

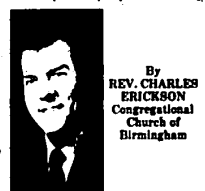
Moral perspectives

What monuments succeed us?

A monument and exhibit at a site once used for exterminating Jews in Germany depicts the horrors of Nazism. An American tourist remarked that if we had such reminders, we might avoid the atrocities of war. A friend replied, "We have monuments like this all over America," we call them Indian reservations."



Many of us think of our history in images of clearing the wilderness and driving out savages. The truth is that atrocities and broken treaties litter our landscape. Now we harvest evil planted in earlier years: people who deny



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their guilt become savages who actually cannot tell good from evil in their own behavior. Urban life is a jungle: the predatory animals are our own human-kind and the trapping vines are the snarl of barking handgrips fired in bursts of passion. A mother doesn't feel safe to take a baby for a walk. Families cringe in fear

behind locked doors.

HOW CAN we domesticate criminals motivated and guided by our military orientation and media absorbed in portraying atrocities? Civilization is dying when atrocity is blamed on bad guys while we feel innocent. Civilization grows when people are so engaged in positive tasks that we direct passion away from violence.

Anger vented on Indians and now expressed in homicides among people who know each other can be handled: we start by dispersing violence. We shift to a new kind of hero and honor those who find dignity in working for good.

Urban people are savages: Crowding causes frustration which creates hostility. Vandals deface and desecrate holy places. We are a most unusual animal—we foul our own nest.

HOW CAN we tame barbarians who roam in seeming anonymity? Culture dies when anything different feels so threatening one wants to exterminate the stranger. Cul-

ture thrives when we see decency and nobility in the self discipline and investment which crowds out hostile tendencies.

What artifacts will be found a thousand years after us? Atrocity rooted in reacting in fear leaves traces and monuments. But we can choose to leave evidence of beauty and traces of peace.

Monuments can teach us to affirm others who seem different and thus truly become a "melting pot" society. Honor, reward and success should go to those who actually appreciate pluralism.

Schedule meeting

Temple Beth El Singles will host an evening of wine and art from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 2, at the Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills.

Drawings, prints and paintings by contemporary American artists will be featured. Following the show at 8 p.m. the group will meet for supper in the Great Gatsby Room at Ted's, Woodward and Square Lake Road.

The next major event on the Beth El Singles' calendar is the "P.D.Q. Bach" concert on Sunday, March 16, at the Music Hall.

For reservations and further information contact Bob Skolnick, 25500 Grand Concourse, Southfield. "Entertainment '75" passbooks may be used for the concert, and purchased from Phyllis Leslie.

Other spring events include a dance at Northland Inn on Sunday, March 23; the Harlem Globetrotters at Cobo Hall on Saturday, April 12; and a singles sabbath service at Temple Beth El on Friday April 25.

In the planning stage are a Toronto weekend, slated for May 2-4, and a dinner-dance on Sunday, May 18, at the temple.

The groups' monthly Wednesday coffee and game nights continue on March 5, April 9, and May 7. A special coffee house night with entertainment is set for Sunday, April 20.

Reunion planned

The Royal Oak Kimball High School Class of 1965 will hold a 10 year reunion June 23 at Hillcrest Country Club.

If you are a former classmate and have not been contacted call 435-8500 for details.

Bible service scheduled

An ecumenical Bible service will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 1515 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills.

The theme of the service, "Renewal and Unity," is endorsed by the World Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic Church.

Rabbi Philip Berkowitz of Temple Beth Jacob will recite the Shema. The Rev. Father Soterios Gouvello of the Greek Orthodox Church will present the theme.

The Rev. Joe Hamilton of the Keego Harbor Baptist Church and the Rev. W. T. Vernon of Antioch Baptist Church of Pontiac will also participate in the service.

The Polish National Catholic Church of Detroit will be represented by the Very Rev. Gabriel Grzesik who will read Christ's prayer for unity from John 14.

Religious songs by the congregations named will intersperse the readings and homilies.

A get-together will follow the service in the parish hall where members of St. George's parish will host attendants. Seminarians of the Roman Catholic Orchard Lake Schools will provide musical entertainment.

Chorale presents musical program

The 90-member Lahser High School Chorale, under the direction of L. Vincent Kochenderfer will present a program of varied music following a Lenten potluck dinner at the Congregational Church of Birmingham, Cranbrook and Woodward, Bloomfield Hills.

The dinner will take place at 6:30 p.m. Thursday (Feb. 27).

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