



THE REV. IVAN SMITH (left) and groundskeeper Leo LaMaster look at the lightning-damaged cottonwood tree in front of Mark Presbyterian Church, Dearborn Heights. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

# Old Tree Bears Wrath Of Heavens

Many a clergyman in the Rev. Ivan Smith's position just might wonder if someone up there had a message to get through.

Rev. Smith, you see, has been pastor of St. Mark Presbyterian Church in Dearborn Heights almost two years.

Just after he arrived, on a May Sunday in 1971, lightning struck the tall cottonwood tree that stands on the lot of the church attended by many families from Redford Township, Garden City and Westland.

Only a little damage was done, so the new pastor and his flock went on their business.

Then Easter 1973 dawned with a thunderstorm, and

Rev. Smith drove through it to the church's "sunrise" service. But before the congregation could finish its first alleluias, lightning struck again. The cottonwood, of course.

One member of the congregation reported there were mixed reactions. "Some of the long time members — you know, there are a lot of Scotsmen among Presbyterians — were saying the Lord didn't like what we're doing and was telling us so," she said.

Others thought He was giving us a sign of His approval.

The minister was more pragmatic. "It's the highest spot in the area," he pointed out, "and if lightning is going to strike twice, I'm glad it's the tree and not the church."

There also was some discussion as to what the next move should be as the church staff and leaders cleaned up the scattered bark and assessed the damage.

"Some seem to feel the tree must be taken down eventually," Rev. Smith said. "But I'm from Kansas, where every tree is precious. This is a beautiful old tree, and I sure would hate to lose it."

"I guess we'll just have to wait and see how it heals."

And it's a safe bet the congregation will be keeping a close eye on the heavens during the next thunderstorm.

# CWU President To Speak May 4

The Michigan president of Church Women United, Mrs. Vern Johnson of Saginaw, will speak at a May fellowship breakfast sponsored by the Plymouth CWU at 9:30 p.m., Friday, May 4.

It will be in First United Methodist Church, 4501 N. Territorial, Plymouth. Reservations must be made at the church by May 2.

This year's theme, "As Hand Touches Hand," will celebrate the spirit of Christian women as they reach out through volunteer services in their local communities.

Volunteers from local units of CWU who have initiated programs in health care, education and services to the aged and the imprisoned will be honored.

Volunteers also work as monitors of legislation, as advocates for self-help programs and as educators in the areas of consumerism, ecology, peace - building, international trade and human rights.

# Style Show Proceeds Help Youth

The Catholic Church of St. Clare, 2920 W. 10 Mile, Farmington, will hold a fashion show and luncheon to benefit the church's youth program. It is hoped to send the parish teens on a week-end retreat through the proceeds.

The event will take place in Mercy Center, 2800 N. 11 Mile, Farmington, at 11 a.m., Thursday, May 3. Entertainment will be provided by the Mercygirls from Our Lady of Mercy High School.

The total cost will be \$5 per person. Tickets may be purchased until April 30 at the rectory. Also assisting with ticket sales are Linda Rytel, Shorol Lanzilotti, Ruth Bischof, Rosemary Diener, Carol Wallace and Mike Polyn. Teen Club president.

# Religion Update

Rev. Lester Kinsolving's

In the tests he took for admission to the University of Washington law school, Marco DeFunis, 22, scored higher than 30 fellow applicants who were subsequently admitted.

Yet he was rejected. For the 30 were all members of darker - skinned minority groups. DeFunis also belongs to a minority group. He is Jewish. But he also is white.

This outrage - which begs the question as to why University of Washington officials bothered to test brains rather than simply to check skin pigment - has been upheld by the Washington Supreme Court, which reversed a lower court.

DeFunis is planning to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, which in its 1954 desegregation of the public schools (the case of Brown vs. Board of Education) held that "The law in the states shall be the same for the black as for the white."

In the light of this statement, as well as Justice Harlan's ruling that a state must not discriminate against a person because of his race, the High Court should carefully ponder, as indication of a clear and present danger to this principle of equal justice under law, the statement made to this column by the University of Washington law school's Associate Dean Robert Hunt.

"DeFunis' appeal hasn't got a chance. Every law firm in the country has an affirmative program," (that is, a program providing preferential treatment for minorities.)

Tolerance of this widespread and vicious policy of reverse racism by the U.S. Department of Health Education and Welfare has been strongly protested by six of the nation's leading Jewish organizations, including the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

The ADL told this writer of "the widespread policy in

which some of the nation's leading medical schools used to allow only two or three Jews in every entering class."

Just how many people have since died, or been deprived of the best possible medical treatment because of this atrocious substitution of anti-Semitism for ability in criterion of admission to medical schools, is an immeasurable tragedy.

But now that this is dying down in medical schools, it is being used to deny the public the best possible legal assistance.

In the prodigious cost of an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, DeFunis should be able to count on the support of not only Jewish organizations, but those funds which have been set up by Christian denominations to help legitimate minorities, and which have often found their way into the hands of racial racketeers.

For many Christian denominations have resolved that discrimination against a person simply because of his skin pigment is sinful.

Yet the Episcopalians, who have frequently so resolved, are proposing that their General Convention authorize the expenditure of \$150,000 for the (racially segregated) Union of Black Episcopalians.

The National Council of Churches has responded by terminating white staffers and basing of its increasing percentage of minority staffers, like communications head Maynard Catchings - whose media experience is nil.

This sort of thing gives rise to the speculation that within a decade, or sooner, the National Council of Churches will have an all-black staff.

The Consultation of Church Union (CCCU) originally proposed that when its nine member denominations merge, the first ranking bishop must be black. This has since been modified so that the bishop must instead be selected on a basis of rotating skin pigment.

This transparent racism is similar to the astounding campaign slogan of Black Panther Bobby Seale: "Elect Bobby Seale Mayor of Oakland. Everyone has a right to a job whether he has skills or not."

As one humorist asked: "Is this a platform or an apology?"

# Assembly Of God To Host Seminar

A "Family Seminar," featuring Dr. Ray Brock, will be held May 3-6 in the United Assembly of God, 42021 E. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth.

Sessions will be held every evening, except Sunday, at 7:30. The Sunday meeting will be at 7 p.m.

There will be an introductory film strip shown, followed by Dr. Brock's talk.

Dr. Brock is presently a counselor at Evangel College, and has served as a missionary in Africa.

On Thursday evening, the filmstrip will be "Sex and the Younger Child." Dr. Brock's talk will be entitled "Your Attitudes Are Showing at Home."

Friday's presentations will be "Sex and the Elementary Child" and "Priorities for Christian Family Living."

Saturday evening, Dr. Brock will conduct a session with young people of the church. Its title will be "Rap With Ray: Questions and Answers on Contemporary Issues."

At the 11 a.m. Sunday services Dr. Brock will discuss "Pence in the Pantry." He will speak on "Love in a New Dimension" at Sunday school sessions.

Sunday evening the filmstrip will be on "Sex and the Teenager" and Dr. Brock's talk will be entitled "Living in Love."

The sequence uses the Concordia sex education series.



DR. RAY BROCK

# Trinity Hosts Dr. Rieman

Dr. T. Wayne Rieman, a.m. service Sunday, April 29, in Trinity Church of the Brethren, 27359 W. Chicago, guest speaker for the 9:45 Redford Township.

### PRESBYTERIAN

#### ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Hubbard at West Chicago  
Worship and Church School 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
Special Church School Class for handicapped children  
Pastors: Richard C. Dunkelberger, D.D.  
Arthur Steumer, Jr.

#### ST. MARK'S PRESBYTERIAN

26701 Joy Rd. (E. of Inkster)  
278-9340  
"Serving The Four Communities"  
EVERYONE WELCOME  
CHURCH SCHOOL AND WORSHIP 10:00  
Rev. Ivan G. Smith, Pastor

#### ST. TIMOTHY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

People Caring For People  
WORSHIP CELEBRATION AND CHURCH SCHOOL 10 a.m.  
(Nursery Care)  
NEWBURGH RD. (Just South of Six Mile)  
CARL GUNDERSEN, Pastor  
Call 261-4844

#### ST. PAUL'S Presbyterian Church

27475 Five Mile Road  
CA 2-1470  
"Everyone Welcome"  
Dr. William F. Whitledge  
Rev. Arnold S. Dattel  
Rev. William A. McGaughey  
SERVICES 9:30 and 11 a.m.

### PLYMOUTH

First Presbyterian Church  
201 Church  
Philip Rogers Magee  
Minister  
Henry J. Welch  
Singer  
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.  
WORSHIP SERVICE  
CHURCH SCHOOL  
10:00  
Nursery through 4th Grade  
11:00 a.m.  
Nursery through 12th Grade

### WARD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LIVONIA

Farmington Road and Six Mile Road  
422-1150  
Worship and Bible School 9:30 and 11:00  
"How to Grow Church Groups in Brazil"  
10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
Two Musical Speakers  
Mr. William R. Mullen  
Mr. Robert G. Galt  
Wed. Evening School of Education 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
and Church 7:00  
Nursery through 12th Grades  
9:30 a.m. - Breakfast  
WBFO 58.7

### GENEVA UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

453-1664  
Worship: 10 a.m.  
Plymouth Middle School  
4601 ANN ARBOR RD.  
(11 Mile West of Chardon Rd., Plymouth)  
Rev. Jeffrey S. Goldsmith

### AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCHES

#### LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

CHRIST THE KING  
2300 Farmington Rd.  
421-0245 464-2806  
The Rev. John A. Root  
Worship Services 8:15 and 11:00 a.m.  
Church School 9:30 a.m.  
HOLY CROSS  
30550 West Six Mile  
427-1414  
Pastor William G. Lindholm  
Worship Church School and Nursery 9:30 and 11 a.m.  
In Redford: ST. JOHN'S  
12542 Mercedes  
Pastor Karlo Kiefer  
538-2664  
Worship & Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 11:00 a.m.  
Nursery provided both services  
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION  
30323 W. 10 Mile Road Farmington  
Guy W. Conell - Pastor  
474-5318 476-3335  
11:00 Sunday Worship  
9:30 Sunday School  
7:30 p.m. Wednesday

#### ST. JOHN

23225 Giff Road  
Farmington  
Pastor Charles Fox  
474-0584 or 474-4499  
Worship 8:15 and 11 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:40 a.m.  
Nursery Provided

#### CHRIST LUTHERAN

14250 Wayne Road Redford  
Rev. Jerry Stroud  
Family Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Study for all ages  
1:00 a.m.  
Nursery Provided

#### EVANGELICAL REFORMED

#### CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Old Fellowship Hall  
Elliott at Ann Arbor Trail  
Plymouth  
Worship 9:30  
Morning Worship 9:30  
Sunday School 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.  
For further information concerning the church, call Wm. J. Paster  
455-5285

### SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

34563 Seven Mile Road  
Livonia  
Pastor William D. Wolfe  
Family Worship 10 a.m.  
Study for All Ages 11:05 a.m.  
Phone 478-3015 or 951-6585

#### St. Michael Lutheran Church in America

James Galtimore Church  
8375 SHELTON ROAD  
Livonia  
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 a.m.  
WORSHIP (NURSERY) 10:00 a.m.

#### C. L. IRWIN, PASTOR

455-7427

### WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCHES

#### WISCONSIN LUTHERAN

Radio Hour 10:00 a.m. 10:30  
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

In Livonia:  
St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church  
17810 Farmington Rd.  
Pastor Jack A. Paster 457-8119  
Worship Services 9:30 and 11 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

In Plymouth:  
St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church  
3430 Plymouth Ave.  
Pastor Leonard Koenigs 453-2393  
Worship Services 9:30 and 11 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

In Redford Township:  
Lyle Park Ev. Lutheran Church  
14710 Lincoln  
Pastor John E. Paster 322-8855  
Worship Services 9:30 and 11 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

In Westland:  
Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church  
Wayne at Farmington Rd.  
Pastor Jack A. Paster 457-8119  
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.  
J. Wether, Principal  
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.  
9:40 Sunday School  
Worship Service (Nursery Provided)

### CHURCH DIRECTORY

#### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

##### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Churches of the area cordially invite you to attend their services. Sunday School is conducted at the same hour as church, and care is provided for children of pre-Sunday School age.

Hours of Service

FOURTH CHURCH, Detroit ..... 11 a.m.  
24420 W. Seven Mile near Telegraph

EIGHTH CHURCH, Detroit ..... 10:30 a.m.  
20011 Grand River at Evergreen Rd.

FIRST CHURCH, Garden City ..... 11 a.m.  
33111 Ford Road

FIRST CHURCH, Plymouth ..... 10:30 a.m.  
1100 West Ann Arbor Trail

FIRST CHURCH, Farmington ..... 11 a.m.  
33925 Grand River Avenue

WEDNESDAY TESTIMONIAL MEETINGS HELD AT 8 P.M.

For Information about Church Directory Call 261-8600 Ext. 250

#### ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

##### FAIR HAVEN ASSEMBLY OF GOD

476 North Beach Day  
Dearborn Heights, Michigan  
274-9755  
Rev. Fred D. McDaniel, Pastor  
425-1089

##### PLYMOUTH ASSEMBLY

42031 Ann Arbor Trail  
David H. Krist, Pastor  
422-6000 - Home  
Church - 453-4530

Sunday School ..... 9:45  
Morning Worship ..... 11:00  
Junior Worship ..... 11:00

7:00 Evening Service  
Tues 7:30 Royal Ranger  
A Missionettes  
Wed. 7:30 Family Night

#### BYZANTINE (GREEK) CATHOLIC

##### Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church

29125 W. 6 Mile, Livonia  
427-2100  
Rev. Don G. Freude

Sat. 8:30 a.m. Vespers  
Sunday 8:00 a.m. Masses  
9:00 and 11 a.m.  
Devotee Liturgy

#### LUTHERAN (MISSOURI SYNOD)

##### FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

30000 Five Mile Road  
Holy Communion  
Every Sunday  
Worship 3:30 and 10:30 a.m.  
421-7249

##### HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

(Missouri Synod)  
39020 Five Mile Rd.  
between Newburgh and Higginby Roads  
Office Phone 464-0211  
The Rev. Fred Balke, Pastor  
Sunday Worship Service  
9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
Saturday Evening Worship at 7:00 p.m.  
Nursery 9:00 - Sunday School 10:30

##### ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

5885 Vandy N. of Ford Rd.  
425-0260  
Ralph Fisher, Pastor  
Divine Worship 8 & 11 AM  
Bible Class 8:55 - 9:30 AM

##### St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School

at Middlebelt at 8 Mile Rd.  
474-0875  
W. F. Rothmann, Pastor  
Thomas A. Scherger, Asst. Pastor  
J. Wether, Principal  
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.  
9:40 Sunday School  
Worship Service (Nursery Provided)

##### PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

(Missouri Synod)  
12 Mile at Farmington Rd.  
474-0210  
Rev. Victor H. Messingburg  
Worship Service  
8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.  
Nursery Provided, Sunday Live Service

#### REVIVAL TABERNACLE

16200 Newburgh Road, Livonia  
(between Ford & Six Mile Roads)  
Holmes Junior High School  
Ministers  
Irving M. Mitchell, Pastor  
Edgar R. Cook, Assistant Pastor  
John M. Shortness, DCE  
Joseph Holmblad, Music Director

MORNING SERVICE  
HOLMES JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
"THE SONG OF THE LORD"  
Pastor Mitchell will Minister  
EVENING SERVICE 7 P.M.  
ROMA TRAUER  
High District District  
Ambassadors Pres.

Nursery Provided For All Activities  
455-1450

You Are Welcome to Worship with us

#### FARMINGTON HILLS CHRISTIAN CENTER

(Meeting During Construction) at the  
DUNKEL JR. HIGH  
12 Mile at Farmington Rd.  
Bible School ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Worship ..... 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Service ..... 7:00 p.m.  
Lived Service

You'll like our honest desire for God and better lives!  
Gene Parrault, Pastor

### TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

23800 W. Chicago  
Dr. G. B. Vick, Pastor

Sunday School 10 a.m.  
Morning Worship 11 a.m.  
Evening Service 7 p.m.

SEE "TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH" TONIGHT 6 P.M. CHANNEL 20

11 a.m. Dr. G. B. Vick  
Daylight Savings Time

7 p.m. Rev. Larry Bartlett  
LESSON: Matthew 9:1-15  
Special Program 7 p.m. by Young Peoples' Department

FREE BUS TRANSPORTATION TO SUNDAY SCHOOL  
CALL 265-3337

### WELZ-FM Detroit

Friday 2-7:45 p.m.  
Saturday 2-7:30 p.m.

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OAKLAND COUNTY OFFICE 942-1030  
FARMINGTON HILLS AND SOUTHFIELD

For further information concerning the church, call Wm. J. Paster 455-5285

### WATSON COUNTY OFFICE

941-7780  
LIVONIA, PLYMOUTH, NORTHVILLE, REDFORD, SARASOTA, MI AND WESTLAND

OAKLAND COUNTY OFFICE

942-1030  
FARMINGTON HILLS AND SOUTHFIELD