

Moral perspectives

Why shouldn't man repair nature's goof?

Medical science crossed a new frontier on July 20 when a baby girl weighing five pounds, 12 ounces, was born to Gilbert and Lesley Brown in Oldham, England. This has been termed the most awaited birth in 2,000 years, for the child, named Louise, was the first "test-tube" baby.

Lesley Brown's fallopian tubes were blocked, and therefore she was unable to conceive. The doctors first extracted an egg from her body to which they added her husband's sperm, kept the fertilized egg for several days in a laboratory solution; and then implanted the embryo (no larger than a dot...) into Lesley's uterus.

ALTHOUGH THIS procedure has been described in medical literature and attempted by various researchers before, this was the first realization by this method of a successful full-term pregnancy and birth.

For centuries, men have dreamed of creating life. Mary Shelley's Frankenstein monster is well-known to all youngsters.

But there were other variations of this myth, including Faust's Homan-

chus, artificially made in a vial; the Jewish legend of the Golem, made by a medieval Rabbi with a secret formula; and Aldous Huxley's Brave New World, predicting the creation of mutants by sophisticated laboratory techniques.

What was fantasy for our ancestors became a stunning achievement for our age.

THIS UNPRECEDENTED development raises legal, moral and religious questions of profound significance. Is laboratory conception a great boon for mankind, giving new hope to women heretofore unable to conceive because of physiological impediments? Or is this to be condemned as a violation of human dignity and a defiance of God's will, for it removes the place of conception from the human body to a test-tube?

Roman Catholic thinkers have expressed disapproval of this form of conception for several reasons, the most compelling being their view that laboratory fertilization is so far removed from natural impregnation as to constitute a transgression of



By
REV. DAVID
STRONG

"natural law."

IN 1919, Pius XII considered artificial insemination by the husband and stated that it must be "absolutely condemned" since it did not conform to the "procreation of a new life according to the will and plan of the Creator." If artificial insemination is condemned, then certainly a test-tube baby is to be utterly rejected on the same grounds.

CATHOLICISM has maintained a long-standing and complex doctrine of Natural Law which declares that nature must not be tampered with in certain settings, since it embodies the will of God.

Although this principle cannot be easily summarized, for it embodies a centuries-old history of interpretation and discussion, Natural Law is the basis for the Church's disapproval of test-tube conception.

MOST JEWISH and Protestant scholars view this matter differently. They believe that the Hebrew Bible issues a mandate to mankind to subdue, correct and overcome nature for the purpose of enhancing life. Whenever nature is flawed, whenever it impedes or shortens life, it is the task of man to discover ways of altering nature.

Pain is natural, but man has developed anesthesia to reduce it. It is natural for the organs of the body to wear out in time, but man has developed techniques in surgery and medicine to avert that deterioration. It is the unavoidable law of nature that we grow old and die. But, until we do, man fights nature and postures death with all the skill and ingenuity he can find.

From this perspective, the British doctors who brought Louise Brown into the world provided a great bless-

ing, perhaps the greatest, to two people whose yearning to be parents would have been otherwise never fulfilled because of a defect of nature. The medical achievement was a victory for humanity, for life, and therefore a victory for God.

I admit that this breakthrough raises

other legal and moral questions. Every solution leads to new problems. But the fundamental issue is clear to most non-Catholics. We are placed here on earth to be co-workers with God, divinely commissioned to "have dominion" over nature and, therefore, to cultivate, nurture, enrich and prolong life.

NOW honors feminists

Six Michigan individuals were honored recently by the National Organization for Women for their work during the past year in behalf of women. Five are women and one is a man.

Chosen at NOW's feminist of the year cocktail party were Patricia Boyle, Detroit Recorder's Court judge, and Mildred Jeffrey, a member of the Wayne State University board of governors and chairwoman of the National Women's Political Caucus.

Class to teach Jewish history

A class in American Jewish history will be offered on Wednesdays from Oct. 18 to Dec. 6 in the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield.

Taught by Betty Roth, it is sponsored by the center and University Courses in Adult Education of Wayne State University. Fee is \$40.

Checks can be mailed to UCAE, Rackham Memorial, Detroit 48202. For information on reduced fees, contact the center at 661-1000.

Gas controls

Experts predict that by removing artificial controls on interstate natural gas prices we may save ourselves from being in an even worse position than we are today. Forced to import natural gas at \$45 per thousand cubic feet—double the highest price paid today for unregulated domestic supplies

By Kresge Foundation

Catholic league awarded \$93,000

Casgrain Hall, an agency operated by the League of Catholic Women of Detroit has recently been awarded a \$93,000 grant by the Kresge Foundation of Troy.

William H. Baldwin, foundation chairman said the money will be used for the purchase and installation of two used elevators and the repair of the service elevator in the eight-story building at 100-120 Parsons, Detroit.

Located in the heart of Detroit, Casgrain Hall is a residence hotel, which provides modestly priced living and dining accommodations for single men and women of limited means. It also offers meeting and activities facilities for the community.

Casgrain Hall's "Parsons Table," a cafeteria open to the public, also serves neighboring senior citizens and those living in the area or employed in the medical and cultural centers nearby.

CURRENTLY 120 senior citizens and others on limited incomes or special social service programs reside in the building, which was built in 1927 and which still serves as headquarters for the 8,000-member League of Catholic Women.

The league, an organization of volunteers and professionals, operates four social service agencies and four Bargain Counter resale shops in the tri-city area. It also participates with other civic, church and community groups toward the rebuilding of lives and neighborhoods.

"Casgrain Hall's greatest contribution is to provide privacy, dignity and independence for people on minimal incomes," said Kay Beard, executive director. She also noted that the building helps stabilize an "exciting, revitalized neighborhood that has hit bottom and is on its way back."

Mrs. Beard said that the Kresge grant will purchase two five-year-old

elevators from the recently razed American Red Cross Building. They will replace Casgrain Hall's original elevators which she described as "about ready to give up the ghost."

League president Marilyn Lundy said that without the Kresge grant, the eight-story building might have been forced to close.

"With useless elevators we would have a useless building," said Mrs. Lundy. "There is no way our many elderly or disabled residents could climb so many flights of stairs."

to enhance their quality of life. To many who live here, we're their only family."

Casgrain Hall is maintained by funding from residents' rent receipts, private donations and heavy League of Catholic Women subsidies, said Mrs. Beard. She noted that there are currently rooms available for single men and women of all ages, colors and creeds.

Casgrain Hall is one of 203 recipients of grants made by The Kresge Foundation in 1978 from 1229 qualified applications. Such grants were generally toward the construction and major renovation of facilities and almost always required the raising of additional money on a challenge basis.

Since the founding of the foundation in 1924, appropriations of more than \$311 million have been made to institutions in the areas of higher education, health services, the arts, social welfare and the care of the young and old.

Your Invitation To Worship

For Church Directory Information
Please Call: Debbie 644-1100 Ext. 217

CLARENCEVILLE UNITED METHODIST
20300 Middlebelt, Livonia
Pastor Gerald Fisher 474-3644
8 a.m. First Worship Service • 8:30 a.m. Youth Service
10:15 a.m. The Church School • 7 p.m. Sunday Evening Service
11:15 a.m. Second Service of Worship • 7:30 p.m. Wed. "The Midweek"

Nursery Provided at All Services

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
English Synod
28715 Farmington Rd. Farm Hills
(across from Orchard Ridge Camp)

SERVICES
Sun. 9:30 AM
Mon. 8:00 PM
V.H. Misenberg

474-1126

Brighten Up Your Week
Go to Church!

First United Methodist Church
1589 West Maple at Pleasant

Ministers: James W. Wright, G. Bryn Evans
John H. Bunce, Thomas H. Beaven
Harold E. Weemhoff

Summer Service 8:30 & 10:00
Church School 10:00
Nursery Care Provided

First Baptist Church
Bene and Weiss, Birmingham, Mich.
Robert G. Middleton, Minister
David W. Swain, Pastor
Glenn H. Aspin, Jr., Pastor
Homer J. Armstrong, Emeritus

Bloomfield Hills Christian Church
The Community House
380 South Bays, Birmingham

Sunday 10:30 A.M.
Bible School
11:00 A.M. Worship
6:00 P.M. Praise Service
Wednesday 7:15 P.M. Bible Study

851-8516

WARD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LIVONIA
Farmington Road & Six Mile Road 422-1150

Worship & Sunday School 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.

"Many Members—One Body"
Dr. Bertlett L. Hess

7:00 p.m.
"What Do You Want Now, Lord?"
Rev. Douglas L. Thompson

Wednesday 7:30 p.m. HOUR OF POWER
Psalm 14

Nursery Provided at All Services

ANTIOCH LUTHERAN CHURCH
13 1/2 W. & Farmington Rd.
Service 10 AM
Sunday School
Pastor Bert Anderson
Nursery Provided
LCA 628-7906

NORTHBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
14 Mile and Lecher Roads
Morning Worship and Church School 10 AM
Pastors: L. J. Peterson
E. W. Brown
Phone 642-0700

DON'T FORGET CHURCH THIS SUMMER!

The Orchard United Methodist Church
30450 Farmington Road
Farmington Hills, Mich. 48224

Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.
Nursery & Pre-School 9:30 a.m.

Ministers: Robert L. S. Brown
James T. Thomas
625-6270

The Congregational Church of Birmingham, U.C.C.
Woodward at Cranbrook
Bloomfield Hills, Mich. 48151

Worship and Church School 10 AM

Minister: Rev. Charles O. Erickson

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FARMINGTON
Richard Duncan, Pastor • Phone 474-0350

3340 SHIWAUSSEE

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 a.m.
MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 p.m.

"I AM THAT I AM"

TEACHINGS OF THE ASCENDED MASTERS
• SCIENCE OF THE SCREEN
• WORDS OF THE ASCENDED MASTERS
• MESSAGES OF THE ASCENDED MASTERS
• TRANSMUTATING KARMA
• DENIAL & HERESIES OF THE FLAME STUDIES
• SECRET AND SINGING NEW STUDENTS

WED. 7:30-9:30
THUR. 7:30-9:30
FRI. 7:30-9:30
SUN. 10:00-12:00

KEEPER OF THE FLAME
SAT. 6:00-9:30
SUN. 6:00-9:30
SUN. 10:00-12:00

THE SUMMIT LIGHTHOUSE OF DETROIT
WOODWARD AVE. at 9th MILE
484-9267

Kirk in the Hills PRESBYTERIAN
13407 W. 127th Lane Rd.
Farmington Hills, Mich. 48224

James F. Anderson
Robert L. Lindsey
Ross H. Goehc

Worship Services and Child Care Sundays at 8:30 and 11:30 A.M.
Church School through Grade 6 at 9:30 A.M. only

Solemn United Church of Christ
Oakman at 6th River, Farmington Hills, Mich. 48224

Church School 8 AM
Church Office GR 4-5880
Oakman at 6th River, Farmington Hills, Mich. 48224
Parsonage phone 474-2844

St. John Lutheran Church LCA
6233 Farmington Rd.
Birmingham, Mich. 48224

Parsonage Phone 474-5880
Sunday School 10:30 AM
Church School 10:30 AM
Thursday Church School 5:00 PM
Change of Pastor 645-5207

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
A.L.C.
5631 N. Adams Road
Min. Norm E. Long 484-7434

SUNDAY SERVICES
Sunday 9 AM Family Worship Service
Communion Sunday of each month
Monday 8 PM - Nightlight Service
Fred W. Mackay, Pastor
Diane F. Schaefer, Pastor
MI 6-5021 MI 6-5124

St. Paul United Methodist Church
155 E. Severn Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills
(2 1/2 mi. East of Woodward)
238-4233

Minister: Dr. Roger Irwin

Worship Service 10:00 AM

St. Andrew Lutheran Church LCA
6233 Farmington Rd.
Birmingham, Mich. 48224

Parsonage Phone 474-5880
Sunday School 10:30 AM
Church School 10:30 AM
Thursday Church School 5:00 PM
Change of Pastor 645-5207

Franklin Community Church
Franklin's Village Green
10 A.M.
Nursery Care 10 A.M.
Lawn Reception following Service

Senior Minister
Frank B. Gowen
Associate Minister
J. Chester Stubbs

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
23425 Lecher Road
East of W. 9 Mile
Phone 357-1848

9:30 AM The Service
The Rev. J. Alden Erickson

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
35300 Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills
ENO AM, TUOR, PASTOR
474-2379
Worship & Sunday School 10:30 A.M.

Beverly Hills United Methodist Church
30008 W. 12 Mile at Farmington 484-1777

Worship 10:00 a.m.
Church School 10:30 a.m.
Nursery through High School
Mission: Mutual Service

FARMINGTON HILLS CHRISTIAN CENTER
Orchard Lake at Freedom
Farmington Hills, MI 48224

Phone: 478-1511
Rev. Edmund Lohrer, Pastor
Rev. John Velsky, Associate Pastor

Sunday, Sept. 3rd, 1978
8:00 Sunday School for everyone
10:00 Worship Service and Communion Sunday
7:00 PM Gospel Rally
THE PRODIGAL'S BROTHER

Thursday 7:30 PM - Mid-week Bible Study for the entire family.
Radio Ministry "Falls To Live By" 6:25 at noon on WMLZ 103.5 fm.

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COVENANT BAPTIST
Covenant is a church where Christian Education is important. There is a place for you and your family to study and grow.

Church School 9:45
Worship 11 AM & 7:30 PM
5800 W. Maple Rd.
W. Bloomfield, Mich 48003
Phone 474-1100 or 474-8519

HOLY CROSS
Greek Orthodox Church
25225 Middlebelt Rd. Farmington Hills 477-1677

Rev. S. J. Anthony, Th.B., Priest
9:30 A.M. Ortho
10:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy
English Service
Pastor: George M. Vassiliou

FARMINGTON HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
28301 Middlebelt Road, 1/2 Mile N. of 12 Mile

A FULL-SERVICE CHURCH SUNDAY

GRADED BIBLE SCHOOL 9:45 AM - 11 AM & 6 PM
WORSHIP SERVICES 11 AM & 6 PM
CHILDREN'S CHURCH 7:11 AM
WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHT 7:30 PM
Douglas B. Brown, Pastor 651-0310
Nursery Provided at All Services
Ample Parking C.B.A. Attached No Steps

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
12 Mile & Farmington Roads
Behind Crowley 2

The Rev. R.A. St. Pierre, pastor
Sunday Worship 8:00 and 10:15 A.M.
Sunday School and Bible Class 9:30 A.M.
Church Phone: 455-3300

Christian Science Churches
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIT. SCIENTIST BIRMINGHAM
191 Chester at Willis

SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 10:30 P.M.
CHILD CARE ROOM Sunday 10:15 A.M. - Wed. 8:15 P.M.

READING ROOM at 555 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 CHURCH OF CHRIT. SCIENTIST FRANKLIN-MEADOWLAKE
Maple at Inlester

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. 8:15 P.M.

READING ROOM in Pine Lake Mall • 651-7740
Orchard Lake Rd. at Lone Pine Rd
Open Mon., Tues., Wed., Sat. 10:00-5:30 Thurs. & Fri. 10:00-9:00

All are welcome at our Church Services and the Reading Rooms

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