

# COMMUNITY MESSENGER

**Community Messenger features spiritual announcements from Oakland County religious institutions. Write: Community Messenger, c/o Beliefs & Values Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Our fax number is (248) 644-1314.**

**UPCOMING ENCOUNTERS**  
Worldwide Marriage Encounter, a non-Catholic, non-profit organization dedicated to marriage enrichment, will host a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend June 26-28 and July 17-19. The weekend experience is for married

couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other. The upcoming weekend will be hosted at the St. John's Family Life Center in Plymouth. For more information call Bill & Carol at (248) 528-2512 or Dan & Debbie at (810) 286-5524. Or www.rc.net/detroit/wme.

**SPECIAL BLESSINGS**  
First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham will include a "blessings of the Fathers" in all three of its services on Sunday, June 21, Fathers Day. The service times are as follows, 8:30, 9:40 and

11 a.m.  
**GOSPEL SONGSTRESS**  
The Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church Board of Ushers presents "A Father's Day Afternoon of Praise," featuring Jacqueline Turner-Robinson, noted gospel songstress and recording artist on Sunday, June 21 at 8 p.m. The concert will be held in the sanctuary of Tabernacle Missionary Church at 6125 Beechwood Street in Detroit with Pastor Dr. Frederick G. Sampson II. There is no admission to the event. For more information call (313) 868-0060.

**A CELEBRATION**  
The West Bloomfield United Methodist Church will celebrate its 30th anniversary on June 23. Pastor Ray Anderson said members of the congregation look back with personal and collective gratification at three decades of dedicated service to the church and the greater West Bloomfield community. He offers special thanks to several ministers and their families whose leadership helped make the dream a reality. In order of service the church extends deepest gratitude to the Revs. Galen Wightman, Leland (Lee) Penzien, Tom

Hart, Jerry Smith and Brent Webster.

**"LIGHTHOUSE ADVENTURE"**  
Vacation Bible School will be offered at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills from 9 a.m. to noon the week of June 15 through June 19. The theme will be "Lighthouse Adventure". Classes are available for children from three years up through the sixth grade. Bethlehem Lutheran Church is located at 35300 West Eight Mile Road, between Farmington and Newburg Roads. For registration information, please call the church office at

(248) 478-6520.

**DAY CAMP**  
The Evanswood Church of God, in Troy, is offering two different day camps for children from June 22 to June 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. **Summer Outdoor Day camp** for Little Kids is for children four through six. **Outdoor Camp** for Big Kids will accommodate seven-year-olds through fifth grade. The cost of the Little Kids is \$20 per child for the 5-day session and \$25 per child for Big Kids Camp which includes an overnight stay on Thursday, June 25. To register call the church at (248) 879-9240.

## TEAM from B7

ingham/Bloomfield area, but also extends assistance to persons in southern Oakland County.

"We are really here to help anyone in need," added Vautaw, who said falling into the a specific geographic area isn't mandatory.

The center helps individuals or families get referrals to county agencies for things such as shelter or medical attention.

No cash is given out to those in need, but rent, utility, transportation, medical and other needs are met. The center typically distributes \$1,800 to \$4,000 a month.

"Surprisingly enough, there is a need in this community for this service," Vautaw said, as she noted that the center also operates a food pantry during its normal hours 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Nearly \$50,000 has been given to the TEAM Center since it opened. The donations are generated by the 24 sponsoring congregations, both Jewish and Christian, and also many private donations.

A majority of the volunteer staff are members of the sponsoring congregations, although anyone interested in volunteering at TEAM Center is welcome.

At the recent annual meeting of the sponsoring congregations, Joyce Davis was elected president, Bill Bones, treasurer and Stephen Jones, secretary. George Falla was elected a new member of the Board joining Brian Carroll, Bob Pierce, Noreen Keating, Marsha Rofel and Bob Nicolson.

Despite the fact that she was named coordinator just 10 days ago, Vautaw is up to the challenge. She has plenty of background experiences that prepared her for the task.

Any person in need is urged to visit the TEAM Center where volunteers from area congregations are available to offer assistance.

The TEAM Center is housed in First Baptist Church of downtown Birmingham at 300 Willis Street, Suite 8. Or Call (248) 594-8326.

## Table from B7

everybody loves me." But this doesn't mean that they don't have any enemies. Evil, cruelty and hatred should be your enemies, even if none of your personal acquaintances have these unfortunate characteristics. Lying and deception should be your enemies even if you do not hold a personal grudge against people who engage in such practices.

Of course, there is the most serious enemy with whom you have to contend - the enemy who generally causes you the most problems - the one you see when you look in the mirror. For, it can honestly be said, that we are our own worst enemy. Only you know the myriad of ways that your have fouled up and made of mess of things for yourself. It comes out in that famous phrase, "Oh, I could just kick myself." If you have ever felt like doing yourself bodily harm, then you know what an enemy you can be to yourself.

In the presence of all these enemies, God prepares a table for you. It is God's way of reconciling things; of bringing back into harmony that which is out of sorts. God does not destroy all of your enemies, because if God did that, you too would have to be included on God's hit list. Rather, God prepares a table of reconciliation, where an accord of understanding and acceptance can be achieved. At God's table, all of your enemies, including the enemy within, may not be destroyed, but you may learn to live with those enemies with some degree of understanding and possibly even with some compassion.

May God prepare a table before you in the presence of your enemies, so that you can experience the reconciliation that only God can bring.

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