Minister Man Of Many Faiths

THE REV. CHARLES J. FISHER

By ELIZABETH WISSMAN
Staff Writer

It wouldn't pay to argue differences in Christian policy with the Rev. Charles J. Fisher, of Bible Baptist Church on Grand River.

He was baptized a Roman Catholic and brought up in this faith in a Catholic orphanage, was licensed to preach in the Methodist church, is an ordained Presbyterian minister and, finally, is an ordained Baptist minister.

The pastor says he had found through following these different paths of faith that "No denomination can save you. Only God can do that."

THE CLERGYMAN'S life, nearly 50 years of it in the ministry, has been as full of variety as his religious career.

He ran away from the orphanage in Illinois when he was nine because he was mistreated. He then lived with his widowed mother in Chicago and nearly became a prize fighter while taking the first steps on the road to becoming a hoodlum.

"I was coming up in this life," he says today, "when God took me out of it."

Along the way during this time he picked up trades as a welder, auto mechanic, electrician, machinist and rough carpenter.

ASKED HOW he managed this, he says, "I lied to get the jobs and learned while I was working at them. And I was only fired once."

The pastor finished high school after he became a minister and worked six years to get through Moody Bible Institute as a supervisor of one of the toughest playgrounds in Chicago.

About this he says, "God so moved on that playground that it became one of the top 10 playgrounds in Chicago. I was warned against taking it over -- a policeman had had an ax thrown at him there one day. I simply told the authorities to let me do it my own way. When I left we even had won medals."

After coming to Michigan, he served for a time as circuit minister of five Presbyterian churches in the Thumb district of the state.

In 1934 he became attracted by the value of radio ministry and started a radio program over WHLS-Port Huron that eventually expanded into 10 weekly shows.

After coming to Cass Bible Church in Detroit he continued this radio work.

SOMEWHERE along the way during his 20 years at the Cass church he acquired two apartments and a home on Harsen's Island, sale of which became the financial foundation for purchase of his present church from Clarenceville Methodist Church.

Before this move was made, and as a beginning, he and his wife started out by "just going out and knocking on doors," as he puts it. In order to support his family during this time, Mr. Fisher worked for Farmington Township.

About the eventual purchase of Bible Baptist, the pastor says, "The age of miracles is not over. It is nothing short of one that two people should start out with nothing and wind up in a church worth $100,000."

It is literally true that the pastor and his family have wound up "in the church."

They have fixed up rooms in it and make it their not-too-comfortable home base.

"WE'VE PUT everything we have in the world in this building," he comments. "This is it. We feel God would have it this way. We believe we have treasures in Heaven."

Considering this man's all encompassing religious background, he speaks the truth when he says, "My religious ministry has been non-sectarian, inter-denominational."

He sums up his present state of faith this way: "I've never narrowed my ministry down to where you have to be a Baptist to be a Christian. Yet I've never compromised the word of God."

Church Text Named

"Sacrament" is the subject of the Lesson Sermon to be read in all Christian Science churches this Sunday, one of two Communion services held by the denomination each year.

Bible readings include a verse from the Sermon on the Mount, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."

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SHARON THOMAS

Ground Breaking Slated

Ground breaking for the church of the new Catholic parish of St. Clare of Assisi is being held at 12:15 p.m. today at the site on 10 Mile Rd. just east of Middlebelt.

The parish was officially begun June 21 when the Rev. Joseph A. Drogowski took over as pastor.

Fr. Drogowski has been conducting mass in East Junior High School, but beginning next Sunday mass will be offered at 8 and 11 a.m. each Sunday in Mercy High School auditorium.

Each Monday, Wednesday and Friday evening, small groups of the church's parishioners celebrate mass in each other's homes. Attendance is limited by invitation of the host family.

Bethel 55 Installs Miss Thomas

Sharon Thomas was installed as their 24th Honored Queen by Farmington Bethel No. 55 International Order of Job's Daughters at the group's semi-annual installation of officers and Bethel choir.

Retiring Honored Queen Nadene Yovanovich served as installing officer, assisted by Jean Miller, P.H.Q.; Diane Line, P.H.Q.; Linda Williamson, P.H.Q. Supreme Bethel representative; Jeanne Osborne, P.H.Q.; Joanna Becker, P.H.Q.; Nancy Reynolds; and Charlotte Legg, P.H.Q. Supreme Junior Princess and Grand Bethel Senior Custodian.

Julie Lindbom was installed as Senior Princess; Mary Ann Capo, Junior Princess; Cheryl Durham, Guide; and Cynthia Terrill, Marshal.

The Rev. Leslie Williams offered the invocation and benediction. Mrs. Mary Legg, P.G., served as mistress of ceremonies.

The flag was presented by members of Farmington Chapter of DeMolay. Allen Ball assisted Chaplain Charlotte Legg in escorting the Bible to the altar.

Linda Getsoian, P.H.Q., Bethel 73, was musician and Linda Ball the soloist.

Miss Thomas was escorted to the east by her father, Andrew Thomas, associate Bethel Guardian.

THAYER
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This Is Kimberly

By BETTY MAGEAU, 476-3528
and
BLOSSOM MATLEN, 474-8518

When it comes to party giving, there's no one who can top Gus Heuer, of Kittartin Ave. On July 2, with the help of Peggy Lukey, Marlene Angelo and a host of other friends, he staged a real production surprise birthday party for his wife, Charlene.

The affair started in the afternoon with a buffet-type picnic in the Heuer yard for 125 -- mostly neighbors. In the evening of the eight-hour party, a 10-piece band was set up on the badminton court in the back yard for dancing. By this time, some of the Heuer girls' friends had stopped by for dancing, ranging in style from the 47's to the 67's.

PAST PRESIDENT of the Farmington Newcomers Club, Yvette Zullo, held a garden buffet luncheon for 45 ladies of the group at her home on Wicklow June 28. After the luncheon, club members were entertained by a few of the more athletic of the group who displayed their skill at paddleball.

On June 24, Fran Koteles, daughter of Irene and Al Koteles, of Pipers Lane, was married to George Gilmore II in a morning service in St. Patrick's Church in Ann Arbor. Gilmore is studying in the doctoral program at the University of Michigan. The couple will reside in Ann Arbor.

The bride's sisters, Christine and Mary Ann, and brother, Steve, were in the bridal party. A garden reception was held at the Koteles home following the ceremony.

NEW TO OUR subdivision are Bill and Dolores Schaefer and three sons who moved into the former Crompton home on Fiddlers Green. The Schaefers formerly were Farmington residents and lived in Kendalwood.

Karen Steward, 13-year-old daughter of Don and Margo Stewart, of Pipers Lane, was singled out as being the 25,000th student to graduate from the Wendy Ward Charm School. For this distinction she received, besides her tiara, a $100 gift certificate for a fall wardrobe. Harvey Moelke, Mayor of Livonia, presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

Ava and Neil Strachan of Westmeath Ave., recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. Congratulations to both.

THERESE AND DON Reynolds and family, of Greythorne Trail, spent a wonderful, fun-filled week up at Fern Resort in Canada. The planned activities for both children and adults plus the delicious meals made the week come to an end much too soon.

Quite by coincidence, Betty and Fred Mageau with Mark and Denise spent the same week at the same resort and ditto all the Reynolds say in praise of their vacation.

Speaking of coincidences, when Mary and Bob Fezzey and family stopped at a motel in Georgia enroute to Florida they found other guests to be the Bob Baums of Greythorne Trail. Sandra, Bob and family were also enroute to Florida.

Jill and Joe Emerson and family and neighbors, Chuck and Lorraine Willson, and family spent a wonderful four days together at Cedar Point.

JUST RETURNED from the Wisconsin Dells are Lee and Don Prover, of Fiddlers Green. They had such a wonderful time Lee says even their dog, Tiger, put on weight as he accompanied them on the trip.

While some have been traveling, others in Kimberley have been entertaining. Carol and Dick Faunce, of Wicklow Rd., entertained house guest Ann Musser, a friend from Cleveland.

Since the Cub Scout picnic at Marshbank Park a few weeks ago, Barbara Humphries (476-5234) has been trying to locate the owners of a girl's white sweater and a girl's print cotton top.

Beechview Swim Club lady members will be happy to hear the weekly coffees have started again on Thursdays from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. with Marguerite Welti hostessing during the month of July.

The sincere sympathy of all Kimberley goes to Mr. and Mrs. James Hague on the loss of Joyce's father after an extended illness.

Pair Graduates As Engineers

William H. Webb and Ramon Bergeron, of Farmington, were among candidates for degrees at Michigan Technological University's commencement June 10th.

Webb received a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold E. Webb, of 23200 Powers Rd. At the university he was active in the Society of Automotive Engineers and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Bergeron received a B.S. degree in metallurgical engineering. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul R. Bergeron, of 24335 Ridgeview. At Michigan Tech he was active in the American Society of Metals and the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers.

MARC Meets For Annual Conference

Two hundred members of the Michigan Association for Retarded Children attended the recent 16th annual conference of the group at Gaylord. Guest speaker was Dr. Rob Hawkins, director of the School Adjustment Project, who reported on laboratory techniques applied to real-life situations in changing a child's behavior where other methods have failed.

Among those who attended the conference were Mrs. Kermit Charron, of Royal Oak, MARC president and chairman of the Oakland County Inter-Agency Committee, and Donald Place, of the special education department of Oakland Schools.

Professional Services

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Week Days 9-5:30, Sat. 9-2
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GR. 6-0880

Gets All-A Grades

Farmington resident Richard D. Swarts was one of seven University of Michigan medical students named to share the Rollo E. McCotter award presented to U-of-M freshmen who achieve the highest scholastic standings in their class.

On Dean's List

Bruce C. Christ, 27530 Bramwell, has been named to the dean's list for outstanding academic achievement at Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa.

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The Farmington area's most complete church directory

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8:00 a.m. Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Family Worship Service
Church School Facilities at Beechview School
The Rev. Joseph A. Pelham
Rector
GR. 4-2860

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
26165 Farmington Rd.
(at Eleven Mile)
SUMMER SCHEDULE
Worship, Church School and Nursery, 9:30 a.m.
George W. Ramsey, Minister
Robert N. Sawyer, Jr., Ass't. Minister
Church - 474-6170

NORTH FARMINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH
32500 W. Thirteen Mile Road
(just west of Orchard Lake Rd.)
Affiliated with The American Baptist Convention and the Metro. Detroit Council of Churches
GUEST MINISTER — REV. LEE BRIMHALL
Worship Service ..... 10:00 a.m. (Nursery)
Church School ..... 11:10 a.m. (All Ages)

Orchard Methodist Church
30450 Farmington Road
Between 13 and 14 Mile Roads
ERIC S. HAMMAR, Minister - GR 6-0170
Worship Service and Church School at 9:30 a.m.
Nursery Provided
Office - MA 6-6820

First Methodist Church
OF FARMINGTON
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Grand River at Warner
Worship Service and Church School
9:15 a.m.
Ministers
Dr. W. Leslie Williams
Rev. B. Bryce Swiler
Parish Visitor
Mrs. Sidney Eva
Parsonage GR 4-7568
Office GR 4-6573

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
21405 FARMINGTON ROAD
bet. Eight and Nine Mile
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Youth Groups ... 5:45 p.m.
Evening Service . 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Hour 7:30 p.m.
FRANK B. SMITH, Pastor
GR. 4-2844

The Lutheran Church of the INCARNATION
30333 W. Ten Mile Rd.
Church School 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Thurs. Evening 7:30 p.m.
Nursery Provided
Rev. Peter C. Larson
476-2335 474-5318

North Congregational Church
Northwestern Highway at Lahser Road
EL 6-1660 and 444-4276
MINISTER: Dr. Ralph H. Read
11:00 A.M. MORNING SERVICE OF WORSHIP
11:00 A.M. CHURCH SCHOOL
CLASSES THROUGH 4th GRADE
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Rev. Walter C. Ballagh
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5:45 P.M. 3 Youth Groups
7:00 P.M. Evening Worship
7:30 P.M. Wednesday ... Prayer Service
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Wed. Evening Meeting ... 8 p.m.
Reading Room in Church Edifice Open Monday through Saturday 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.,
7:30 to 9 P.M. Thursday evening

CLARENCEVILLE METHODIST CHURCH
28200 Middlebelt Rd.
Livonia, Michigan
9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:15 a.m. Church School
11:15 a.m. Worship Service
6:30 p.m. Youth Groups
7:30 p.m. The Evening Service
Wednesday -- 7:30 p.m., Prayer Service
ELSIE A. JOHNS, Minister
GR. 4-3563 GR. 4-8902

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Nursery - Both Services
SUNDAY SCHOOL
8:30 a.m.
Rev. Charles Fox, Pastor
GR 4-0584

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Oakland at Gd. River Farmington
SUNDAY SCHOOL ..... 9:00 A.M.
ADULT BIBLE STUDY (Nursery) 9:00 A.M.
WORSHIP SERVICE (Nursery) 10:15 A.M.
Parsonage GR 4-0487 Church Office GR 4-6880
Carl H. Schultz, Minister

JUDSON BAPTIST CHURCH
Meeting in
EAST JR. HIGH SCHOOL
25000 MIDDLEBELT ROAD
Worship Services, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Youth Training Hr. 5.45 p.m.
Evening Gospel Hr. 7:00 p.m.
Mid-Week Prayer Service Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Rev. Fred G. Ferris, Pastor
BR. 3-3275