
422-3175

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FARMINGTON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
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"Peaks and Valleys: Who Am I - Who Are You?"
Richard W. Kelley Candidate for Minister of Farmington Unitarian Universalist Church

Attend Church This Sunday With Your Family At The Church Of Your Choice

CHRIST THE KING
4230 Farmington Road
421-0749 464-2406
The Rev. John A. Root
Worship Services 8:15 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

HOLY CROSS
30650 West Six Mile
423-1414 464-3908
Pastor: Karl Kierulff
Worship, Church School and Adult Bible Class 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

ANTIOCH
13 Mile and Farmington Rd.
Pastor: Carl Kierulff
MA 6-7906 MA 6-5560
Worship, Church School and Adult Bible Class 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S
13542 Mercedes
Pastor: Karl Kierulff
538-2660 531-4182
Worship and Sunday School 9:45 and 11 a.m.

GOOD SHEPHERD
26212 W. Six Mile Road
Pastor: Geoffrey E. Miller
537-3278 537-4272
Sunday 9 and 11 a.m.
Nursery and Kindergarten 11 a.m.
Church School 10:30 a.m.
1st thru 4th grade 10 a.m.

Epiphany Lutheran
41950 Five Mile Road
Plymouth
453-1191 or 453-8807
Fred Prestigiac, Pastor
Worship 9 and 11 a.m.
Nursery and Kindergarten 11 a.m.
Church School 10:30 a.m.
1st thru 4th grade 10 a.m.

THE AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCHES
ASCENSION
33301 Five Mile Road, Livonia
Pastor: Arthur E. Jahn
Worship: 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Phone 423-4519 or 351-6652

CHRIST LUTHERAN
16200 Warner Road, Redford
Pastor: Donald H. Grandahl
Worship: 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

ST. JOHN
32255 Glen Road, Farmington
Pastor: George Thieser
Worship 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Phone 423-4519 or 351-6652

WORD OF THE SPIRIT
34450 Seven Mile Road, Livonia
Pastor: William D. Wells
Worship: 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Phone 423-4519 or 351-6652

TIMOTHY
8250 Warner Road, Livonia
Pastor: George Thieser
Worship: 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Phone 423-4519 or 351-6652

Westland Baptist Church
35375 Ann Arbor Trail
(Between Warner and Newburgh)
Edward M. Depuille, Pastor
Church Phone 423-4519
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening 7:30 p.m.
Mid-Week Prayer Service 7:45 p.m.
Where the dark fate part at every service

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CHURCH OF CHRIST
1657 Middlebelt at Rock
Garden City - GA 24-8460
Minister, Hobart & Ashby
Sunday Worship
11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Mid-Week & Wed. 7:30 p.m.

Bethany Baptist Church
of Livonia
35401 Five Mile Rd., 1/2 Mile West of Farmington Road
427-0200
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening 7:30 p.m.
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UNITY OF WEST SUBURBIA
30025 Cune Road
421-1740
A MESSAGE FOR THINKING PEOPLE
Diagrams for Living - Tues. - 7:30 p.m.
Wonderful World of Metaphysics Wed. 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Diagrams 261-2440 Sunday Service 9:30 and 11 a.m.
Youth Education 11 a.m.

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