

Religious language issue is not a fad

Here comes a scolding to people who do not know what they are talking about regarding feminists and the Bible. While I scold, I laugh at myself with the help of the slogan: "Those who think they know everything are expiring to those of us who do."

We who work every day in religion need a sense of humor about the "Catch-22" trap we are in. We receive bemused smiles because we seem so antiquated and the next moment sneers because we try too hard to be up-to-date. Most of the time we take our lumps and pursue a course which seems wise and helpful to people.

The issue of religious language is not a fad. In the long run it is the crucial issue. Consider that Martin Luther's Bible translations created the German language as it is used yet today by literate people. Much of the tone and phrasing of the English we speak was molded by Bible translators and writers

of prayers and hymns 400 years ago.

Language carries culture. Attitudes follow our habits of speech. Cultural customs and personal attitudes need the challenge of powerful language. Prejudice in culture and attitudes of superiority in persons depend on speech patterns for their continued harmful impact. The easy way is the lazy way of using words which communicate narrowness, littleness, meanness and bigotry.

WE NEED LANGUAGE which relates us to others, which includes all listeners, and which soars above classification by color, religion, place or origin or gender. The moral issue is to promote language which moves relationships toward peace and individuals toward dignity. Language which divides and degrades is obscene and should be regarded as filthy.

Yes, the Bible was written in a patriarchal age when women were not even reckoned in religious institutions. The amazing thing is how often the Bible "goes out of its way" to give prominence to women. Female servants of God are identified often. Initiative by women is clearly portrayed. More important, equality of all people before God dominates the pages.

I consult 13 translations of the Bible nearly every week. I often find old standard translations using inclusive language where modern work slips into a masculine pronoun. The problem is not accuracy of original texts but translators whose habits of speech come from modern times.

The burden on religious communication is to convey truth which is so universal that no human is omitted. What the Bible is all about is informing humanity that there is one God whose children all



moral perspectives

Rev. Charles Erickson

belong to one family. To convey this revelation, language must be specific about people while including all of us in the audience.

Changing language habits is a revolution. We need memories filled with phrases which do not encourage egotism. Any revolution worthy of joining aims to free the oppressor from attitudes of superiority.

The writers who are so angry about the quest for inclusive language all seem to be male. Shame. The least an oppressor can do is to shut up about offenses.

Your Invitation to Worship

For Church Directory Information
Please Call 644-1100 Ext. 200

Christ Church Cranbrook
Episcopal
On Lone Pine Road at Cranbrook Road
Bloomfield Hills
8:00 AM: HOLY COMMUNION
9:15 AM & 11:15 AM: MORNING PRAYER
AND SERMON
Nursery and Church School through 8th Grade - 9:15 AM
HOLY COMMUNION FIRST SUNDAY EACH MONTH

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST
2987 W. Eleven Mile Road - Just West of Middlebelt
Farmington Hills • 476-8860
WORSHIP - SUNDAY SCHOOL - NURSERY
9:15 & 11 AM
"THE BUSINESS OF HEALING"
Rev. William A. Ritter - Our New Senior Pastor
Rev. William E. Fraser, Assoc.
Mrs. Donette Miller, Dr. C.E.
Mr. Melvin Roush, Dr. Music

NORTH BROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
14 Mile and Lahser Roads
WORSHIP SERVICE
9:30 & 11 AM
Pastors
M.L. Dunkelberger
E.W. Dunn
Phone 647-7200

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
12 Mile & Farmington Roads
Behind Courts
The Rev. R.A. St. Pierre - Pastor
SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 and 10:45
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS 9:30
Church Phone 553-3380

COVENANT BAPTIST
A Metropolitan Church with a World Wide Mission
Nursery at All Services
SUNDAYS
9:45 A.M.: Church School
11:00 A.M.: Family Worship
6:30 P.M.: Evening Service
Dr. William F. Keucher, Pastor; Rev. Edward A. Libby, Assoc.
Rev. Judith A. Daniels, Minister of C.E.
5600 W. Maple Road • W. Bloomfield, MI 48303
1/2 Mile West of Orchard Lake Rd. • 855-9191

ST. JOHN AMERICAN LUTHERAN
2523 6th Road, Farmington
Charles F. Fries - Pastor
Mark Radloff - Pastor
WORSHIP SERVICE 8:30 & 11 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM
474-0584

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
2545 Lahser Road
Just N. of 14 Mile
Phone 357-1340
Church School
The Rev. L. Allen Erickson

Brightmoor Tabernacle
28555 Franklin Rd. • Southfield MI
9:00 & 10:00 AM - Just West of Holiday Inn
Sunday School - 9:45 AM • Worship Service 11:00 AM
Charismatic Rally - 6:30 PM
Wednesday - Prayer & Praise & Lighthouse Youth Service 7:30 PM
A Charismatic Church where people of many denominations worship together
Thomas E. Trask, Pastor



The Congregational Church of Birmingham, U.C.C.
Woodward of Cranbrook
Bloomfield Hills
FAMILY CHURCH WORSHIP 9:30 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00, 11 AM
Nursery Care both hours.
Minister:
Charles O. Erickson
Earl R. Sabath

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3312 Grand River
Farmington - 474-6573
Worship - 10:00 AM
Church School - 10:00 AM
Nursery Provided
Minister - Charles H. Beynon

Ascension of Christ Lutheran Church
16935 W. 14 Mile
Birmingham
SUNDAY WORSHIP
9:15 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 A.M.
644-8992

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16360 Hubbard Road, Livonia, Michigan 48154
421-8451
8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST
9 AM & 11 AM FAMILY SERVICE
10 AM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES
Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available
10:30 A.M. - Wednesday Eucharist
The Rev. Kenneth G. Davis
The Rev. Edward A. King

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH LCA
6255 Telegraph, Birmingham
North of Maple
8:15 AM Sunday Church School
10:00 AM Sunday Worship
The Rev. L.W. Rector, Pastor
644-5207 • 644-4119

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
1589 West Maple at Pleasant
Ministers: James W. Wright • Douglas W. Vernon
• Evans C. Bentley
WORSHIP SERVICE
8:30 & 9:30 • 11:00
CHILD CARE - 9:30 & 11:00
646-1200

Forest Park Baptist Church (S.B.C.)
28805 Farmington Rd.
Farmington Hills
476-0680
Sunday Worship 11:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M.
Family Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Christian Training 8:00 P.M.
Nursery Available All Services
Located Across from O.C.C. - I-696 at Farmington Rd.

Bloomfield Hills Christian Church
The Community House
300 South Bates, Birmingham
Sunday Service 8:30 AM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
11:00 A.M. Worship
6:00 P.M. Praise Service
Wednesday 7:15 P.M.
Bible Study
645-1202

DETROIT FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
21260 Haggerty
at I-275 at 8 Mile
Farmington Hills, Michigan
REV. JAMES D. CONNER
8:45 AM CHRISTIAN ED.
11:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE
6:30 PM PRAISE & WORSHIP
WEDNESDAY
7:00 PM PRAYER & PRAISE
NURSERY FACILITIES
AVAILABLE
CHURCH PHONE 477-2525

CENTRAL WOODWARD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
31511 E. River at I-75, 11501
CHURCH SCHOOL:
9:30 AM
WORSHIP: 11:00 AM
Minister
Robert H. Boyle
644-0512
Concert: Duo Vivo
January 25

FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH
"On the Village Green"
9:00 and 11:15
WORSHIP SERVICE
11:15 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND NURSERY
Minister
Dr. Samuel F. Stout

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16360 Hubbard Road, Livonia, Michigan 48154
421-8451
8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST
9 AM & 11 AM FAMILY SERVICE
10 AM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES
Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available
10:30 A.M. - Wednesday Eucharist
The Rev. Kenneth G. Davis
The Rev. Edward A. King

UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1385 S. Adams - Rochester
252-4600
WORSHIP SERVICES 9:15 & 11 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL
11:00 AM
Minister
DAVID BLACKHEAR

Bark in the Hills PRESBYTERIAN
1340 W. Longview Rd.
MINISTERS
James F. Anderson
Robert L. Lindsey
WORSHIP SERVICE
AND CHURCH SCHOOL
9:30 A.M. and 11:30 A.M.

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Oakhurst Field Mich. Phone 356-1660
CHURCH SCHOOL 9 AM
DIVINE WORSHIP 10:15 AM
Rev. Lee W. Tyler
Church Office - 474-6880
Parsonage - 474-2944

CLARENCEVILLE UNITED METHODIST
10300 Middlebelt Livonia
474-3444
8:45 a.m. First Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Praise Service
11:15 a.m. Second Service of Worship
Nursery Provided at All Services

NORTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
26275 Northwestern Highway near Lahser
Southfield Mich. Phone 356-1660
United for the worship of God
and service to Humanity
Rev. Mark P. Jensen, Senior Minister
Rev. David W. Howell, Minister of Christian Education
Dr. Harry Langford, Director of Music
SUNDAY SCHOOL 11 AM
SUNDAY WORSHIP 11 AM
No Stairs Nursery
CIVIC CENTER DR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BIRMINGHAM
1669 West Maple Road
Ministers
F. Morgan Roberts
Charles A. Sommer
Dennis F. Barger
Gerald S. Crawford
Morning Worship
Church School
9:30 and 11:15 AM
Nursery Provided

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BIRMINGHAM
1669 West Maple Road
Ministers
F. Morgan Roberts
Charles A. Sommer
Dennis F. Barger
Gerald S. Crawford
Morning Worship
Church School
9:30 and 11:15 AM
Nursery Provided

Orchard United Methodist
10450 FARMINGTON ROAD
between 11 and 14 Mile Road
636-9620
MORNING WORSHIP
9:30 and 11 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL & NURSERY
9:30 and 11 AM
NURSERY
Robert S. Brown
James F. Thomas

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
Michael A. Hallen
Associate Pastor
Mary Miller-Vikander
Minister to Youth
David A. Rose
35415 W. 14 Mile Road
at Drake
661-9191
Sunday School and Adult Study Groups 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

NEW IN TOWN?
• Couples Clubs
• Youth Clubs (Grades 3-9)
• Children and Adult Clubs
• Bible and Prayer Groups
• Plus other activities and programs for all ages
IS THIS WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR?
Then a friendly greeting awaits you at the **Troy First United Methodist Church**, 6363 Livonia, North of Squire Lake Road
WORSHIP AND CHURCH SCHOOL, 10:30 AM
Call 879-6363

HOPE LUTHERAN
39200 W. 12 Mile Road
Farmington Hills
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 AM
WORSHIP 10:30 AM
V.H. Mesenbring, Pastor

WARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LIVONIA
Farmington and Six Mile Roads
432-1150
Worship & Sunday School: 8:30, 10:00 and 11:30 AM
"How Much Do You Owe?"
Dr. Bartlett L. Hess
7:00 PM
"Submit & Possess: A Sign of Our Times"
Rev. Douglas L. Thompson
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28 - 7 PM - Annual Congregational Meeting
NO Adult School of Christian Education
Sunday Service Broadcast 9:30 AM
WMUZ-FM 103.5
Nursery at All Services
Janet Ritter 422-1150

BLOOMFIELD HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
3600 Telegraph Road • 1000 Ft. North of Long Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills • 647-3551
Dr. Douglas H. Gallagher, Pastor
Rev. Jim Lake, Associate Pastor
Larry Simmons, Director of Church Music
COFFEE HOUR 9 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 AM
MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 AM
EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE 7:00 PM
(Beginning September 7) 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY MID WEEK SERVICE 7:30 PM
Nursery Available

ST PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
165 E. Square Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills
12:00 • East of W. 14 Mile
338-8233
CHURCH SCHOOL 9:30 AM
WORSHIP 10:45 AM
Nursery Provided
Dr. David Truitt, Pastor

BIG BEAVER UNITED METHODIST
1513 Rochester Rd • 648-1932
WORSHIP 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
CHURCH SCHOOL 9:45 A.M.
Minister: Terry Eger

FARMINGTON HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
28301 Middlebelt Road • 1/2 Mile N. of 12 Mile
GRADED BIBLE SCHOOL 9:45 AM
WORSHIP SERVICES 11 AM and 6 PM
CHILDREN'S CHURCH 11 AM
WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHT 7:00 PM
Douglas B. Brown, Pastor
Daniel Curry, Minister of Music and Youth
Nursery provided at All Services
C.B.A. Affiliated No Steps

WARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LIVONIA
Farmington and Six Mile Roads
432-1150
Worship & Sunday School: 8:30, 10:00 and 11:30 AM
"How Much Do You Owe?"
Dr. Bartlett L. Hess
7:00 PM
"Submit & Possess: A Sign of Our Times"
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WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28 - 7 PM - Annual Congregational Meeting
NO Adult School of Christian Education
Sunday Service Broadcast 9:30 AM
WMUZ-FM 103.5
Nursery at All Services
Janet Ritter 422-1150

Christian Science Churches
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
BIRMINGHAM
191 Chester at Willits
SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 8:00 P.M.
READING ROOM - 355 East Maple - 644-7935
Mon., Tues. 9:30-5:30 and 7-9; Wed., Sat. 9:30-5:30; Thu., Fri. 9:30-9
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
FRANKLIN-MEADOWLAKE
Maple at Inkster
SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 8:15 P.M.
READING ROOM - 4361 Orchard Lake Rd. - 851-7740
Monday-Saturday: 10-5 • Friday: 7-9
All are welcome at the above church services and Reading Rooms.
Child care facilities provided Sunday and Wednesday.
"As the shadow of a great rock in a weary land." - Isaiah 32
This describes our Reading Rooms. Here you may read, borrow or purchase the Bible as well as publications about Christian Science. There are also colorful story books and cassettes of interest to children. Or you may catch up on important news in THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, the international daily newspaper.

What does it mean to be born again?
The Evangelical Free Church believes:
"That the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only ground for justification and salvation for all who believe, and only those who receive Jesus Christ are born of the Holy Spirit, and thus become children of God."
Hear a discussion of the new birth at:
GRACE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
Meeting at Bloomfield Hills Junior High School
Quinton Road, 2 blocks West of Telegraph
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:30
WORSHIP SERVICE: 10:45
Pastor
RICK HARTSELL
334-0165

GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH
2600 Pontiac Rd
Pontiac Township
WORSHIP SERVICE 8:30 & 11:00 AM
Church School 9:30 AM
Church Phone 374-5222

First Church of Christ Scientist
Farmington Hills
2517 Power Road
Walter M. Kirby, Pastor
Parsonage 474-5619
Church School
Morning Worship 11:00
Evening Service 7:00
Wednesday Prayer 7:30