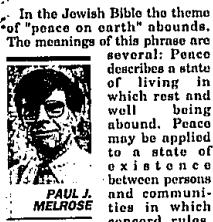


Peace on earth, peace in the home



In the Jewish Bible the theme of "peace on earth" abounds. The meanings of this phrase are several: Peace describes a state of living in which rest and well being abound. Peace may be applied to a state of existence between persons and communities in which concord rules. Moving into a more specific Christian context peace comes as a gift of salvation from God, where peace is one at rest in God or in reconciliation with God. In Creation God brought forth order from chaos and blessed humankind with the gifts of creation. This relationship of God to Creation where peace and harmony ruled is the state that God intends for all of humanity, person to person, community to community, humanity to God. The New Testament writer, Paul, the founder of so many Christian churches around the Mediterranean world, challenged the churches to exhibit such a harmony of relationship in each community so that not only the absence of conflict, but the quality of relatedness which embodies the will of God and the mind of Christ would exist in each place. With all of the events of last fall, with the resurgence of conflict in parts of the world where

it looked like the road to peace was being traveled, persons of faith and persons of no particular faith are challenged to think about peace in the world and in their own lives. There is a relationship between the kind of peace one feels in one's heart and the kind of peace, which one lives in one's life. Some might say that with so many homes in turmoil, where there is not anything like the quality of relatedness hinted at above, it is no wonder that people speak and behave in ways which seem to make a home of peace, much less a world of peace, a pipe dream, or a goal that is impossible to strive for. Yet, expressions of peaceful acts and relationships abound. Look at the prayers of peace offered by so many people's and faiths. Prayer services for peace continue, taking on even more significance in the wake of efforts to heal the deep wounds of September 11. People in my office, and those of my colleagues, are angry and hurt by their behaviors and those of others they love and wish to see if they can change it in some way to make it better. They wonder if they can be a family that can live at least within tolerable limits of the pain that comes from love and intimacy. Peaceful gestures such as community meetings are set for people of different faiths and national backgrounds to come together to learn about each other. An interfaith service and

the open house at the Tawheed Center, the Islamic House of worship here in Farmington Hills are two examples of this. Giving of money and time and items of need to the various charities with renewed emphasis are ways to create peace. In the home there are some things which we can do. Be thankful for those around you who you love. If there is one in your circle of family or friends who you do not feel at peace with, this may be the time to reach out with an olive branch. Help your children to learn safe and constructive ways of disagreement and conflict resolution. Let them watch you and your partner as you practice such behaviors. Actions do speak louder than words and behaviors geared toward peace are examples of the possibilities as well as results of different motives. What do you value most, the satisfaction of your own needs exclusively or the gift of life itself? Three of the world's religions pray to a God of Peace. All of our prayers are for peace this year. Peace in the World and Peace in the Home.

Paul J. Melrose is Clinical Director of the Samaritan Counseling Center of SE Michigan. He can be reached through www.paulmelrose.com or at (248) 474-4701.

Changed

from page C6

thinkers, an area the size of a small town, is now gone. Lives lost, loved ones gone, heroes made and lost, innocent people taken from us. And all we can do is grieve. The platform was full of people, but noticeably quiet. I noticed a rather large man, wearing a cowboy hat, standing alone with tears streaming down his face. I asked him if he had lost someone here. He answered no, but it seems we all lost someone here. We lost 3800 friends and loved ones, fellow Americans. We lost our innocence, our sense of security. The gentleman said he didn't know how he felt. I imagined this man has seen and experienced a great deal in his life. This one just overwhelms us all. On the flight home, our fully-loaded plane was evacuated two minutes before take-off. They told us there had been a security breach. Four hours later, each person had been searched from head to toes and shoe soles, each bag, purse, and backpack had been sorted through. People were cooperative and pleasant, despite the long delay. We finally took off for Detroit and home. Our world has changed. We are threatened as never before, but we have switched our focus. We once enjoyed safety, something we took for granted; we now take little for granted. We once worshiped media heroes, but now have learned about what heroes truly are. We have more economic worries, but we have a renewed sense of unity and will. We will not be defeated. We will not give up or give in. We will simply go on.

Calendar

from page C9

Best Western Hotel, 31625 W. 12 Mile, in Farmington Hills. Brenda Moore, executive director of Prayer Fellowship International and Detroit coordinator of National Day of Prayer, will be the guest speaker. Call Linda Boone at (248) 416-1053.

SUPER BOWL EXPLOSION
Harvest Ministries Church in Farmington Hills will host Super Bowl Explosion starting at 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 3. This event is free and open to the community. Beverages and snacks will be provided and one lucky visitor will win a brand new Nintendo Game Cube. The church is located at 23233 Drake Road. Call

(248) 478-1511.

FILM FESTIVAL PRELUDE
As a prelude to the fourth annual Jewish Community Center Lenore Marwil Jewish Film Festival the film, Raising the Sparks: A Personal Search for a Spiritual Home in Judaism, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13 at the Jewish Community Center's D. Dan and Betty Kahn Building in West Bloomfield. The fourth annual festival will take place April 28-May 5 at the United Artists Commerce 14, the Birmingham 8 and the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor. Call (248) 861-1000.

Re-Upholstery Special
Sofas as low as \$560
All Fabrics 20% OFF!
now thru 2-28-02
DICK'S UPHOLSTERY
Since 1979
19162 Farmington Road • N. of 7 Mile • Livonia
(248) 471-6590

BLOOMFIELD FAMILY PHYSICIANS
• BOARD CERTIFIED •
Dr. Artzberger • Dr. Dawad • Dr. Gora
Accepting New Patients
INCLUDING:
hap
and most other plans
4190 Telegraph Rd. Suite 1500 ■ Bloomfield Hills
248.593.6690
SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

THINKING ABOUT
A NEW FURNACE
LENNOX
FREE ESTIMATES
(734) 525-1930
UNITED TEMPERATURE
8919 MIDDLEBELT • LIVONIA

Toy-rific Savings
20/50
STOREWIDE SALE
SAVE 20% ON IN-STOCK ITEMS \$50 OR LESS
★ FINAL DAYS ★
Doll House & Miniature Sale
Up To 40% Off
Selected Kits • Furniture • Accessories
3947 W. 12 Mile Rd.,
Berkley (248) 543-3115
Mon.-Thurs & Sat. 10-5:30pm
Friday 10-8pm
Ends 2/2/02. In-stock items only.

Prostate Cancer affects 1 in 9 men annually.
ARE YOU AT RISK?

• Are you over age 50?
• Do you have a family history?
• Are you African-American?

If your answer to any of these questions is "yes," you are at risk for prostate cancer. A \$10 Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test at the Crittenton Prostate Center could save your life.

Call (248) 652-5611 today for an appointment.

CRITTENTON HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER
www.crittenton.com
AOL Keyword: crittenton

Crittenton Prostate Center hours:
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday

STATE OF MICHIGAN
HAS ORDERED PREMISES TO BE
SHUT DOWN FEBRUARY 9TH 2002

FINAL 8 DAYS ANTWERP JEWELERS CLOSING FOREVER AFTER 52 YEARS

Going out of Business Sale

FINAL WEEK

EVERYTHING UP TO

80% OFF

NO SALES TAX

Friday Feb. 1st 10-7
Saturday Feb. 2nd 10-7
The Last Sunday
February 3rd 12-5

Antwerp Jewelers

One of America's premier traditional jewelers
Since 1949

6209 ORCHARD LAKE RD.
WEST BLOOMFIELD
1/4 MILE N. OF MAPLE
NEXT TO OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE
248-855-0005