

Church Five Lutheran Churches Name Youth Director

A new step for five American Lutheran churches experimenting with a "core parish" concept will come Sunday, Sept. 7, when they install the Rev. Richard Anderson as youth director.

The service will take place at 7:30 p.m. in St. John Lutheran Church in Farmington. Other churches that have been cooperating for nearly a year in the single parish idea are St. Peter's, St. Timothy and Ascension churches of Livonia and Christ Church of Redford Township.

THE FIVE have explored ideas for combining effectively the efforts of church councils, choirs, Sunday schools, social action committees and youth groups.

The idea is to retain the individuality of each church while uniting the ministry of the entire group.

Calling Rev. Anderson as a single youth director is the first major undertaking of the combined parish.

He will serve primarily the junior and senior high school groups of all five churches with the purpose of developing a ministry by youth.

REV. ANDERSON will undertake his ministry on a part-time basis while doing graduate work at the University of Michigan. He and his wife, Linda,



REV. RICHARD ANDERSON

and his two children will live at 33225 Oak Road, Farmington.

The new youth leader most recently served Lutheran congregations in Artesian, S.D. He also served as assistant chaplain in the Federal Correctional Institution at Englewood, Colo., specializing in youth counseling.

A native of Osage, Iowa, he is a 1966 graduate of the Wartburg Theological Seminary. He served a tour of duty with the U.S. Army in Alaska.

To Explain Reading Aid

School volunteers representative Mrs. Roslyn Varga will be guest speaker for the Sept. 17 meeting of the Redford Baptist Women's Fellowship meeting.

She will tell about the reading aids program one of the

church circles is now undertaking in Detroit public schools. The 11 a.m. meeting will conclude with a luncheon. Circle members will bring salads and chairmen will furnish rolls or cookies. The church is located at 32925 Grand River and invites new members.

AREA DEATHS AND FUNERALS

MARY JANE PELON. Mary Jane, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Edmund Pelon of 2500 Elmwood Farmington, died an hour after birth at St. Mary Hospital. Burial was in St. Francis Cemetery. Funeral arrangements were made by the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home.

BURTON W. BROOKS. Services for Mr. Brooks, 41, of 1504 Dolores, Livonia, were held in the R. G. & G. H. Harris Funeral Home, Farmington, at 10 a.m. Burial was in St. Francis Cemetery. Interment was at Parkview Cemetery.

SYDNEY WHITE. Services for Mr. White, 85, of 3102 Ross, Livonia, were held Sept. 28 in the R. G. & G. H. Harris Funeral Home, Farmington. Burial was in St. Francis Cemetery. Interment was at Parkview Cemetery.

Mr. White died Aug. 26 in St. Mary Hospital.

He is survived by a son, Sidney White.

EDWARD W. COLCLOUTH. 81½, Donna, Livonia, died on Sept. 2 at the age of 83. A State Farm Insurance agent in the Garden City-Livonia area, his office was located at 2820 Ford Road, Garden City. An active member of the Garden City-Livonia area, he had been a marine engineer on the Great Lakes from 1934-54.

He was an active priest in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints, Redford, a Mason in the Custer Lodge 100 in Sandusky, Mich., and a member of the Eastern Star of United Church of Christ.

LOUIS E. KAISER. Funeral services for Mr. Kaiser, 81, of 2100 Kaizer Road, Garden City, were held in the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington. Burial was in St. Francis Cemetery. Interment was at Parkview Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Marion; two daughters, Mrs. Lillian Cone and Mrs. Amy Albert; four sons, Norman, Archie, Edward and Thomas; and a sister, Mrs. Clara Newberry; 17 grandchildren and 34 great-grandchildren also survive.

STANLEY LOUIS CHAPMAN. Services for Mr. Chapman, 41, of 2463 Judith, Inquirer, were held in the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington. Burial was in St. Francis Cemetery. Interment was at Parkview Cemetery.

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Rev. Lester Kinsolving's Religion Update

The Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ is mentioned specifically in only two of the New Testament's 27 books (St. Matthew 1:18-25 and St. Luke 1:34-35) yet these 10 verses continue to provoke more theological controversy than perhaps anything else in the Bible.

In Germany, for instance, Catholic scholar Hubertus Haefliger was recently removed from a number of prestigious teaching positions and censured by the German Catholic Church's Commission for Faith and Morals. Professor Haefliger refused to recant his expressed conviction that "the Virgin Birth of Jesus does not testify to the faith as a biological fact."

The case pitted Germany's generally liberal Catholic hierarchy against the Catholic faculties of the Universities of Tübingen and Münster, among others, who supported Haefliger.

IN THE NETHERLANDS, by contrast, Bernard Cardinal Alink had previously given his imprimatur (official Catholic Church approval) to the controversial Dutch Catechism — which virtually ignores the story of the Virgin Birth. But when the Dutch Catechism was revised, Alink's successor, Cardinal Alink, also included Jesus' genealogy — which is through Joseph rather than Mary.

Both of these two Councils were mentioned in the Virgin Birth article. The Council of Trent, which was convened in 1545, declared that the Virgin Birth was a dogma of the Christian faith. The Council of Trent, which was convened in 1545, declared that the Virgin Birth was a dogma of the Christian faith.

PROTESTANT SCHOLAR George Hedley, retired chaplain of California's Mills College, is more outspoken on the subject. The Rev. Dr. Hedley (he is a Unitarian minister) is simultaneously an ordained clergyman of both the Methodist and Episcopal Churches — also less disconcerting to many of his fellow Protestants, in whom the Virgin Birth is a matter of faith rather than of dogma.

Dr. Hedley maintains: "If a physical miracle, making the birth of Jesus different from all other men, were necessary to guarantee his unique character and especially his freedom from sin, then the mere ab-

sence of a human father wasn't enough to make the case a clear one. Mary was regarded as being descended from Adam (and Eve as well) and since Jesus was Mary's child he must have inherited original sin through her."

Then, in reference to the Protestant Fundamentalists, he asserts: "Believing as these people do in original sin as the inescapable heritage of every human infant, they yet leave out of account the sinful inheritance of Mary, which by their own theory Mary could not transmit to Jesus."

Dr. Hedley's half-way position seems to me to be a completely untenable one. "He concludes, 'Recklessly illogical when it is not hopelessly illiterate. If the Christian faith in a sinless Christ' requires the physical miracle of the Virgin Birth, once one accepts the premise of a biological base as necessary to the spiritual value, he has to admit that the Roman Catholic position is the only reasonable one; so that the Immaculate Conception becomes an absolutely essential corollary of the Virgin Birth.'"

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Rochester Pastor Will Head Synod

The Michigan District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has a new president, the Rev. Richard Schlecht, pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, Rochester, Mich., and former second vice president of the district.

He succeeds the Rev. Dr. Edwin C. Weber, who was elected fourth vice president of Synod at its 48th Regular Convention in Denver, Colo., during July.

Pastor Schlecht is the son of Pastor and Mrs. O. E. Schlecht, of Oakland, Calif. He was born in Halliday, N.D., April 15, 1921.

He received his pre-ministerial training at St. John's College, Winfield, Kan., and graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., in the class of 1945.

He served in Wyoming and Nebraska, prior to becoming pastor of St. Paul's Royal Oak and later, St. John's, Rochester. He also served on the district stewardship board from 1957-1960, was circuit counselor for the Rochester-Pontiac Circuit from 1960 to 1966, and was elected second vice president of the district at the 1966 convention.

He is married to the former Ruth Rockness of East Detroit.



TEACHER APPOINTED -- Mrs. Trudy Van Ornum's appointment as lead teacher for the Dear Skin Village Day Care Center has been announced by the Rev. Ronald D. Moss, pastor of the Church of the Nazarene, Plymouth. Mrs. Van Ornum received her training at Asbury College in Wilmore, Ky., and has taught in the public school system in Bullitt County, Ky. Her husband, David, is a club director for the Voice of Christian Youth, a church oriented independent agency. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. A. E. Van Ornum of Plymouth.

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11 a.m. Worship Service
Church School (all ages)
Nursery Available
9:30 a.m. - Jr. High and Sr. High
Fellowship

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9:30 a.m. - Jr. High and Sr. High
Fellowship

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Mid-Week & Wed. 7:30 p.m.
L. B. Baker, Minister
Parsonage Phone 474-0764
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Mid-Week & Wed. 7:30 p.m.
L. B. Baker, Minister
Parsonage Phone 474-0764
Christians Help
Sunday, 1:45, WBFO

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