



Christmas at church

Holiday wreaths on the double doors of Pilgrim Congregational Church, on North Adams Road in Bloomfield Township, welcome its members and friends to Christmas worship. (Staff photo)

Moral perspectives

Can Christmas offer hope?

Crime increases with holiday absence. Tragedy in a holy season makes us feel frustrated and sick in the pit of the stomach.

Southeast Michigan has faced 18 kidnappings this year. We might dismiss inhuman behavior among distant, culturally-deprived people but we are bewildered by it right here at home. Is Christmas a moral force to give us hope? Let's ask some tough questions.

WHAT CAUSES crime? Greed is one dominant cause and it is not a disease isolated in the "criminal class." Greed spreads from the "best" of us to poison our whole society. Christmas is an antidote to greed. From a basic in one religion, the Christmas message is of humanity in that life is a free gift. What we treasure most cannot be earned nor acquired by theft. We value what cannot be negotiated but only given or received. Greed weakens when we prize gifts.

What motivates criminal behavior? The tools of crime, especially guns, indicate a quest for power. Too much of our tradition and behavior is based in



By
**REV. CHARLES
ERICKSON**
Congregational
Church of
Birmingham

acquisition and control by violent power.

Christmas is an antidote to violence. The birth of one described as the most powerful life in history is celebrated in an attitude of appropriating power with open hands, not with fists. Toys, games, entertainment and recreation fill the season when they help us share strength in cooperation. Enjoying strength of character dunnies the supposed glamor of violent power.

WHAT DO WE OBSERVE by learning to see systems? The money and people employed in the whole military

complex reveal that we have an extensive war system. How large and strong is our peace system? Does it even have a budget, or uniforms to make it noticeable, or practice maneuvers?

Christmas introduces a peace system. The vision of the prince of peace redefines victory. Reconciling behavior aims toward a goal of unity of all people. Commitment to peace-making is a system of thought and action which exposes the anti-human intent of the war system.

Must we feel helpless about crime, violence and war? Solutions seem beyond our reach.

Christmas is an antidote to helplessness. The basic changes needed in society start in our private lives where only we are accountable. Valuing gifts displaces greed. An attitude of cooperative strength displaces violence. A vision of peace displaces defensiveness and aggression.

Inner change initiates new kinds of relationships. As persons and families we are centers of decision and that is what morality is all about. Choosing to contribute to the quality of life will make Christmas a moral force.

Getting settled made simple.

New town of emmas laid after a WELCOME WAGON call. As you move, it's my job to help you make the most of your new neighborhood. Our shopping areas, community opportunities, social activities, lot of facts to save you time and money. Plus a basket of gifts for your family. I'll be listening for you.

Welcome Wagon

IN OAKLAND COUNTY CALL
961-7750

IN WOOD COUNTY CALL
425-5060 283-8333

Your Invitation to Worship

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD
Farmington Hills
2517 Powers Road
William M. Kirby, Pastor
Parsonage 474-5419
Church School 9:45
Morning Worship 11:00
Evening Service 7:00
Wednesday Prayer 7:30

Salem United Church of Christ
Oakland at Oak River Farmington
Sundays School at 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service at 10:15 A.M.
Parsonage 474-5419
Church Office 474-5419
Carl H. Schultz, Minister

**St. John
American Lutheran Church**
23225 Glen Road Farmington
Pastor Charles Fox 474-0504 or 474-4499
Worship 9:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Sundays School 9:40 A.M.
Nursery Provided

**For Church Directory
Information
Please Call
644-1100 Ext. 224**

**SOUTHFIELD
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
23255 W. Haven Hills Road
(1/2 mile west of Lakemore)
Sunday Meetings of the Church
Bible School 10 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Ministers
Larry F. Turner and Vernon Boyd
Free Bible Correspondence Course
For Information, Call:
356-0694

**NORTHBROOK
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
14 Mile and Lahar Roads
Morning Worship and Church School
9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Pastors: L. J. Peterson & W. Dunn
Phone: 642-4200

**First Baptist
Church**
Bates and Willis
Birmingham, Mich.
Dr. Robert G. Middleton, Minister
Rev. David W. Smith
Dr. Hunter J. Armstrong, Executive
Church School 9:45
Worship Service 11:00

**St. Martin's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
24690 Grand River Avenue
N. Seven Mile Road Detroit
Services Sundays 8 and 10 a.m.
November 24-30, 1975
Call office for further information 353-3600

UNIVERSITY HILLS CHURCH
Christian Reformed
Worship with Us at
11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
26711 Farmington Rd. at I-496
Dr. J. H. Ellis 474-0514
472-1329

**Beverly Hills
United Methodist Church**
20000 W. 13 Mile at Evergreen 466-9777
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Church School 10:15 a.m.
Nursery through High School
Minister: William Verbeke

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
26800 La Morra North of 13 Mile
between Orchard Lake & Middlebelt
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
1800 W. M. Road, Farmington
9:15, 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion
Call office for further information
474-0514

**St. Andrew
Lutheran Church**
LCA
6255 Telegraph Road
Birmingham, North of Maple
WORSHIP SERVICE
10:30 a.m.
Sunday Church School
10:30 A.M.
Thursday Church School
4:45 P.M.
Charles William Rottler 646-5207

**Community
Congregational
Church**
27800 Southfield Road
13 1/2 Mile Lakewood Village
Jackson E. Turner, Minister
10:00 A.M. Service
Sermon Title
"THE TEMPER OF
OUR TIMES"

**Franklin
Community Church**
United Methodist
on Franklin's Village Green
Services at 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.
Nursery care at both services
Sundays School at 11:15 a.m.
Joyce High at 10:15 a.m.
Minister
Vernon E. Turner at 10:15 a.m.
Senior Minister, Frank B. Cowie
Associate Minister,
Wayne C. Ferrigan

**ST. PAUL UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
163 E. Square Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills
12 1/2 Mile east of Woodward 353-8223
Minister: Dr. Roger Irwin
Church School 9:45 A.M.
Worship Service 11:00 A.M.
SERMON TITLE
Guest Minister
The Reverend Stanley Sutton
Pastor of Class 10:00 A.M. 104 Testamentary

**United Methodist
Farmington
West Bloomfield
Larger Parish**
In Farmington
First United Methodist
4122 Grand River Ave. 474-4673
Pastor: John N. Howell
Associate Pastor: Howard E. Smith
Worship Service 10 a.m.
Church School 9:45 a.m.

**CLARENCEVILLE
UNITED METHODIST**
20700 Middlebelt Avenue
Pastor Gerald Fisher
474-3444
9:45 a.m. First Morning Service
10:15 a.m. The Church Service
11:15 a.m. Second Service of Worship
7:30 p.m. Evening Service
7:30 p.m. Holy Communion
Call for free bus transportation
Nursery Provided at All Services

**NEW YEAR'S DAY
SERVICES**
**ST. JAMES
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**
355 W. Maple
Birmingham, Michigan
10:00 A.M. Holy Communion

**United Methodist
Farmington Hills
Larger Parish**
In Farmington Hills
Nardin Park United Methodist
29007 W. Eleven Mile Rd. 474-0500
Pastor: William D. Mott
Associate Pastor: Meredith T. Minkauer
Minister Education: James F. Thomas
Worship Service 9:15 and 11:00 a.m.
Sundays School 9:15 and 11:00 a.m.
Howard United Methodist
4040 Farmington Rd. MI 474-0500
Pastor: Eric S. Hammar
Minister Education: James F. Thomas
Worship Services 9:15 and 11:00 a.m.
Sundays School 9:15 and 11:00 a.m.

BETHLE BAPTIST TEMPLE
A Church that is concerned about people
29475 W. SIX MILE - UYONIA
Sundays School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Youth Meeting 6:00 p.m.
Evening Service 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 7:30 p.m.
Call for free bus transportation
525-3661 or 523-4550
Rev. H. L. Peters, Pastor
Nursery & Sunday School Available

**The Congregational
Church of
Birmingham, U.C.C.**
Woodward at Cranbrook
Bloomfield Hills MI 4-4511
Worship and Church School
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Minister: Rev. Charles O. Erickson
Minister of Education:
Rev. Verne E. Arnes, Jr.

**Beautiful Savior
Lutheran Church**
A.L.C.
5631 North Adams Road
1/2 Mile North of E. Long Lake Rd.
SUNDAY
8:15 A.M. Matins
9:30 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship Service
Ered W. MacLean, Pastor
Duane F. Schafer, Pastor
MI 6-5041 MI 6-5124

**NATIVITY
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**
THE JOYFUL CHURCH
21220 W. 14 Mile Rd.
1/2 MILE EAST OF LAKEVIEW
SUNDAY WORSHIP
8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.
Sitter and Church School at 10:30
PHONE 646-4100
RECTOR JOHN C. FREDENBURGE

FARMINGTON HILLS BAPTIST
On Middlebelt Road Between 12 & 13 Mile Rds.
Worship 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Bible School 9:45 a.m.
Family Night - Wed. 7:30 p.m.
Rev. Fred G. Ferris - Pastor 451-4010
A CONSERVATIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

**United Methodist
West Bloomfield
Larger Parish**
In West Bloomfield
West Bloomfield United Methodist
1100 Walnut Lake Rd. 451-2140
Pastor: Leland E. Penzance
Worship Service 10:15 a.m.
Sundays School 10:15 a.m.

**Bloomfield Hills
Christian Church**
The Community House
380 South Oaks, Birmingham
Sundays 10:00 A.M. Bible School
11:00 A.M. Worship
7:00 P.M. Praise Service
Wednesday 7:15 P.M. Bible Study
Joseph P. Lukowski, Pastor
851-8516

**HOLY CROSS
Greek Orthodox
Church**
25125 Middlebelt Rd.
Farmington Hills, 477-1677
Rev. S. J. Anthony, Th. 8, Priest
Temporary Chapel Services
21575 W. 10 Mile, Southfield
11:15 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy
English Sermon
Members Expected Visitors Welcome

**Kirk in
the Hills**
1340 W. Long Lake Rd.
MINISTERS
James F. Anderson
Frank J. Irvine
Ross H. Gooch
Worship Services and Church School
Sundays at 9:30 and 11:30 A.M.

**Christ Church
Cranbrook**
Cranbrook at Lone Pine Road
Bloomfield Hills
7:45 Holy Communion
10:00 Lessons and Carols
Phone: 644-2210

FARMINGTON HILLS BAPTIST
On Middlebelt Road Between 12 & 13 Mile Rds.
Worship 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Bible School 9:45 a.m.
Family Night - Wed. 7:30 p.m.
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**Christ Church
Cranbrook**
Cranbrook at Lone Pine Road
Bloomfield Hills
7:45 Holy Communion
10:00 Lessons and Carols
Phone: 644-2210

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1509 West Maple at Pleasant
Ministers: James W. Wright, G. Bryn Evans
John H. Buice, Thomas H. Beaven
Worship Services 8:30, 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Church School 9:30 and 11 a.m.
Nursery Care provided

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
1669 WEST MAPLE at CHESTERFIELD (644-2040)
BIRMINGHAM
The Reverend F. Morgan Roberts, Pastor
Associates: D. King Kerr, Charles A. Sommers,
Edward E. Craxton, Gerald S. Crawford
Worship and Church School
9:30 and 11:15 A.M.

Christian Science Churches
**FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
BIRMINGHAM**
191 Chester at Willis
SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 8:00 P.M.
CHILD CARE ROOM Sunday 10:15 A.M. - Wed 9:30 P.M.
READING ROOM 355 East Maple 644-7935
Open Mon. & Tues. 9:30-5:30 & 7-9 Wed. & Sat. 9:30-5:30
Thurs. & Fri. 9:30-9:00
except Sunday and holidays

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON
Richard Duncan, Pastor - Phone 474-0350
32400 SHAWANEE
GRAND RIVER FARMINGTON ROAD
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 a.m.
MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE 8:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 p.m.
WITH A
HEART FOR
FARMINGTON
SINCE
1826

Covenant Baptist
NOW IN TWO LOCATIONS
West Maple Junior High
Lakewood Road - North of Maple
West Bloomfield
Church School 9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship 11 A.M.
16700 Jas. Cassens Service Drive
Detroit
Morning Worship 9:30 A.M.
Church School 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening 6:30 P.M.
Wed. Evening 7:30 P.M.
Dr. Wm. F. Krueger - Rev. Edward A. Liley - Rev. Duane J. Gibson
Call UN 4-7878

**FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
FARMINGTON-MEADOWLAKE**
Maple at Inkster
SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 8:15 P.M.
CHILD CARE ROOM Sunday 10:15 A.M. - Wed 9:00 P.M.
READING ROOM in Pine Lake Mall - 851-7740
Orchard Lake Rd. at Lone Pine Rd.
Open Mon. Tues. Wed. Sat. 9:30-6:00 Thurs. & Fri. 9:30-9:00
All are welcome at our Church Services and the Reading Rooms