

# What is spiritual revival?

Thursday, February 23, 1984 O&E

(O&E)

In recent speeches, President Reagan has said he believes there is a need for "a spiritual revival in this country." For Reagan, this means "for people to believe again the things they once believed in."

Authentic revival of faith only comes when old truths find new challenges. We cannot go back and dig up the past, dust it off and present it for the future. The world changes. We change. Religious conviction can only be vital when it speaks to the present circumstances.

Recently I spent almost three weeks in a Third World Nation. The religion in that country preserves the past. I also found evidence that some forms of religion were drawing from the past and preparing people for the future.

RELIGION NEEDS to be rooted in the experience of a people. Henri Nouwen in his Latin American Journal "Gracias" says that we must look for a native spirituality in the common people and help them to express this in their religious life. This means relating



moral perspectives

Rev. David Strong

the old foundations of faith to the new situation.

I agree with President Reagan. There is a deep spiritual hunger in our society. He might disagree with me when I describe the nature of this hunger.

I believe that America feels a hunger to help the world become a better place in which to live. Political freedom is not the only thing at issue.

Everyone in the world has a right to share in the world's resources. We are not content to be rich in a poor world. We desire to be loving, generous and

grateful neighbors. We want to give.

AMERICANS are spiritually disturbed by our arms race for we would like to believe that we can love our neighbors. We are frustrated by those leaders who continually warn us of the evils of the Soviets and all in league with them. Our hope that somehow America can help make a gift of peace and friendship to the world is buried by the pentagon.

We yearn to again be generous and loving, to grasp again a program such as the Peace Corps. We cannot revive a

religion which ignores the condition of the rest of the world. We cannot revive a religion which is subservient to hate and fear.

WE CANNOT revive a religion that places emphasis simply upon individual morality. We cannot worship God as Father without recognizing that all the people on the earth are his children.

Our world has become a global village. Any revival of religion must take into account both our unique heritage of spirituality and God's whole family upon the earth.

If God is our father, are we not then all brothers and sisters? Some years ago a book was written with the title "You God Is Too Small."

Our vision of God has grown as our vision of the world has grown. Only a revival of religion which will take into consideration our particular heritages and the visions of our Father of all, creator of the universe will emerge as vital in our time.

## class reunions

As a public service, the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will print announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Marie McGee, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 38251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please include a first and last name with telephone numbers.

**BROTHER RICE**  
Brother Rice High School class of 1964 will hold a 20-year reunion on Aug. 18. Graduates should contact Bob Stark at Brother Rice, 7101 Lahser Road, Birmingham.

**CLARENCEVILLE**  
Clarenceville High School class of 1968 will hold a reunion at 7 p.m. on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, at Cora's banquet room, 37810 Seven Mile Road, Livonia. Cost is \$7.50 per person. For tickets and information, call Wayne Bailey, 437-9714.

**SEAHOLM**  
Seaholm High School class of 1964 will hold a 20-year reunion on Saturday, July 14. All graduates who have not been contacted are asked to call Linda Weir, 648-9780 or Marcia Demarest, 851-0322.

Graduates of Seaholm class of 1976 interested in plans for a 10-year reunion are asked to call Nancy Molytett at 540-3804 or 848-9261 Monday-Thursday, 9-11 a.m.

**WALLED LAKE**  
Walled Lake High School class of 1958 will hold its 25th year reunion on March 31 at the Regency West. Cost is \$25 per person. Reservations must be made by Feb. 15. Send to Bonnie Hauser, 3020 Twineleaf, Union Lake 48065 or call 363-6876.

**DURFEE JUNIOR HIGH**  
Durfee Junior High School, Southfield, classes 1956-57 are planning a reunion. Those interested should send their name, address, phone number and year attended to Durfee Reunion 66/67, P.O. Box 2744, Southfield 48037.

**VISITATION**  
Visitation High School class of 1944 is planning a reunion of classmates and friends on June 30 at Bonnie Brook Country Club. Classmates not previously contacted are asked to call Eileen Murtha Smith at 478-3706 or Joan Spurgeon Zallagris at 591-1843.

**NORTHWESTERN**  
Northwestern High School class of 1935 is planning a 50-year reunion. If you have not been contacted or can help in providing information regarding class members, call Franklin Edwards, 644-5415 or Dorothy Smith, 642-7776.

**ROYAL OAK KIMBALL**  
Royal Oak Kimball High School class of 1959 will hold a 25-year reunion July 21 at Kingsley Inn, Bloomfield Hills. Those not already contacted are asked to call Dawn Tovey Station at 878-4594.

**FORDSON**  
Fordson High School class of 1974 will hold a 10-year reunion on Oct. 6. For further information, call 562-5411.

**FLINT CENTRAL**  
Flint Central High School class of 1959 will hold a 25-year reunion Saturday, June 30 at Grand Blanc Golf and Country Club. For more information, contact Judy Miller, 239-0085 or write: 1829 Windsor Lane, Flint 48507.

## volunteers

### Needed: people to work with people

The Oakland County Volunteer Bureau has a current file of volunteer opportunities for more than 300 agencies. Non-profit organizations needing assistance may list with the bureau. For more information about these and other volunteer openings, call the bureau at 642-7272.

**GROUP LEADER** - The North Oakland Camp Fire organization needs someone 18 or older to work with youngsters 8 to 14 years old at camp to carry out planned activities and be responsible for health and safety of the campers. The leader would work five days a week, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Training is provided.

**YOUTH TRAINER** - American Red Cross is seeking volunteers to conduct training sessions for youth services in safety, health, first aid and living skills. Supervisors also are needed.

**TUTOR** - A high school graduate with patience and a sense of responsibility is needed to tutor students at the Children's Center. Time and hours are flexible during the school year as tutoring will most likely take place in the evenings. Training is provided.

**CRAFT WORKER** - A courteous,

honest person over 16 years of age is needed by the Boys and Girls Club to help with arts and crafts projects weekdays and all day Saturdays from 4-7 p.m.

**SUPPORT PERSON** - If you are over 40 years old, friendly, outgoing and willing to listen, you are needed by the Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency to work as a phone reassurer and make home visits to the elderly and low-income persons two to three hours, one day a week.

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