

# ECCLESIASTIC - REFLECTIONS

"Ecumenical Reflections" is a column in which Observerland clergymen and lay leaders are invited to present their ideas on church and religious topics of general interest. Anyone interested is invited to participate. Contributions should be sent to two pages of double-spaced typing and may be mailed to the Church Editor, Observer Newspapers, 271 S. Main, Plymouth 48170.)

By JOE RADELET  
St. John's Seminarian

Two college students might say something like this: "Tea and crumpets Christianity. That's all it is, man..." "Huh?" "That's all it is..." "You got something against Christianity?" "No, man, no..." "You got something against tea and crumpets... You like coffee and donuts?" "Yeah, but is that all there is?"

"Well, I don't see anything wrong with a little social gathering now and again to pass an enjoyable afternoon with Christian friends."

"Yeah, but is that all there is?"

"Well, we go to church on Sunday..."

"Yeah, but what does that mean, man? What does that mean..." "Why do you go?" "To take time out..." "To give God a chance, I guess..." "To think things over..." "Huh..."

"Sometimes to change too, I suppose. Yeah. To change so I can live better."

"But what does that mean..."

mean...? What does that mean...?

AND SO it may go... a conversation about the merits of a Christian way of life. The point being made is a valid one, though. What our more critical college friend seems to be saying is that when Christianity does not turn out to be what it claims to be, people (like himself) will reject it.

If Christianity is only a social club, many people will merely pass it by. Not because of any special feeling against social clubs as such, but because Christianity has made a claim to be more than just a series of afternoon gatherings to say the least. Christianity has claimed to give a thrust to the whole direction of a Christian's life. No small claim.

I DO NOT KNOW exactly what our college friends would approve of in an attempt to

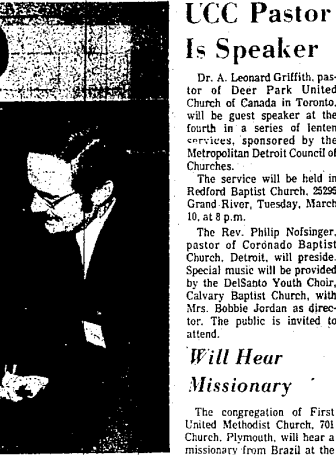
get beyond the "tea and crumpets" to a more active and life-giving Christianity, but what comes to my mind is the efforts of a family I met in Riverview a couple weeks ago. This family has the habit of sitting down together (there are five children) and talking things over—having a sort of family meeting. Here they discuss everything from problems in school to movies they liked to fights among the kids which need peaceful settlement. Sometimes they raise questions similar to our college friend's—"Can one honestly believe in God...? Why pray...? Why is church so dull?"

The answers they come up with differ greatly among them, but I think that just in their talking about their faith they have part of the answer already.

THEY FEEL the matters of their faith to be important enough to talk them over. They feel it would be a contradiction to call themselves Christian and yet never even discuss their Christianity with those they love.

They are trying to be honest. They are trying to allow their Christianity to give them direction in their lives. Their talks do not always work out, nor are their answers always in terms of traditional Christianity.

But through talking things over in their home, they are making an honest effort to try to get beyond the "tea and crumpets" sort of Christianity.



STUDY SERIES—Tips for members of the new parish councils in the Catholic Church are being offered in a four-week course now underway on Wednesday evenings in Ladywood High School. Sponsored by the Northwest Wayne vicariate, it is being coordinated by Detroit Archdiocese Institute for Continuing Education. Here are Doug Behrend, left, president of the parish council of St. Agatha Church, Redford Township; Leslie Buchan of St. John Bosco, Redford Township, general chairman of the development series; Mrs. Fred Bond, vicariate delegate from St. Aidan, Livonia; and Alex Cosfine and Paul Carleton, I.C.E. staff members. (Observer photo)

## Catholic Women Plan Convention

"Hope Is..." has been chosen as the theme for a one-day Cobo Hall convention of the Michigan-Detroit Council of Catholic Women beginning at 9:30 a.m. Monday, March 16.

The convention, designed to explore the role of women in the church, will include several workshops and conferences running concurrently. Discussion topics will be taken from the fields of education, politics and government, youth activities, social work and religion, and special emphasis will be placed on the triple role of Christ as priest, teacher and servant.

Conferences will be conducted by heads of the Detroit archdiocesan service departments, the Rev. Patrick Conney, Msgr. Arthur Valade and the Rev. Robert Monticelli. Panel leaders will include Livonian Philip Tanguay, delegate for the laity, and the Rev. David Brice, vicar of the Northwest Wayne vicariate.

## Film Replaces Temple Service

The Birmingham Temple will conduct no regular service Friday, March 13, because of the lack of an available meeting room in First Junior High School Oak Park.

In place of the service, members will attend the showing of the film, "The Damned," in the Studio North Theater. The film is a saga of the early years of the Nazi era.

## UCC Pastor Is Speaker

Dr. A. Leonard Griffith, pastor of Deer Park United Church of Canada in Toronto, will be guest speaker at the fourth in a series of Lenten services, sponsored by the Metropolitan Detroit Council of Churches.

The service will be held in Redford Baptist Church, 2525 Grand River, Tuesday, March 10, at 8 p.m.

The Rev. Phil Nofsinger, pastor of Coronado Baptist Church, Detroit, will preside. Special music will be provided by the DeSanto Youth Choir, Calvary Baptist Church, with Mrs. Bobbie Jordan as director. The public is invited to attend.

## Will Hear Missionary

The congregation of First United Methodist Church, 701 Church, Plymouth, will hear a missionary from Brazil at the 9:30 and 11 a.m. services Sunday, March 8.

The Rev. Fred Matland will preach on the subject, "A Sensitive Disciple." Rev. Matland and his family, who have been in Rio de Janeiro, are spending a furlough year in Ann Arbor. He is taking work at the University of Michigan and working with lay pastors as an educator.

## Grades Good

Jerry Gribble, a junior at Central Bible College, has achieved a grade point average of 2.70, according to the fall-semester list. The college is located in Springfield, Mo., and he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Gribble of Plymouth.

## Churches Schedule Lay Evangelism Institute March 12

Approximately 250 people are expected to attend the Lay Institute for Evangelism to be held in the First Baptist Church of Plymouth March 12 through March 14.

Maurice Kelly of Campbell-Ewald Advertising is director of the local institute, designed to train church members how to live and share an abundant Christian life. Training is accomplished through seminars and lectures, conducted by Christian leaders.

OF THE INSTITUTE, Kelly said: "Any thinking person is well aware of today's problems. What the world needs is not an analysis of the problems but a positive solution."



MAURICE KELLY

## Farmington Girl Scouts Plan Service

Farmington Girl Scouts have planned an inter-denominational service for Sunday, March 8. The service, opening Girl Scout Week, will be held in First United Church, between Warner and Grand River, from 7:30 until 9:45 p.m.

## Urban Crisis Is WSCS Topic

Mrs. Phyllis Callahan, speaker, taking her topic "Women's Changing Role in the Renewed Church." The luncheon will be served at 12 noon and the cost is \$5. Those wishing to attend should send checks to Mrs. Conrad Dompierre, 2325 Marbledale, Farmington, 48024, by March 9. Women who do not go to the luncheon still are invited to hear Mrs. Callahan.

## Art Trip Set

Members of Temple Kol Ami in Birmingham will travel by bus to the Detroit Art Institute on Saturday, March 14, to view the Rembrandt exhibit commemorating the 300th anniversary of the artist's death.

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### Attend Church This Sunday

At The Church Of Your Choice With Your Family

**UNITED METHODIST**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
6442 Mariner Road  
Phone: 421-8628  
Minister: John N. Howell

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
10 a.m.  
Infants through 6th grade  
11:10  
Adults, Jr., Sr., High and 7th grade  
7th grade  
JUGS/NEWS WORSHIP  
10 a.m. only

**NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
2987 West 11 Mile Road  
Phone: 476-8640  
Minister: William D. Mercer, Senior Minister  
Margaret J. Mohr, Associate Minister  
John E. Phelan, Minister of Music  
Worship Service 9:30 and 11 a.m.

**"The Contemporary Church"**  
The Rev. Mr. Mercer preaching  
Church School for all ages  
Nursery through 6th grade only  
All gifts

**ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
(Redford Township)  
10000 Beach-Daly Road  
(Between Plymouth and West Chicago)  
Minister: Wm. G. Weger and Wm. M. Smith  
Dir. of Education, Mrs. Theo Wright  
Morning Worship 9:30 and 11  
Church School 9:30 and 11  
All gifts  
Baby care provided for all services

**St. Matthew's United Methodist Church**  
30900 Six Mile Road  
422-0038  
Minister: Paul E. Hays, Pastor  
Helen Perry, Associate Pastor  
9:30 a.m. Worship, Nursery, Church School (all ages)  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
Church School (all ages)  
11:15 a.m. Sunday School  
Monday 7 p.m. St. Hugh Fellowship  
Sunday 7 p.m.

**EPISCOPAL**  
**SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
874 S. Shelden Road, Plymouth  
423-0119  
Sunday Services  
8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.  
Church School and Nursery at 10 a.m.

**CATHOLIC**  
**Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church**  
20135 West Six Mile Road  
427-2100  
Divine Liturgies  
Sunday 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., Daily 9 a.m.  
Sacrament of Reconciliation Sat. 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

**NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
36500 Ann Arbor Trail  
Livonia 422-0149  
Rev. William A. Ritter 425-0268  
9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
Worship Service and Church School 7 p.m. LWFF

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Plymouth**  
680 Church Street  
453-5230  
Ministers: Paul M. Cargo and Ronald K. Cull  
9:30 a.m. - Worship Service and Church School for all ages  
11 a.m. - Worship Service and Church School  
6:30 a.m. - Senior High School  
Nursery Provided for All Activities

**CLARENCEVILLE METHODIST CHURCH**  
20300 Middlebelt, Livonia  
424-5353  
9:00 a.m. First Worship Service with a Eucharistic celebration  
11:15 a.m. Second Service  
6:30 p.m. Youth Meetings  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
7:30 p.m. Wednesday - The Mid  
Nursery provided in all services  
Ella A. Johns, Minister

**ST. LUKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Five Mile at Haggerty  
Church School 10 a.m.  
Worship Service 11 a.m.  
Nursery Provided  
Phone 452-1471

**ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
30450 Farmington Road  
Between 13 and 14 Mile  
Worship, Church School, Nursery  
9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.  
Eric S. Hays, Minister 651-4404  
Wm. M. Hughes, Assoc. Minister

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Farmington**  
33112 Grand River OR 44372  
Worship, Church School and Nursery  
9:30 and 11 a.m.  
Rev. Hugh C. White  
Rev. B. Bryce Swiler

**For information please call**  
Miss Kathy Porter - 422-3175

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
9435 Henry Road at West Chicago  
Livonia GA 1-5405  
Rev. Edward H. Reinhardt  
9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
Nursery, Church School and Worship Service

**PRESBYTERIAN**

**ST. PAUL'S Presbyterian Church**  
27475 Five Mile Road  
GA 2-4770  
"Everyone Welcome"  
Rev. William F. Whitehead  
Rev. Arnold S. Daltell  
Donald A. Drew, Ministers  
Worship and Church School  
9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

**ST. TIMOTHY Presbyterian Church**  
16700 Newburg Road  
Worship and Church School  
9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
Rev. Carl A. Gundersen  
261-4844 464-1354

**ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Hubbard at West Chicago  
Worship and Church School  
9 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
Richard C. Dunkelberger, Pastor  
Arthur Beutler, Jr., Associate Pastor  
William T. Lovick, Associate Pastor

**CHURCH OF GOD**

**Riverside Park Church of God**  
11771 Newburg Road at Plymouth Road  
Livonia Phone 464-0990

Rev. J. Clifford Thor, Pastor  
Rev. Robert L. McFarling, Associate  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Morning Worship  
6:30 p.m. Evening Service  
Nursery and Day Care Center Now Open  
Enrollment Limited. Call 464-0990

**NORTHWEST CHURCH**  
Christian and Military Alliance  
28111 West Ten Mile Road - 476-7673  
Between Middlebelt and Inland Road  
Bible School 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service 11 a.m.  
Wednesday - 7:30 p.m. Prayer  
Paul D. Berch, Pastor 474-4437

**EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH**  
24331 W. Eight Mile Road  
Livonia MI 48152  
Edwin L. Lewis, Pastor 476-5763  
Sunday Services  
9:30 a.m. Morning School  
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship  
5:30 p.m. Sunday Service

**For information please call**  
Miss Kathy Porter - 422-3175

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE**

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE**

You are cordially invited to attend Sunday School as listed below. Sunday Schools are conducted in all churches, and care is provided for children of pre-Sunday School age.

**Wednesday Testimonial Meetings at 8 p.m.**

**FOURTH CHURCH, Detroit** ..... 11 a.m.  
24400 W. Seven Mile near Telegraph

**FIRST CHURCH, Garden City** ..... 11 a.m.  
93111 Ford Road

**FIRST CHURCH, Plymouth** ..... 10:30 a.m.  
1100 West Ann Arbor Trail